

# SE Massachusetts Mineral Club



## Holiday Spirit!



# OutCroppings May 2022

SEMMC Incorporated April 8, 1970

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at  
7:30pm  
September to June

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

## May Meeting May 12, 2022

**President:** Walter Schell [wshell1191@gmail.com](mailto:wshell1191@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** Steve Kimbal [steve@kimbalpainting.com](mailto:steve@kimbalpainting.com)

**Secretary:** Sara Ostrander [naturespeaks2you@gmail.com](mailto:naturespeaks2you@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Dr. Robert Chasen [drchasen@comcast.net](mailto:drchasen@comcast.net)

**Newsletter Editor:** Larry Ryan [zone859@verizon.net](mailto:zone859@verizon.net)



## A Message from President Walter Schell

### Greetings,

I hope everyone who attended the last meeting had a good time, seems like you all did??

Spring is in bloom, snow is going away and the rocks are waiting to be found.

Keep an eye out for notifications of trips coming up, we're working hard to get some scheduled.

No sense in going digging by yourselves, if you're heading out somewhere let us know and we'll see if we can't get others to join you. Instant field trip !!

Remember, the club is here for your benefit, help us make it work for you.

Bob and I will be heading up to Fonda in the next few weeks once we get some rain free weather for a couple of days, I'll let you know.

Not that anyone needs us to go up there, but we're available to help you guess where the pockets are. Might do better without us???

On another note:

Please keep your prayers for **Paul Monti**, our many time past president and long time member of the club, currently fighting cancer, a dear friend to all of us who know him.

Hope to see him back to digging soon!!

Warmest regards,

*Walter*

## A Message from the Secretary

Hi. Everyone working hard to get the website perfect and bring the club to you.

*Sara*

## **A Message from the Editor**

### **Greetings!**

Great Party at the last meeting! There were some great gifts won in the Chinese Auction. No shortage of food and some new digs were discussed. Lots of Thanks to Walter, Sara, Suzanne, Diamond Bob, Mary, Larry, Dan, Steve, Tom, Ania and her mom, Magda, Allynne, Let's go digging!

Larry

### **[SEMMC Facebook Page](#)**

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

## **Field Trip Agenda Southeastern Massachusetts Mineral Club Field Trip Agenda 2022**

### **APRIL**

**Saturday, April 30th** 11am meet-up (front door area)  
57th Annual New England Gem & Mineral Show  
Topsfield Fairgrounds, Topsfield, MA

### **MAY**

**Friday, May 6th** 7pm meet-up  
Yooperlite Night Hunt \*\*UV reactive\*\*  
The club has 5 UV lights available.  
Scituate, MA

\*\*Contact Larry for questions\*\*

**Sunday, May 15th** 8/830am meet-up  
Keating Quarry \*\*Safety Rules Apply\*\*  
Lunenburg, MA

\*\*Contact Sara for questions\*\*

## **JUNE**

**Saturday, June 4th** 9am meet-up

Tripp Mine **\*\*Beryl, Mica, Tourmaline\*\***

Alstead, NH

**\*\*Contact Dan for questions\*\***

**Sunday, June 12th** 9am meet-up

Bettes Manganese Mine **\*\*Rhodonite\*\***

Plainfield, MA

**\*\*Contact Dan for questions\*\***

## **JULY**

Vermont trip Date TBD

Herkimer trip Date TBD

## **AUGUST**

**Saturday, August 20th** 10am meetup

Moat Mountain **\*\*9/10ths of a mile walk in\*\***

Conway, NH

**\*\*Contact Sara for questions\*\***

**Field collecting trips are open to SEMMC members only, as our insurance policy covers members only. Please bring your SEMMC 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.

As the collecting season proceeds please keep an eye out for up coming

field trips. As always, we care about your safety first so with that being said; ENJOY!

