

MICROMOUNTERS OF NEW ENGLAND NEWSLETTER

The MMNE was organized on November 8, 1966 for the purpose of promoting the study of minerals that require a microscope

No. 265

Summer, 2005

OFFICERS 2004-2005

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Next Meeting

Saturday, January 16
Chelmsford, MA library
Doors open at 9AM

Map and directions are on the back page

For information regarding
MEETING CANCELLATION due to
inclement weather, contact
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Jim Cahoon at
(978) 897-8221 or
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FROM THE EDITOR

There will be a major change in the *Newsletter* starting in September. Bob Janules (with photographic assistance from Scott Whittemore) has blessed us with a stream of articles on the Conway Granites for over a year, but that is drawing to a finish. There have been no other original contributions to the **Newsletter** from members during that time. Without member contributions there is no way to publish a six to eight page *Newsletter* nine times per year as been done for a number of years. Tentative plans are to publish a six or eight page *Newsletter* in September, January and March. Meeting date notices will be mailed as they become available for October, November, February, April, May and summer meetings either by e-mail or a short issue, possibly a postcard. The March issue will contain information for the annual elections and business meeting in April, as well as a map and other information for the May Reunion Meeting. If at any time there are contributions of photographs, articles or other pertinent mineralogical or micromounting information, issues will be expanded to accommodate material. The September issue will come out earlier than usual this year to get meeting dates and the slate of officers for the elections (postponed from April) to everyone.

The lack of member contributions to club newsletters seems to be widespread in the mineral hobby fields. The CMMA has significantly reduced its publication frequency for lack of contributions. Tony Nickisher of Excalibur Minerals and the owner of *The Mineral News* indicates that he may have to suspend publication of *The Mineral News* due to "author apathy."

As of this writing meetings will be held at the Chelmsford Public Library (Chelmsford, MA) in September, November, January, February, March, and April, on the third Saturday of the month if possible. A map and directions will be printed in the September and January issues of the *Newsletter* **only**, so hold on to them. The October meeting traditionally has been held at the home of one of the members, most recently the home of Vera Fogg. A map and directions for this meeting will be included in the September issue.

Contributions to the *Newsletter* from members will be greatly appreciated. Articles do not need to be scientific, only interesting and useful to other members. Write up your favorite mineral species or collecting location; describe a technique you have worked out for labeling boxes, mounting specimens, trimming, cleaning, etc.; send in a batch of micromount photographs.

One other option for maintaining a club "publication is to develop a web site. Meeting information and articles could be posted there. A postcard could be sent with meeting information could be sent to members without e-mail access. We have had an offer from a member to be the webmaster. Consider this and we can discuss it at the September meeting.

The **Newsletter** is the official publication of the Micromounters of New England (MMNE). The last by-laws revision was April 19, 2003. The MMNE is a member of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) (<<http://www.amfed.org/efmls>>) and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) (<http://www.amfed.org>). Material from the *Newsletter* may be copied in other rock and mineral publications if credit is given to the author and the *Newsletter* and permission has been obtained from the author. If there are questions regarding copying contact the editor. The club address is c/o the Secretary. Meetings are held monthly, September through May, except for December, and usually on an informal basis in July and August. Sites rotate and will be posted in the *Newsletter* as far in advance as possible. Visitors are welcome to attend all meetings. Bring a microscope and light source if you have one.

DUES are \$10/year for a single person and \$15/year for a family membership, levied on a calendar basis. The family membership includes two adults and all children under 18 living at the same address. One copy of the *Newsletter* will be sent on a family membership.

Officers for 2004-2005

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2004 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

June 2005

25-26 – Gilsum, NH 41st Annual Rock Swap and Mineral Show. Gilsum Elementary School, Rte 10. Sat. 8AM to 6PM. Sunday 8AM to 4PM. Contact Rob Mitchell P.O. Box 76 Gilsum, NH 03448, (603) 367-9636 or e-mail rmitchell60@adelphi.net

July 2005

2 – Mont St.-Hilaire collecting. Check the Montreal Club site on Alkalai-Nuts <www.saint.hilaire.ca> or <www.montrealgemmineralclub.ca> for possible Varennes trip on Sunday July 3.
 9-10 – 44th Western Maine Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Festival. Sponsored by the Oxford Co. Mineral and Gem Assoc., Crescent Park School, Bethel, ME
 16 – MMNE informal meeting at home of Gordon Jackson. Directions and map on back page.
 23 - Mont St.-Hilaire collecting

August 2005

12-14 – West Springfield, MA. East Coast Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show. Eastern States Exposition, 1305 Memorial Avenue, 1 mile west of I-91. Friday 10-7, Saturday 10-7, Sunday 10-5. <www.mzexpos.com>

September 2005

3 - Mont St.-Hilaire collecting.

October 2005

8-9 – 42nd Annual Gem and Mineral Festival presented by the Capital Mineral Club. Sunapee Resort, Rte 103, Newbury, NH. Saturday 8AM to 5PM, Sunday 8AM to 4PM. Adults \$3, Seniors \$2, 12 and under free.
 22-23 - Mont St.-Hilaire collecting.

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SECRETARY'S, REPORT
MMNE REUNION MEETING, MAY 21st, 2005

The May Reunion Meeting was held at the Elk's Club in Hudson, MA with 36 members and guests attending. A brief business meeting was held to discuss the \$100 donation that the MMNE made to the Newry ME Project. The Newry Mines are famous for gem tourmaline and unusual micro minerals, but now the proposed location for purchase is the Bumpus Mine in Albany, ME. This quarry is not noted for its micro minerals. It was moved, seconded, and carried to ask for our money back to be used for another project.

