

# The Danburite

The Danbury Mineralogical Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2642, Danbury, Connecticut 06810-2642

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NEXT REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5, 2009

DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 PM - MEETING STARTS AT 8:00 PM

THE MEETING WILL BE AT THE MILL RIDGE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

DMS WEBSITE <http://www.danburymineralogicalsociety.org>

AFMS WEBSITE <http://www.amfed.org/> EFMLS WEBSITE <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/>



PRESIDENT	OPEN
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## February Program

Depending on if we get the hardware hooked up and depending on the compatibility of the media and the hardware we might be seeing a EFMLS Library program at the Feb. 5 meeting. Bob Burke has three possible programs he and Pat Hackett are testing on our new DVD player.

The possible programs are -

### **Potential program 1 – Most likely for Feb.**

part A: Tree stories , A rock club, home made video on Fossilized wood and geodes. 2004 AFMS 1st Place Winner by Ruby Lingelbach. Specimens of Petrified Wood are examined to reveal stories from millions of years ago.

part B: Voices in Stone-etc. History channel special

part C: Mystery of the Andes , A&E channel special

### **Potential program 2**

1987 Rochester Symposium: Gem and Mineral Exploration in Pakistan (R-007)

### **Potential program 3**

2008 Rochester Symposium: New Minerals and Old Mines of Atacama Chile (R-189)

## Minutes of the December 4, 2008 Meeting

President Robert Burke called the meeting to order at 8:13 pm at the Mill Ridge Elementary School, Danbury, CT. The meeting began with the door prizes and raffle, which was followed by our speaker Jeff Fast who presented his excellent program on mining Herkimer Diamonds.

The business portion of the meeting followed the lecture. Of prime importance was the election of officers. Elected were Liz Triano- Vice President, Pat Hackett- Treasurer, and Jack Pawloski- Secretary. We do not have a President.

A summary of our Winter Seminar was presented by Tony Morasco and Gail Washburn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Pawloski , Secretary

## Committees

In addition to the elected offices for 2009 the following committees were staffed as follows

Field trips – open  
 Exhibits – Lizzie Triano  
 Annual Show – Pat Hackett  
 Annual Seminar – Bob Burke  
 Library – Pat Hackett  
 Refreshments – Bob Burke  
 Programs – Lizzie Triano  
 By Laws – open  
 Equipment – Pat Hackett  
 Membership – open  
 Auctioneer – Jack Pawloski  
 Danburite – Hank Henning

## Pegmatites

Lizzie Triano discovered this web page about pegmatites and thought it might be of special interest to DMS members.

<http://www.minsocam.org/MSA/Special/Pig/>

Pegmatites of course are those areas or zones within a granitic rock formation where a portion of the hot molten rock has cooled very slowly and allowed enough time for large crystals to form and develop. This is the “sweet spot”, so to speak where, the beautifully formed collectible minerals like quartz feldspar and mica come from

The www site referenced by Lizzie is a page from the larger website of the **American Mineralogical Society**. The AMS is a professional scientific organization which publishes several monthly Journals, including *The American Mineralogist* and *Elements*. The articles in *The American Mineralogist* are very specialized and very technical, bearing on the research done by the best scientists in the world talking to other scientists. The Journal *Elements* is written with a wider audience in mind, and the focus seems to be to cover the subject of minerals more for the general public. Both Journals require a subscription to access full on line articles from the publications. Abstracts for all issues for both publications are available on line and complete articles from *The*

*American Mineralogist* published before 2000 are available for free on line.

There are a few parts of the website that are intended for the amateur rock collector including an intriguing crystal database. Here is the Link to the main AMS website here you will find links to all of their publications including “Mineralogy for Kids” and “Collectors Corner”

<http://www.minsocam.org/>

I note that all pages on the site bear a copyright notice and cannot be reprinted without permission.

A good primer on the general subject of pegmatites that is not too technical can be found on the internet at a site called Wikipedia,

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pegmatite>

For folks just getting started with minerals the technical terminology can be a great barrier to understanding even the basic concepts of the more scientific side to those wonderful crystals that got us interested in this subject in the first place. There is little to do but to slowly and constantly educate yourself. But carry on, you can do that at your own pace and there are no exams or quizzes.

A website such as Wikipedia is designed to help interested nonexperts in any field learn as much as you want. Most of the technical terms you will see in the Wiki are “linked “ to another page that will provide a description or definition of the term you want more information about. In addition you can simply keep a browser window open to your favorite search program such as google and look for more information throughout the entire world wide web, the www.

