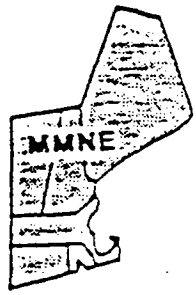

MICROMOUNTERS OF NEW ENGLAND

The MMNE was organized on November 5, 1966 for the purpose of promoting the study of minerals that require a microscope.

May 1990 Newsletter #141

Dues are $5.00 per year and are due on January 1st, payable to the Treasurer

Contributions of news items for the Bulletin are welcome and should be sent to the Editor.

NEXT MONTH

There will be no meeting of the MMNE in June. Next meeting will be Saturday, July 14, 1990, at John Reiner's home.

The next meeting of the Micromounters of New England will be **our annual Northeast Meeting, on Saturday, May 12, 1990,** at the 4-H Conference Center in Ashland, MA. **NOTE: MAP ON PAGE 4**

Please add to membership list:

Alfred Charman
571 Forest Road
W. Suffield, CT 06093

James E. Parella
32 Pattison Street
Worcester, MA 01604

Margaret C. Withers
70 Mt. Vernon
Boston, MA 02108

CONGRATULATIONS! To Bob Janules, President; Scott Whittemore, Vice-President; Janet Cares Treasurer; Pat Barker, Secretary; and Shelley Monaghan, Editor/Corr. Secretary, our newly elected officers who will take office at the close of our annual May meeting. Our thanks goes to Margaret Stewart, our outgoing President (in more ways than one!) for all her time spent working with our club. Also we extend thank yous to Norman Biggart and Frances Morrison for serving as the club Nominating Committee.

CORRECTION: The July date for the Saint-Hilaire field trip is July 28th, not July 21 as previously mentioned.

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY: Pat Barker is seeking photos of club members from meetings, field trips, outings etc. that are pre-1980s. (She has plenty of photos from the 80s). If you can help out, bring copies of these photos to Pat at the next meeting, or get in touch with her by mail or phone.

APRIL MEETING NOTES

At the April meeting of the MMNE, the slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee was voted in by the membership (see page one for list). Janet Cares gave a Treasurer's Report. It was announced by President Margaret Stewart that member Ralph Carr will study the club's Constitution in order to see if the document needs to be amended to reflect current club structure. **Pat Barker will be handling early morning refreshments for our Northeast Meeting. We still need food for the snack table. Check with Pat if you would like to bring something, but are uncertain as to what others have already volunteered to provide.**

INDEX TO NEW ENGLAND LOCALITIES IN "WORLD NEWS ON MINERAL OCCURRENCES"

A column with the above name was conducted from many years by Peter Zodac, founder of Rocks and Minerals, prior to his death in 1977. In May 1977, it was revived by Vandall King, who has authored it, with several breaks, up to the present. It gives reports from readers on interesting minerals or localities, and on minerals submitted for identification. This index covers New England localities in Van's columns from the first article in 1977 through 1989.

Locality and Subject		Year	Issue	Page
CONNECTICUT				
Litchfield	Orthoclase	1986	N/D	347
	Road cut - Hematite, epidote	1987	S/O	319
Middletown	Feldspar quarry-pegmatite minerals	1977	Nov	489
	Fluorapatite	1979	M/A	65
Thomaston	Road cut - diopside, zoisite, etc.	1986	N/D	347
	Remarks on above article	1989	N/D	503
Torrington	Road cut, Rte. 8 - minerals found	1977	Sep	383
West Redding	Fluorapatite, clinozoisite	1977	J/A	323
MASSACHUSETTS				
Marlborough	Road cut - fluorapatite	1980	S/O	212
Reading	Road cut - babingtonite	1978	S/O	227
NEW HAMPSHIRE				
Center Strafford	Parker Mt. - reddingite, other phosphates	1977	Apr	125
	Pegmatite minerals, clear apatite	1980	S/O	212
	List of minerals	1989	N/D	504
Grafton	Ruggles - preparing radioautograph	1980	S/O	212
Glen	Iron Mt. - danalite, phenakite	1977	May	186
Groton	Palermo - blue apatite	1980	S/O	212
	Augelite	1978	M/A	71
	Hydroxylapatite	1988	J/A	310
	Montebrasite	1978	S/O	227
	Ushkovite question	1986	N/D	348
	Whitmoreite	1979	M/A	66
North Conway	Hurricane Mt. - fayalite	1977	May	186
Ossipee	Micro beryl	1978	M/A	71
Sandwich	Diamond Ledge - pyrite	1978	M/A	71
Surrey	Goulding-Keene Quarry - apatite	1977	Sep	384
Warner	Road cut - prehnite, fluorapatite	1977	Mar	75
VERMONT				
Chester area	Chesterite, jimthompsonite, clinojimthompsonite	1978	M/A	71
Eden Mills	Diopside	1980	J/F	35
MAINE				
Albany	Mt. Apatite - bertrandite	1979	M/A	65
	Guy Johnson Quarry - twinned albite	1980	S/O	212
	Columbite	1978	M/A	70
Auburn	Wade Quarry - garnets, purple apatite	1977	Apr	124
Biddeford	Biotite	1977	Nov	490
Buckfield	Streaked Mt. - old quarries explored	1979	M/J	115
	Waterhouse Quarry - tourmaline	1978	N/D	262

