



The Treasure Chest

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH JERSEY MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY
Charter Member of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary
Societies and affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



Volume 70, Issue 7

www.NoJMS.webs.com

Thursday, November 13, 2014

707th Meeting – Thursday, November 13, 2014

Social/Mineral Sales.....6:30 PM
Meeting.....7:30 PM
Program..... 8:00PM - 9:00PM

PROGRAM

“TBD”

Speaker

TBD

Mineral Madness

PURPOSE

The North Jersey Mineralogical Society is a non-profit, educational organization founded in 1945 whose goal is to bring together people with an interest in 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

Bryan Davis 862-200-7625 or blimer4evr@yahoo.com
Steve Wien nojms.newsletter@gmail.com

If inclement weather might cause meeting cancellation, call the museum, one of the officers, or check the club website. If the meeting is not canceled, please use good judgment regarding the driving conditions in your area and if driving, be careful!

SEND DUES TO:

Arlene Castleman
126 St. Rte. 46 – 40A
Lodi, NJ 07664
973-591-1942

Individual members: \$12.00
Married couples: \$18.00
Add. Family: \$6.00 ea
Junior members: \$5.00

OFFICERS FOR 2014

President	Bryan Davis
1st VP	Jeff Wilson
2nd VP	Ron Schulz
Secretary	Laura Brecka
Treasurer	Arlene Castleman
Assoc. Treas.	Juan Gonzalez
Newsletter	Steve Wien
Trustees	Bob Horn
	Mike Machette
	Bob Allen
	Jess Jacobson
	Rolf Schudel

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The November meeting will be the last meeting of the year with a presentation, and we need a presenter! If you would like to give a presentation on anything, please volunteer! We are ALWAYS looking for presenters for our meetings, and there is always a shortage. A presentation is as simple as giving an in depth presentation on your favorite mineral, or on a recent mineral find of some importance, etc. It does not have to be overly technical, we all have something interesting that we can teach others. I previously gave a presentation on one method of cataloging your collection, and followed it with a slide show of some fluorescent minerals. It was nothing fancy!

The NoJMS Swap & Sale at Sterling Hill was a success again. Thank you to all members who participated and lent a hand with setup and shutdown. The weather was a bit strange, with a short bit of rain on Saturday and some cold temperatures on Sunday morning, but overall we dodged a bullet again and for the most part the weather cooperated.

The NoJMS Holiday party will be held at the Paterson Museum on December 7th from 1PM to 5PM. If you received the "Evite" in your email please RSVP by November 14th so we can get a head count on food. If you do not have email, you can call the NoJMS answering system ((862) 200-7646) and leave a message letting us know how many are in your party.

Bryan Davis – President

NOTE FROM OUR EDITOR

I hope you all enjoy this month's newsletter! I am still reaching out to everyone to request that you please send something in to me relating to rocks, fossils, minerals, gems and collecting in the field. If you see an article, stumble upon news somewhere (it doesn't have to be about New Jersey), or have photos of that "prize" possession, please send it in and I will be sure it gets in the newsletter. Thank you all for your time.

NoJMS BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

The club will be conducting Board Member elections for 2015 at the November meeting. You may vote by attending the meeting or by submitting an absentee vote via email (nojms.newsletter@gmail.com) or mail to:

Newsletter Editor
400B Saddle River Rd.
Saddle Brook, NJ 07663

The slate includes:

President	Jeff Wilson
1st VP	Ron Schulz
2nd VP	Dave Shapiro
Secretary	Laura Brecka
Treasurer	Arlene Castleman
Assoc. Treasurer	Mike Machette
Newsletter Editor	Steve Wien
Same Position Below	(Vote for One)
1st Year Trustee	Juan Gonzalez
1st Year Trustee	Bryan Davis

Included is an excerpt from the bylaws on the election procedure:

Section 3. Election Procedure

Nomination: The President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Associate Treasurer shall be nominated to serve a one year term and one Trustee shall be nominated for a three year term in October of each year. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of candidates at this meeting, following which additional nominations for each office may be made from the floor. If the nominating committee fails to submit a complete slate and there are no nominations from the floor, the vacant positions may be filled by appointment of the presiding officer.

