

# 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. 231

September 2001

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## THE NORTHEASTERN REUNION MEETING OF THE MICROMOUNTERS OF NEW ENGLAND, MAY 20, 2001

I'm convinced that our May Reunion Meeting should be two days long like it (sort of) was some years ago. That allows members a half a day to talk and talk to all their buddies about: hopes for another year at Poudrette, the new road cuts on the interstates, and what is going on in the White Mountains, the Green Mountains and mines in Connecticut, Rhode Island and Maine. We used to go to bed those days only because we were hoarse and tired from pushing tables and chairs around. Up early at 6:30AM for more talk around the donut box and coffee urn. By 8:30 the rest of the crowd would start tricking into the 4-H center. Then the mineral viewing would begin in earnest.

But this year was a great success. When Phyllis Leighton, Betty Sevens, and I (Pat) got to the Moose Lodge at 8:20, we were expecting to open the place up, and to start beseeching the custodian, "we need the coffee - now!" Amazingly we found the Jims, Warner and Cahoon and Steve Reutlinger, plus custodians racing to and fro. The tables and chairs were set up, and the coffee (both regular and decaf) was ready. What a concept! Betty and Phyllis appropriated another table and started putting out the snacks.

Traditional early arrivers, John and Margaret Stewart, Gene Bearss, and Edna Lerer found most everything ready when they arrived, and they could immediately start organizing the give-aways and the sale table, as well as Margaret's registration table. John Stewart rushed to put up signs on the highway. Is was so great to have Dick Stenberg, Bob Janules, John Ebner, Brian Porter, and the Weinsteins and Hubley families there ready to pitch in so early.

Gene Bearss had worked all winter to get the give-away cards ready; Janet and Steve Cares contributed a bunch as usual. The Stewarts had minerals on cards and in egg crates from Mont Saint-Hilaire. George and Doug Rambo caused a stir when they arrived before 9:00 and started putting out a marvelous addition to the give-away table. These minerals were from the inventory of former dealer Doug Brendt who is retiring. The Rambos had mounted all those specimens on cards for our enjoyment.

And it was a "Grand Reunion" when Charlie and Marcelle Weber, Mike Swanson, Angie Teixiera, Marilyn Dodge, Betty Sevens, and Phyllis Leighton were greeted by all the old timers. We had been pleased to welcome back Janet and Steve at our April meeting, and it was like old times to have them all back

Missing and missed were Elaine and Jose Sole. Elaine was ill but recovering from pneumonia in the Flushing Hospital. Neil Wintringham hopes to be back with us in 2002. Vera Fogg had gotten involved in family events. Hans Swarts, Bill Henderson and John Anderson were missed too: hopefully back with us next year. Members deceased over the past year were fondly remembered: Forrest Fogg, Ralph Carr and Gene Mechler.

Out-going President Jim Warner welcomed the assemblage and read off the new slate of officers. He then, promptly, turned the meeting over to in-coming president Jim Cahoon. Both Jims presented the Cares with a special recognition plaque for all their years of devoted service to the Club. Much applause greeted this tribute.

Then it was time for the Show to Begin! Within seconds the give-away and sales tables were besieged. Soon people started drifting over to the snack table. Goodies included those famous Harvard brownies of

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## ***Upcoming Meetings***

Saturday, Sept. 8  
Chelmsford, MA  
Public Library  
Doors open @ 9am

***Map and directions  
are on the back page***

Saturday, Oct. 13  
Vera Fogg's home  
Dunbarton, NH  
Time TBA

The *Newsletter* is the official publication of the Micromounters of New England (MMNE). The last by-laws revision was 00/00/00. The MMNE is a member of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (cf <<http://www.amfed.org/efmls>>) and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (<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* unless the author has reserved all rights in which case written permission must be obtained from the author. If there are questions regarding copying please contact the editor. The club address is c/o the Editor. 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 \$7.00 per year and payable to the treasurer.