I started my search for a definition of Pegmatite by simply typing that word into the google search window and was instantly presented with 491,000 places to look for information about pegmatite. I usually don't need to look at references beyond the first page of the search results.

Oh, and please, be patient, and enjoy. Mineralogy is an enormously large field to study and it branches out to almost everywhere; from planetary science and cosmology to jewelry and the healing power of crystals. The lucky people eventually find a specialty to concentrate on, but others of us are doomed to being generalists and skipping from one subject to another endlessly.

Which will you become?

The **Rochester Mineral Symposium** is one of the premiere mineralogical events in the Eastern USA. This yearly event is the source of many of the recorded programs that are available to mineral clubs throughout the country. The DMS is in the final stages of setting up the means to be able to view these programs at our monthly meetings.

Following is the schedule and registration contact information if you want to visit the Symposium yourself in April in Rochester NY. If you go, be prepared for early spring lake-effect snow to add to the magic of the weekend. [ H. Henning ed. ]

## Rochester Mineralogical Symposium

**P.O. Box 85, Manlius, NY 13104-0085**

Steve Chamberlain - Chairman <sccham2@yahoo.com>

Helen Chamberlain - Registrar (315) 682-0387

<contactrms@hotmail.com>

Bruce Gaber - Exhibits (301) 654-7479

<[sun@visionrising.com](mailto:sun@visionrising.com)>

10 January 2009

Dear Friends,

Enclosed is the registration material for the 36<sup>th</sup> Rochester Mineralogical Symposium. As you peruse the preliminary program below, you will see that *five* of our invited speakers have not given lectures before; whereas the other four talks are by familiar speakers. Given the grave state of the world economy, we have kept all costs and fees constant. We are also offering a wider variety of menu choices for the meals. The more expensive entrees are the normal large portions. The less expensive entrees have smaller portions. We hope you will join us.

### 36th Rochester Mineralogical Symposium Preliminary Schedule

#### **Thursday April 23, 2009**

Registration in the Back Lobby

4:00-6:00PM Dealers and 4th Floor Hospitality

Suite Open

6:00-7:45PM Dinner in the restaurant

8:00-9:15PM **Recent Mineral Collecting in Brazil**  
– **Frank Melanson**

9:15PM- Dealers and Hospitality, 4th Floor

#### **Friday, April 24, 2009**

9:00AM Announcements

9:15-10:15AM **Mindat.org – Jolyon Ralph**

10:30-11:30AM **TBA – Dr. André Lalonde**

11:30-1:30PM Lunch and Shopping Break

1:30-5:15PM **Technical Session** - Contributed Papers in Specimen Mineralogy

6:30-8:00PM Dinner in the restaurant

8:15-9:15PM **Microphotography of Agates – Doug Moore**

#### **Saturday, April 25, 2009**

7:30AM Fellowship Breakfast in the restaurant

9:00-10:00AM **What's New in Minerals** - Jeff Scovil

10:00-11:00AM **What's New in Minerals** - Audience

11:00-1:30PM Lunch and Extended Shopping Break

1:30-2:30PM **Field Collecting in Upper Michigan**  
– **Robert Barron**

2:45-3:45PM **Women in Mineral Collecting – Gail Spann**

5:15-6:30PM Silent Auction (*Please consider making a donation*)

7:00-8:30PM Dinner in the ballroom

8:30PM Voice Auction (*Please consider making a donation*)

#### **Sunday, April 26, 2009**

9:00-10:00AM **Minerals of New York City – John Betts**

10:15-11:15AM **Around the World in 18 Years – Jeff Scovil**

11:30AM End of the Symposium

The Micromounter's Playroom continues (contact Quintin Wight <[qwight@sympatico.ca](mailto:qwight@sympatico.ca)>).

Additional registration forms can be downloaded at <[www.rasny.org](http://www.rasny.org)> or <[www.amfed.org/efmls](http://www.amfed.org/efmls)> by following the link to the RMS. All in all, it looks like another year that will show why the Rochester Mineralogical Symposium is a highlight of the mineral calendar

Warmest regards,

Steven C. Chamberlain, PhD  
Chairman

## ONGOING DMS BUSINESS

### PRESIDENT – WE NEED A VOLUNTEER

MEETING SPACE – still looking for ideas to replace the school – we never actually got to bring the possibility of meeting at the Danbury RR Museum to a vote.... any interest ?

DMS LIBRARY – shall we expand it or forget it ?

