



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

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Dues are \$6.00 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:

Our next meetings will be **Saturday, November 14, at the Auburn Public Library.**

October 1992

Newsletter 162

The next meeting of the MMNE will take place on **Saturday, October 17**, at the home of Forrest and Vera Fogg on Gorham Lake Road in Goffstown, New Hampshire.

The Rhode Island Mineral Club has invited our members to participate in their show at the CCRI campus in Warwick, on **Oct. 24-25**. Select a date and bring your microscopes for spectators to view specimens. Remember to have your badge or membership card to show at the admissions desk.

REMINDER

Please bring you Program Books to the October Meeting if you would like to have them bound (as mentioned in the September Newsletter). We would expect to return them at the November meeting in case anyone wants to use them as gifts.

Welcome New Members:

R. Brackley
P.O. Box 744
Conway, NH 03818

Michael W. Kieron
38 Merritt Road
E. Providence, RI 02915
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SPEAKER FOR NEXT NORTHEAST MEETING:

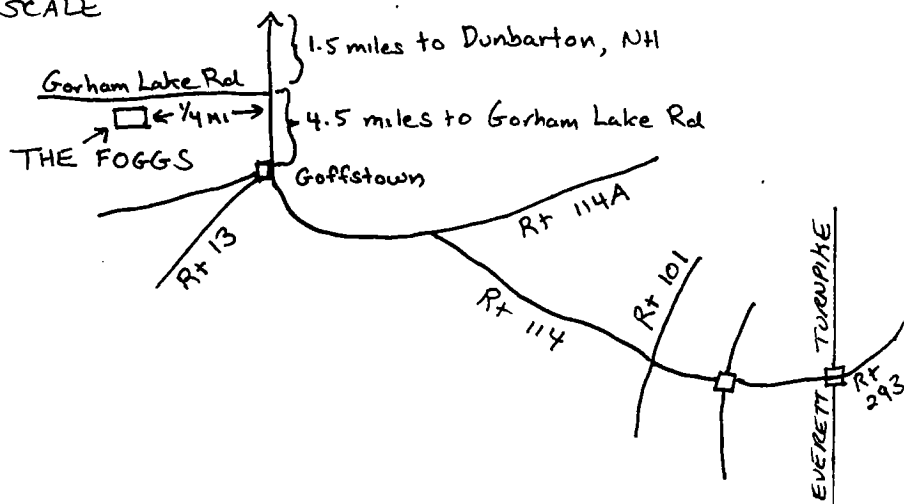
We are pleased to announce that the speaker for our Northeast Meeting in May will be Quintin Wight, a collector from Ottawa, Ontario. He has recently completed a book on micromounting that will be published by the Mineralogical Record in time for the next Tucson Show. We expect to have copies available in May. (Price and title are not available at this time.)

Also our thanks to Gene Bearss for several flats of material for the May meeting. He is really ahead of time!

Congratulations to member Pat Barker for her article in Sept./Oct. Mineralogical Record.

MAP

NOT TO SCALE



From Eugene Mechler

Albert Spaulding of the Oxford County Mineral & Gem Club brought in a nice collection of micromount tourmalines showing both pointed and flat terminations. There were some nice single xls of herderite and some clusters. He had quite a few purple apatites and two very nice pointed xls, that look like scalenohedral calcite to me

Where did he get so many nice single xls? he bought some "pocket gravel" from a man who opened up a pocket at the Waisenen Mine in Greenwood, Maine. This was just dirt that had accumulated in the bottom of the cavity. After seeing what he had, I think that is the easiest way to get fine micromount xls. Some of you may want to check this source.

STREAK IN PHOSPHATE MINERALS

Streak is often helpful in identifying minerals, particularly the iron manganese phosphates found at Palermo, Fletcher, and the Black Hills localities such as Tip Top, Big Chief, and Bull Moose. Very light or colorless minerals such as wavellite will never give a colored streak but phosphosiderite may or may not, depending on the depth of color. The information given is taken primarily from an article by Henry L. Barwood in Rocks & Minerals March/April, 1983, pp. 56-63. The streak color is not infallible, but gives a good clue to the identity of the mineral tested.

<u>Colored Streak</u>	<u>Colorless Streak</u>
Barboselite -- Blue-green	Apatite
Beraunite -- Olive or yellow	Churchite
Bermanite -- Reddish-brown	Evansite
Cacoxenite -- Yellow	Hureaulite
Dufrenite -- Olive-green to yellow-brown	Leucophosphite
Ferrisicklerite -- Yellowish-brown	Monazite
Heterosite -- Purple	Phosphosiderite*
Kidwellite -- Yellow	Stewartite
Laueite -- Light orange-brown	Strunzite
Lipscombite -- Olive-green	Variscite
Meta-autunite -- Yellowish	Wavellite
Mitridatite -- Mustard yellow	Xanthoxenite
Phosphosiderite* -- Pinkish-purple	
Robertsite -- Red-brown	
Rockbridgeite -- Olive green to brown	
Triplite -- Brown	
Turquoise -- Pale blue or green	
Vivianite -- Bright blue	

*streak depends on depth of color.