Election: Election of officers shall be held at the November meeting. The trustees making up the Executive Board shall be elected for a term of three years, except that to effect the rotation of directors in accordance with Section 3, the Trustees chosen at the first election shall be for terms of one year, two years and three years respectively. Absentee ballots will be allowed and must be received by mail or hand delivery to the associate treasurer no later than one day before the November meeting to allow for authentication and acceptance.

Installation: The new officers shall assume their duties at the Annual Meeting of the Society the following January. After the presentation of the annual reports, the

program for the January meeting shall be the responsibility of the new officers.

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This fall, we have been treated to some extraordinary activities for our members through our field trip program and our club picnic and fall swap. We have participated in activities that were a first for us, and other activities that were world-class adventures. It's all part of what your board members are trying to accomplish, keeping our club active, interesting, and fresh. I think it has worked, and our next field trip, planned for November 15, will wrap up this incredible year! We plan on making an excursion out to Scranton, Pa. to tour the Lackawanna Coal Mine, and learn about the Anthracite industry in Northeast Pa. Then we will drive to nearby Carbondale, and visit a retired coal strip mine to collect fossil ferns and calamites, as well as some occasional peacock coal and iron nodules. Then, to wrap it up, we will be visiting a country store in Greentown, Pa. where they are selling a HUGE mineral collection by consignment, at great prices. This is truly a "hidden gem!!" This should be a fun day for all and our last hoorah before the doldrums of winter set in.

As I "retire" from field trip duties, I will leave the club activity schedule in the capable hands of Dave Shapiro, who will be taking over as field trip chairman in January.

The Clifton Show is right on track for next March 14 & 15, 2015. Ads have been placed, and the wheels are in motion for another great show. There will be some dealer changes this coming year as we have lost 2 of our dealers, Greta Troy and Donald Lampham, and club member Sarna Strom being very ill. We will have to see how it all plays out. We will have a wire wrapper this year for our customers, which we did not have last year. The show hours have been changed to allow for volunteers and dealers to get home an hour earlier on Sunday. Over the years that I have run the show, we have had lots of great help from club members volunteering their time, but we have always fallen short on Sunday afternoon and evening. I plead with our membership to please, if at all possible, give a few hours on Sunday afternoon and evening to help with packing up the tables and cleaning up after the show. This year I plan on having everything wrapped up and being done by 7:00. Any helping hands will be appreciated!

Thank you all for your participation in our great club and keeping NoJMS moving forward!

Jeff Wilson

NoJMS STERLING HILL SWAP & SELL REPORT

by Jeff Wilson

On October 18 & 19, our club held our Fall Swap & Sell at the Sterling Hill Mining Museum in Ogdensburg. On Saturday, the weather was mostly cloudy, breezy and cool, except for a 2-minute sprinkle in the early afternoon. 38 dealers set up for the day. Traffic through Sterling Hill and the show was very busy. In fact, between our show, The FOMS field trip, the hundreds of Boy Scouts, and several tour busses, the Sterling Hill facility was literally pushed to it's limits!! Parking was at a premium for several hours, and many vendors reported good sales. After the show closed for the day, about 25 dealers, SHMM staff, and NoJMS club members, stayed for an impromptu burger cookout at the grill, and then we had a bonfire in the fire pit. It was a beautiful evening and everyone who stayed had a ball! Several of us camped overnight, including Steve Wien and his daughter, Emma, Al Lombardi, Hugh Ronemus, Aggie Kieth, myself, and others. SHMM staff left the buildings open for us so we had access to rest rooms, and a warm place to sleep, if needed. This was a first for our club, and it was great! We hope to continue that tradition in the future.

On Sunday, we were met with very strong winds, some sun, and cooler temperatures. 14 dealers set up and braved the wind and chill in the air. The crowds were much lighter, and a few dealers had issues keeping their displays standing, but to those who managed to stick it out, the sales on Sunday were surprisingly good. Overall, it was a good weekend for NoJMS. A great big THANK YOU goes out to the staff of Sterling Hill for making us feel at home, again, and for allowing us to hold our swap at their fantastic venue!!!

