



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

RIMH

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



Happy Thanksgiving

Upcoming Meeting Details

Executive Meeting date in November is:
Tuesday November 1st. 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: November 15th at CCRI Warwick
THERE WILL BE NO MEETING ON THE 8TH(ELECTION DAY).

***** Room 1130 *****

Our guest speaker will be Leo Doucet. He will speak about the joint field trip by RIMH and SEMMC to St. Lawrence County New York.

The rock, mineral, fossil and gem show at CCRI in Warwick was a great success. It took place over two days. There was something for everyone. There were numerous booths including: a section with fluorescent rocks, a kid's only section, a silent auction and there was a table for membership. Memberships are expiring please pay dues for the upcoming year.



Member Notice

Steve Emma is available for teaching classes or speaking to students on Mineral Collecting, Fossil Hunting or related topics . If you have a venue or know someone who may need his services please contact him at the following ; steve@steveemma.com or phone (401) 751-5215

I wanted to change the focus in the newsletter away from fossils and gems to mineral collecting. Some of the questions that come up, especially with new members, are what am I looking for and what am I seeing. I want to take this opportunity to show and write about these issues. When you go out mineral collecting there are several things to think about. You need the right tools, an idea of what you are looking for and where you will look for your target mineral. You also have to remember that minerals are often a part of a whole rock. You have to do a little research to learn about your target mineral. You have to look up associated minerals that are often found together and will allow you to concentrate your search. Once you find your target mineral on or in your rock, how will you concentrate or break away the rest of the stone. You may also decide to keep the whole rock. You don't want to collect too much, as there will be a transportation issue, when you want to bring it all home.

One of the most common is Quartz

Quartz is one of the most well-known minerals on earth. It occurs in basically all mineral environments, and is the important constituent of many rocks. Quartz is also the most varied of all minerals, occurring in all different forms, habits, and colors. There are more variety names given to quartz than any other mineral. Although the Feldspars as a group are more prevalent than Quartz, as an individual mineral quartz is the most common mineral.

Most mineral reference guides list Chalcedony as an individual mineral, but in reality it is a variety of quartz. It is the microcrystalline form of quartz, forming only occurs in microscopic, compacted crystals. Other important varieties of Quartz are such things as **Amethyst**, **Citrine**, and **Agate**. Quartz is found in conjunction with gold deposits.

Some forms of quartz, especially the gemstone forms, have their color enhanced. Almost all forms of the yellow-brown variety Citrine are in fact heat treated. Much Amethyst is also heat treated to intensify color, and a green transparent form known as "Green Amethyst" or "Prasiolite" is formed by heat treating certain types of Amethyst. There is also a transparent sky blue form of Quartz crystals, as well as a wildly iridescent type that are synthetically colored by irradiation of gold. In some localities, Hematite forms a thin red or brown layer internally in the Quartz crystal, giving it a natural bright red to brown coloring, and sometimes even a mild natural iridescence. Herkimer Diamonds are a pure clear variety. Common colors for the New England area are clear, milky white, yellow and smoky.

Quartz frequently forms the inner lining of geodes. Most geodes have an inner layer of larger crystalline quartz, and an outer layer of chalcedony or banded Agate. Quartz is the most abundant and widely distributed mineral found at Earth's surface. It is present and plentiful in all parts of the world. It forms at all temperatures. It is abundant in **igneous**, **metamorphic**, and **sedimentary rocks**. It is highly resistant to both mechanical and chemical weathering. This durability makes it the dominant mineral of mountaintops and the primary constituent of beach, river, and desert sand. Quartz is ubiquitous, plentiful and durable. Mappable deposits are found throughout the world.

Physical Properties of Quartz	
Chemical Classification	Silicate
Color	Quartz occurs in virtually every color. Common colors are clear, white, gray, purple, yellow, brown, black, pink, green, red.
Streak	Colorless (harder than the streak plate)
Luster	Vitreous
Diaphaneity	Transparent to translucent
Cleavage	None - typically breaks with a conchoidal fracture
Mohs Hardness	7
Specific Gravity	2.6 to 2.7
Diagnostic Properties	Conchoidal fracture, glassy luster, hardness
Chemical Composition	SiO ₂
Crystal System	Hexagonal
Uses	Glass making, abrasive, foundry sand, hydraulic fracturing proppant, gemstones

For more information see Minerals.net and Geology.com



Yellow Quartz



Smoky Quartz



Milky Quartz



Amethyst