



Rhode Island Mineral Hunters
A 501 (c) (3) HP Organization

BOWEN-LITE

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CUMBERLANDITE –OFFICIAL STATE ROCK



BOWENITE – OFFICIAL STATE MINERAL

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RIMH

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*If anyone would like to submit an article or anything for future publication let me know



Upcoming Meeting Details

Executive Meeting date in August is:
Tuesday August 2nd. All meetings start at 7pm.

This year meetings will be held at Lou Fazzinas' rock shop
(Apple Valley Minerals)
7 Homestead Avenue
Smith field, RI 02917
*Homestead is off Farnum Pike.

Next general meeting: July 9th at CCRI Warwick

***** Room 1134 *****

In the last meeting, President Wilson gave a very interesting talk about a Hopkinton, RI amethyst site that is currently closed to digging. He also brought out one of the display cabinets owned by the club. He and Tony Cesana demonstrated how to assemble it. Joel Russo spoke about the Maine weekend field trip and further stated he would be on vacation for the first 21 days of August.



Upcoming Field Trips

Field trip proposal: [SIMPSON QUARRY, Saturday, Aug 06, 2016](#)

Note: *Joel Russo will not be available for this trip. Please make sure you register with Bill Neal*

Destination: SIMPSON QUARRY, Michele Drive, Portland, Ct

Date(s)/time of trip: Saturday, August 07, 2016 10:00 am

Trip leader: William R. Neal, 401-363-5245 williamrneal@gmail.com

Alternate leader: Steve Emma, 401-751-5215

Carpool/caravan location: *We will meet at the site. See directions below.*

Type of collecting: Mine dumps

What can be found? Beryl, Aquamarine, massive smoky quartz, mica books. Schorl

Go to www.mindat.com for complete list of minerals

Tools/equipment: : shovels, small/large sledges, chisels, safety glasses, **bug repellent**.

Clothing: Close-toed shoes, safety glasses, hat, gloves, sun shield

Special information: **Register with field trip coordinator at least 24 hours in advance and leave your phone number and/or email addr..**

Age limit: Children with parents are allowed

Directions to Simpson Quarry from central/northern RI :

GPS +41.636561 N -72.592422

Take Rt 6 W to Rt 395 S

Follow 395 S for 21 miles to exit 82 (Rt 2 W)

Follow Rt 2 W for 21 miles to exit 10 (Rt 83 W toward East Glastonbury)

Follow 83 W for .2 miles, then sharp left onto Manchester Rd for .2 miles

Slight left onto Chestnut Hill Rd and follow for 2.7 miles.

Turn left onto Rt 17 (Main St) and follow for approx 3 miles. You will be driving thru

South Glastonbury. As soon as you pass the 'Entering Portland' town line marker,

Michele Drive is the next left.

Follow Michele Drive to where it makes a 90 degree right turn and park there.

Directions to Simpson Quarry from Southern RI :

Take Rt 95 to Exit 5a (Rt 165 W)

Follow Rt 165 W to 395 S

Follow 395 S for approx 7 miles to exit 82 (Rt 2 W)

Follow directions from Rt 2 above

Field trip proposal: [Upstate New York – St. Lawrence County, New York - August 21 – 27](#)

Participants may choose whichever date(s) are convenient for travel. Please tell the field trip leader which days you plan on attending.

Trip Leader SEMMC: Paul Monti 508-823-0364 c) 508-369-8192 semmcpmonti@aol.com

Trip Leader R.I.M.H.: Steve Emma 401-751-5215 steve@steveemma.com

Types of collecting: We will be visiting different collecting areas each day. Mineral and fossil locations are included. This area is famous for uvite, dravite, sphene, diopside, calcite, tremolite and a plethora of other minerals Trilobites, gastropods, graptolites, mollusks and many other types of fossils can be collected.

Tools and equipment: Hard rock, dump digging, rock splitting, and other tools will be necessary dependent upon the days you choose to participate.

Special Information: This is an open-ended field trip whereby participants may elect to attend for any number of days. The group will meet at the same designated location each day of the trip and travel from there to the locale(s) of choice for that day. There are several motels in the Canton/Potsdam area. **We will be staying in the Canton/Potsdam area. Please get directions on line. Directions to the designated meeting place will be sent when you register with the trip leader.**

Field Trip proposal: MANHAN LEAD MINE

Destination: **MANHAN LEAD MINE, Loudeville, MA**

Date(s)/time of trip: Saturday, August 27, 2016 09:30 am

Trip leader: Rachel Cesana, 401-766-9076 a_cesana@verizon.net

Alternate leader:

Carpool/caravan location: We will meet at Friendly's Restaurant in Westfield, MA at 9:30 am and caravan from there. See directions to Friendly's below.