NAT'L LIMESTONE QUARRY FIELD TRIP REPORT

by Jeff Wilson

Oct. 25, 2014

A return trip to National Limestone Quarries in Central Pennsylvania! - 26 club members made the long drive out to the National Limestone Quarries in Perry County, Pennsylvania, and were well rewarded with superb weather conditions, and another world-class collecting trip!! Quarry owner, Eric Stahl, opened his quarries to our club again, and welcomed us with news of new mineral finds, and great collecting opportunities awaiting us! After our safety meeting at the Middleburg quarry office, members hit the quarry and collected absolutely amazing fluorite specimens, with some of the best fluorites we have ever seen from this location, going

home in collector's buckets. Incredible specimens of cave flowstone and calcite formations were collected, including some extremely rare and beautiful pure white flowstone that fluoresces bright light blue under SW UV!!! Eric made sure we had plenty of fresh material to work with. Returning members were amazed by the amount of work that had been done in the quarry since our June visit. A large, new pit, just below the flowstone ledge, produced some of the best fluorites found to date, and even more flowstone was unearthed during new excavations on the north wall. We really didn't want to leave!!

After some photos at the giant stalactite, and a quick lunch break, we moved to Mt.Pleasant Mills and were again treated to some surprises. Eric's crew had blasted more off the calcite wall in the main pit, and a large quantity of calcites and strontianites were laying all over the pit floor, allowing everyone to collect great specimens. Strontianite was everywhere, and nearly everyone got great specimens. Others collected stunning calcite crystals from the base of the walls. After rescuing Bob Allen from a muddy situation, we then we moved up to the wavellite pit, where recent excavating by the NLQ crew had brought up tons of wavellite and fossils out of the new 6 foot deep pit! Members had no problem finding numerous quality specimens.

After we returned to the lower pit and gathered up a few more calcites, we all headed over to club member Jim Van Fleet's house to take part in yet another SUPERB bar-b-que, featuring Jim's top-notch angus burgers, kielbasa, hot dogs, roasted eggplant (unbelievably good), and bbq portabello mushrooms, along with some of the best homemade chili I have ever tasted! And, of course, we had our final collecting trip of the day, inside Jim's garage, where members were allowed to pick specimens from Jim's huge collection of Franklin, NJ Fluorescent minerals! What a great day! I can not say it enough. We truly are in debt, and owe a huge Thank-You to Eric Stahl of NLQ, and Jim Van Fleet, for making us all feel welcome, and at home, and for providing us the best field trip of the year!

Attendees on this fine trip were: Jeff Wilson (TripMaster), Dave Shapiro (Future Tripmaster), Jim Van Fleet, Elizabeth Van Fleet, Steve Wien, Steve Dougherty, Nick Caradonna, Vito Kulemannis, Efsteritios Kulemannis, Ray Clark, Kathy Clark, Bob Allen, Derek Yoost, Diana Tasco, Mike Dunton, Eric Talley, Tim Hollister, Mark Hollister, Chris Keller, Brian Voorman, Lisa Brown, Katherine Leshner, Elizabeth Glass, James Currie, George Mack, Alaine Mack.

American Picker – Mineral Style!!!

By Jeff Wilson

A friend of mine stopped by my house for a party a few months back, and during his visit, he discovered my "rock room". He was impressed with the minerals and fossils, and took a real interest in what I was doing. He is a driver for FedEx, and in conversation, he mentioned that he delivers to a country store out in Pennsylvania, and they had "a bunch of rocks out back of the store". This intrigued me for a while, and in October, I decided to drive out to the store, in Greentown, Pa., about 20 miles east of Scranton, and check out the store and their rocks.