A motion was made and passed to suspend our MMNE By-Laws, so that we will be able to hold our election of officers at the September meeting instead of this spring. This was seconded and approved. (There was no quorum or official slate at the annual April business meeting so the election needed to be put off. Ed)

After the business meeting, Scott Whittemore was introduced. Scott spoke of his ten years of taking micro mineral pictures using the very latest technology. At the present time he is using a trinocular microscope and digital cameras. After showing the many stages that he takes to set up, he showed the final results, which are decidedly impressive. Scott's advice on lighting and picture composition were most helpful.

During the day the Sale Table was open for business, thanks to Hal Herard. The Silent Auction, organized by President Cahoon, was very popular, especially when the deadline for registering a bid was eminent. The Give-Away Table was stacked with interesting minerals, which required an added table. The morning Snack Table had an excellent selection of donuts, cookies, nuts, and cakes for treats, along with coffee and juices. Those donating to all of the above tables included just about the entire membership, including: Jim Cahoon, Pam and Gordon Jackson, Hal Herard, Edna Lerer, Gene Bearss, Mike Swanson, Betty Sevrens, Phyllis Leighton, Doug Rambo, George Rambo, Jim Parella, Pat Barker, and Janet and Steve Cares. (Thanks to Steve Cares for the selection of mounted minerals on cards as well as mounted specimens).

Special thanks to those members who showed up an hour early to arrange the tables and put out our minerals and snack food: Jim Cahoon, George Rambo, Doug Rambo, Mike Swanson, Gene Bearss, Scott Whittemore, Tom Mortimer, Norm Biggart, Vera Fogg, Pam and Gordon Jackson, and Hal Herard.

Everyone agreed that the caterer did an outstanding job this year.

Respectfully submitted, Pat Barker, Secretary Emeritus

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY of MICROMOUNTERS, 20th Edition

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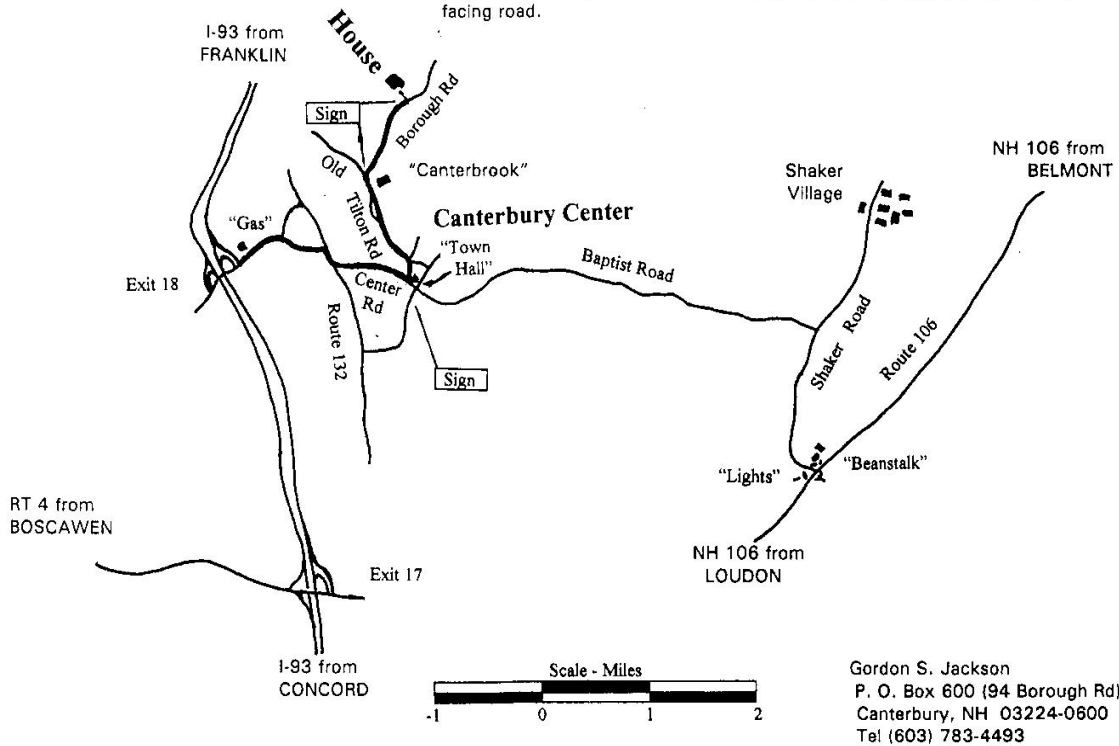
Orders must be addressed to the editor:

Carolyn Weinberger

PO Box 302Glyndon, MD 21071-0302

Future editions depend on input from micromounters everywhere. Please send corrections, additions, or sadly, deletions to the editor at the address above or via e-mail at <editor@amfed.org>

FOLLOW MAP: Take Old Tilton Road from Center (next to Town Hall) go approximately 1 1/2 miles (about 0.7 mile tar, 0.7 mile gravel) to horse farm (Canterbrook), turn right (Borough Road); go up paved hill 0.7 mile and continue on gravel 0.2 mile to drive on left (across from cape); White newspaper box & rock at end of drive has yellow painted "94". Ranch with greenhouse and large garage facing road.



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