



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

September 1993

Newsletter #170

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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 meeting will be our informal meeting at the home of John Reiner on **Sunday, October 17, 1993** at the home of Forrest & Vera Fogg.

Our next regular meeting of the Micromounters of New England is **Saturday, September 18, 1993**, at the **Milford Public Library** on Spruce Street in Milford. The library opens at 10:00 am. The President has requested members to try and make an early start as a brief business meeting is held at 1:00 PM, followed by our monthly program. Bob Janules will show slides and talk about the Conway, New Hampshire granite and its locations.

We will continue with our swap/recycling table. All types of items are welcome.

From the President:

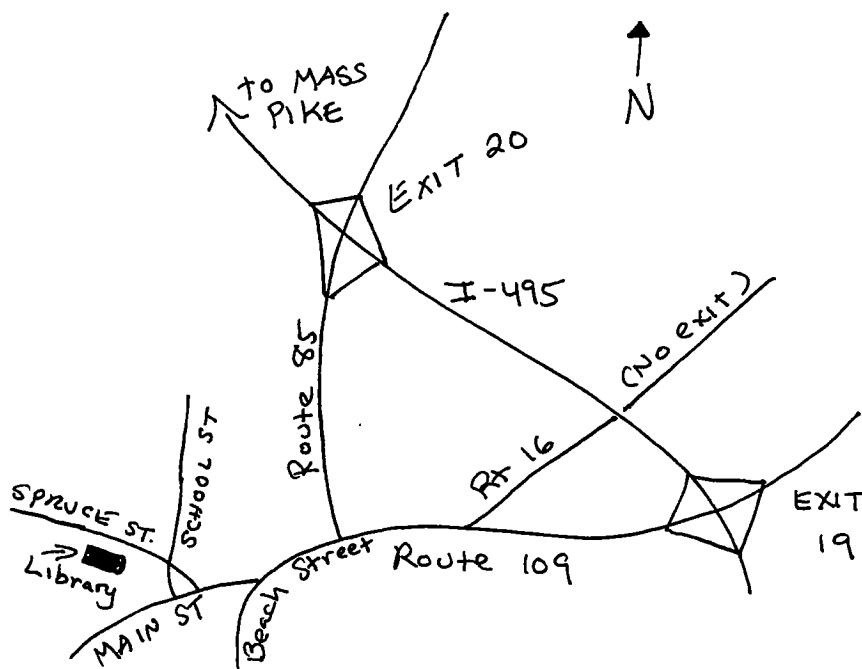
In July, members a pleasant day at John Reiner's home in Center Harbor, New Hampshire. Recently members got together at Mt. Sunapee State Park. The Capital Mineral Club let the MMNE set up in an area apart from where their annual show is held.

These are informal gatherings and it is nice to see many familiar faces during the day. The weather this year was very comfortable.

Please note the following changes:

Robert Brackley
11 Gerrish Drive
Sanford, ME 04073

Elizabeth Taparowsky
404 Westford Drive
Southport, CT 06490



THE BEST OF THE MMNE

Some time ago the club voted to underwrite the cost of production of a compilation of articles written by MMNE members, and published in the bulletin since its inception. This project is now completed and contains 87 full size (8 1/2" X 11"), plus a cover designed by Scott Whittemore in a plastic comb binding. Among the topics included are: mineral descriptions; mineral identification; tips on mounting; and information on New England localities (some with maps or crystal drawings). Copies will be available at the next meeting, at a cost of \$5.00 each -- less than actual cost. If you are unable to arrange pickup at one of our meetings, you will have to add \$3.00 to cover the cost of postage and mailing envelope.

DEATH OF A CHARTER MEMBER

We report with sorrow the death in late August of Mrs. Inez Chick, in Roslindale, Massachusetts. Although she was not active in the club in recent years, Mrs. Chick had been a charter member together with her husband Walter (deceased), who was the first Treasurer. She is survived by a daughter, Anne, of Cambridge, and a son, Walter, of Texas.

Mont Saint Hilaire, The Magic Lives On

by Marcelle Weber

Mont Saint Hilaire, Quebec, is still the magic mountain. Where else can you go to collect and be sure of finding 50-60 species (58 May 29-30, 1993; 50 July 3-4, 1993)? True they may not be all of display quality, but if you don't have the species, it is there to be had. May 29 was overcast with occasional rain, but not enough to stop the collecting. The sun made Sunday a better day, if somewhat warm. The July 3-4 weekend was the same except that Saturday was dryer and Sunday was hotter.

There are twenty or so species which may be found every field trip or nearly so. These generally occur as micro-crystals, but sometimes larger: aegirine, albite, analcime (found in July in large, displayable crystals), afvedsonite, astrophyllite, bastnaesite, biotite, calcite, dolomite, donnayite - (Y), fluorite, microcline, natrolite, pectolite, pyrite, quartz, rhodochrosite, rutile, siderite, sodalite, sphalerite, and zircon.

