

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. 280

May, 2007

OFFICERS 2006-2007

President

Tom Mortimer
(603) 673-4039
tjmort@comcast.net

Vice-President

Mike Swanson
(413) 773-3867
msmicros@crocker.com

Treasurer

Anna Wilken
(603) 536-2013
microxl@mfire.com

Secretary

Bob Wilken
(603) 536-2013
microxl@mfire.com

Directors

Gene Bearss
(207) 324-3610

Gordon Jackson
(603) 783-4493
nhrockman@msn.com

Newsletter Editor

Etienne Médard
(617) 372-7706
emedard@mit.edu

Current Meeting

Annual Meeting
Saturday, May 19th
Elk's Lodge, 91 Park St.
Hudson, MA
9 am – 4 pm

Map and driving
directions are on page 6

For information regarding
MEETING CANCELLATION
due to inclement weather,
contact:

Tom Mortimer
(603) 673-4039
tjmort@comcast.net

MMNE Secretarial Report

April 21, 2007

by Bob Wilken

The April 2007 meeting of Micromounters of New England came to order at 11:30 AM with fifteen members and one guest attending. This was the club's first meeting at the Trinity Lutheran facility in Chelmsford. The membership thanks President Mortimer for all his work in screening and previewing a variety of church locations in the area. Gene Bearss noted that Tom went above and beyond the call of duty.

In the absence of Tom Mortimer, Vice President Mike Swanson presided. The first order of business was a vote for the slate of candidates for 2007-08. A motion was made to accept the ballot as published in the MMNE newsletter. It was seconded and all present approved. Mike Swanson was elected President; Joe Mulvey, Vice President; Anna Wilken, Treasurer and Bob Wilken, Secretary.

There was general consensus that the Trinity Lutheran location was a fine one. Some members wondered if a little larger room might be available. The suggestion also was made that we rent for one hour longer. But, all agreed that the location was central and that there was easy access from the outside.

Discussion followed regarding the newsletter. Gene Bearss said that he continues to have difficulty receiving the newsletter in one piece because of the postal department's "glopata-glopata" machine. He felt that those who receive the newsletter by standard mail should have it put in a standard, business-sized envelope. Mike Swanson said that dues should be raised a little to cover any newsletter expenses since this has always been the way of covering newsletter costs. Another suggestion was made to publish a plea to the membership to ask for ONLY the e-mailed version of the bulletin to help reduce cost.

Mike Swanson questioned whether all was set for the May meeting. The Secretary indicated that Anna Wilken had arranged for the caterer who would also set up the morning coffee. Members donate morning snacks and goodies. Gordon Jackson volunteered to man the silent auction. Anna Wilken would bring in the auction forms. Joe Mulvey said that he would have the projector and all needed equipment for speaker Jim Nizamoff. Mike stated that it was imperative that directions and a map for the May meeting be included in the May bulletin. Hal Herard said that several people had already brought in giveaways and sales table material. Those bringing sales material directly to the May meeting should have labeling and color-coding for price. Gene Bearss said he would have door prize material but others are also encouraged to contribute. It was also noted that members should arrive early enough to help set up tables and chairs.

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 \$12/year for a single person and \$16/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 2006-2007

President: Tom Mortimer, 3 Roberts Rd., Amherst, NH 03031	(603) 673-4039	tjmort@comcast.net
Vice President: Michael Swanson, 646 Greenfield Rd., Leyden, MA 01301-9400	(413) 773-3867	msmicros@crocker.com
Treasurer: Anna Wilken, 79 Meadow Lane, Campton, NH 03223	(603)536-2013	microxl@mfire.net
Secretary: Robert Wilken, 79 Meadow Lane, Campton, NH 03223	(603)536-2013	microxl@mfire.net
Directors:		
(2006-2008) Gene Bearss, 33 North Ave., Sanford, ME 04073-2943	(207) 324-3610	
(2006-2007) Gordon Jackson, PO Box 600, Canterbury, NH 03224-0600	(603) 783-4493	nhrockman@msn.com

