

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 65, ISSUE 4

THURSDAY, SEP. 10, 2009

657th MEETING

Time..... Social—Mineral Sales.....6:30PM
Meeting.....7:30PM
Program.....8:00PM-9:00PM
When..... Thursday, Sept. 10, 2009
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

Your dues are past due. If you haven't paid your dues by the of summer, you will be dropped from our newsletter mailing list and will not be eligible for any club functions or other benefits.

SEND DUES TO

Juan Gonzalez
79 Lakeside Avenue
Pompton Lks, NJ 07442
973-405-1480
Individual members: \$12.00
Married couples \$18.00
Additional family members
are \$6.00 each
Junior members: \$5.00

OFFICERS FOR 2008

President.....Robert Horn
1st VP.....Rolf Schudel
2nd VP.....Steve Barry
Secretary.....Arlene Castleman
Treasurer.....Juan Gonzalez
Assoc. Treas.....Arlene Castleman
3 yr trustee.....Judy Baglio
2 yr Trustee.....Rolf Schudel
1 yr Trustee.....Mel Pollinger

PROGRAM & PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been a long hot and wet summer (3rd wettest on record) and I am looking forward to this fall. Our September meeting will be a brag night social meeting. It's a chance for us rockhounds to get together and tell their stories! Who in the club found that killer specimen? Did anyone discover a really cool "sleeper specimen" at a show? Who made the E-bay purchase of the year? Here is your chance to brag! Please bring in something to share with the club. Also, now is the time to bring in specimens for sale. Go ahead and bring in a few flats and sell to club members.

This is going to be a busy month with 2 outstanding shows, Fanwood & Franklin. Many of us will be field collecting again with the cool chill of fall finally showing up. Here is your chance to find out what is going on.

Also, please bring in your suggestions for alternative sites for our club show. The Pope John Paul II school officially closed on June 30th of this year. The church still owns the school and is trying to rent it out. Since we don't know who is going to take over, we may still be able to stay. But to be on the safe side, we need alternative locations! We need good suggestions!

See you at the meeting!

Bob Horn

SOME OBSERVATIONS

Two-Minute Management Course

An eagle was sitting on a tree resting, doing nothing. A small rabbit saw the eagle and asked him, "Can I also sit like you and do nothing?" The eagle answered: "Sure, why not." So, the rabbit sat on the ground below the eagle, and rested. All of a sudden, a fox appeared, jumped on the rabbit and ate it.

Management Lesson

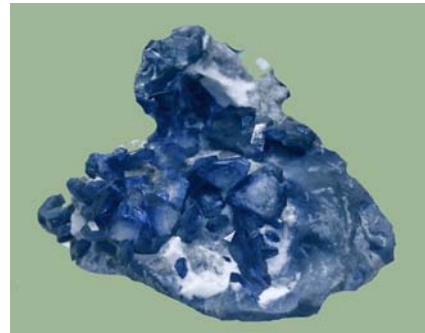
To be sitting and doing nothing, you must be sitting very, very high up.

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head. She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, "Why are some of your hairs white, Mom?"

Her mother replied, "Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white." The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, "Momma, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?"

The 2009 Springfield Show

The 2009 version of the Springfield Show started out with bright blue skies and cool temperatures but no line waiting to get in to the show. The depressed economy obviously slowing down early admissions. When I go to this show my routine stays the same. First I start with the displays, which are almost always super and a good source of photos., each year being a little different. This year the display was from the collection of Carl and Jan Spann of Rockwall, Texas. There were quite a few "thumbnails" which are much more difficult to photograph because they were so close together. But I did



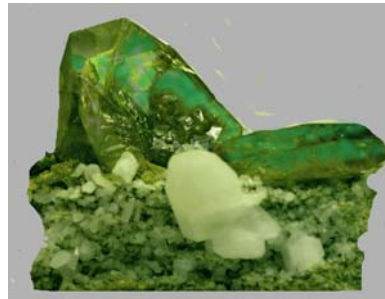
get a number of good pictures. Some specimens, like the pink tourmaline above, are distinctive and are called blue cap tourmalines. and are from the Pala district of California. The specimen to the left

is distinctive and is often faceted into beautiful gems. The blue mineral is benitoite and is from southern Calif. These beautiful rhodochrosite crystal specimens from Colorado came on the market a few years ago and now it seems that every good collection has to have a quality piece included. These specimens were professionally collected. A cd was available showing how these minerals were collected and how difficult it was to get them out undamaged. Specimens like this that were clean and esthetic could fetch a price in 5 figures. The specimen below left is varisite from Utah. The locality was developed by a geology professor from Lafayette College in Easton, PA. Prof. Montgomery spent many summers in Utah exploring and developing the locality. It was an interesting location for phosphate minerals, but what was interesting was the lapidary material.



professor from Lafayette College in Easton, PA. Prof. Montgomery spent many summers in Utah exploring and developing the locality. It was an interesting location for phosphate minerals, but what was interesting was the lapidary material.

