

THE TREASURE CHEST

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH JERSEY
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Charter Member of The Eastern Federation of Mineralocal & Lapidary Societies
and affiliated with The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

VOLUME 64, ISSUE 5

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2008

645th MEETING

Time..... Social—Mineral Sales.....6:30PM
Meeting.....7:30PM
Program.....8:00PM-9:00PM
When..... Thursday, May 8, 2008
Where.... The Paterson Museum — (phone 973-321-1260)
2 Market Street, Paterson, NJ 07501-1704
Editor..... Jack R. Troy, 48 Beverly Rd., Hawthorne, NJ 07506
973-423-5225 — e-mail: troy39@optonline.net

DIRECTIONS

For those unsure of a route to the museum, these directions should help. You can get to the museum via Rt. 80 using exit 57a,b or Rt. 19 north, following the signs to downtown Paterson. Left at the first light, (follow red dots) left again at the next light (Market St.) and then two and a half blocks to the museum on your left. You could also come north on McBride Ave. from Rt 46 in West Paterson to Overlook Park, right at light to next light, left at Burger King and 100 ft. to museum entrance on your right. A winding but safe route to a paved, fenced and well lit parking lot.

PURPOSE

The North Jersey Mineralogical Soc. is a non-profit, educational organization founded in 1945 whose goal is to bring together people with an interest in the Earth Sciences in general and mineral studies in particular. Guests and prospective members are always welcome. Young people under 17 years of age are welcome to attend if accompanied by a parent or adult friend.

FOR INFORMATION CALL

Rolf Schudel (201-925-2716) or Mel Pollinger (201-791-9826). Call the the museum or one of the officers if inclement weather might cause meeting cancelation.

EDITOR'S COMMENT

Have you visited our web site yet? You can use it to your advantage by listing your e-mail address. You can also ask the web master to put some photos of some of your minerals on the site, maybe for trading??

SEND DUES TO

Bill Rickard, Treasurer
18 Weinmanns Blvd.
Wayne, NJ 07470
973-595-6278
Individual members: \$12.00
Married couples \$18.00
Additional family members
are \$6.00 each
Junior members: \$5.00

OFFICERS FOR 2008

President.....Juan Gonzalez
1st VP.....Robert Horn
2nd VP.....open
Secretary.....Dianne Rickard
Treasurer.....Bill Rickard
Assoc. Treas.....open
3 yr trustee.....Arlene Castleman
2 yr Trustee.....Mel Pollinger
1 yr Trustee.....Robert Santee

PROGRAM

The program for this evening will be a video titled, "The Devil's Miner". It is about the silver mines in Potosi, Bolivia, a location that has produced many fine mineral specimens. It shows the hard reality of the miner's life. Bob Horn and I had a fluorescent mineral display set up at the NJ Earth Science Show in Franklin last week. It will be on display at our meeting for all to see if they were not able to attend the show.

We are planning collecting trips for our clubs. We have proposed the garnet locality in Roxbury or a pegmatite quarry in central Connecticut. We want to hear your comments.

Also proposed is a \$2,000. donation to the Paterson Museum to be used for the completion of the mineral display. Also we would like to pay for a Club Membership to the Sterling Hill Mine. This membership well remain active for ten years and will only cost \$500. There will be complete details at our next meeting. It is important for you to be present. See you soon. Juan

ATTENTION

For the next few issues of our newsletter, we will be doing a joint e-mail and snail mail mailing. We want to hear whether you have any trouble receiving your copy and whether you have any comments. We plan to switch to full e-mail within the next few months.

We have been discussing the cost of printing and mailing our newsletter. Our new printer is fast and the quality of the print is good but we are not getting our money's worth when we pay \$80 per cartridge compared to \$6.00 for my Epson printer.

For those who missed our last meeting, Eric Stanchich brought in a number of his zeolite mineral specimens and Mickey Raine took some pictures that



came out fine considering it was so dark. I thought that this stilbite from Haledon was really nice. Chris Laskowich gave an excellent report on the UBC quarry in Clifton. Very thorough and well presented, The kind of presentation that you will hear only if you attend our meetings.