Greenwood	Emmons Quarry - perhamite	1980	S/O	212
	Harvard Mine - cassiterite	1980	J/F	34
	Vivianite	1977	Sep	383
	Witt Hill - location of chrysoberyl	1989	M/A	147
Harborside	Callahan Mine - list of minerals	1983	N/D	286
Hartford	W. Sumner - bertrandite	1977	Apr	124
Hersheytown	Ripogenus Dam - prehnite	1977	Apr	125
Mexico	Road cut - ankerite/dolomite	1989	N/D	504
	Ankerite, doubly-terminated, skeletal quartz	1977	Mar	75
Newry	Bell Pit - montmorillonite	1978	S/O	226
	Switzerite	1977	Nov	490
	Dunton - albite	1977	Apr	124
	" - Carbonate-hydroxylapatite	1977	Mar	75
	" - Crandallite	1989	N/D	505
	" - Pyrite	1977	Sep	383
	Hall's Ridge - species list	1981	N/D	248
	Nevel Quarry - fairfieldite/messelite	1979	N/D	257
	(see Dunton, 1989) triphylite xls			
Paris	Hooper's Ledge - graphic tourmaline	1982	J/F	30
	Autinite, blue flourapatite	1978	N/D	262
	Mt. Mica - bertrandite, cookeite, albite	1979	M/A	65
Poland	Havey Quarry - bertrandite, blue apatite	1977	Nov	490
	Dickinsonite, rhodochrosite	1977	Sep	383
	Montebrasite	1977	May	186
Rumford	Red Hill - rose quartz crystals	1985	S/O	228
Topsham	Consolidated Quarry - anatase, rutile, brookite	1978	N/D	262
	Standpipe Hill - magnetite	1978	N/D	262
	Uraninite	1977	May	186
	Uraninite xls, "samarskite"	1981	N/D	248
Undisclosed locality	Garnet	1978	J/A	81
Maine checklist		1982	J/A	81

EMMONS QUARRY (continued from last month) by Gene Bearss

Kryzhanovskite — Found as opaque, dark reddish-brown bipyramidal crystals and masses. Occurs in partially altered phosphate nodules where phosphoferrite/reddingite has been subjected to oxidation. Found associated with hureaulite, stewartite, and unoxidized phosphoferrite/reddingite.

Laueite — The author has two specimens which he suspects might be extremely minute laueite crystals. The morphology seems correct, but the color seems a bit light. These may in fact just be stewartite crystals. They are associated with beraunite, siderite/rhodochrosite, and a botryoidal undetermined mineral which be carbonate-fluorapatite.

Lepidolite — As typical crystalline masses lilac to gray in color. The author has seen some fairly decent crystals that were recovered from a pocket.

Lithiophilite/ triphylite — As light greenish-gray to light amber colored masses (nodules). The author has found crude crystals of this mineral, but all were coated with a dull coating of Fe/Mn oxides. Lithiophilite/triphylite is the primary source for most of the secondary phosphates found at the Emmons. All unaltered nodules of lithiophilite/triphylite found by the author have vivianite stains occurring along cleavage cracks in the nodule. These nodules are usually associated with rhodochrosite and amblygonite/montebrasite.

Loellingite — As large silvery masses found embedded in pegmatite. The author has found masses up to 10cm in size. Also occurs as 1 to 2 mm crystals embedded in rhodochrosite and as crystalline aggregates embedded in platy albite. Some of the loellingite masses show crystal faces, especially where the mass abuts albite.

Mitradatite — As a bile-green coating on other secondary phosphates. Some specimens found by the author have botryoidal groups which look like they may be solid mitridatite, but these may just be mitradatite coating a core of strengite or phosphosiderite. Mitradatite, as is usual in pegmatites, is one of the last minerals to form

Moraesite — as typical white, felted masses. Also. as botryoids made up of minute individual crystals. The author has found moraesite in association with apatite, hydroxyl-herderite, and etched beryl, all of which are on/in albite. All specimens found by the author have been checked for fluorescence, to rule out uralolite (no fluorescent response has been noted).

Muscovite — as typical pegmatite muscovite and also as ball muscovite. The ball muscovite has been found by the author in pieces up to 20 X 30 cm in size. Muscovite also occurs as micro botryoids which are easily mistaken, at first glance, for perhamite. Also as the fined-grained variety "sericite".

Perhamite — as colorless, white, and light tan crystal groups. The maximum size of any individual perhamite group found by the author was about 5 mm in greatest dimension. Perhamite occurs as stacked, tabular hexagonal crystal groups. The prism faces of these groups have a vitreous luster and, looking just at the prism faces, one might suspect tabular apatites. However, the pinacoids "c" faces have a pearly luster reminiscent of the luster of muscovite when it is viewed on its' pinacoid faces. In addition, the perhamite groups are usually concave perpendicular to the "c" axis. The best way the author has found to identify perhamite is to first look for the glassy luster on the prism faces and, if this is found, to use a needle to determine cleavage. If you have perfect (micaceous) cleavage you probably have perhamite. If you have poor cleavage you probably have apatite, and if you didn't have glassy luster on the prism faces to begin with, you probably have muscovite. Perhamite is usually associated with apatite, hydroxyl-herderite, muscovite, and columbite, all of which occur on vuggy albite. The author has also found perhamite on quartz and microcline. In 1986, the author found a pocket (vug) which was about 10 x 20 x 25 cm in size. This pocket was in microcline. Other than microcline, the only minerals present were apatite, muscovite, and perhamite. Emmons Quarry perhamite is the best the author has ever seen. The best is not the biggest. I have seen perhamite groups from another locality in Maine which were up to 1 1/2 cm in maximum dimension, but they were dull and looked like they were partially weathered.

Petalite — the author has never collected petalite from the Emmons Quarry, but then the author has never collected petalite from the Tamminen Quarry where it is relatively common. I don't think the author is that good at recognizing petalite. Since it only occurs in its massive form in Maine, I don't think the author is too interested in petalite.

continued next month....