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**Minerals of the Month**  
**Dallasite**  
**British Columbia Rockhound**



**Dallasite** is a breccia made of subequant to rectangular or distinctly elongate, curvilinear shards that represent the spalled rims of **pillow basalt** (see: **Hyaloclastite**). This material is commonly partly altered to **chlorite, epidote, quartz and carbonate**, for which the local term 'dallasite' has been coined.[1]

The stone dallasite is named after Dallas Road, Victoria, British Columbia. It is considered the unofficial stone of British Columbia's capital city.[2] Dallasite is found in **Triassic volcanic** rocks of Vancouver Island and is **considered the third most important gem material** in British Columbia.[3] Wikipedia.

### [Finding Dallasite](#)



### [Pillow Basalt](#)



**Pillow basalt** is a type of Basalt in which lava erupts underwater or flows into the sea. Contact with the water quenches the surface and the lava forms a distinctive pillow shape, through which the hot lava breaks to form another pillow. This "pillow" texture is very common in underwater basaltic flows and is diagnostic of an underwater eruption environment when found in ancient rocks. Pillows typically consist of a fine-grained core with a glassy crust and have radial jointing. The size of individual pillows varies from 10 cm up to several meters.

### [Triassic Volcanic Rock](#)

#### **Breccia VS Conglomerates**

There are as many types of breccia and conglomerates as there are rocks. You can see them at every rocky beach in New England and all around the world. Depending on the matrix they come in helps define the name.

#### **What's the Difference?**



## Breccia



## Conglomerate



?



I have rounded and rough, do I have the right stuff?  
What am I?



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**Club Members, what are you interested in?**

[Collecting](#), [cutting](#), [polishing](#), [rocks](#), [gems](#), you name it, and it is on **YouTube**. Better than TV, you get to choose what you watch, and learn about the subject you are interested in. All Youtube videos chosen at random. There are many to choose from.

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**When traveling around the country**

**And you want a place to prospect,**

**Go to**

**[www.mindat.org](http://www.mindat.org)**

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# 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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**[SEMMC FACEBOOK PAGE](#)**

**Best of the Best!**

**Got a good picture of your best Find?**



## April's Party Meeting a Great Success!



**I won!!!!**









### **Thank you for this Mineral Club and My Friends!**

The business part of the April Meeting was brief tonight as all were in the Party Spirit! The President, Club Officers, and E Board did a standup Job. Thanks to all that Attended!

### **May Meeting Speaker**

New Hampshire native and Rockhound, Jim Pecora, will be joining us to discuss the history of mining in New Hampshire and New England. Learn about the different minerals mined, locations, and how vital this area was in the establishment of what we know today.

**Southeastern Massachusetts Mineral Club**



**Memberships run from August 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31**

**\$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.

**“Hey, I found this digging, but it has me stumped! What is it??**



**Come Join Us and find out!**

### **Scouting for new spots**

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*

Speaking of new spots to collect new things,,,,,

Syenite rock rich with fluorescent Sodalite

As searching for agates along Lake Superior Shores became more difficult with everyone looking for them, Erik Rintamaki, a jeweler, from the UP of Michigan came up with what he thought was a novel idea. Why not use a UV light at night to light up the agates making them easier to find? Little did he know the path he would start down on that fateful day. A few nights into his search, there it was! He didn't know what it was! But there it was, a rock glowing orange in the light. He did his research, found there wasn't a name for the rock, and Yooperlite was born. His story and other stories he has written about the rocks can be found on Youtube.

Anyhow Mary, Dan, Jill and myself got some UV lights and headed down a local beach to see what if anything showed. ***Lo and Behold!***



Maybe we can schedule a “dig” some night either before too much longer or wait till after Labor Day. Just a thought, Gets dark earlier. A

good UV light for finding the stones is a Convoy C8. Cost less than \$100.

[Finding Sodalite infused in Syenite!](#)

**Yooperlites**



**This 8 pound Beauty was the first one we ever found!**

**Membership Form**

Your dues help keep us going. Dues pay for the newsletter, correspondence, refreshments, speakers, and a host of other expenses. 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.**

**Tear off and 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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