EXHIBITS – at the Danbury Public Library and other locations - different date - see Lizzie to volunteer

ANNUAL AUCTION IN MAY – member donations needed

ROCK SWAP IN JUNE AT CAMA– See Jack Pawloski. to volunteer - or you can buy and sell-

ANNUAL SHOW IN SEPTEMBER – see Pat Hackett to volunteer.

FIELD TRIPS – Does anyone want field trips ?

## LOCAL ROCK SHOWS

### February 21-22--Albany, NY:

16th Annual James Campbell Memorial Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show and Sale;  
New York State Academy of Mineralogy, Capital District Mineral Club; 4th floor,  
Museum at the Empire State Plaza, Madison Ave.  
Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; admission \$6, includes New York State Flower Show; more than 20 mineral and fossil dealers, geological lectures, staff on hand to identify minerals and fossils

### March 7 – 8 Meriden CT

The Lapidary & Mineral Society of Central CT presents **Jewelry Gem & Mineral Show and Sale**  
Sat. 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. - Sun. 10 a.m.– 4 p.m.  
Maloney High School, Gravel St. Meriden CT.  
[www.lmscc.org](http://www.lmscc.org)

### March 7 & 8 New York City

New York Mineral Society

New York City - Holiday Inn, 440 W 57 St.

### March: 28-29: Holyoke, MA.

Western Massachusetts Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show sponsored by the Connecticut Valley Mineral Club. Holiday Inn at Ingleside, Holyoke, MA.

### April 25 and 26, Franklin NJ

#### SPRING SHOW WEEKEND

**37<sup>th</sup> Annual N.J.E.S.A. Gem & Mineral Show**  
held in conjunction with the

**14<sup>th</sup> Annual F.O.M.S. Spring Swap-and-Sell.**

Sponsored by the New Jersey Earth Science Association, The Sterling Hill Mining Museum, and the Franklin-Ogdensburg Mineralogical Society  
**Franklin Middle School, Washington St.,  
Franklin, NJ.**

<http://www.franklinmineralmuseum.com/activities.htm>

### June 27 – 28 Gilsum NH

**Rock Swap & Mineral Show!**

**The 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Show RAIN OR SHINE!**

**Hours:** 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Saturday/ 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Sunday

**Location:** Gilsum Elementary School and Community Center, 640 Route 10 in Gilsum (just 10 minutes from Keene).

<http://gilsum.org/rockswap.aspx>

### October: 17 & 18:

**37<sup>th</sup> Annual Gem & Mineral Show  
and 59<sup>th</sup> Annual EFMLS**

**Convention sponsored by the Bristol  
Gem & Mineral Club. Beals  
Community Center, Bristol, CT.**

### The 2009 dues are due

– see the back cover for the rates and send your renewal check to Pat Hackett, our Treasurer.

– **Are you getting the Danburite via email?**

We will add you and your friends to our email list to receive the Danburite as a PDF file with color photos. Just send your email address to the editor and be sure to keep him informed of any changes. You don't have to be a member to get the e-mail version of the Danburite.

The Danbury Mineralogical Society Inc. is a non profit corporation and is affiliated with:  
The Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Soc.  
and The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Meetings are held at 8:00 pm on the first Thursday of the month from October to June in the Mill Ridge Primary OR Middle School, at High Ridge Road off Mill Ridge Road, Danbury, Connecticut. Visitors and guests are welcome at all meetings. The January meeting is usually a dinner seminar. There are no meetings in July. August is preparation time for the annual mineral and jewelry show in September. Junior Club members meet at 7:00 pm before the regular meeting. Our last dues increase was in 2002 to cover the increasing cost of the bulletin and liability and accident insurance to cover the members on field trips and other club activities. The current membership dues are \$12.50 per adult individual / \$17.50 per family (including children under 18) \$ 7.50 for students and senior citizens. Only dues paying members are covered by our liability and accident insurance and receive the print version of the *Danburite*.

The particular objectives for which this Society is formed are:

- To promote general interest in mineralogy
- To study rocks, minerals, fossils and the lapidary arts through lectures and discussion groups and field trips.
- To encourage the search for minerals indigenous to our areas
- **To keep an accurate and permanent record of all mineral localities visited by this society and to make such records available to all members.**

The Danburite is published monthly except July and August by the Danbury Mineralogical Society, Inc. The Danburite may be quoted and unless otherwise noted all material may be reprinted provided credit is given to the author and the Danburite.

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# *The Danburite*

*The Danbury Mineralogical Society, Inc. February 2009*

Henry Henning, Ed. 1234 Peekskill Hollow Road, Carmel NY

SPRING  
ROCK  
SHOWS  
LISTED