



# 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.

## PRESIDENT

Margaret Stewart  
244 Mill Street  
Burlington, MA 01803

## VICE-PRESIDENT

Bob Janules  
12 Woodward Road  
Merrimack, NH 03054

## SECRETARY

Patricia Barker  
P.O. Box 810  
Campton, NH 03223

## TREASURER

Janet Cares  
18 Singletary Lane  
Sudbury, MA 01776

## EDITOR

Shelley N. Monaghan  
12 Conant Drive  
Brockton, MA 02401

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.

This bulletin may be quoted if credit is given. Club address is c/o Editor.

## NEXT MONTH

There is no December meeting. The next meeting: of the MMNE will be Sunday, January 14, 1990, at Boston University.

November 1989

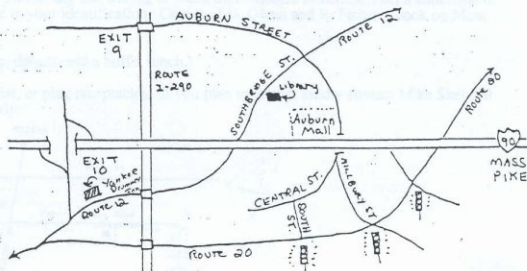
Newsletter #136

The next meeting of the Micromounters of New England will be **Saturday, November 18, 1989**, at the Auburn Public Library. This is on the same weekend as the Worcester Mineral Club's show which runs Saturday and Sunday at the Yankee Drummer Inn in Auburn (Route 12, 624 Southbridge Street), just down the road from our meeting place. As the show runs from 10 am to 6 pm on Saturday, you might want to stop by after our meeting. (See map below for both locations.) Discount flyers will be available at meeting.

**PROGRAM NOTE:** We are starting up a program of mini-talks by members at our meetings. Gene Bearss will be our kick-off speaker at the Auburn meeting.

**A NOTE FROM YOUR TREASURER:** Dues are now due. Please note that this will be the last meeting of the year (as we do not meet in December). So please either bring your dues to the next meeting or send them to me at the address in the left column. Remember, checks should be made out to: *Micromounters of New England*.

**A NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR:** As I was unable to get to the last meeting, and as I have received a number of requests from members concerning the photo index of the Mineralogical Record mentioned in the last bulletin, I am printing the two sample pages which Paul Hoffmann sent to me. One page illustrates listings by species and the other by locality. If enough people (fifteen) are interested, we could have a group order, reducing the cost of each copy from \$15 to \$13.



## COLLECTING MICROMINERALS IN 1989 EVERYWHERE, BUT MONT SAINT-HILAIRE

By Gene Bearss

1989 has not been the best of years for field collecting for yours truly. First there was the late Spring, and then I ended up with jury duty for the entire month of May. When I did get out I didn't seem to get into great material. Good material -- yes -- but great material -- no. Macro specimens were simply nonexistent. This was the first year in quite a few that I didn't at least add two or three really nice self-collected miniatures to my collection. Micro collecting was better, but not much. Maybe, it was just the fact that I had such a good collecting year in 1988. I still feel that my collecting experiences are worth sharing, if for no other reason than just to let members know that there are other places to collect besides Mont Saint-Hilaire.

I almost made it to Mont Saint-Hilaire this year due to John and Margaret Stewarts' kind offer of space in their mobile home. Next year, God willing, I am going to make it to Mont Saint-Hilaire at least once. You see, I have nothing against collecting at Mont Saint-Hilaire, but I do feel that a lot of our members are missing some good collecting at other localities in the Northeast.

My first collecting trip this year was to Franklin, New Jersey, and the Buckwheat Dump. If you are ever in the Franklin area, I suggest you give it a try. You will need a heavy sledge hammer, a couple of chisels, and a crack hammer. For those of you who have collected at Francon Quarry, Montreal, Quebec, you will be looking for similar appearing host rock. This rock is Buckwheat Dolomite, and it is easily found on the dump. simply look for the proper colored and textured rock with vugs and start breaking the big one into smaller ones. On this particular trip, I spent about two hours on the dump. I ended up finding sphalerite, quartz, hemimorphite, smithsonite, rutile, pyrite, marcasite, microcline, albite, calcite, and brookite. I also found a "chlorite"-looking mineral named lennilenapeite, and one undetermined. The undetermined is yellow to amber in color and is (hexagonal?). I have seen similar material from the Buckwheat in older collections labeled humite, but since humite is not listed as one of the minerals occurring in the Buckwheat Dolomite, I will simply leave it labeled undetermined. There is an excellent article in the Mineralogical Record, Vol. XIV, #3, on this locality and the minerals found in the Buckwheat Dolomite. Oh yes, this trip was in late April, and the museum and dumps were only opened on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The hours vary with the season so it is best to check ahead of time if you plan to stop. While in the Franklin area I made a quick tour of the museum and also bought a few minerals in the museum from Sterling Hill, Ogdensburg, New Jersey. I also picked up several hundred micromounts from an older collector who is disbanding his micro collection. The bulk of these were Franklin/Sterling Hill specimens, but there were also some choice mounts from Tiger, Arizona that are hard to come by anymore.

Next time on to Sugarloaf and beyond.....

**SAINT-HILAIRE MICROMOUNT WORKSHOP:** (from CMMA MICRONEWS, October 1989)

**Place:** Loyola Secondary School, 1550 Nottinghill Gate, Oakville, Ontario

**Time:** 9 am to 4 pm; Registration is at 9 am.

**Features:** An entire day devoted to the identifying, mounting and trading of Mont Saint-Hilaire minerals. Plus a collection of micro specimens of Saint-Hilaire for use as a guide in your identification. Copies of G. Glenn and R. Fisher's book on Mont Saint-Hilaire minerals.

**Cost:** \$12 (Canadian) per person. (Includes coffee, donuts, and a buffet lunch.)

**Notes:** Kindly bring an extension cord, or power bar, or plug receptacles. If you plan to attend, kindly contact Mike Skebo at (416) 681-2073. This will enable us to plan properly.