What I found was truly mind-blowing. I arrived at the store to find the ledge on the front of the store lined with minerals and colored chunks of glass. I went in and looked around the store. It is a cute store with all kinds of nick-knacks, and stuff, and as I headed to the back of the store, I found the "mine room" where they had a large sluice set up for kids to sift sand to find various gemstones. Then I realized that on the walls were numerous shelves containing hundreds of boxed and labeled mineral specimens. I wasn't sure if they were just on display or if they were for sale. I asked at the front register and the girl assured me that they were for sale. Every single one. Then, she told me that there were many more out back behind the store and everything was for sale. She explained that they were from the Brown Collection, which the store obtained from the family on consignment, when Mr. Brown passed away. I then walked around to the back of the building and nearly hyperventilated at what I saw. Nearly a dozen picnic tables, numerous benches, tables, ledges, dozens of baskets, numerous crates, boxes and several sheds containing literally tens of thousands of specimens, huge amounts of lapidary rough, and fossils of every kind and type, all just laying there, out in the weather, for the world to pick through. No rhyme nor reason, all haphazard mish-mosh, but incredibly cool and an adventure in mineral picking!!! It was insane, in a good way.

After spending about an hour and a half perusing the collection, I selected 3 quality specimens I was interested in, and was given an incredibly reasonable price for the set. I had dozens of others I wanted, but I didn't bring enough cash with me... (That won't happen again!!) I talked with the lady at the counter some more, asking more info, which she obliged. Then I mentioned our club, and the possibility of a field trip stop. She welcomed it, and the rest is history! Here are a few shots

from this incredible find, and what you can expect to see if you attend our November field trip!

**NoJMS LOGO CONTEST!!!**

We are looking for a NEW club logo, that can be used on our t-shirts, letterheads, newsletters, and website, that will be designed by a club member! The winning logo will be selected by our board at the next board meeting (November). The winning logo designer will win a really nice prize. So, design a cool-looking club logo and submit it to any board member (preferably via e-mail) for a chance to win!

Rules: The logo must include "North Jersey Mineralogical Society", "Founded 1945", and artwork that is rock-n-mineral related (fossils, crystals, tools, gemstones, etc.) The logo submitted will become the property of the club to be used as needed. It is open to all current club members.

Good Luck!!

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR 2014

November 15, 2014:

- Scranton, PA – Tour Lackawanna Coal Mine
- Carbondale, PA – Collection trip to retire coal strip mine
- Greentown, PA – Visiting country store to look at available mineral collection

Details will be available at club meetings, or you can contact Jeff via e-mail at buckwood4@yahoo.com

MINUTES OF THE 706th NoJMS MEETING

The meeting was called to order by the President, Bryan Davis, on Thursday, October 9, 2014.

A review of previous successful outings and anticipated future events was reiterated. This included the decision to hold the annual holiday party at the Paterson Museum, once again.

New board members were nominated. Other suggestions would be accepted, with the proviso that the nominees should be contacted and willing to accept the positions. At this time the slate includes:

President	Jeff Wilson
1st VP	Ron Schulz
2nd VP	Dave Shapiro
Secretary	Laura Brecka
Treasurer	Arlene Castleman
2nd Treasurer	Mike Machette
1st Year Trustee	Juan Gonzalez
Newsletter Editor	Steve Wien

The official vote will take place at next month's meeting.

Howard Heitner's presentation was titled "Fluorescence History, Mechanism and Applications." He covered the history of fluorescence, ultra violet lamps and their uses. We are thankful that Howard was willing to share his mastery of highly technical information.

A mineral madness drawing was the last event before disbanding. As always it brought an element of fun and excitement to the proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Brecka, Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

The FMS Autumn Northeast Region Fluoresophiles (NERF) Ball will be held on Saturday, November 22, 2014, at the GeoTech Center of the Sterling Hill Mining Museum, in Ogdensburg, N.J. The meeting runs from 9:30 AM until 4:00 PM. Members from all FMS Regions are invited, as are prospective FMS members and members of other rock clubs. Program highlights are presentations by Earl Verbeek from the SHMM on Blue Light Fluorescence, Donna Beeton from GIA about

Color in Gemstones, and Hari Venugopalan of Crystal IS on Short Wave LEDs.

There will also be a brisk mineral sell/trade-a-thon. Also, a FABULOUS lunch is included in the \$10.00/person admission fee! Please forward RSVPs, requests, ideas, and questions to: Howie Green at royalp53@verizon.net

**Dec. 7, 2014 – Paterson, NJ – Annual Holiday Party
Paterson Museum, 1:00-5:00pm**

If you received the "Evite" in your email please RSVP by November 14th so we can get a head count on food. If you do not have email, you can call the NoJMS answering system ((862) 200-7646) and leave a message letting us know how many are in your party.

