



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

# BOWEN-LITE

WWW.RIMH.US



CUMBERLANDITE –OFFICIAL STATE ROCK

BOWENITE – OFFICIAL STATE MINERAL

Volume 55

Issue 10

October 2017

RIMH 2017

## RIMH

### Officers

President Bill Wilson  
Vice President Sherri Blennerhassett  
Secretary Chris Tremblay  
Treasurer Claire Cooper

### Board Members

Steve Emma Ernie Zielinski  
Buck Leach Lou Fazzina  
Tony Cesana Leo Doucet  
Bill Neal Don Fail

### Departments/ Committees

Rachel Cesana - Field Trip Coordinator  
Leo Doucet – Membership Person  
Bill Neal - Librarian  
Don Fail – Show Person  
Tony Cesana - Parliamentarian  
Bill Wilson - Historian

Webmaster - Bruce Hecker [bbhecker@cox.net](mailto:bbhecker@cox.net)

Edited by Paul Koczwanski [pakman844@aol.com](mailto:pakman844@aol.com)

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



Early fall Saratoga, NY

Shenandoah Caverns, VA



## Upcoming Meeting Details

Executive Meeting date in October is:  
Tuesday October 3rd. 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 is Tuesday  
October 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

From Tony and Rachel Cesana

Rachel and I run an open house on Friday evenings to talk all things club related. If members have specimens that they need ID help we have a good scope. We will do tumble polish classes and wire wrap learning also field trimming classes are available.

Please contact us by Thursday of that week. This is available every Friday.

phone number 401-766-9076

email [a\\_cesana@verizon.net](mailto:a_cesana@verizon.net)

#### PROPOSED FIELD TRIPS

### To be Announced

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](mailto: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](https://www.gofundme.com/p/f8yn9)

I just want to get out there and dig again.

William Lema

There was an article in the October issue of Rhode Island Monthly about the RIMH. The small article told a little about the RIMH and our upcoming rock, mineral and fossil show at CCRI. It also featured an uncredited photo I took of a cumberlandite boulder.

## RIMH ROCK, MINERAL and FOSSIL SHOW

**\*\* This year's RIMH Rock, Mineral and Fossil show will be October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Set up will be on the 27<sup>th</sup>. The show will be at CCRI Warwick as it has been in the past. Help is needed Friday, Saturday and Sunday for various jobs such as set up, clean up, tickets. See Tony Cesana for more information. His information, (401) 766-9076. Email [a\\_cesana@verizon.net](mailto:a_cesana@verizon.net). You can also sign up at a RIMH general meeting .**

The 2017 Yale Mineral and Gem Symposium on October 20-21 hosted by the Yale Peabody Museum. David Friend Hall 8:15 am to 4PM . registration and fee required More Information on The Yale Peabody Museum website

**General Event/Program information:**

Andrea Motto  
203-432-6577  
[peabody.events@yale.edu](mailto:peabody.events@yale.edu).

Complete symposium schedule and registration information can be found at <http://peabody.yale.edu/events/2017-peabody-mineral-symposium>.



Natural Bridge, VA

## Mineral of the Month

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 ; Chalcopyrite

Chalcopyrite has a golden yellow color, which often resembles [Gold](#). However, its physical properties such as [streak](#) and [tenacity](#) are very different from Gold and can easily distinguish it. Chalcopyrite is a beautiful mineral, with good crystals being fairly common. It is also readily available, with quality specimens being surprisingly affordable.

"[Peacock Ore](#)" which is sold to many amateur mineral collectors often as a variety of [Bornite](#), is in fact almost always Chalcopyrite treated with [acid](#) to produce an [iridescent tarnish](#). Though some Chalcopyrite is naturally iridescent, wild colors such as strong blues and purples are usually formed from acid treatment.

---

**[Chemical Formula](#)**CuFeS<sub>2</sub>**[Composition](#)**

Copper iron sulfide

**[Color](#)**Brass yellow to golden yellow; sometimes dark brown to black. [Tarnishes](#) to a multicolored purple, blue, and red.**[Streak](#)**

Black with a slightly green tinge

**[Hardness](#)**

3.5 - 4

**[Crystal System](#)**[Tetragonal](#)**[3D Crystal Atlas](#)**

(Click for animated model)

**[Crystal Forms and Aggregates](#)**Crystals resemble [tetrahedrons](#) and [octahedrons](#), but they are slightly [asymmetrical](#) and therefore are categorized in the tetragonal system. Also occurs [massive](#), [rainy](#), [reniform](#), and as groups of small, distorted crystals. Crystals are commonly [striated](#) in different directions on different [crystal faces](#).**[Transparency](#)**

Opaque

**[Specific Gravity](#)**

4.1 - 4.3

**[Luster](#)**

Metallic

**[Cleavage](#)**

Indiscernible

**[Fracture](#)**[Uneven](#)**[Tenacity](#)**[Brittle](#)

<a href="#">Other ID Marks</a>	<a href="#">Tarnishes</a> to an <a href="#">iridescent</a> purple, blue, and red.
<a href="#">Complex Tests</a>	Soluble in <a href="#">nitric acid</a> , tingeing the solution blue
<a href="#">In Group</a>	<a href="#">Simple Sulfides</a>
<a href="#">Striking Features</a>	Low <a href="#">hardness</a> , crystal form, <a href="#">iridescent tarnish</a> , and <a href="#">brittleness</a>
<a href="#">Environment</a>	In the <a href="#">sulfide</a> zones of copper deposits, in <a href="#">hypothermal veins</a> and <a href="#">mesothermal veins</a> , <a href="#">hydrothermal</a> replacement deposits, <a href="#">metamorphic schists</a> , and in <a href="#">igneous</a> intrusions and <a href="#">dikes</a> .
<a href="#">Rock Type</a>	<a href="#">Igneous</a> , <a href="#">Sedimentary</a> , <a href="#">Metamorphic</a>

Chalcopyrite is the main [ore](#) of [copper](#). Chalcopyrite is sometimes polished into beads and pendants as cheap jewelry. In the U.S., the Tri-state district of Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri has provided the important Chalcopyrite localities of Joplin, Jasper Co., Missouri; Picher, Ottawa Co., Oklahoma; and Treece, Cherokee Co., Kansas. The Sweetwater Mine, Reynolds Co., Missouri produces small sparkling crystals, with some having a natural blue [iridescence](#). Other excellent Chalcopyrite occurrences are the Gilman District, Eagle Co., Colorado; Ouray, Ouray Co., Colorado; and Ellenville, Ulster Co., New York. The Chimney Rock Quarry in Bound Brook, Somerset Co., New Jersey, has produced unique [reniform](#) blobs; and the French Creek Mine in Chester Co., Pennsylvania has produced large distorted and highly [tarnished](#) crystals that are highly sought after by collectors. Common mineral associations: [Pyrite](#), [Sphalerite](#), [Bornite](#), [Chalcocite](#), [Barite](#), [Dolomite](#), [Fluorite](#), [Quartz](#), [Calcite](#). For more Information see Minerals.net



Photo by gemrockauctions.com



Photo by Dakota matrix.com