When I try to decide which minerals I should include in my show report the decision is often based on which specimen I was able to photograph successfully. If the mineral is placed too close to others, it may not be possible to get a nice photograph.



This titanite with albite is from Minas Gerias, Brazil. The specimen

below right is a nice calcite crystal centered in a geode from India. For some years, samples of calcite from India were ignored. But now, for the last couple of years, some very nice calcite crystal specimens have been available on the market. Once in a while, the specimens look like twins, but looks don't always tell. Most often, the base of the cavity is one of the zeolites, most commonly stilbite. The most common zeolite on the market is stilbite, followed



by apophyllite, heulandite and fluorite. The balls of fluorite that used to be somewhat rare are now fairly common and an inch or more in size. They are priced at four figures or a little above. The specimen below left is from China and is scheelite on muscovite. The scheelite is fluorescent blue and a piece like this one with a group of crystals is special. Each crystal is about one inch on an edge. This piece is one of the nicest scheelite specimens I've ever seen. The specimen below right is a little different than most



of the danburite seen in that they were quartz coated clusters rather than clean singles or clusters. It must have been twenty years ago when I first saw clusters like this on the market. Sometimes they were clusters and sometimes they were single crystals. The photographs shown on the next page are mostly things that were offered for same by the many dealers at the show.



(continued on page 3)

2009 Springfield Show — continued from page 2



One of joys of attending a show like this is to look at the special pieces being offered by the dealers. The specimen at the left was one of the prettiest display pieces. It was azurite with malachite from

Zaire. I could just picture this cut into jewelry. The cabachons would be outstanding...but would you dare cut such a terrific looking display piece? I think that everyone has seen many celestite specimens being

shown at the shows we all attend. But this one is clean and very esthetic. Celestite tends to be brittle and getting one out clean like this is not easy. Another mineral that has shown up recently is stibnite, sometimes



shown in clusters like the specimen shown below left. These clusters are all a little different, but each one is terrific. They were priced reasonably when they first came on the market a few years back, but times change. These puff balls of stibnite are about 4-5 cm in diameter and generally clean and undamaged. Very



nice. Below right is a nice 6 cm high topaz crystal. Topaz is varied in shape and form and can grow quite large. I've seen crystals from Brazil, colorless like the one shown below that were close to 25 cm in height. Most

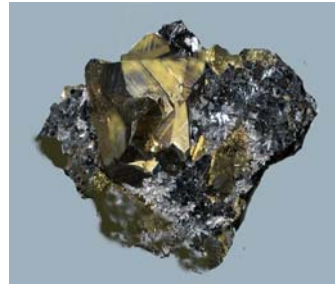
displays set up at shows include gem material, often in both rough and faceted form. It adds to the quality and to the attraction of the display.

You not only need the esthetic pieces but also the color of the specimens. Such minerals as topaz, beryl, aquamarine and the various quartz forms. add to the diversity of the displays.

After the gem materials have been added, some of the common ore minerals such as pyrite, chalcopyrite, sphalerite and galena can be added.....if you can find suitable samples.



The minerals chalcopyrite (below left) and galena



(below right) are minerals that are not always seen in this quality. Both are from the Madan District of Bulgaria. The chalcopyrite was priced at \$450 and the galena was priced at \$4,800. It was priced that high



because of the esthetic quality, crystal form (showing both cube and octahedron). At the left is fluorite from India, priced at \$1000. I'm glad that I bought mine a couple of

years ago when the price was half that amount. In addition to the fluorite pieces, there were many other fine zeolite family minerals from two of the best dealers. Prices were a little higher than I would like to see. Below right is a nice red colored heulandite crystal....nice crystal form and good color....Priced at \$450...Not bad for a quality specimen.

It's hard to believe that the supply of these minerals is holding up. They never seem to run out. I could have added photos of stilbite, apophyllite, mesolite, quartz and some others. There were a



few of those other minerals, like epistilbite, but I try to get some diversity in this report by adding some of the



other minerals. The specimen at the left is not rare. It is beryl from Portland, CT. No locality was specified and that area is the home of many pegmatite mines or quarries. Our club ran field trips to some of the quarries years ago and many of our members have specimens in their collections. Those were the good old days. Remember the trips to the Walden Gem Mine?

SUMMER FIELD TRIP TO BIG BROOK

By Robert Allen

On Saturday August 1, 2009 Club Members, Bob Allen, Mike Machette, and Bob Horn went fossil collecting in Big Brook and Ramamessin Brook. Even though it was a hot 87 degrees in the surrounding area, the flowing water of the brooks made fossil

collecting very enjoyable. In addition to fossil shark teeth, fossil crab claws and crab shells, oyster remains, and small vertebrae pieces were collected. The prize for the largest shark tooth collected went to Bob Horn, who used his culinary devices to

collect some of the fossils. (Photos show his culinary equipment). The smallest

shark tooth prize was awarded to Mike Machette. The photos show the happy club members enjoying themselves on this field trip.