Jan. 24, 2015 – Philadelphia, PA – Mineral & Fossil Swap & Sell at Cathedral Village, 600 E. Cathedral Rd., Philadelphia, PA

Feb. 14 & 15, 2015 - Albany, NY - Annual Mineral Show & Sale at the NY State Museum

March 7 & 8, 2015 – Newark, DE – Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show at Delaware Technical & Community College, 400 Stanton-Christiana Rd.

**Sat. & Sun. March 14 & 15, 2015 - 25th Annual
Clifton/North Jersey Gem & Mineral Show**

**The Pope John II Center
775 Valley Rd. (Just off Rt.3/46)
Clifton, NJ**

10am-5pm Both days.

- **25 DEALERS DISPLAYING INCREDIBLE ARRAYS OF MINERALS, FOSSILS, GEMSTONES, JEWELRY, LAPIDARY ROUGH, AND ROCKHOUNDING SUPPLIES.**
- **ONE OF THE TOP GEM, MINERAL AND FOSSIL SHOWS IN THE NORTHEAST!!**

March 28 & 29, 2015 - Sayre, Pa. - Annual Che-Hanna Gem & Mineral Show at the Sayre Firehouse

March 28 & 29, 2015 - Plymouth Meeting, Pa. - The Annual Philadelphia Gem & Mineral Show

April 10, 11, 12, 2015 - Edison, NJ - The Annual NY-NJ Metro Show

<http://www.ny-nj-gemshow.com/index.php>

**A Great Honor to be Bestowed Upon a Legend in
Our Midst, Louis D'Alonzo**

By Mickey & Elaine Raine

During his 57th visit to the 58th Annual Paul Desautels Micromount Symposium and International Micromounters' Hall of Fame induction ceremony, sponsored by the Baltimore Mineral Society, Lou D'Alonzo was rewarded to the most esteemed news one could receive as a micromounter, who has, since 1960, devoted countless hours of love and passion in establishing a micromount collection worthy of the highest accolades. As recent tradition has dictated over the past several years, his loyal friends, Gary and Doris Varjian, had driven him to Baltimore for the three day affair, October 10th through the 12th, 2014. It's hard to believe that it was only three years ago there, shortly after the last day's activities, that he had taken the awful fall which left him with a shattered elbow (multiple fractures and breaks), requiring many weeks of recovery after surgery and a long challenge with physical therapy.

It was on the 11th, immediately after the Saturday luncheon in which the current year's Hall of Fame inductees were formerly announced, with each one receiving tributes and plaques of honor. But before the newly inducted individuals would give their respective presentations, Quintin Wight, the coordinator of the Micromounters' Hall of Fame, began to announce the two inductees for 2015. He started by mentioning a gentleman from Washington, and after a brief statement he then proceeded to say, "The other nominee is the man from New Jersey who always wears a bowtie . . ." Lou had absolutely no clue or inkling prior to that moment, for all of his old and longtime friends and acquaintances, who would have had the inside scoop, said nothing to him leading up to the announcement, and this was after chatting with many from the previous night. But in spite of the many years gone by and his advanced age—92—Lou was tickled pink, and felt overwhelmed and touched by this great honor.

We have had the pleasure of being very close to Lou, practically like family, and have grown to know just how deep his passion for minerals has been over the many years. His attention to detail and absolute supreme aesthetics with each and every specimen, regardless of it being a larger cabinet piece, a smaller hand size one, a thumbnail, or a micro mineral, is one to behold. A wealth of knowledge could be learned from him, and his "Close to Perfection as Possible" approach in enhancing the collection has been a worthy practice that has obviously paid off.

Lou's first interest in minerals was at the age of 10 in 1932 when visiting the American Museum of Natural History, but unlike today with the endless means to acquire minerals, there were very few sources openly available with easy access to start a basic collection, but the seed was planted, and in 1935 during a school trip to the Newark Museum, where they had the Junior Science section, the roots began to sprout. The NM became a passion and he would acquire so much knowledge of the natural sciences and arts, triggering an insatiable appetite to learn more and more. This would lead to his love for books of a wide range of subjects. He often tells us that the most influential source of learning as an inquisitive child was the Newark Museum.

