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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Edited by Paul Koczwanski pakman844@aol.com
*If anyone would like to submit an article or anything for future publication let me know

Chiastolite /Andalusite Lancaster,MA

Upcoming Meeting Details

Executive Meeting date in June is:
Tuesday June 6th. 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.

The general meeting for this month will be held on June 13th at 7pm. The meeting location will be at the Community College of Rhode Island, Warwick Campus room 1134.
This month 's guest speaker will be Bill Wilson. He will speak on the mineral beryl

PROPOSED FIELD TRIPS (NO CONFIRMATIONS YET)

June 10th--Barrus Farm...Pegmatite minerals

June 24th-25th-- Gilsum Rock Show, Gilsum NH See "Gilsum Rock Swap online for more info...will try to set up dig for the 25th if site available

A note from the field trip coordinator Rachel Cesana

If anyone knows of any places we can go for a field trip please let her know. She wants to line up some places for the upcoming year. Please relay all pertinent information to her such as place names, contacts(property owners and/ or persons in charge), phone numbers or other means of contact. Rachel's phone number is (401) 766-9076. Email a_cesana@verizon.net

Member Submissions and News

* A note from past RIMH president Bill Lema

Hello, my name is Bill Lema, a past president of the Rhode Island Mineral Hunters. I have stage 4 head/neck cancer that has now spread to my spine. It is generally thought that this type of cancer occurs because the person was a smoker, so that is the first thing I'm always asked. "Have you ever smoked?" "No, I've never smoked." On the other hand, my father smoked his whole life, inside the house, the car, everywhere.

I am asking for your help in order to get treatment at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center in Florida. I'm not ready to give up and let this disease take me. My doctors have all praised the Moffitt Cancer Center as a great research facility that would have the ability to help me beat this disease.

But there are lots of medical bills and my limited medical insurance doesn't cover a lot. I've since had to go on disability because of the toll my cancer treatment has taken on me; and that really limits how much is available.

Please help me get the chance to become one of those who survive and beat this disease. Thank you for your help.
GoFundMe.com/p/f8yn9
I just want to get out there and dig again.

William Lema

*From President Bill Wilson:

A sad note to pass along

RIMH would like to express condolences to the Cesana Family for the recent loss of Tony Cesana's brother.

* This year's RIMH Rock, Mineral and Fossil show will be October 28th and 29th. Set up will be on the 27th. The show will be at CCRI Warwick as it has been in the past.

Mineral of the Month Albite

In this continuing series, I am providing information for those members who are new to the field of mineral collecting and need to know what you are looking for when you go out on field trips or just on your own. Some common minerals you may see but, might not know what they are. This month, I will be looking into the mineral ; Albite, as mentioned in the above field trip list of minerals.

Albite belongs to the Plagioclase Feldspar group, an isomorphous solid solution series. Albite is one end member, containing sodium and no calcium. The other end member, Anorthite, contains calcium and no sodium. The intermediary members are Oligoclase, Andesine, Labradorite, and Bytownite. Oligoclase and Andesine are considered by some to be a variety of Albite rather than a separate mineral. The acclaimed Dana's System of Mineralogy lists these intermediary members as individual minerals, whereas the IMA does not recognize them as individual mineral species.

Albite also forms a series with Sanidine, and the intermediary member of this series is Anorthoclase. Albite can contain up to ten percent potassium replacing the sodium. If more than ten percent replaces the sodium, the mineral is no longer Albite, but Anorthoclase.

Albite is a very common mineral, and is an important rock-forming mineral. It takes a longer time for Albite to crystallize than the other feldspars. This enables Albite to form in large and well crystallized examples. Albite is also a common accessory mineral to many rare and unusual minerals. The iridescent variety Peristerite sometimes exhibits an adularescent sheen. This produces an unusual form of Moonstone.

Albite sometimes forms in association with the feldspar mineral Microcline in alternating patterns, and forms a feldspar rock known as Perthite.

Uses

Albite is industrially important in the manufacture of ceramics. Albite provides the best crystallized examples of the Plagioclase Feldspars, and these crystals are popular among collectors. Albite is also important in the study of mineral environments and crystal formations.

Noteworthy locations;

Albite is a very common mineral, but localities where fine Albite crystals can be found are more limited. Some excellent examples have come from the Swiss Alps and the Tyrol, Austria. Large, well formed crystals come from the pegmatites of Gilgit, Pakistan; and Nuristan, Afghanistan. Enormous Clevelandite crystals have come from several areas in Minas Gerais, Brazil, especially in the Doce and Jequetinhonha Valleys.

In Canada, Albite was found in Quebec at the Francon quarry, Montreal; and at Mount St.-Hilaire, Quebec. In the U.S., some of the best and clearest crystals are from Amelia Court House, Amelia Co., Virginia. Other important localities are Pala, San Diego Co.,California; the Little Three mine, Ramona, San Diego Co., California; the Foote Spodumene mine, Kings Mt., Cleveland Co., North Carolina; and Auburn, Androscoggin Co., Maine.

Features

Chemical Formula	$NaAlSi_3O_8$
Composition	Sodium aluminum silicate, often with the sodium partially replaced by calcium or potassium.
Color	White, colorless, cream, light yellow, light blue, light green, pale red, light brown, gray. Some Albite is iridescent with schillers.
Streak	White
Hardness	6 - 6.5
rystal Forms and Aggregates	Crystals are usually flat and bladed, and often in compact groupings. Also occurs as tall prismatic and short, stubby, tabular crystals. These crystals are usually in groupings, and rarely occur singly on a matrix. Crystal twins are common. Other forms are grainy, massive, columnar, rosette, and coxcomb. Crystals are sometimes striated.
Transparency	Transparent to translucent
Specific Gravity	2.6 - 2.63
Luster	Vitreous to pearly
Cleavage	2,1 - basal ; 2,1 - prismatic ; 3,1 - pinacoidal. The cleavage angle is about 90º.
Fracture	Subconchoidal to uneven

Tenacity Brittle

Complex Tests Soluble in hydrofluoric acid

In Group Silicates; Tectosilicates; Feldspar Group

Striking Features Crystal habits, cleavage, hardness, and color

Environment Most often in granite pegmatite, also in metamorphic rocks and sedimentary conglomerates.

Rock Type Igneous, Sedimentary, Metamorphic

Albite

For more information see Mineral.net