A VISIT TO THE TUCSON MINERAL SHOW

I missed going to the Tucson Show this year because of a tight budget and recovering from some medical problems. Oh well, there's always next year! I'm glad that some of our members had their cameras with them and I got 2 cd's loaded with pictures. Like most shot taken under casual circumstances, they're not all great, but they give a good cross-section of what could be seen at the show.

I remember the first time we went to Tucson. We didn't know what to expect for the weather. It varies quite a bit. Basically, it can best be described a spring like during the day and cool at night. Once in while showers come through the area, covering the mountains as shown in the photograph above.



At the end of the shower there will often be a rainbow. Sometimes a cool breeze will add a chill to the air, but rarely will any of the small mineral specimens blow away. The quartz specimens shown below seem to be securely mounted on black pedestals. I wonder whether they have any problems with specimens being picked up and carried off. If you wonder how these pieces are moved, many dealers take fork lifts with them. One of the well known dealers has at least one tractor trailer truck to move and display his material. These dealers generally set up on the motel strip. The day following arrival, we started the rounds with our friend Al Cooper who has been living in Tucson for several years now and works for one of the major mining companies.



Below left is a case containing minerals from the Illinois fluorspar district. A large range of color and clean, sharp crystals make these specimens desirable. Association with calcite and other minerals make these specimens very collectable. Below and to the right is a case with specimens of pyromorphite from the Bunker Hill Mine, Kellogg, Idaho. These specimens were professionally collected a few years back and were available at all the shows....not cheap.



Below left is a case containing minerals from the Illinois fluorspar district. A large range of color and clean, sharp crystals make these specimens desirable. Association with calcite and other minerals make these specimens very collectable. Below and to the right is a case with specimens of pyromorphite from the Bunker Hill Mine, Kellogg, Idaho. These specimens were professionally collected a few years back and were available at all the shows....not cheap.

When I am able to get to the show, the first thing I look at are all the exhibits. The theme of the exhibits this year was famous mineral localities of the United States. Most of you heard about the wonderful emerald crystals that have been found recently at an Eastern locality that is well known, Hiddenite, Alexander Co., North Carolina. The photo at left shows some gold from California. With the price of gold at high levels, these samples have to be worth a lot of money, simply based on the price of gold. Some of the California mines are still producing good specimens. The photo at right shows some excellent crystals of tourmaline from California. Called blue cap crystals, they are from the "Tourmaline Queen Mine", Pala district.



Some of the California mines are still producing good specimens. The photo at right shows some excellent crystals of tourmaline from California. Called blue cap crystals, they are from the "Tourmaline Queen Mine", Pala district.

Below left is a case containing minerals from the Illinois fluorspar district. A large range of color and clean, sharp crystals make these specimens desirable. Association with calcite and other minerals make these specimens very collectable. Below and to the right is a case with specimens of pyromorphite from the Bunker Hill Mine, Kellogg, Idaho. These specimens were professionally collected a few years back and were available at all the shows....not cheap.



Below and to the right is a case with specimens of pyromorphite from the Bunker Hill Mine, Kellogg, Idaho. These specimens were professionally collected a few years back and were available at all the shows....not cheap.



(Continued page 3)

TUCSON 2008: CON'T.

One of the things we who travel to Tucson look forward to are the field collecting trips. We try to arrange something with our friends, and if we are lucky, we get to go to a new and terrific place. This year our friend Allen, an ex member of the North Jersey Mineral Society, arranged for a trip to Bisbee. Shown in the photograph above.



I wonder if the small town shown in the picture above might make a good retirement spot...tree lined street etc. At left, Al was looking over the area to see if he could spot an area that might be productive. The mines produced beautiful mineral specimens when they were active, but now they are working on the low grade (less than 1% concentration) areas.

