

December 2022



OCMS SHALE MAIL



**Welcome to an in-person party Friday
December 9th, 2022 at 6:30 pm!**

See you at: 81 Laroe Rd Chester, **NY** (Town of Chester Recreation Senior Center), (From KINGS HWY, Turn left on Laroe Rd by UPS office building)

[CLICK FOR MAP](#)

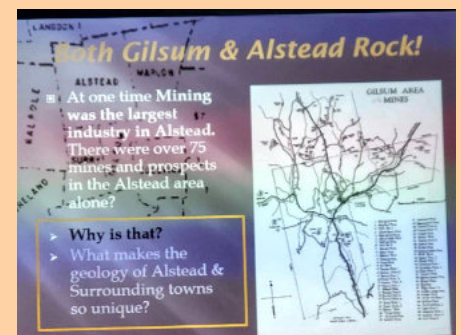
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2022 CALENDAR

Dec 09-Meeting, Holiday, Pot Luck Dinner & Mineral Chinese Auction.

Proposed 2023 Meeting Times: Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 10, Apr 14, May 12, Jun 3-4 Sat Mineral Show and Sale, Jul 14, Aug 11, Sep 9 Sat Rock BBQ, Oct 13, Nov 10 and Dec 8.



Mailing Address:

254 Rt. 17K, Suite 204, Newburgh, NY 12550-8300



Merry Christmas

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE & MINUTES!

By: Mike Tedford

President's Message

Please join us in person beginning 6:30PM this Friday December 9, 2022 for our annual holiday pot luck dinner, auction/raffle and monthly business meeting. We will feature a large raffle with 80 specimens at the Chester senior center. All members are encouraged to bring specimens they would like to contribute to the raffle. Extra specimens, books, journals or equipment are welcome.

Pot Luck Dinner OCMSNY will provide a 6 foot cold cut hero and a pan of hot entree such as chicken Parmesan and members bring in their dish of choice to share. The choices members brought for the September BBQ worked out deliciously. Thanks to our club members for always making our pot luck sharing a delightful experience.

Annual election of officers Please give some thought to joining the ranks of officers to help needed task openings. Please feel free to contact any of the officers to learn more about helping the OCMSNY activities function successfully. We can use assistance in any and all aspects. Specifically we need to replenish our Secretary (meeting minutes). These important responsibilities can be shared with assistants during the year. This is your club.-

Thank you. Thanks to all the members and officers for efforts and accomplishments this year. Sincere wishes for peace on earth and continued good health for all.

Sincerely, Michael G Tedford, MD, MS, MBA President OCMSNY 2021

Minutes of the Meeting

OCMSNY November 2022 Meeting Minutes

OCMSNY attendance sheets were completed, Name tags were issued.

Meeting preparations included refreshments, name badges, and the raffle table, The raffle was not held due to time constraints.

OCMSNY president Mike Tedford called the meeting to order at approximately 6:35 PM, welcoming the attendees.

Members confirmed they are receiving the emailed Shale Mail , and the October minutes from our Sterling Hill meeting were accepted. The members thanked the Kerstanskis for the amazing Sterling Hill Mine and Museum tours and mineral collecting experiences in October

Ron Nelson read the balances of the main checking account and show account. He mentioned we are not yet initiating contacts with vendors for the 2023. Mineral Show and Sale.

More possibilities of field trips and mineral shows were discussed briefly. More than one person can be an event. Keep an ear out for possibly tagging along on a trip with any other club.

Our website and Facebook page continue to be updated

IT'S PARTY TIME!



We all want to see you at this very special meeting so bring a dish to add to our pot luck supper.

Come for a fun time, visit with your fellow OCMS members, and just enjoy the biggest social event of the year!



Chinese Auction will be on the menu again this year! Don't forget to buy your tickets at the meeting! Win your favorite specimens!

**We look forward to seeing
you all there!**

**Merry Christmas
Everyone!**



THE MINES OF MONADNOCK

The majority of the mines around Monadnock Mountain are located near Keene NH. They were important for the mining of Mica, feldspar and quartz. Gilsum and Alstead had a majority of the mines approximately 60 in a 3.4 mile radius. There were 75 in Alstead alone. This particular pegmatite formation was due to two processes glacier and vulcanization. The weight of the glaciers depressed the land approximately 5 miles which attributed to the Connecticut Rivers formation. It was originally formed when molten activity during the Pangaea formation created the pegmatites. These pegmatites are rich in quartz, feldspar and mica. All the mines because of these processes are in subterranean formations for the most part. Mica was mined in early history for its use as windows because of its transparency and for lantern glass especially on ships. The original glass would break and be replaced with the mica. It was also heat resistant so it was used in stove windows. Later electrical components were made out of it, especially vacuum tubes as the mica was used in the base to keep the bulbs from burning out. This was crucial to the formation of the early computers as they relied heavily on vacuum tubes.

The United States was worried that the U-2 boats of Germany would sink all the mica that was being shipped to the United States so we needed to find our own sources of mica to mine before World War 2.

