



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

# BOWEN-LITE

WWW.RIMH.US



CUMBERLANDITE –OFFICIAL STATE ROCK

BOWENITE – OFFICIAL STATE MINERAL

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RIMH 2018

## RIMH

### Officers

President Bill Wilson  
Vice President Sherri Blennerhassett  
Secretary Jen Davis  
Treasurer Claire Cooper

### Board Members

Steve Emma(President emeritus ) Ernie Zielinski  
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Tony Cesana Dante Caprara  
Bill Neal Don Fail

### Departments/ Committees

Rachel Cesana - Field Trip Coordinator  
Leo Doucet – Membership Person  
Bill Neal - Librarian  
Tony Cesana – Show Chairman  
Tony Cesana - Parliamentarian  
Bill Wilson - Historian  
Webmaster - Bruce Hecker bbhecker@cox.net  
Edited/photos by Paul Koczwanski pakman844@aol.com  
\*If anyone would like to submit an article or anything for future publication let me know



Rocky Point Park seaside

### Upcoming Meeting Details

Executive Board Meetings WILL BE THE LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH . The September executive board meeting is:

Tuesday September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

This year executive 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 will be Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 7pm at CCRI Warwick room 1134

The guest speaker will be Ernie Zielinski and he will give a lecture on "Recently Discovered Minerals".



Narragansett

Rhode Island

The show committee is looking for one or two more volunteers to plan the show. Also ask everyone to pencil in the last weekend of October to help in one way or another many hands make light work

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 [trcesana@gmail.com](mailto:trcesana@gmail.com)

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 [trcesana@gmail.com](mailto:trcesana@gmail.com)

#### Geology and Mineral Books for sale :

I am a retired geologist with a large collection of older and newer geology, mineral and fossil books including many books on mineral localities throughout New England and elsewhere. Authors include Dana, Sinkankas , Kunz and many others. I ALSO BUY BOOKS, MOSTLY FROM THE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY. I live near Westerly; please give me a call at 1-860-599-1243 if you are interested. Thanks Nick McDonald

\*\*\* Field Trips\*\*\*\*\*

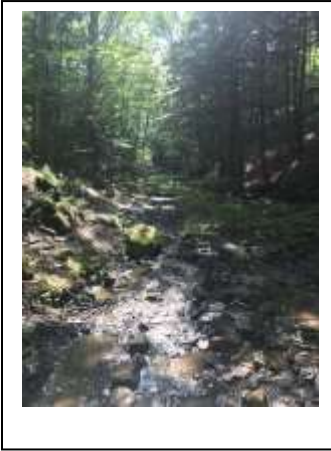
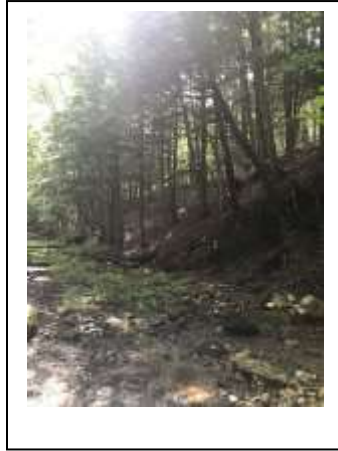
To Be Announced

#### **\*\*Oct 6 Beaugard mine, Alstead, NH**

**\*\*\* Looking into Havey mine in Poland ME. They have new rules and a hefty Price (\$500). Donation to New England Mineral Assc) Need to Know how many people are really interested. Will not sign us up unless I have a firm commitment from at least 20 people. Looking at Sept 22. Please email me at [trcesana@gmail.com](mailto:trcesana@gmail.com) and what date is best for you. Majority will rule.**

## Gold Panning

### Ludlow, Vermont



Photos by Sherri Blennerhassett



Photos by Paul Koczwanski

On Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 17 members of the RIMH went to Ludlow, Vermont to pan for gold. This was great fun especially if you were lucky enough to find the elusive metal. We were treated to a very laborious but exceedingly fun day. We filled buckets of rock and mud and washed them in the nearby stream in an effort to get rich quick. We panned for hours, some used metal detectors and there was even a sluice. To my knowledge, no one found enough gold to buy a penny candy but, that didn't matter. The sun was warm, the stream was cool and the experience was wonderful. We will just have to go back some other time to find our fortunes.

## 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 ; Talc

According to Minerals.net "Talc is known for being the softest mineral on earth. It is number 1 on the Mohs hardness scale, and can be easily scratched by a fingernail." "Talc is not commonly seen in collections, as it is usually uninteresting and fairly common, although a few deeply colored and crystallized examples are known and well sought after." "Also very popular are the Talc pseudomorphs"(a crystal consisting of one mineral but having the form of another which it has replaced)". Talc forms some very interesting pseudomorphs after many different minerals, and certain localities are known for the specific minerals replaced by Talc." Minerals.net

"Health concerns including a rare respiratory disease are known to be associated with Talc in its powder form. Although solid forms of Talc are assumed to be safe, and most concerns are only after prolonged exposure, it is advisable to wash hands after handling Talc." Minerals.net

<b>Chemical Formula</b>	Mg <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>4</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub>
<b>Composition</b>	Magnesium silicate
<b>Color</b>	White, beige, gray, yellow, brown, pink, purple, blue, green. Rarely colorless.
<b>Streak</b>	White
<b>Hardness</b>	1
<b>Crystal System</b>	Monoclinic
<b>Transparency</b>	Transparent to opaque
<b>Specific Gravity</b>	2.7 - 2.8
<b>Luster</b>	Greasy,waxy,pearly
<b>Cleavage</b>	1,1
<b>Fracture</b>	Uneven
<b>Tenacity</b>	Secatile <span style="float: right;">source minerals.net</span>

"Varieties

### "Soapstone

- Rock formed mostly of Talc and with small amounts of Chlorite and pyroxenes. The term Soapstone may also be used to describe a massive form of Talc. Soapstone is used in ornamental carvings "

### "Steatite

- Massive form of Talc."

"In the U.S., are rare form of green crystallized Talc comes from the Vermont Verde Antique Quarry, Rochester, Windsor Co., Vermont. Windsor Co. also contains two other important Talc deposits at Chester and Ludlow. Good Talc also comes from the Serpentine belt on the State Line District of Pennsylvania and Maryland, especially at Pilot, Cecil Co., Maryland. In North Carolina, nice foliated green Talc comes from the Green Mountain Mine, Day Book, Yancey Co. In the Cyprus Mine, Ennis, Madison County, Montana, white Talc is found with black dendritic manganese oxide growths included in the Talc, and these are sometimes sawn into slab for collectors." Minerals.net

“Common Mineral Associations

Serpentine, Dolomite, Magnesite, Actinolite, Olivine, Calcite, Magnetite, Brucite”

“ Talc may be similar to some foliated forms of **Serpentine**, but it’s very low hardness can distinguish it.

**Chlorite** and the micas lack a greasy feel and are harder”.

Source Minerals.net for more info see minerals.net /Wikipedia.com

Photos by Minerals.net

See also minedat.org

