

# Mineral of the Month Club



## Platinum Letter March 2014 Featured Mineral- Blue Kyanite

Dear Members,

Our featured mineral for March is kyanite from the state of Minas Gerais in Brazil. Kyanite, or aluminum silicate, is a nesosilicate that crystallizes in the triclinic system, which is characterized by three axes of different lengths, none being perpendicular to the others. Like many triclinic crystals, those of kyanite are generally flattened, with sharp edges, thin cross sections, no right angles on faces or edges, and an elongated central axis that accounts for the long blades that collectors seek out in kyanite specimens.

While elongated blades are common in many kyanite specimens, color is not quite as predictable. Kyanite is colorless when pure, but it most often exhibits a sky-blue color due to traces of iron. Sometimes it is white or gray; very infrequently, it can be even green or orange.

When we select the best of featured monthly specimens for our Platinum Level members, we usually arrange the specimens into three groups by size, degree of crystal development, color, and overall visual appeal. This time, however, because of an unusual mix of colors and sizes, as well as limited numbers of specimens, we will forego our usual grouping. Instead, we will list the various attributes of our specimens.

# Featured Mineral

## Blue Kyanite Blades



1- Color: Most of our Platinum-Level kyanite specimens are pale-to-saturated-blue in color.

2- Size: Our largest specimens are about four inches in overall length; most of these are blue.

3- Crystal Development: The highest degree of crystal development in kyanite is reflected in blade length. In our largest aggregates, single blades extend for the entire length of the specimen.

4- Mineralogical Associations: Some of our kyanite is available as singular specimens without matrix; others have a matrix of white quartz and brown schist.

5- Overall Visual Appeal: This is a matter of personal preference, and one of the reasons why we are describing, rather than grouping, our Platinum Level kyanite specimens. Some of these specimens have an unusually bright luster that greatly adds to their visual appeal.

6- Pricing: Range from \$15.00 to \$25.00

# Further Information

## Coming in April



**Amethyst  
From Namibia**

Our April Mineral of the Month will be the amethyst variety of quartz from the basalt formations of the Goboboseb Mountains of Namibia. Our specimens consist of well-developed, transparent, hexagonal crystals with a delicate amethystine color. Some specimens have both colorless rock crystal and amethyst, while others are all amethyst. Colors range from moderately intense purple to the most delicate “rose de France” hues of lilac.

**Discounts available:** If you order 4 or more minerals from the offer sheet you will receive a 10% discount.

**Ordering:** To place an order you can call #800-941-5594  
or email [christlne@celestialearthminerals.com](mailto:christlne@celestialearthminerals.com)

**Shipping:** As always, shipping is free in the United States.

**Specimen size:** All our specimens are approximate in size.

**Method of payment:** We accept, Visa, MasterCard, American Express and checks.

***Please make checks payable to Celestial Earth Stones.***