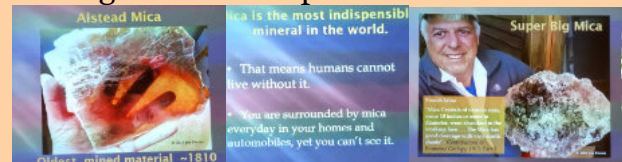
Mining was hard work in the beginning. They used a double jack technique, one man would hold the drill bit while another would strike it with a hammer. Then he would rotate it 30 degrees and hit it

By: John Pacut

again until they ended up with a triangle hole. Candles were the primary light they were set in holes in the walls and they wore them on their helmets. Later on air was added to drive the bit. This was called pneumatics along with a star shaped bit.

By 1939 approximately 15-18 tons of quartz was mined. 240,000 tons of mica was mined. In the early 1900's miners earned approximately 30 cents an hour.

Jim goes on to talk about 30 different YouTube videos that talk about mining in New Hampshire and Vermont. He discussed different tours that involve the history and mineral collecting. He has created 12 different lectures on various topics of mining in New Hampshire and Vermont.



Jim Pecora, Educator for the Mica Mine School House in New Hampshire gave an extensive, informative lecture on the impressive mining history entitled Mines of Monadnock in New Hampshire. Multiple mines produced impressive quantities of mica, graphite, quartz, beryl and even gold!. The slides were informative and the presentation was audible via the remote set up. Thank you Jim Pecora for your heartfelt presentation. Jim is one of our favorite vendors in New England. His contact info is jim.pecora@gmail.com and here are a few links to his works. There are more if you google search.. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeEjyUVd-hiShohW8vVU7usw> World Famous Colony Mine in Alstead, NH A to Z by Jim Pecora | [Colony Mine in Alstead, NH a highly productive Golding Keene Co. Mine. A Photo tour with factoids by #MiningHistorian #JimPecora. \(Yes there are typos\)... | By Mica Mine Schoolhouse | F](#)

Let's Learn About Malachite!

By: Deb Allen

Malachite is a type of basic copper carbonate that is formed from copper-containing solutions near copper ore deposits. Though fairly soft compared to most gemstones (3.5 to 4 on the Mohs scale), it is popular for jewelry and ornaments due to its striking green colors and interesting veined patterns.



Malachite is now relatively rare, but has been found in many locations around the world. The most important deposits were in the Ural Mountains of Russia, where 20 ton blocks once came from the quarries and were used to decorate the palaces of the Russian tsars.

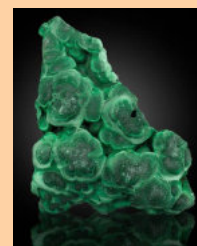


Perhaps some of the most famous malachite in the world is the Malachite Room in the Winter Palace of the Russian Royal family. It was designed in the late 1830s and Empress Alexandra Fyodorovna, the wife of Tsar Nicholas I, used it as her drawing-room. The room, including columns, pilasters, fireplace trimmings and decorative vases is made completely of malachite using the "Russian mosaic" technique.

Natural Malachite Gems



Today much smaller deposits of malachite are found in Africa (Zambia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Namibia and Zimbabwe), Israel, England, France and in the USA (Arkansas and Arizona). It has also been discovered at the famous mining district of Broken Hill in New South Wales, Australia.



Let's Learn About Malachite - cont!

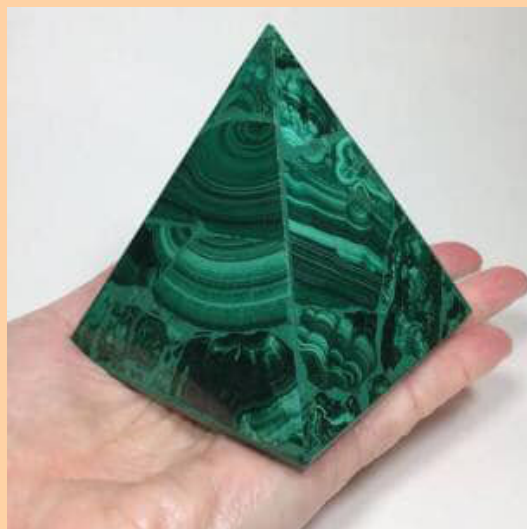
The Democratic Republic of the Congo, once known as Zaire, has become the most important malachite producer. The richest deposits are found in the mining district of the "Shaba Crescent" in Katanga Province. The mines are found in the Ruashi district of Lubumbashi which is the province's capital and the second largest town of the country after Kinshasa. The Belgians founded it as a mining settlement in 1910 and it quickly became the center of the copper belt.



The malachite, which is of gemstone quality, is mined mainly by hand in small copper mines, some of which were abandoned when copper deposits dried up. Many of the most spectacular specimens of malachite found here contain combinations with other minerals, such as azurite, cuprite or chrysocolla.



Malachite is an opaque stone with a unique ornamental light and dark-green banding which makes for attractive jewelry designs and carvings. There are many local artisans involved in the malachite trade. The malachite carvers in the Ruashi district of Katanga irrigate their lapidary machines to keep the blades and grinding stones working well, and their houses are easily identified by the streams of green water trickling out.



