



Conglomerate

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• **Upcoming Shows**

For the latest information, check out the web site of the Eastern Federation of Mineral and Lapidary Societies:
<http://www.amfed.org/efmls>.

JUNE

27-28: State College, PA - Nittany Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Nittany Mineralogical Society. *Mt. Nittany Middle School, State College, PA*

JULY

11-12: Syracuse, NY - 43rd Annual Jewelry, Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse. *Verizon Center of Progress Bldg; New York State Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY.*

SEPTEMBER

12-13: Harrisburg, PA - 44th Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club. *Zembo Shrine, Third & Division St. Harrisburg, PA.*

26-27: West Friendship, MD - 45th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show hosted by the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore. *Howard Co. Fairgrounds, MD 144 nr. MD 32 & I-70; West Friendship, MD*

see next page

June BMS Meeting: "Tucson: Mineral Oddities"

The next meeting of BMS will be held **Wed., June 17th, 2009** at the Cockeysville Public Library Meeting room. The program will be "Tucson: Mineral Oddities." Carolyn and Steve Weinberger and Jake Slagle will present a digital slide show reporting on their trip to Tucson last February. The theme of the Tucson show this year was "Mineral Oddities," so there will be lots of pictures of unusual minerals. Doors open at 6:30, and a short business meeting will begin at 7:15. The meeting will be hosted by Phil Greenberg.

—Mike Seeds

Meeting Room Woes

The Baltimore Public Library system has notified BMS that the Cockeysville Public Library will undergo extensive renovation beginning in September 2009 and extending into October 2010. The meeting room will not be available for BMS meetings after September 1st, 2009. We will be able to meet at the Cockeysville Library in June and July 2009, but thereafter we must find a new place for BMS to meet.

The BMS Board has been exploring alternative meeting sites, and has found a likely meeting location that has just become available. The Maryland Natural History Society has recently opened their building as the Maryland Naturalist Center (6908 Belair Road), and they hope to become a home for natural history societies in the Baltimore area. Two clubs already meet in their building. Members of the BMS Board visited the site at an open house on June 7th and found it a reasonable place to meet. The Board will make a final decision at its June 29th meeting.

Nevertheless, we should all remain alert for alternative meeting sites. If you know of a meeting room that would be available to us on Wednesday evenings and would not be expensive, please pass the information to any BMS Board member.

—Mike Seeds

BMS "Show" Preparations

Active mineral clubs typically put on a "show" and BMS is no different. Since 1957, BMS has presented the Paul Desautels Micromount Symposium each fall. In fact, the 1957 symposium was the first of its kind. This fall, the 53rd symposium will take place on October 2-4, 2009 at the MHA Conference Center in Elkridge, Maryland, just south of the Baltimore beltway.

BMS members have been making plans. Carolyn Weinberger has already sent a "hold the date" postcard to a few hundred micromounters. Steve Weinberger is making arrangements at the conference center, and Cal Pierson has been in touch with speakers.

A number of dealers will be present with tables of micromounts, full-size minerals, tools, and supplies. Some of our favorite dealers who have missed recent shows because of ill health have reported that they will attend, so the dealer tables will be especially rewarding this year.

Al Pribula is organizing mineral auctions for the Symposium. Please consider contributing minerals for the auction and for the give-away tables. Our guests come to our symposium for lots of reasons, but one way to make them feel welcome is to provide lots of nice rocks. Gifts

October

2-4: Elkridge, MD - 53rd Annual Desautels Micromount Conference hosted by the Baltimore Mineral Society. *MHA Conference Center, Elkridge, MD. Info & Registration: C. Weinberger, <cscrystals2@verizon.net>. See story, pg. 1.*

31: Fairless Hills, PA - The Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County, PA presents "Ultraviolation," an all-Fluorescent Mineral Show, at the *First United Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills, PA.*, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, \$2.00 Donation, Children 12 & younger FREE. Info: 856-663-1383 or e-mail: ultraviolation@yahoo.com

Quote of the Month

"As more and more mines are closing, as costs of traveling to collecting areas mount, and as space in my home diminishes, I really am committed to this hobby! For as long as there is a road-cut somewhere or an old quarry dump, there will be tiny crystals waiting to be collected." —*Patricia Barker, Micromounters of New England*

Baltimore Mineral Society

Mike Seeds, *president*, 717-285-3745; Al Pribula, *vice president*; Bob Hudgins, *treasurer*; Carolyn Weinberger, *secretary*; Larry Krause, *newsletter*, 410/828-0024.