NAMING NEW MINERALS -- The Procedure for Naming a new mineral or changing an existing mineral name. (The following is a summary of an article by Michael Fleischer, American Mineralogist, V. 55, pp. 1016-1017, by Ed Pederson of the Houston Gem & Mineral Society.

The proposal is submitted to the president of the Commission on New Minerals and Mineral Names of the International Mineralogical Association by either the researchers or the equivalent National Committees of France, Japan or the U.S.S.R. The data furnished with the proposal should be as complete as possible. The president of the International Commission is authorized to ask for additional information or to point out possible objections before the proposal is submitted to the Commission.

The proposal is then sent by air mail to the members of the Commission who have 40-45 days (depending on the time of year) to vote and comment in detail. Proposals on opaque minerals are sent to the members of the Ore Commission of the International Mineralogical Commission for their comments. Strong objections may cause the president to suspend the voting while the researcher responds and his response is distributed to the commission members.

When the vote is completed, the president notifies the author, the members of the commission and the professional journal in which publication is intended, of the voting results.

Comments on Mineral Names:

The article above, Procedure for Naming a New Mineral....indicated the process by which mineral names become approved by the international scientific community. The Commission on New Minerals and Mineral Names of the International Mineralogical Association is composed of top mineralogists from many nations. Any decisions regarding mineral nomenclature are sure to have been given careful consideration

The question of how this affects the mineral collector is the cause of controversy. Many minerals are sold by dealers using species names that are discredited or using varietal names, especially old varietal names as if these were species. The use of this type of name often adds to the price of otherwise common or unimportant minerals. Advanced collectors and mineralogists usually are not fooled by such names; however, newer collectors are frequently expressing dismay over being unable to find the labeling information when showing these "rare minerals."

Another source of confusion with mineral names is the preferred spelling (for example: BARYTE rather than BARITE) as indicated by the International Mineralogical Association. In most cases the spelling indicated as preferred are widely used in Europe and are the older spellings.

The revised AFMS rules for competitive exhibits have reduced the strain between exhibitors and judges by allowing the use of any of the mineral names in the approved references. It is my opinion that mineral collectors, dealers, judges and mineralogists should always attempt to use the nomenclature that is approved or preferred by the Commission on New Minerals and New Mineral Names. The continued use of discredited names and provincial spellings only widen the gap between mineralogists and mineral collectors throughout the world. The fabrication and use of new mineral or mineral variety names that are not approved by the Commission is inexcusable!

Tremendous confusion results from the use of new names for minerals without going through the official procedures. The following two examples illustrate this point well: The example appears to have started when an individual studied the minerals of the Blanchard Claims at Bingham, New Mexico. He concluded that he might have a new mineral and assigned it a name. someone else wrote a magazine article based on his work and mentioned and described the possible new mineral and its proposed name. Before long specimens of the "mineral" were for sale across the country.

Further study revealed that this was NOT a new mineral; however, many collections still contain these mis-labeled specimens. The second example is a woman from Arizona who, about a year ago, traveled across the country selling a "new" mineral named after herself! This mineral was actually ARAGONITE.

From the MINERAL MINUTES newsletter of the Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia,
June 1978.

MEMBERS OF THE MICROMOUNTERS HALL OF FAME

NAME	CATEGORY	DATE NOMINATED	DATE ELECTED	DATE INDUCTED
Paul E. Desautels	Modern	1976	1980	1981
Paul Seel	Modern	1976	1980	1981
Louis Perloff	Modern	1976	1980	1981
Neal Yedlin	Modern	1976	1980	1981
George Fiss	Old Timer	1976	1980	1981
George Rakestraw	Old Timer	1976	1980	1981
Ben Chromy	Modern	1980	1981	1982
Lazard Cahn	Old Timer	1980	1981	1982
Arthur Roe	Modern	1981	1982	1983
Charles Curtis	Modern	1981	1982	1983
Juanita Curtis	Modern	1981	1982	1983
William Hunt	Modern	1982	1983	1984
Phillip Cosminsky	Old Timer	1982	1983	1984
Richard Thomssen	Modern	1983	1984	1985
Gunnar Bjareby	Old Timer	1983	1984	1985
Curt Segeler	Modern	1984	1985	1986
Frank Keeley	Old Timer	1984	1985	1986
William S. Wise	Modern	1985	1986	1987
C.S. Bement	Old Timer	1985	1986	1987
Alexander Kipfer	Modern	1986	1988	1989
Mr Oke	Old Timer	1986	1988	1989
Quintin Wight	Modern	1987	1988	1990
Herbert Corbett	Modern	1988	1989	1990
L.C. Wills	Old Timer	1987	1988	1990
Horst Windisch	Modern	1989	1990	1991
Milton Speckels	Modern	1989	1990	1991