Editor: Etienne Médard, 50 Meacham Rd., Somerville, MA 02144-2732

(617) 372-7706

emedard@mit.edu

Webmaster: Joseph Mulvey

(603) 880-4018

bassmeister_2000@yahoo.com

MMNE Website: <http://www.micromountersofnewengland.org>

2007 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2007

- 11-13 – Maine Mineral Symposium; Senator Inn, Augusta Maine; Woodrow Thompson (207) 287-7178
<http://www.maine.gov/doc/nrimc/mgs/explore/minerals/symposium.htm>
- 19 – MMNE May Meeting, Hudson, MA – doors open at 9:00 am (more information on page 5)
- 26-June 3 – Maine Pegmatite Workshop
- 26-27 Fieldtrip to the Poudrette Quarry, Mt-St-Hilaire, Québec – organized by the “Club de Minéralogie de Montréal” <http://www.clubmineralogiemtl.com/activites/excursions/msh.htm>

June 2007

- 2-3 – Northampton MA; Connecticut Valley Mineral Club Show; Three County Fair Grounds, Sat 9-6
Sun 9-4; Lee Champigny (413) 583-3565; e-mail: pullg4fun@verizon.net; www.cvmineralclub.org.
- 23-24 - Gilsum, NH 43rd Annual Rock Swap and Mineral Show, Gilsum Elementary School, Rt. 10N,
Sat 8-6, Sun 8-4; Robert Mitchell (603) 357-9636; rmitchell60@adelphia.net
- 30 Fieldtrip to the Poudrette Quarry, Mt-St-Hilaire, Québec (see above)

July 2007

- 14-15 – Bethel ME; 46th Western Maine Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Festival; Telstar High School Rte 26
Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4; Lorraine Tanguay (207) 824-3611; tangfam@megalink.net
- 14-15 – Syracuse NY; 41st annual show Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4;
Cathy Patterson (315) 638-8817; <http://www.gmss.us>
- 21 - Fieldtrip to the Poudrette Quarry, Mt-St-Hilaire, Québec (see above)
- 28-29 – South Burlington VT; 28th annual show Burlington Gem & Mineral Club; Sat 10-5, Sun 10-5;
Kathy Howe (802) 656-4118; <http://www.burlingtongemandmineralclub.org>.

April meeting at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Chelmsford MA

(photos by Merrie Porro)



May Meeting Contribution Checklist for Members:

- _____ Arrive early to help set up tables
- _____ Bring food donations for morning coffee
- _____ Bring labeled and color-coded sales donations
- _____ Bring giveaways
- _____ Bring items for the silent auction:
- _____ Bring quality door prize material

Fieldtrip announcement

PALERMO COLLECTING DAY

Bob Whitmore has graciously permitted the members of MMNE to collect at Palermo 1 the day after our May meeting.

Sunday, May 20th from 9:30 AM until 3:30 PM

Please be sure to wear appropriate clothing: **hardhat**, **sturdy boots** (preferably steel toe), **safety glasses** and **work gloves**.



Traditional Winter Fieldtrip to Palermo n°1 pegmatite, NH. photo by Merrie Porro, Winter 2006-2007.

Ice (H_2O) – columnar aggregates of crystals (« stalagmites »). This common mineral has unfortunately been forgotten in the Palermo mineral list... photo by Merrie Porro, Winter 2006-2007



MMNE MAY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Our Annual Reunion Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2007 at the Elk's Lodge in Hudson, MA. The meeting starts at 9:00 am. If you can come earlier to help set up tables, etc. it will be appreciated.

We need specimens for the sales table. If you are bringing specimens, please bring them early. Please label all sales items with either a priced sticker or price code dot (yellow/\$ 1, red/\$2, green/\$3, blue or silver/\$4, orange or gold/\$5). Any item over \$5 needs a price marked on it. We are very pressed for time in the morning and there will not be time for anyone to price specimens, although colored dots can be applied if the specimens are grouped by price.