Type of collecting: Loose rock, dumps

What can be found? Galena, wulfenite, quartz, many micros (*go to mindat.org for full list of minerals*)

Tools/equipment: shovels, small sledges, digging tools, safety glasses, bug repellent, loop or magnifying glass, sifter

Clothing: regular seasonal rock hounding clothing, close-toed shoes.. Bring rubber boots, at least knee-high, if you want to go into the shallow Manhan river. Bug spray a must.

Special information: **Please call at least 24 hours in advance to register with trip leader.**

Driving directions: GPS coords: 42.141355 N -72.726831 W (Friendly's)

From the Massachusetts Turnpike westbound:

Take **exit 3** toward **US-202/MA-10/Westfield/Northampton**.

Turn Rt onto MA-10 S/US-202 S/Massachusetts Rte 10 S/Southampton Rd, go 233 ft

Take the 1st left onto Westfield Industrial Park Rd, go 0.1 mile

Turn left onto Friendly's Way, go 400 feet

You can actually see Friendly's when you exit off the turnpike

MEMBER NOTICE

Club member Bob Sproule will create a display for the Sturgis Library in Barnstable Village, MA on Cape Cod to promote the RIMH Annual Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show this fall. The display is titled "40 years of Self-Collecting Nearby Fossils, Minerals, and Artifacts" and will run from Monday August 1 through Wednesday August 31. Among the rare specimens being shown are an impressive real dinosaur footprint, Coal Age fossil ferns, all-natural gem amethyst crystals, and a Native American arrowhead. The oldest building housing a public library in all of America, the historic Sturgis Library is easy to find and opens at 10 AM every day except Sunday. See their website for further information and directions.

Here are some photos of the self- collected items you will see



Gemstone of the Month Peridot



Finished gem



rough gem

Peridot is a well-known and ancient gemstone, with jewelry pieces dating all the way back to the Pharaohs in Egypt. The gem variety of the mineral [Olivine](#), it makes a lovely light green to olive-green gemstone. The intensity of color depends on the amount of iron present in a Peridot's [chemical structure](#); the more iron it contains the deeper green it will be. The most desirable color of Peridot is deep olive-green with a slight yellowish tint. Deeper olive-green tones tend to be more valuable than lighter colored greens and yellowish-greens.

Chemical Formula	(Mg,Fe) ₂ SiO ₄
Color	Green, Yellow
Hardness	6.5 - 7
Crystal System	Orthorhombic
Refractive Index	2.63 - 2.65
SG	1.54 - 1.55
Transparency	Transparent
Double Refraction	.009
Luster	Vitreous
Cleavage	2,1 ; 3,1
Mineral Class	Olivine

Much gem Peridot comes from [igneous environments](#). These gems are formed deep within the [mantle](#) of the earth, and are brought to the surface by [volcanic](#) activity. Peridot is also found in certain types of [meteorites](#), though these forms of Peridot are too rare and usually too small to be used as gemstones.

Although the mineral [Olivine](#) is fairly common, the gem form of Peridot is more limited. Egypt was the ancient source of Peridot, but now the main sources are in Pakistan, Burma, Afghanistan, China, Vietnam, Ethiopia, and the United States (Arizona). Hawaii on occasion produces some Peridot large enough to be cut into gemstones, but most "Hawaiian Peridot" is not authentic from Hawaii.

For more information see [Minerals.net](#)

Fossil of the Month Stromatolite

The oldest fossil



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A stromatolite is produced by cyanobacteria. The distinctive layers are produced as calcium carbonate is precipitated over the growing mat of bacterial filaments. Photosynthesis in the bacteria depletes carbon dioxide in the surrounding water and makes it less acidic thus initiating the precipitation of the calcium carbonate. The minerals, along with grains of sediment precipitating from the water become trapped within the sticky layer of mucilage that surrounds the bacterial colonies. As the colony continues to grow upwards through the sediment a new layer is formed. As this process occurs over and over again, the layers of sediment are created.

Stromatolites are bizarre fossils whose biological origins were debated until only a few decades ago. Today, scientists generally agree that stromatolites are layered colonial structures predominately formed by cyanobacteria. Stromatolites are the oldest fossils on earth, dating back to more than three billion years ago. They were the dominant life form on earth for over 2 billion years and are thought to be primarily responsible for the oxygenation of the atmosphere. Living and fossil stromatolites are usually no more than half a meter tall and are found in marine environments. In contrast, the Capitol Reef Stromatolites in Utah are up to five meters in height and appear in thin carbonate beds associated with inter-dune deposits.

For more information see NPS.com Capitol Reef National Park Utah