

The Rockhound's Bark

The Nova Scotia Mineral and Gem Society Newsletter

November 2008



ABOUT THE SOCIETY

Meetings are held the last Saturday of each month, September-November and January-May, 7:30 - 10:00 p.m. in the auditorium (Lower Level) of the N.S. Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer St., Halifax. Dues are \$20/year, payable in January of each year.

2008 EXECUTIVE

President:	William Blinn
Vice President:	Fred Walsh
Secretary:	Fred Walsh
Treasurer:	Terry Collett
Bark Editor:	Ken McKenzie
Librarian:	?

SOCIETY'S MAILING ADDRESS

The Nova Scotia Mineral and Gem Society
c/o NS Museum of Natural History
1747 Summer Street, Halifax, N.S., B3H 3A6

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE

January 24, 2009.

NEXT MEETING

By Ken McKenzie

November 29 is our next scheduled meeting night. As this is our annual meeting, elections will be held for executive positions. Terry Collett is collecting names to nominate so if you are interested in filling one of the vacancies, please let him know. We are currently lacking a librarian and secretary. As well, I'd like to pass the newsletter to a more enthusiastic party. I am willing to mentor someone in its production and will continue to maintain the web site. Please contact me if you're considering this and we can talk about it.

After the meeting will be our mini mineral show. If you have items to show, trade, or sell, bring them along. If not, bring some money.

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER MEETING

By William Blinn

Old Business

The first item discussed at the October meeting was the plans for a May lapidary, mineral, and fossil show. Victor will confirm with the museum and report at the next meeting. It looks like May 9, 2009 will be the date.

Members were reminded that the November meeting is to be a 'Mini Mineral' show with members bringing in pieces they want to show, trade, or sell. Sale of items will see the club receive 10% of the price. Members are encouraged to bring in their specimens for display as well.

New Business

John Lowry reported that there is to be a mineral show in Bangor, Maine the weekend of November 1. It is probably too late for this year but this show is an annual event by the club there, which has a large membership.

Some discussion about future meeting presentations brought up two possibilities: Doug Bowes on mineral fluorescence and Tom Spence on lapidary. The members are encouraged to come up with ideas for meetings.

Members are encouraged to think about serving on the executive, as the November meeting is the annual meeting.

After the meeting Terry Collett gave a very interesting and informative talk on cleaning and presentation of mineral specimens. He will have some kits available for the 'Waller Method' of cleaning at the next meeting.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Compiled by Ken McKenzie

Rock Purchase

My niece is a second year geology student. I would like to purchase an unusual rock for her collection that she will be studying this year. Could you please advise me were I can purchase such an item.

Thanks
Phil Vernham
p.vernham@ns.sympatico.ca

Greetings from Houston

We followed our boys to the NSMGS monthly meetings for about 3 years while we were in Halifax. We moved to Houston in June '07, where Rowan (age 11) and Russell (age 8) have become avid rock hounds, thanks to the interest they generated during their foundation years at NSMGS in Halifax.

Pleased to inform you that both our boys won prizes in their age group categories (for shaping and polishing) at the 2008 Houston Minerals and Gem Show. They are members

of the Houston Minerals and Gem Society, which has an active Youth chapter.

Our best wishes to NSMGS.

Regards,
Angelo Pinheiro
abpinheiro@marathonoil.com

Question re: gems

I just have a quick question, and believe members of your group would be the ones with the answer. If I wanted to have some gems certified/appraised, where in the HRM area would I go to get that done?

Thank you,
Brandi Babando
BBabando@downeast.ca

New Mineral Dealer

I found your name on the Geological Survey Website and am writing to advise you of my new website. My website is www.canadianminerals.net. I have been field collecting for the past 20 years.

Greg Hasler
ghasler@mts.net



Pyrite from Lyme Regis, England, summer 2008 (K. McKenzie)