Please remember: Your registration fee covers only part of our operating expenses – your donations cover the rest. If you have any questions regarding giveaway or sales items, please contact Hal Herard – phone 508-755-5947 or e-mail: hherard1@rcn.com.

All reservations include lunch and must be in the treasurer's hands before May 14th. Walk-ins can pay at the door, but extra meals may not be available. Please fill out the Registration Form as soon as possible.

SPEAKER PRESENTATION

James Nizamoff will be the featured speaker at the Grand May Meeting of the Micromounters of New England on Saturday, May 19.

His presentation will focus on the pegmatology and mineralogy of the Palermo 1 & 2 Mines. The professional in geological sciences as well as to the mineral collector alike knows Jim. He started as a mineral collector at age seven in Putnam, Connecticut and went on to earn his Master of Science in Geology from the University of New Orleans. One of his prime research interests has been phosphate mineralogy and paragenesis of granitic pegmatites around the world. In the course of his academic career he has given innumerable oral presentations at the Rochester Symposia with many of them (as well as others) published in *Rocks and Minerals* and *The Mineralogical Record*. Jim has had wide ranging field experience from the Maine Pegmatite Camp, to work in Madagascar and field work in Namibia, Brazil and across the United States. He is currently working as a mineralogist for Omya, Inc. in Vermont.

