

Mineral of the Month Club



Offering Sheet – September 2014

Hello Mineral of the Month Club Member:

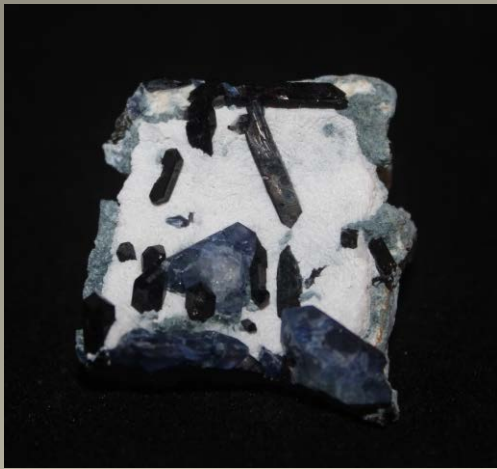
For September, our five special offers come from Namibia, China, Germany, Morocco, and the United States, and include such unusual localities as Germany's Lohnstein Quarry and Utah's Tintic district. In color and form, they range from deep-blue and water-clear, bladed prisms to green and bright-magenta botryoidal habits. Our monthly offering consists of specimens acquired at various gem-and-mineral shows or from private sales from dealers, but which are not available in the quantities necessary to feature as Minerals of the Month. These specimens are sometimes uncommon mineral species or varieties, or minerals that were collected at lesser-known localities.

"Christine's Pick" for the month is the malachite-azurite composite from China's Liufengshan Mine. "I've always loved malachite and azurite," she says. "But I'm particularly intrigued by these specimens because of the depth and intensity of their colors—the rich green of the malachite and the deep blue of the azurite are fascinating to see side by side in the same specimen." A few of the specimens have fibrous malachite which makes for an even more interesting piece because of the contrast of color *and* texture.

Please review the descriptions of each of these offers provided below, and let us know if you are interested in acquiring any of these specimens to add to your collection.

Warmest Regards,

Dimitri, Mary, Christine, and Lora



Specimen sizes: .5" x 1" to 3" x 4.50"

Prices: \$50.00 to \$210.00

Benitoite, Neptunite and Joaquinite

Benitoite is named after San Benito County in California where it was first discovered in 1907. It is a rare blue barium titanium silicate mineral that is found in hydro-thermally altered serpentinite. It fluoresces under short wave ultraviolet light.

Neptunite is also a silicate mineral that is black and is deep red-brown in thin fragments. Often found in conjunction with benitoite and joaquinite.

We have several specimens that are just neptunite or benitoite and a few that are comprised of 2 or more of these minerals.



EAST COAST
Gem • Mineral • Fossil Show

August 8 - 9 -10, 2014

Better Living Center – Eastern States Exposition
 1305 Memorial Avenue • West Springfield, MA 01089

Special Exhibit
**CALIFORNIA COLLECTORS
 AND COLLECTIONS**

Coordinated by John Veevaert
 Displays provided by:
 Luciana Barbosa
 Dan Carlson
 Dan Evarich
 Brett Keller
 Rick Kennedy
 John Magnasco
 Don & Gloria Olson
 Jerry Rosenthal
 John Veevaert



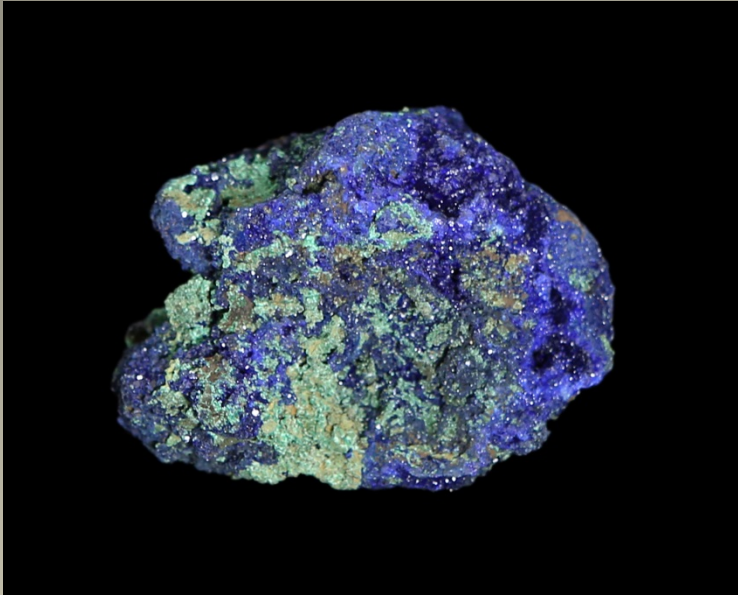
Show Hours
 Friday & Saturday
 10 AM – 6 PM
 Sunday
 10 AM – 5 PM