The companies use a recovery technique called leaching. Even that small amount can be recovered when the price is as high as it is right now. The ore is spread over a large area to prepare for leaching.

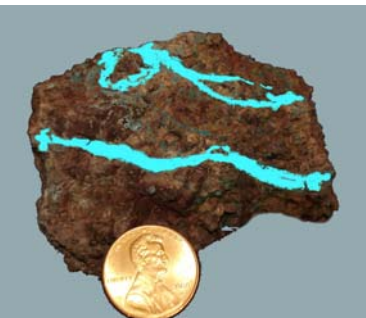


Below left, George is checking out that area. I haven't had the opportunity to check how many great specimens he collected. We



both have been so busy since he got back from Tucson. Allen reported that he made his find of the day, a nice vein of turquoise shown in the picture below right. From what I can see, he should be able to cut some very nice

cabs out of the piece. A trip like this takes the better part of the day. By the time they got back to Tucson it was time for a good steak and a cool bottle of beer.



There are a number of good steak houses in Tucson, some with live western music. One of my favorites is Pinnacle Pete's, with a reenactment of an old western gun fight.



We can't talk about Tucson without talking about the fossils that are available there. If you want a mastodon or something smaller, you can find it. Some of the plates of plant or fish are extraordinary. They can be hung like pictures. Some of the pieces of petrified wood are set up to use as coffee tables. They are beautiful, 1.5-2" thick pieces of highly polished wood, mostly of a red to brown color. I don't know whether Judy, Eva or George bought one. Any slab



shown in the picture would have been a good choice. More than likely, George would have stuck to the micro quartz matrix specimen shown at left. The specimen below right, is quartz scepters (some twins) from the Spruce Claim In

Washington State. It was probably collected some dozen years ago by R. Medici. He went back the next year and used a charter Helicopter to access the locality. The rotor caught some trees and came down on the side of the mountain. He survived the accident but as far



as I know, he never went back. The photo at left shows clusters of quartz, the large one showing a jap twin from Arkansas. Thanks to Judy and Allen for the excellent photos...I could have added many more pages!!

Minutes of the 644th Meeting, North Jersey Min. Soc.

Pres. Juan Gonzalez called the April meeting to order with 33 members in attendance. The minutes were accepted as printed in the newsletter. Treasurer, Bill Rickard, reported that we have \$18,450.79 in our checking account, minus any checks written at the meeting tonight. \$15,000 will be transferred to a Ford Interest Advantage account which will generate 3 1/2% interest (as of the meeting date) and checks can be written on this account. There are currently 72 paid members. A reminder that dues are now due and must be paid in order to go on any field trips.

The Clifton show was a huge success. The net profit from the show was \$4,313.23. The attendance for the two days was 903 adults and 132 children. A vote was taken and the club approved the purchase of new road signs to advertise the show. Three prices will be obtained by Juan Gonzalez and the club has authorized an expenditure of up to \$500.

Pres. Juan Gonzalez has joined the Bristol Gem & Mineral Club in Conn. and our club has been invited to any of their meetings and field trips. They will be going to CCC Quarry in Conn. in 2 weeks and have updated collecting information on Vermont and N. Hampshire.

The EFMLS is accepting nominations for Reg.2 V P.

Librarian, Sharon Orosz, reported that she is unable to get to the cabinets which house our library as they are blocked. The club purchased two new books: "Mineral Identification, A Practical Guide for the Amateur Mineralogist" by Donald B. Peck and "American Mineral Treasures" Edited by Gloria A. Staebler and Wendell E. Wilson.

Field Trip chairperson, Hada Bitar, is trying to arrange a trip to Prospect Park for late April or Early May. Also, Eric Stanchich is trying to arrange a collecting trip to the Braen Quarry (Haledon). Notices of the field trips will be made by e-mail, phone or an extra edition of the newsletter. Dues must be paid to go on field trips.

