Mineral of the Month Club



Offering Sheet July 2015

Hello Mineral of the Month Club Member:

Our five special offers for July include two specimens from the United States and one each from Australia, Mexico, and China. The colors of these specimens range from golden-yellow, delicate lilac, and pale green to "root-beer" brown. Three of these offers are composite specimens, in which two minerals share the spotlight to provide side-by-side comparisons of color and crystal structure.

"Christine's Pick" from our July offers is an Australian composite in which the tourmaline mineral dravite is intergrown with the mica mineral phlogopite. "These specimens are a wonderful mix of complementary colors that include the soft tans of phlogopite and the deep, rich browns of dravite," she says. "If your color preference in minerals leans toward earth tones, you'll love these specimens."

Please review the following descriptions and let us know which ones you will be adding to your collection.

Warmest Regards,

Dimitri, Mary, Christine, and Lora



Specimen size: 1" x 5" to 4.5" x 6"

Dravite with Mica (Phlogopite)

These composite specimens from Australia's state of Western Australia consist of the tourmaline-group mineral dravite (brown tourmaline) or basic sodium magnesium aluminum borosilicate that is intergrown with the mica-group mineral phlogopite, or basic potassium magnesium aluminosilicate. Phlogopite is distinguished by its brownishred color. The large, opaque, equant crystals of dravite have a rich, "root-beer"-brown color that contrasts nicely with the soft tan of the mica.



Specimen sizes: .75" x 3" to 2.5" x 4" **Price:** \$35.00-\$65.00

Amethyst on Fluorite

From the Nancy Hanks Claim in Mesa County, Colorado, these composite specimens consist of two eminently collectible minerals—amethyst, the purple variety of quartz, or silicon dioxide, and fluorite, or calcium fluoride. A drusy growth of palepurple amethyst overlies a layer of pale-green, botryoidal fluorite on a matrix of tan sandstone. These were part of a private collection that we were able to get our hands on. As far as we know these were the only amethyst on fluorite that were left from the collection and were a tie for Chris's pick this month.

Price: \$55.00- \$175.00



Specimen size: 2.5" x 3" to 3.5" x 5" **Price range:** \$45.00 to \$85.00

Dogtooth Calcite

These specimens, from Santa Eulalia, Chihuahua, Mexico, consist of dense clusters of opaque, gray-brown, "dogtooth" calcite, or calcium carbonate. Each specimen displays tight clusters of well-developed calcite scalenohedrons with lustrous faces and sharp, pointed terminations atop a dark-brown matrix of hematite.



Specimen size: 2.25" x 2.75" to 6" x 7" **Price range:** \$15.00 - \$85.00

Septarian Nodules (Calcite, Aragonite, and Limestone)

Septarian nodules have long been a favorite among collectors. These specimens, from a classic locality in Kane County, Utah, exhibit intricate patterns of bright-yellow calcite and brown aragonite, both forms of calcium carbonate, in a matrix of light-gray limestone. Cut and polished to fully display their colors and patterns, these nodules make eye-catching display pieces.

These babies were picked up at the Tucson Show this year direct from the Utah source. We were able to pick up nice small palm sized pieces as well as the larger cabinet pieces. So there is a selection for both size and price considerations.



Yellow Fluorite

Fluorite, or calcium fluoride, occurs in a rainbow of colors, with yellows being the most unusual. These specimens, from the Xie Fang mine in Jiangxi Province, China, have a rich, yellow-brown color with subtle highlights of orange. Each piece is translucent and exhibits a warm glow when backlit.

Specimen size: 1" x 1" to 3.5" x 4.5" **Pri**

Price: \$15.00- \$125.00

Happy 4th of July and Happy 19th Birthday to Mineral of the Month Club!



In celebration of MOTMC's birthday and summer time fun use coupon code SUMMER SIZZLE during the month of July and receive 10% off all mineral purchases at www.celestialearthminerals.com.

Still Available From Last Month:



Specimen size: 1" x 6.25" to 2.25" x 9.25" **Price**: \$45.00- \$200.00

Goethite

Although goethite or basic iron oxide rarely forms crystals, it occurs in many interesting composite forms. These specimens, collected at Santa Eulalia, Mexico, consist of jagged assemblages of rough, flattened plates with a basic, chocolate-brown color and an eyecatching, multicolored, iridescent tarnish that flashes gold, green, blue, and red.

Picked these babies up at this years Tucson Gem & Mineral Show.



Specimen size: 1.25" x 1.5" to 2" x 2.75" **Price range:** \$60.00 - \$110.00

Quartz var. Cactus Sunshine

Collected at Boekenhoutshoek, South Africa, these specimens of quartz or silicon dioxide consist of large, primary quartz crystals covered by growths of smaller, secondary quartz crystals. Both primary and secondary crystals are nicely developed, terminated, hexagonal prisms that are colored a delicate golden-yellow by inclusions and coatings of finely particulate hematite or iron oxide.

Specimen size: 3" x 3.5" to 4" x 4" **Price range:** \$75.00 to \$125.00

Turitellas (Fossil)

France has long supplied some of the world's best Turitellas marine fossils of the Miocene Epoch. These specimens, which are about 20 million years old, consist of expertly reliefed, tapered, spiral, two-to-three inch-long cones. These silicified, fossilized cones have a creamy, off-white color that contrasts nicely with the darker tan of the sandstone matrix.

Further Information

We love to hear from our members, so please call or email anytime!

Discounts available: If you order 4 or more minerals from the Featured Mineral letter and/or the offering sheet you will receive a 10% discount on your mineral purchase.

Ordering: To place an order you can call #800-941-5594 or email christIne@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, Discover, PayPal and checks.

Please make checks payable to Celestial Earth Stones.

Wish lists... If you are looking for something specific, please let us know and we will do our best to find it for you!