#### Officers for 2001/2002

President: Jim Cahoon, 31 Parker St., Maynard, MA 01754  
 Vice President: Jim Warner, 23 June Street, Auburn, MA 01501  
 Treasurer: Anita Hubley, 90 Valley View Drive, S. Windsor, CT 06074-2829  
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 Editor: Mike Swanson, 29 Chestnut Hill, Greenfield, MA 01301-3003;

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

### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

#### September 2001

08 Saturday - Mont Saint-Hilaire field trip  
 09 Sunday - Varennes field trip  
 14-16 Desautels MM Symposium  
 Baltimore Mineral Society  
 Contact: Cal Pierson, 4 Kampman Ct., Sparks, MD 21152  
 15 Saturday - Saco Valley Gem & Mineral Club Annual  
 Auction, Show and Swap  
 Albany Town Hall, Albany NH - 9AM to 5PM  
 Micromounters set-up area available

#### October 2001

06-07 38th Gem & Mineral Festival  
 Presented by the Capital Mineral Club  
 Sunapee State Park, Rte 103, Newbury, NH  
 Saturday 9AM to 5PM, Sunday 10AM to 4PM  
 13 Saturday - MMNE, Home of Vera and the late Forrest  
 Fogg, Dunbarton, NH. Time to be announced.  
 20 Saturday - Mont Saint-Hilaire field trip  
 27-28 30th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show  
 Sponsored by Rhode Island Mineral Hunters  
 Knight Campus, CC of Rhode Island  
 Rte 113, East Avenue, Warwick, RI

#### November 2001

17 Saturday - MMNE, Burlington, MA public library  
 Doors open at 10AM

#### February 2002

1-3 37th Annual Pacific Micromount Conference  
 Southern California Micro-mineralogists

#### May 2002

18 Saturday - MMNE Annual Meeting, Moose Lodge,  
 Marlborough, MA

### WEB SITES AND OTHER REFERENCES OF MINERALOGICAL INTEREST

This column will be used for interesting web sites or any other mineralogical references which members discover and think other collectors might be interested in. Please send the Editor your finds with any comments on the site for inclusion.

#### Marking arrows and colored dots:

Shercon, 1823 San Fernando Road, Los Angeles CA  
 (800) 228-3218 x302—Carl Gaskins, sales manager  
 <[carl.gaskins@shercon.com](mailto:carl.gaskins@shercon.com)>

Paper arrows 1/8"x3/16" in red, orange, white, green, yellow and blue (part no. 20Z), fluorescent red, pink, yellow and green (part no. 20ZF). Packaged in rolls or envelopes of 1000 or 5000.

Paper discs 1/8" (part no. 401Z or ZF) or 1/4" (part no. 403Z or ZF) in same colors as arrows. Packaged in rolls of 1000 and 5000.

#### Software for printing labels of various sizes.

MineralLabel 5.0

<http://www.osomin.com/MINLABEL.HTM>

This product has been marketed in the past, but apparently the author has decided not to continue doing upgrades or support. According to the site it is now in the public domain. I have not tried it. It sounds like it would work for MMs.

#### Mineral databases

David Barthelmy's "Mineralogy Database"

<http://webmineral.com>

Pierre Perroud's "Athena Mineralogy"

<http://un2sg4.unige.ch/athena/mineral/mineral.html>

#### Mont Saint-Hilaire

Marc Favre's Alkali-Nuts

<http://www.ssc.on.ca/mandmmshhome.html>

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Edna Lerer's. the veggie dip provided by Margaret Stewart, Phyllis Leighton's famous fluffy angel food cake, and Betty Sevren's show stopper, those great spicy pecans that people kept coming back for over and over.

The picnic lunch was declared a winner this year. The hamburger and even the grilled chicken were perfectly done. Little additions like corn on the cob and mushrooms in butter were greeted with enthusiasm. The weather was perfect for alfresco dining.

Thanks to Steve Reutlinger for selling the raffle tickets for the mineral pictures. Marilyn Dodge had, once again, generously framed some lovely pictures that Janet had donated. Steve and Janet Cares and Pat Barker donated some of the door prizes. Edna Lerer did her usual outstanding job selling the choice micros at the sale table. Jim Parella had gathered the specimens as members brought them in to the monthly meetings. And thanks to all the mineral specimen donors this year: very impressive.

