

SE Massachusetts Mineral Club



OutCroppings

October 2022

Incorporated April 8, 1970

**Meetings held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30pm
(excluding July and August)**

**Meetings are held at the Rockland Eagles Hall
29 Park Street, Rockland, MA 02370**

Next Meeting October 13, 2022

President: Walter Schell wshell1191@gmail.com

Vice President: Sara Ostrander naturespeaks2you@gmail.com

Secretary: Melissa Claire Prario mcprario@gmail.com

Treasurer: Dr. Robert Chasen drchasen@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor: Larry Ryan zone859@verizon.net

Come digging with us!

A Message from President Walter Schell

. Fall greetings to everyone!

I hope you all have had a good summer of digging as it goes by so fast and we are halfway through the fall season. This is the best time for everyone to get out and enjoy the cooler weather and foliage along with the treasures you uncover!

We hope to see everyone at the next meeting and apologize to anyone who was inconvenienced by the schedule mixup with the Eagles last month.

We are still looking for trips if anyone has a favorite place you would like to visit , let us know and we'll see if there is others interested !

Please bring your finds to the meeting as we would all like to see them.

Best regards,

Walter

A Message from the Editor

Greetings!

Still great digging weather so get out and start digging! The September digs were a big success and new members are joining us every day.

Thanks to all that have worked to make the Club a group to join.

Larry

[SEMMEC Facebook Page](#)

Keep in touch with our Facebook Page to get the sudden additions to the digging schedule!

Field collecting trips are open to SEMMEC members only, as our insurance policy covers members only. Please bring your SEMMEC Membership card with you.

All participants of field trips are required to contact trip leaders at least 48 hours in advance of trip date.

Schedules may change. Please contact the host to confirm date, time

and details.

Some trips may be eliminated, added, or altered depending on weather and other circumstances.

However, please remember we do have a club claim in Fonda, NY and it is open year-round, weather permitting.

The Club Rules for our claim can be found on the website.

Image by Renata

Mineral of the Month

Septarian Nodules



How Septarian Nodules Form

Septarian is known to have formed during the Cretaceous Period. This time period began approximately one hundred and forty five million years ago and ended sixty six million years ago. That's around the time the dinosaurs disappeared.

The septarian nodules (or concretions) formed beneath the water as minerals and organic matter accumulated around a centre mass. Gradually over millions of years and with the help of various geological

processes, the mass hardened and became cemented together to form a nodule.

The minerals are likely to have included sandstone which is compacted grains of sand, shale which is compacted mud and siltstone and limestone which is primarily calcium carbonate. The mineral aragonite is the crystalline form of calcium carbonate. This chemical compound occurs naturally in rocks most notably as limestone.

Siltstone is fine grained silt, sand, clay or other materials carried in water before being deposited as sediment.

Septarian nodules may well have formed in shallow lakes as the tide caused an accumulated mass to roll gently back and forth. Over time with the addition of new layers of sticky mud the size of the mass increased. During the hot summer months as the water receded the mud dried out causing it to crack.

The newly formed structures then became buried under sediment. The cracks slowly filled through seepage with a coarse crystalline substance such as silica (quartz) or calcite from the shells of dead marine creatures.

The crystals which later formed are the bright yellow centres of the septarian nodule. A thin wall of calcite was also transformed into aragonite or siderite which separated the heavy clay exterior from the crystallized centre.

United Kingdom, Stone Mania

When traveling around the country
And you want a place to prospect,
Go to

www.mindat.org

Member's Corner

Welcome New Members!

Shirts are in!



So your choices are...

SMALL - pink with black ink OR orange with black ink

MEDIUM - pink/black OR blue/white;

LARGE - pink/black OR blue/black

X LARGE - pink/black OR blue/white

XX LARGE - blue/white

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The September Meeting was not held on the proper day due to an overbooking of the Eagles. We did have a meeting the next Thursday and we got some stuff done. All issues with the Eagles have been dealt with and we should have no more problems.