These are lists of species we collected or saw, or had reported to us. In May, there were many, manymiarolitic cavities in the nepheline syenite. A number of minerals are found in these vugs: ilmenite in groups of tabular crystals and rosettes, and elongated crystals; colorless to "peachy" crystals which are probably gaidonnayite - (Y) (fl. green); green andradites; analcime; calcite; natrolite (and possibly tetranatrolite); barite; and several unknowns.

The last DeMix workings, which are the lowest level, are being expanded by Poudrette and they formed an enlarged pond on May. In the hornfels on the eastern side of the pond, interesting dolomite crystals occurred on seams along with the pyrite and rutile. Seams and vugs in earlier blocks of hornfels held fluorite, quartz, and gmelinite. On the western side of the pond extension, thumbnail pyrites were found as well as an area with elpidite, and another with tiny gypsum crystals.

By July, the large pond had been almost completely drained and we were able to drive on the lower level. So, what was (formerly) the first level is now the second or upper level. There was relatively little new material. The floor had been scraped and pushed over the edge of the upper level, creating rockfalls where collecting was possible. On the west side of the former pond, collectors were digging in the floor of the upper level, for smoky quartz crystals, calcite, and large pieces of sphalerite. Nearby was a lot of rusty material that had micro gypsum crystals. On the same level, the fine analcime crystals were collected. One of the Canadian collectors had an andradite crystal better than an inch across, in a rock best described as a small boulder.

The pool of July refers to a water-filled area on the lower level where digging in the floor produced numerous elpidite crystals (fl. green). A search of the surrounding area turned up the same mineral. Blue tabular anatase crystals were found in hornfels as well as V-twins of rutile - extremely small and very thin.

EFMLS DIGEST

VOLUME 30 NUMBER 8
SEPTEMBER, 1993

INFORMATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE EASTERN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC.



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

A huge thank you to Wylda Stephens, her committee and all the wonderful individuals who gave of their time, energy and talent to make the 43rd EFMLS Show and Convention a success.



In Hampton we officially recognized the Southeast Federation and brought "peace to our land." While we knew this was an agonizing and difficult decision for many, we hope we can now move forward to a bright cooperative future in our hobby.

I also want to thank all the wonderful members for their interest and their kind support, their get well wishes, and messages in recent months. □

Patricia A. Mummert

AWARDS PRESENTED

Many outstanding honorary and competitive displays dotted the arena highlighting our hobby. Trophy awards, were earned by Peter McCrery (Educational), Roger Barnett (minerals), Betty Smith (cabochons), Pat Mummert (open division), Amber Bollick (minerals), and Kathy Hrechka (micromounts).

Other awards presented during the Awards dinner on Saturday evening included: 1993 Each One Teach One citations to George Eastas of the Nassau Mineral Club and Jeffrey Berson (certificate), also of the Nassau Mineral Club

EFMLS Citation (Man of the Year Award) to Carl Phillips for his years of outstanding contributions to the Federation

All American Club Award recognition was given to entrants Florida

Panhandle Gem and Mineral Club, Henderson County Gem and Mineral Club and Mid-Hudson Valley Gem and Mineral Society. Announcement of the winners of this contest will be made in Denver at the AFMS meetings.

Editors and Bulletins were also recognized at the awards dinner. Trophy awards were presented to Howard Binkley, Editor Mid-Georgia Gem Clips, (Mid-Georgia Gem & Mineral Society); Margaret Johnson, Editor High Country Gleamings (Henderson Co. Gem & Mineral Society); Sue Pitts, Editor Rocky Echoes, (Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society); Cathie Cannon, Editor The Dopstick (Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society of Washington, DC); Wolfgang Vogt, author, NJ Paleontograph (NJ Paleontological Society); Reivan Zeleznik, author, The Vug Examiner (Stamford Mineral Society); Peter McCrery, illustrator, The Collecting Bag (Richmond Gem & Mineral Society); Cathy Gaber, author, The Mineral Mite (Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.); and Ellen Everett, junior author, Rocky Echoes (Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society).

To close out the evening Vandall King, 1993 EFMLS Honorary Scholarship Award Recipient presented an interesting illustrated talk on classic minerals and mineral location in Maine. □

1993 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Two key items of business were on the agenda at the 43rd annual EFMLS meeting held this past July 31 in Hampton, VA. As you have already read, the proposal recognizing the Southeast Federation was accepted in an amended version by the Directors. The amendment clarified the use of Wildacres and the right of EFMLS member clubs in SE territory to hold EFMLS activities such as workshops and shows. The Southeast Federation voted to accept this proposal at their meeting on August 7th.

The second major item concerned

the reorganization of the Bylaws. Over the years of our existence as an organization many amendments and changes had occurred to the original articles (Constitution and Bylaws). In many cases redundancy occurred; in others items were included that really belonged in operating procedures rather than Bylaws. Constitution and Bylaws Chairman Carl Phillips and his committee reworked the document in order to streamline and make it more useful. The proposed changes were approved by the Directors present and become affective immediately. □

**PLAN TO ATTEND THE 1994
CONVENTION AND SHOW
JULY 8-10 - SYRACUSE, NY
HOSTED BY THE GEM & MINERAL
SOCIETY OF SYRACUSE.**

OFFICERS ELECTED

Officers elected to serve the Federation beginning on November 1 are as follows:

President - Steve Weinberger
 1st Vice President - Erston Barnhart
 2nd Vice President - Tom Milligan
 Secretary - Madelyn Todd *
 Treasurer - Sybil Churchwell
 Asst. Treasurer - Howard Binkley *
 Editor - Carolyn Weinberger *
 *Elected last year for a 2 year term.