INFORMATION RESOURCES

The last EFMLS newsletter had some interesting comments by Natalie Darling, BEAC Chair. I've taken some of that article for you to look at. Anyone who uses a computer should be aware that by simply going to the federation web site (amfed.org), you can access the web sites of the associated regional federations. You can read newsletters from across the country and incorporate information you find there in your own club newsletter, always giving proper credit for anything used. Where permission is required, you should get that permission. I remember that one time I wanted to use a photograph in my newsletter, I had to e-mail a man in Spain to get that permission.

She has a favorite web site started and maintained by a teenager from Virginia. The neat part about this site is that it has many links to other sites which open up an enormous resource. I haven't checked out all the information given, it simply takes too much time. The fact is, through the use of these web sites, you can connect with many other sites. When I roam the sites, I occasionally find errors or choices that I would not make. Sometimes, photos included are credited to a photographer and sometimes not. There are a lot of good photographers, not always published. I'm surprised when I see their work...really good.

COMING EVENTS

Sep. 12-13, New Milford, CT: 59th Annual Show: Danbury Mineralogical Soc. New Milford HS, Danbury Rd.; Sat. 10-5:30, Sun. 10-4:30. adults \$4.50, dealers, minerals, fossils, jewelry, exhibits, contact Pat Hackett, 860-355-9799; e-mail: prhackett@charter.net ;

Sep. 19-20; Rhinebeck, NY : 40th Annual Show, "The Rocks of the Hudson Valley"; Mid Hudson Valley Gem & Mineral Soc.; Dutchess Co. Fairgrounds, Rte. 9; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-3; adults \$5, seniors \$4, students \$2, Scouts in uniform and children 12 and under free with adult; 30 dealers, minerals, jewelry, fossils, tools, books, Earth Science Scavenger Hunt, New York State Museum and Vassar College Museum of Geology exhibits; contact Carolyn Reynard, (845) 471-1224;

Sep. 26-27; Franklin, NJ 53rd Annual Show, "Franklin-Sterling Hill Mineral, Gem & Jewelry Show"; Franklin Mineral Museum; Franklin School, Washington Ave.; Sat. 7:30-6, Sun. 9-5; adults \$7, children \$4; con. Lee Lowell, 973-827-6671; e-mail: mm1954@earthlink.net

Oct. 2-4--Elkridge, MD: Paul Desautels Micromount Symposium; Baltimore Mineral Society; MHA Conference Center, 6820 Deerpath Rd.; Fri. 7-9:30, Sat. 8-9:30, Sun. 8-1; adults \$25; Micromounters Hall of Fame ceremonies; contact Cal Pierson; e-mail: calpierson2@hotmail.com;

Oct. 16-18--Philadelphia, PA; Philadelphia Gem Jewelry and Gift Show"; Gem Show Expo Productions; 3417 Spruce St.; Fri. 12-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, children free with adult; gems, jewelry, beads, gifts; contact Nicholas,, 484-269-0406;

Oct. 17-18; Bristol, CT: 37th Annual Show/EFMLS Annual Convention; Bristol Gem & Mineral Club; Beals Community Center, 240 Stafford Ave.; Sat. 9:30-5, Sun. 10-4; adults 5, Seniors \$4, children under 12 free; gems, jewelry, minerals, crystals, educational exhibits, grand door prize, contact Dave Korzendorfer, 208 Westledge Rd., W. Simsbury, CT, 860-651-9980;

Oct. 24-25: Freeport, NY: Show; Village of Freeport; Freeport, Recreation Center, 130 E. Merrick Rd. Sat. & Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, under 12 free; contact Ralph Gose, P.O. Box 1418, Melville, NY 631- 271-8411.

Oct. 24-25--Henrietta (Rochester), NY: 37th annual "Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show"; Rochester Academy of Science, Mineral Section, Rochester Lapidary Society; Minett Hall, Monroe Co. Fair & Expo Center, corner of E. Henrietta Rd. and Calkins Rd.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; dealers, jewelry, minerals,, fossils, fossil preparation. soapstone carving, contact Paul Dudley, 140 Railroad Mills Rd., Pittsford, NY, 585-385-2368; e-mail: show@rasny.org;

Oct.31; Fairless Hills, PA: 20th "Ultraviolation"; Show Rock & Mineral Club of Lower Bucks Co. First United Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Rd.; Sat. 9-5. admission \$2, all fluorescent mineral show. For info. contact Chuck O'Loughlin 856-663-1383.