Marcelle Weber gave a very timely talk: "Keeping up with Mont Saint-Hilaire." Timely, with the first trip to St.-Hilaire less than a week away! We wish her all the luck in the world on that upcoming operation that will soon have her dashing around the dumps, good as new. Jim Cahoon prepared the nice souvenir bulletin telling us about Marcelle and her mineral activities.

We appreciate all the work the out-going President has done over the past four years. Yes, he has been President, or acting President, all that time! Thanks to Hans Swarts for his excellent bulletins. In August he will pass the Editor's pen back to Mike Swanson.

Pat Barker

#### MMNE CLUB NEWS

A survey was done at the May meeting regarding the meeting sites and the use of e-mail for the *Newsletter* with 31 responders. 81% of the membership was opposed to the use of e-mail as a primary method for sending out the *Newsletter*. 77% were in favor of having at least one regular meeting in Western New England and 75% indicated that they would attend such a meeting. 44% of responders were in favor of a centrally fixed site such as Worcester, with 56% in favor of continuing the rotating site.

We would like to thank Ed Hakesley for arranging meeting sites through the end of the year and wish him well in his move to the sunny south.

#### FROM THE EDITOR

Hopefully this summer has been good to all of you in terms of health and collecting. Throughout this past spring and summer there has been a great deal of philosophizing in many of the micromount newsletters and on the electronic bulletin boards about what constitutes a micromount and whether we are micromounters or micromineralogists. These dialogs have ranged from discussions of micromounting as a decorator-style art form in which the specimen takes a back seat to the presentation, to a bare bones approach in which the specimen is the object of attention, and the box serves only as a protective wrap and a vehicle for mounting locality and identification data. It would seem to me that the majority of us are primarily micromineralogists rather than micromounters, putting the emphasis on the specimen, not the mount or presentation. Having said this, I encourage you to bring your treasures as well as your unknowns to our first meeting of the fall. Bring some give-aways and/or trading material and well as your 'scopes and lights. Even bring a friend and turn him or her into another micromineralogist. feel that I have adequate time to dedicate to the production of the *Newsletter*. This is not a one-person job;

I need input from all of you to make this work. It would nice to have regular monthly or bimonthly columns to which members would contribute articles. If each of you contributed one column per year (there are 2 columns per page), we would have an abundance of information to share about our hobby with other members. We are all visiting new or old collecting sites. Tell the rest of the membership about what you found and perhaps a summary of the location if it is not well known to everyone. If it wasn't worth going to, that is also reportable news. Tell us about a particular technique you have developed for specimen preparation, mounting or cleaning. Let us know about interesting web sites, books or other articles which you run across. A large part of this hobby is the sharing of information and stories, as well as showing new finds and having other members help you identify that unidentified white fuzz from MSH.

I will attempt to keep an eye on interesting articles from sources such as the internet and other newsletters, but input from the rest of the membership is mandatory.

I have included several web sites which I have been using on a regular bases.

A copy of the original MMNE Constitution and By-Laws is enclosed. It has never been reviewed as far as our President can determine. This will be a topic of discussion in the near future.

### **LABELING MINERAL SPECIMENS** or what should be on a specimen label

The traditional mineral label will have a locality which might give you the mine, city, state/province and country of origin. It would be nice to have more information such as the specific location within the mine, but if one is trying to collect a suite of minerals from a complex site such as Mont Saint-Hilaire, there is another parameter which should be included—namely TIME. The mineralization and associations change dramatically as we move from one week, month or year to the next. For example, the pegmatite in the southeast corner of the Poudrette Quarry changes with each blast, and thus the specific collection date, as well accurate notation relative to rock type and location within the quarry is of importance for future study. Ed.

### **THE CONNECTICUT MUSEUM OF MINING AND MINERAL SCIENCE**

The Connecticut Museum of Mining and Mineral Science is part of the Connecticut Antique Machinery Assoc., Inc. (CAMA) museum complex and is located 1 mile north of Kent, CT on Rte 7. The CAMA is a non-profit educational museum dedicated to preserving our industrial heritage. Our museum complex consists of seven buildings plus an operating narrow gauge railroad.