He formerly joined the NM's Nature and Drawing Clubs as a junior member, for the family resided only five blocks away. Although one had to be 18 years of age to gain membership to the Newark Mineralogical Society (NMS), the third oldest mineral club in the country behind that of NYC and Philadelphia, in 1938 the junior members of the Nature Club were allowed to sit in on meetings, and it was there that he saw his very first micro specimen—an exquisitely perfect Diopside labeled as coming from SW Africa at the time, Namibia, and currently known as the famous Tsumeb Mine locale. The four microscopes fascinated him and it opened his eyes to the infinite array of micro specimens that can reach perfection.

When he turned 18 he formerly joined the NMS, but it was only a few years thereafter that he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in the European Campaign during WWII. In spite of his growing love for minerals before serving, work was at the forefront in his family, and having lived through the Great Depression, frugality was the motto by which to abide—a virtue instilled in him by his hard working Italian parents. So, as a result, he was not truly able to start a collection worthy of his personal guidelines.

Returning from Europe in 1946, he was determined to build a mineral collection, but never in his wildest dreams did he imagine that it would evolve into what he has today. Even then, there had only been a handful of dealers at the time, but with a growing number of private collectors and mineral club members whom he had befriended. His focus over the first 14 years was macro and smaller cabinet size specimens, but in 1960, after becoming more financially comfortable and wanting to expand his collection of minerals, he knew that through micromounting he could acquire samples of specific minerals from all over the world, ones of pristine condition and features, all without breaking the bank.

This is not to say that he dropped macros by any means, for that end continues to expand with exquisite pieces to this day.

Lou has about 8,000 superbly mounted micros presently, with another 2,000 or more to carefully evaluate and mount. Each one would require a meticulous assessment as to whether it is worthy of being mounted in terms of quality, then he would address the way in which the specimen would need to be presented in its best light, so when the viewers would remove the cap of the tiny box and place it under the microscope, the beauty and unique characteristics would instantly be recognizable and fully appreciated.

As more information is ascertained over the course of the next several months leading to his formal induction in October of 2015, we will try to put together another article. Perhaps, at that time, we can scan the formal letter he recently received from Quintin Wight, in addition to whatever other fascinating story we may learn.

The following is a passage which was copied and then cut and pasted. It can also be found in the Baltimore Mineral Society's website (<http://www.baltimoremineralsociety.org>):

The Micromounters' Hall of Fame

The purpose of the Micromounters' Hall of Fame is to honor those who have served this hobby to the highest degree. They are the leaders, the movers and shakers of the past and present who have shown the way for the rest of us. They have not only built sizable collections, but they also have earned and deserved a worldwide reputation among mineral collectors in general and especially among micromounters.

Induction into the Micromounters' Hall of Fame is normally a three-year process. From the nominations received during a given year, candidates are elected the following year to the Hall of Fame first by the Executive Board of the Baltimore Mineral Society, sponsor of the Micromounters' Hall of Fame, and second by the living members of the Hall of Fame. Induction into the Hall of Fame takes place during the third year on an evening during the Paul Desautels Memorial Micromount Symposium. Except for the first group of six, there are usually two inductees, one "old-timer" and one "modern" micromounter.

The "old-timers" are those whose contributions to the hobby occurred before 1960, especially those who were

active before 1900. All others are "modern". The first group of six were nominated in 1976, elected in 1980, and inducted in 1981.

So, our club will soon have a Hall of Fame inductee. We salute you, Louis D'Alonzo!

PS: By the way, when asking Lou why 57 trips and not the complete 58 to the symposium, he replied, "Well, it was my mother who put her foot down 40 years ago and said that I could not neglect the visit from my niece traveling far from out of state . . . And I was not about to upset the Boss."



Supplemental (E-Newsletter Only)

MICRO CORNER



PYROMORPHITE from China



EPIDOTE XLS from Brazil

OCTOBER 18 & 19, 2014 NoJMS STERLING HILL SWAP & SELL







OCTOBER 25, 2014 – NAT'L LIMESTONE QUARRY FIELD TRIP







AMERICAN PICKER ARTICLE PHOTOS