The club lost its non-profit status as of 2002 and to be reinstated an audit of the books by a CPA has been approved by the board and general membership.

An appeal was made to members to get more active in the club as there are two positions open on the board and more help is needed for the Clifton show. In order to cut the cost of the newsletter, a test e-mailing of the newsletter will be preformed. Dues does not cover the cost of the newsletter nor the Holiday party, which is free to paid members.

A correction was made to the dates shown on the Coming Events. The Syracuse, NY show is July 12-13 and the Lebanon, PA show is August 15-17.

The meeting concluded with a talk on New Jersey zeolites in the collection of Eric Stanchich. Also a report on the status of the U.B.C. Quarry in Clifton/West Paterson was given by Chris Laskowich.

Respectfully submitted
Dianne Rickard, Secretary

COMING EVENTS

May 17-18: Leesport, PA: 40th Annual Show, "World of Gems and Minerals"; Berks Mineralogical Society; Leesport Farmers Market Banquet Hall, Rte. 61; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; contact Jim Woodeshick, 246 State St., Hamburg, PA 19526.

June 7; Kent, CT: 6th Annual Rock Swap and Sale; Connecticut Museum of Mining & Mineral Sciences; Antique Machinery Association museum site, Rte. 7; Sat. 9-4; contact John Pawloski, 42 Squash Hollow Rd., New Milford, CT 06776, 860-354-0296.

June 7-8; Monroe, NY: Show, Swap and Sell; Orange County Mineral Society; Museum Village, 1010 Rte. 17M; Sat. & Sun. 10-4; adults \$3, seniors and children under 12 \$2; mineral displays, lectures. Contact George Gardianos, 845-683-1167, or Museum 845-782-8248;

June 28-29; Gilsum, NH: Swap and Show; Town of Gilsum; Gilsum Elementary School, Rte. 10; Sat. 8-6, Sun. 8-4; free admission; swappers, collectors and more than 70 dealers, buy, sell or swap, minerals, displays; contact Rob Mitchell, Gilsum Rec. Comm., PO Box 76, Gilsum, NH, 603-357-9636;

July 12-13; Syracuse, NY: Show; Gem & Mineral Soc. of Syracuse; Verizon Center of Progress Bldg., NY State Fairgrounds, Rte. 690; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; gems, jewelry, minerals, fossils, more than 50 retail and wholesale dlrs. Contact Cathy Patterson, 315 638-8817;

July 27; Bancroft, Ontario, Canada: 12th Annual Show; Bancroft Gem & Mineral Club; Bancroft Legion Hall, Station St.; Sun. 10-4; adults \$2, under 18 free; silent and live auctions; contact Frank Melanson, Bancroft, ON K0L 1C0, 613-332-1032;

August 2-3; Bethesda, MD: 59th Annual Show; Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society of Washington, DC; Stone Ridge School, 9101 Rockville Pike; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$6, seniors \$5, students \$3, children free; more than 40 dealers, gems, jewelry, minerals, fossils, walk through crystal cave; contact Matt Charsky, 2430 N. Glebe Rd., Arlington, VA 22207, 703-522-7415.

August 2-3; Waterville, ME: 38th Annual Show; Watroak Gem & Mineral Society; Mount Merici School, 152 Western Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; gems, minerals, fossils, lapidary arts, jewelry, books, magazines, educational displays, fluorescent minerals, dealers; contact Ellery Borrow, P.O. Box 47, Waterville, ME 04903-0047, 207-547-3154

August 8-10; West Springfield, MA., East Coast Show; Martin Zinn Expositions; Better Living Center, Eastern States Exposition, 1305 Memorial Dr.; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; adults \$6, 12 and under free with adult; parking \$5, more than 200 U.S. and foreign dealers, door prizes, guest speakers, museum-quality exhibits, large wholesale section, air-conditioned hall. Featuring a display of the Herb and Monika Obodda collection. For information contact Regina Aumente, Martin Zinn Expositions, P.O. Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004, 505-867-0425.