The mining museum's primary focus is to present the history of Connecticut's rich mining and mineral history from the first miners (Native Americans) to the present. Displays consist of histories of Connecticut mines, development of mining technology, mining artifacts, a mock mine tunnel with mining equipment, and mineral displays including fluorescent minerals of Connecticut. Numerous historical photographs illustrate this history. The Museum will also serve as a clearing house for viable collecting sites and area mineral shows.

The mining museum is open from May through October, Wednesday through Sunday, 10AM—4 PM.

For additional information contact John Pawloski, Director, CAMA, PO Box 1467, New Milford, CT, (860) 927-0050 or visit our web site at <[www.ctamachinery.com](http://www.ctamachinery.com)>.

By Jack Pawloski, via EFMLS

### **MICROMOUNTERS OF NEW ENGLAND** Constitution and By-Laws

#### **ARTICLE 1**

Section 1. Name--The name of this organization shall be "MICROMOUNTERS OF NEW ENGLAND."

Section 2. Object--This club is constituted to promote the study of minerals, especially those minerals that require the use of a microscope. This is to be a non-profit organization.

#### **ARTICLE 2** Membership

Section 1. All persons of the age of 16 or over interested in the study of minerals, especially those minerals that require the use of a microscope, are eligible to membership in the club. Persons under 16 years of age may be admitted to membership at the discretion of the officers.

Section 2. The names of the candidates for membership shall be presented to the secretary at a regular meeting and shall be accompanied by dues for one year and an initiation fee of one dollar. Election to membership shall be approved by the membership committee.

Section 3. Honorary Members--Any person who has conspicuously promoted the science of mineralogy or rendered signal service to this club may be elected to honorary membership. Such members shall be exempt from the payment of dues. Election to honorary membership shall be made only by a two-thirds vote of a mail ballot.

#### **ARTICLE 3** Officers and Their Duties

Section 1. The officers of this Club shall consist of a President, Vice-President, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary and a Treasurer, all of whom shall be elected at the annual meeting and shall hold office until their successors are elected.

Section 2. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and shall preside as Chairman of the Executive Board.

Section 3. The Vice-President shall act as an aide to the President and shall preside in the absence of that officer.

Section 4. The Recording Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all the Club meetings and shall act as Secretary of the Executive Board and perform such

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other duties as are customary to the office. The Corresponding Secretary shall notify all the members of all meetings of the Club and shall conduct its ordinary correspondence.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all moneys; shall keep a strict account in writing of all moneys which he may receive and disburse, and shall retain written vouchers for payments made; and shall make a written statement monthly and an annual report.

Section 6. An auditing committee consisting of two members appointed by the Executive Board shall examine the books previous to the annual meeting.

#### ARTICLE 4 Executive Board

Section 1. The Executive Board shall consist of the officers of the Club and two members at large called Directors. One Director shall be elected annually to serve a two-year term, or until a successor is elected.

Section 2. The duties of the Executive Board shall be to transact necessary business between regular meetings and such other business as may be referred to it by the Club; and to approve the plans and work of standing committees. The Executive Board shall be responsible for all funds, and property of the Club.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall meet, (a) at the discretion of the President, (b) by request of three members of the board, or (c) by request of 10 members of the Club.

Section 4. Any vacancy in office shall be filled by the Executive Board and the appointee shall serve until the next annual meeting or a special meeting called to fill such vacancy.

#### ARTICLE 5 Meetings and Elections

Section 1. Meetings shall be held at such time and place as may be designated by the Program Committee.

Section 2. The annual business meeting for members only shall be held prior to the regular meeting in the spring. Annual reports of officers and committees shall be given at this time.

Section 3. A slate of officers and one director shall be presented one meeting prior to the annual meeting. Additional nominations from the floor may be made at this time, followed by the oral acceptance of the nomi-

Section 3. A slate of officers and one director shall be presented one meeting prior to the annual meeting. Additional nominations from the floor may be made at this time, followed by the oral acceptance of the nominees. A ballot shall be made from these names and mailed to every member to be returned prior to the annual meeting. Ballots will be counted by a committee of two members who will report the results of the voting at the annual meeting.