Yooper Night a success

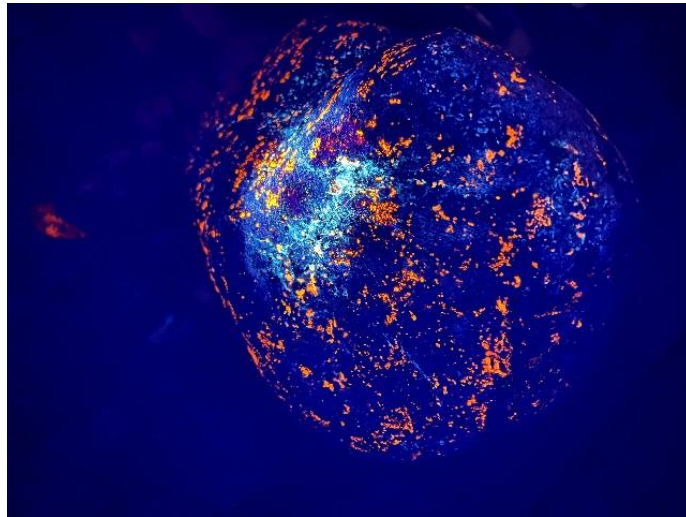
We had a good night collecting fluorescent stones, however Barbara Thompson, one of our members fell and broke her hip. She had surgery and has some rehab in front of her. Mary and I visited her and Loren in the hospital and she is in good spirits and looking forward to get back out next spring.



There were plenty of specimens from other digs for new members to choose from while we waited for darkness to fall.



The rocks did not disappoint and everyone took some home. Larry and Mary picked up a 80 pound rock over the weekend in Maine. It sits next to the 45 pound Laurenstone. Going to need work!



75+ pound beauty!

A special thanks to the Scituate Police and Fire Departments for the quick response to Barbara's situation.



Beryl Mountain

Trip to Beryl Mountain was a complete success!



Thanks to Richie Sun who set up this dig and A special thanks to Jim Pecora for making the day!

It was an easy hike up the mountain. There were many places to dig and no shortage of good finds by the Club. Everyone went home happy with a pocket full of beryls and many other finds! Come to the meeting and see the stuff we have collected.



Plenty of happy faces! Plenty of places to look and find many treasures.



Not all jewels are made of rock!



T-Bones and mushrooms tonight for Martin and Renata

Meanwhile Suzanne was training for the rock throwing contest, and was a sure bet to win!



New Club E-Mail Address

southeastmmc@gmail.com

[SEMMC FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

Officers and E Board 2023

President

Walter Schell

Vice President

Sara Ostrander

Secretary

Melissa Claire Prario

Treasurer

Dr. Robert Chasen

Asst. Treasurer

Larry Ryan

E Board

Dan Ryan Ania Dobrolinska

Tom Carter Alynne MacLean

Steve Kimball Suzanne Wall

Southeastern Massachusetts Mineral Club

We are always looking for new areas to collect from. If you are sitting at home with nothing to do, log on and find out about the history of mining in your area. Many old and abandon quarries and mines still exist throughout our region. Also there are many “ancient” sites that hold evidence of the indigenous peoples that were living here and quite possibly Viking Settlements that were here before Columbus in 1492. Take a look and see what you can find. Send me any info you have and I will publish it so all Club Members will know.

Larry



Memberships are Due in August!

Please get your payment in so we can secure our resources and generate an accurate Members List. Thank You!

\$20.00 per Family per year Dues

And for that money, you are a fully insured Club Member, access to a wealth of mineral knowledge, Club digs, are held at some of the best quarries in New England, 10 scheduled Meetings per Year, September to June where knowledge and information are exchanged freely. New members learn the What, Where, How and When. Come to the next meeting and see.

Come Join Us and find out!

Scouting for new spots

Membership Form

Dues are as follows:

-Individual Membership \$15.00 Yearly Dues with e-mail newsletter-

-Family Membership * \$20.00 Yearly Dues with e-mail newsletter-

*** Family Membership must list all family members as of September 1 of the membership year.**

Return with your payment made out to SEMMC, Inc.

Date _____

Name(s) _____

Children _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip code _____

Phone(s) _____

Email address _____

Southeastern Massachusetts Mineral Club

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