REGISTRATION FORM

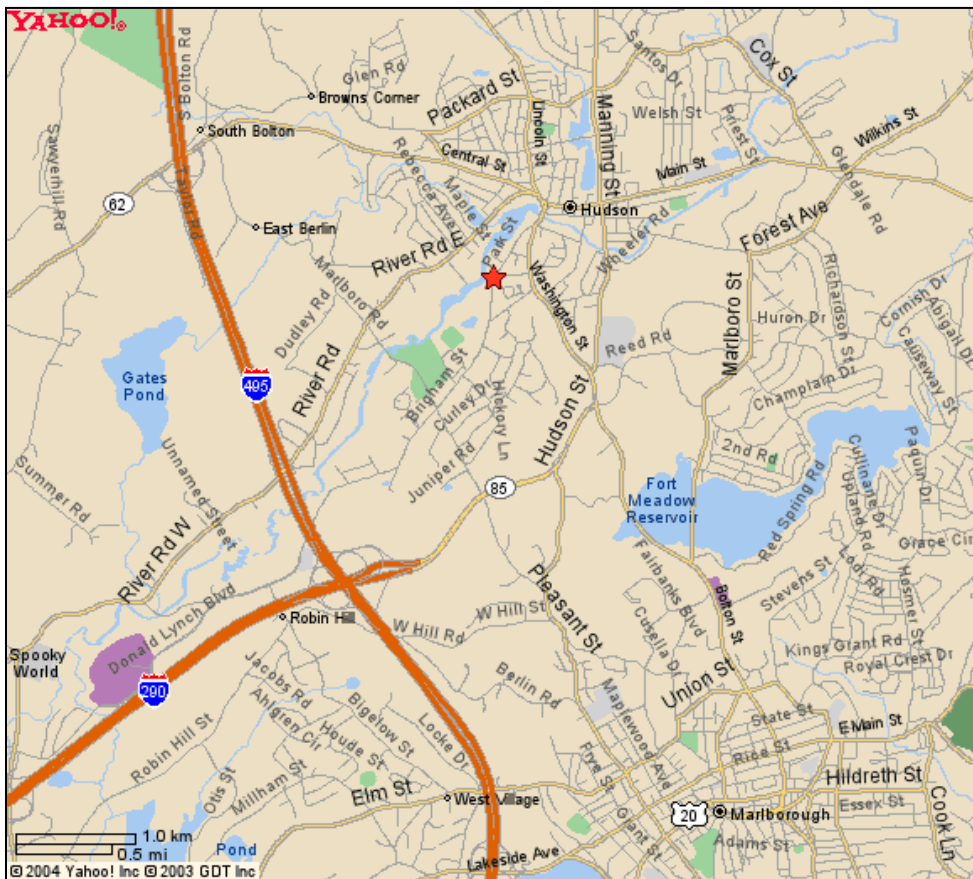
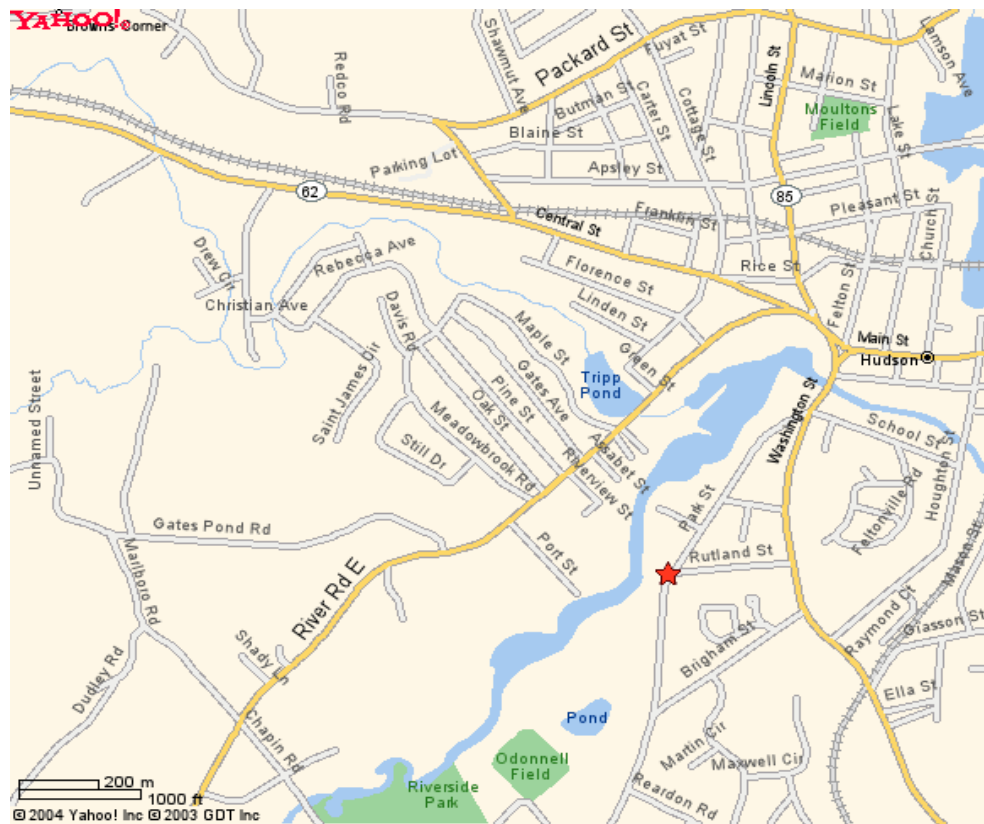
REGISTRATION FEE: Members \$20, Non-members \$25
Make checks payable to: Micromounters of New England (MMNE)
Return to: Anna Wilken
79 Meadow Lane, Campton, NH 03223

Name(s) _____ **@ \$20 each**

Name(s) _____ **@ \$25 each** _____

Address: _____

Please return by May 14th, 2007, the closing date for ordering a meal.
48 hours notice is required for cancellation with refund.



Direction to Elk's club, Hudson MA

MMNE Mini-Symposium
Saturday, May 19, 2007

Take Rte 85 (Hudson Street) east from the I-290/I-495 interchange to Washington Street. Take a left on Washington Street and then look for Rutland Street on the left, maybe $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile down Washington Street. Go to the end of Rutland Street and turn left on Park Street. The Elk's Club will then be immediately on your right on Park Street.