Section 4. 10% of the members, but not less than 10 members shall form a quorum for the purpose of elections or the transaction of business.

#### ARTICLE 6 Dues

Section 1. The annual dues shall be four dollars, payable in advance.

Section 2. A member shall be considered in arrears if dues for the current year are not paid prior to the annual meeting. Dues to be submitted with written ballot.

#### ARTICLE 7 Committees

Section 1. All standing committees shall be appointed by the Executive Board. Standing committees are program, nominating, and membership.

Section 2. The number of members appointed to any standing committee shall be left to the discretion of the Executive Board.

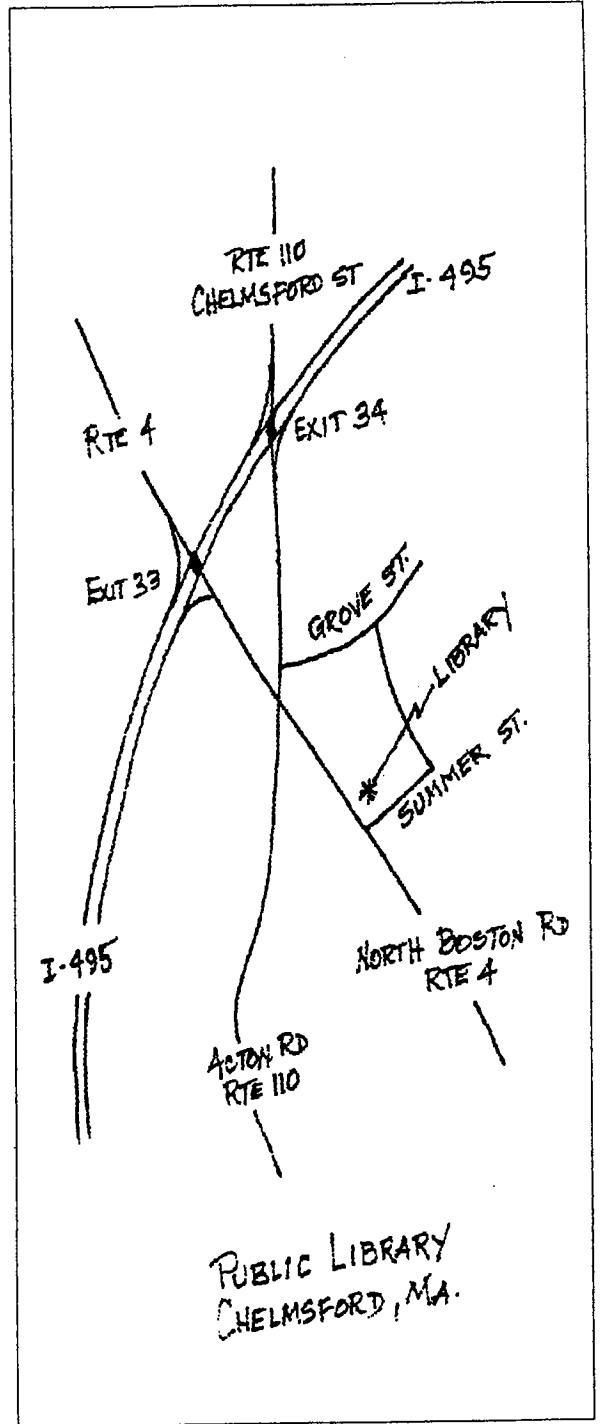
#### ARTICLE 8 Amendments

Section 1. All amendments to, substitutes for, or alterations of the foregoing by-laws shall be proposed in writing and mailed to the membership, discussed at the following meeting and ballots mailed to the membership for voting.

Section 2. It shall require a two-thirds vote of a mail ballot to change the name of this Club or to affiliate with other clubs or association.

#### ARTICLE 9 Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in Roberts Rules Revised shall govern this Club in all cases to which they are applicable and are not inconsistent with these by-laws.



Michael Swanson, MMNE Editor  
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