Results of elections for Regional Vice Presidents in regions 1,3,5 and 7 were also announced and the winners introduced. Region 1: Kurt Patzlaff; Region 3: Alan Byers; Region 5: Lendell Hill; Region 7: Howard Binkley.

RAFFLE RESULTS

A large crowd was on hand on Sunday afternoon as the winning tickets stubs in our first ever EFMLS Auction were drawn. And the winners are:

1st Prize - curio table and minerals
 - Sara McElheny of Newport, PA



2nd Prize - the crystal necklace -
 Paula Kabnick of Glen Cove, NY

3rd Prize - the mineral cabinet -
 Michelle Garrison of Hampton, VA
 4th Prize - the cabbie unit - Julian Klaff of Baltimore, MD

5th Prize (added at the show) a replica miners candle holder - Ben Shulman of DelRay Beach, FL

Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to all who participated by purchasing and selling tickets. □

CONDOLENCES

Missing from the 1993 EFMLS Convention was Region IV Vice President Dick Gillespie. Dick also served as Co-Chairman for the show.

Dick was unable to attend due to the death of his wife. The entire Federation wishes to send to Dick and his family their heartfelt condolences. □

FOSSIL STAMP PROGRAM

As we are all aware, the US Postal Service issues dozens of commemorative stamps each year. The selection of what to place on these stamps is charged to a committee of citizens appointed by the US Postal Service. Our stamps tell of the history of our country, of our outstanding people and the institutions which have made us great.

In recent years, and through the tireless effort of Lillian Turner, two sets of mineral heritage stamps have been issued. The success of this project required hours of work and thousands of letters from rockhounds across the U.S..



Tony Verdi is a high school science teacher whose major interest lies in fossils. He is now asking our help in petitioning the U.S. Postal Service to issue stamps depicting early fossils such as trilobites, crinoids, ammonites, brachiopods or ferns.

To this end, Tony needs the help of every rockhound in writing letters to the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee request that a block of stamps depicting these fossils be issued. Almost 300 stamps have already been issued honoring plants and animals. If enough requests are received, Tony believes his quest will be successful.

Please send your letter (it can be short) to:

U.S. Postal Service
 Citizens Advisory Committee
 Room 5800
 475 L'Enfant Plaza West, SW
 Washington, DC 20260-6352 □

NEW ADDRESS

Jay Bowman, Chairmain of the Uniform Rules Committee has retired from his teaching job and moved to Oklahoma. Please make the following address change in your Directory (page 6)
 R.R. 3, Box 634A
 Ponca City, OK 74604

EFMLS CLUB SHOWS & SWAPS SEPTEMBER:

- 11-12: Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show. Northern Berkshire Mineral Club, North Adams, MA.
- 11 - 12: 24th Annual Gemarama '93. Tuscarora Lapidary Society. Robert C. Gauntlett Community Center, Rt 3 @ Media Line Rd; Newtown Square, PA.
- 16-19: Rocky Mountain/ AFMS Convention and Show. Denver, CO.
- 18-19: 28th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show. Central PA Rock & Mineral Club. Zembo Temple, 2801 N Third St.; Harrisburg, PA.
- 25-26: 5th Annual Hiddenite Gem & Mineral Show. Western Piedmont Mineral & Gem Society. Hiddenite Center; Hiddenite, NC.

OCTOBER:

- 9-10: 10th Annual BVFS Fossil Fair. Bone Valley Fossil Society, Inc. Winter Haven Complex, 210 Cypress Gardens Blvd.; Winter Haven, FL.
- 16-17: 38th Annual "Beauties of the Earth" Show. Niagara Rocks and Minerals Club. Lewiston Firehall #2, 1705 Saunders Settlement Rd., Rt 31; Niagara Falls, NY.
- 17: Annual Show & Sale. Bergen Co. Mineralogy & Paleontology Society. County Courthouse Parking Lot; Hackensack, NJ.
- 23-24: 31st Anniversary Gem and Mineral Festival. Nassau Mineral Club. Hofstra University Physical Fitness Ctr, 1000 Hempstead Tpk; Hempstead, L.I., NY.
- 23-24: 30th Annual Atlantic Coast Gem & Mineral Exhibition. Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore. Pikesville Armory, 610 Reisterstown Rd; Pikesville, MD. □

RECOVERING WELL

Fred Schaefermeyer, AFMS Treasurer and Fred Ruhe, Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse past Editor, both recently underwent appendix operations. We are happy to report that both Freds are up and around and doing quite well. Fred S. was even able to stop in at the EFMLS Show in Hampton. □