E-mail news or questions to: mseeds@fandm.edu or managingeditor@verizon.net
Write c/o 1106 Gypsy Lane West
Baltimore, MD 21286.

FIELD TRIP INFO:

E-mail Edmund.A.Goldberg@usdoj.gov to learn about upcoming mineral field trips.

to the auction should be mounted micromounts or minerals suitable for micromounting. Donations to the giveaway tables should be rocks from known locations with suitable specimens that could be broken down and mounted. No barren rock or rock from unknown locations, please. Bring donations to BMS meetings no later than September 2009.

Our club originated and administers the Micromounters Hall of Fame, and this year two well-known micromounters will be inducted. Marco Ciriotti will be coming from Italy to become a member of the Hall of Fame, and he will give a talk. The other inductee is the late Vi Anderson, and Quintin Wight plans to give a talk on her career as an active micromounter. Further Hall of Fame excitement will be the announcement of two new members to be inducted in the fall of 2010.

Other speakers will include Keith Williams, long-time mineral dealer and manufacturer of beautiful display cabinets used by top mineral collectors around the world. John White, past curator of the Smithsonian Mineral collection, has also indicated he will give a talk.

Mark your calendars now for **Fri.-Sun., October 2-4**, and check your rock room for specimens you could contribute to the auction or to the giveaway tables.

—Mike Seeds

The Rock Dump

- The **meeting room flap** should alert us not to be content. Things go wrong, so we need to be alert and ready to act. BMS members should be on the watch for meeting locations, collecting opportunities, and news that should appear in *The Conglomerate*. Like all mineral clubs, BMS is a no-mother operation. We have to take care of ourselves.
- Brad Grant has been working to get the club into a new quarry, and he has been coordinating with our Field Trip Chair, Ed Goldberg. If you have **ideas for field trips**, be sure to alert Ed. He has the insurance info and knows how to approach property owners and quarry managers on our behalf.
- The **Friends of Mineralogy, Pennsylvania chapter** will hold a symposium for the mineral collecting community at Franklin & Marshall College on November 7-8, 2009. See www.geocities.com/sajas.geo.FM.index.htm
- Here are a few links to fascinating web sites with lots of minerals and neat ideas.
<http://www.danweinrich.com/index.php> -- a huge dealer site with lots of photos
<http://www.micromountersofnewengland.org/> -- lots of mineral photos and links
<http://www.micromountersofnewengland.org/pdfs/Cataloging-Your-Collection-by-Joe-Mulvey.pdf> – cataloging tips
<http://www.franklinmineralmuseum.com/index.htm> – visit the Franklin, NJ museum
- Experts confirm that the **Tucson Mineral Show** theme this year, Mineral Oddities, was not meant to refer to any specific mineral collectors.

—Mike Seeds

May BMS Spring Picnic

Seventeen BMS-ers attended the annual BMS spring picnic, held this year at the home of Larry Krause and Alice Cherbonnier. The weather cooperated, mineral talk abounded, and a fine time was had by all. Thanks to everyone who helped make the event a success!

—BMS MEETINGS—

3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. Cockeysville Public Library through July 2009; thereafter location To Be Announced. No BMS meeting in Oct. (Micromount Symposium); December (BMS holiday party), May (BMS annual BBQ), and July (get out and hunt for rocks!)

—It's time to renew your BMS Membership!—

Individual memberships \$10; family memberships \$15. Send payment along with your name, list of family members, address, phone and e-mail to: Bob Hudgins, 6713 Balmoral Overlook, New Market, MD 21774. Or: renew at the next BMS meeting!