Azurite Malachite Peru

By: Keith Allen

A new occurrence of malachite-azurite was discovered in 2011 from Moquegua Department in southern Peru. The first specimens were mentioned by Hyršl (2012), but several dozen much better stones were offered for sale during the February 2014 Tucson gem shows.



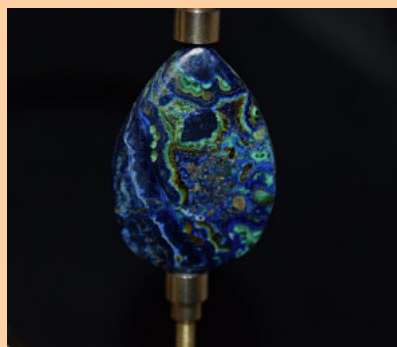
Malachite is an opaque, green-banded mineral which often results from the weathering of copper ores. Archaeological evidence indicates that malachite has been mined and smelted to obtain copper for more than 3000 years but since circa 600 BC malachite has been used only as an ornamental stone and as a gemstone. Azurite is a deep-blue copper mineral produced by weathering of copper ore deposits and is often found together with malachite. Recently discovered deposits of azurite and azurite-malachite in Peru produce high quality stones suitable for jewelry.

Azurite has been known for more than 4,500 years, and traces of azurite powder have even been found in Egyptian jars used to make ointments. From that time, the stone was already being powdered to make blue pigments for artistic purposes. Its Greek name is "kuanos", which became the word « cyan », and its Roman name is

"caeruleum".

In the Mayan civilization, this mineral was considered sacred, and allowed to reach supreme wisdom. Then, malachite has always been exploited for its beautiful colours, first as a powder, used for painting, then for decoration.

Malachite belongs to the group of mineral carbonates. Its name comes from the Greek « malakhé », which means « mallow », referring to the softness of the plant called mallow. It can be found under other names such as « green chrysocolla » or « silky copper ». The hardness of malachite is 3.5 to 4 on Mohs scale (stone hardness scale), so it is a soft stone. Malachite is a very fragile stone that is not very resistant to heat and liquids, so you must be very careful with it. This stone is effervescent in contact with hydrochloric acid, and can often be soluble when immersed in water with a lot of carbon dioxide. To purify this stone, simply immerse it in distilled but not salty water. To recharge it, place the stone

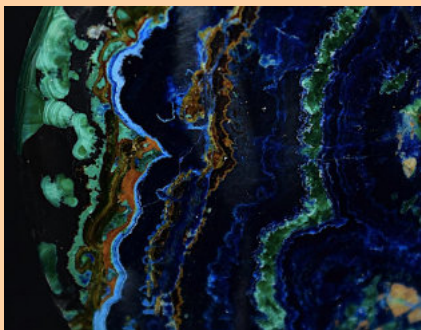


in the sun on a crystalline heap. The main areas where malachite stone is mined are Australia, Brazil, Chile, Congo, the United States, France, Israel, Rhodesia, Russia and Zaire.



Azurite Malachite Peru - Cont.

Azurite is composed of copper carbonate. This mineral has a hardness of 3.5 to 4 on Mohs scale. It was named after François Sulpice Beudant, a French mineralogist and geologist. The name « azurite » comes from « lazward » which means « blue » in Persian, and was given simply because of its colour. This stone is effervescent and soluble in contact with hydrochloric acid, which differentiates it from lazurite, a stone that looks very much like azurite and is soluble in contact with the same acid, but is not effervescent in this case.



What we have here is a very powerful stone. Indeed, it allows a strong spiritual connection, and promotes clairvoyance, visions, as well as telepathy. Placed on the top of the head, this stone helps us to better understand the world thanks to a global vision, like a developing third eye. In addition, this stone is used as a pendulum by

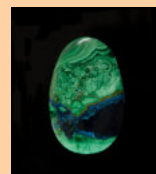
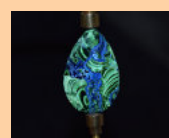
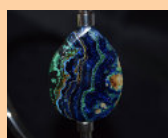


strong connection power, it is ideal for remote healing or meditation.

Azurite-malachite stone is also an effective healing stone when placed on the chakras. Placing this stone on your throat will help you get rid of speech problems, and placing it on your forehead will take you to another world by helping you establish an extrasensory connection. It is also advisable to rub the azurite to release its benefits. Indeed, it is called « friction stone », which will make you benefit from its positive energy by a simple friction. The **stone azurite malachite** helps to attract and develop positive energy, but at the same time absorbs and removes negative energy.



Azurite helps to regulate mental disorders and nervousness. For example, people subject to stress, worry, anxiety or who do not have a clear conscience will feel relieved thanks to this stone. To remedy this kind of disorder, simply hold the stone in your hands and ask for release. Your negative or stressful thoughts will then be gone. Students and learners will also benefit from this stone, which helps to structure and clarify thoughts.



OCMS members are covered by Society-sponsored insurance.



OCMS Disclaimer

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