Benitoite, Joaquinite, & Neptunite, San Diego County, CA
 Mineralogy by Frederick C. Wadell

OFFICIAL PROGRAM & DEALER DIRECTORY

California Collectors and Collections

This year the special exhibit at the West Springfield Massachusetts show was a huge display of various California collectors and their collections. I had the opportunity to meet and talk with Dan Carlson who had a collection from South Africa. His favorite is the Hematite & Andradite specimen that he calls "Magneto". You can see a slew of photos from these collections on our Mineral of the Month Club Facebook page.



Specimen sizes: 2" x 3" to 3" x 6"
Price: \$45.00-\$110.00

Malachite-Azurite

From the Liufengshan Mine in Anhui Province, China, these composite specimens consist of small spherules of botryoidal malachite in association with sharp, well-formed wedges and blades of azurite. Both malachite and azurite are basic copper carbonates and well-known for their respective green and blue colors. In these specimens, the velvety, forest-green of the malachite contrasts nicely against the deep, midnight-blue of the azurite.



Specimen sizes: 2" x 2.5" to 5" x 7.5"
Price: \$45.00- \$125.00

Conichalcite

Conichalcite, or basic calcium copper arsenate, is one of the more unusual copper minerals. These specimens, collected at the Northern Spy Mine in the historic Tintic district of Utah County, Utah, consist of small, opaque, green and blue-green spherules and drusy crystals of conichalcite as cavity and fracture coatings on a dark-brown, limonitic matrix.



Specimen sizes: 1" x 2" to 2" x 4"
Price: \$20.00-\$65.00

Hydroboracite

These specimens of hydroboracite, a basic hydrous calcium magnesium borate, are from the Lohnstein Quarry, a classic locality in the Harz Mountain region of Thuringia, Germany. The hydroboracite occurs as clusters of delicate, elongated, flattened crystals with sharp edges and terminations. These colorless, transparent crystals are water-clear, have a mirror-like luster, and rest on a matrix of massive anhydrite.



Specimen Sizes: 1" x 1" to 3.5" x 5.5"
Price: \$15.00- \$95.00

Cobaltoan Calcite

Cobaltoan calcite, or calcite (calcium carbonate) containing the accessory element cobalt, has a diagnostic magenta color. In these specimens, which were collected in the Bou Azer district of the Souss-Massa-Draā Region of Morocco, translucent, botryoidal calcite with an unusually bright, intense magenta color rests on a matrix of coarse, altered granite.

Still Available From Last Month:



Specimen sizes: 2" x 3" to 4" x 9.5"
Price: \$15.00 to \$90.00

Skeletal Quartz

(with iron & manganese coatings)

These were mined by one of our very own Mineral of the Month Club members, Tom P. while on a trip to South Carolina. These terminated, hexagonal crystals of quartz or silicon dioxide have the pronounced skeletal features of raised edges and recessed faces resulting from that reflect different rates of growth. Collected at South Carolina's Diamond Hill Mine, these unusual quartz crystals exhibit a colorful staining of orange-red hematite, or iron oxide, and jet-black pyrolusite, or manganese oxide.



Specimen sizes: 1.5" x 2" to 4.5" x 7"
Price \$25.00 to \$120.00

Quartz and Chalcopyrite on Garnet

Collected at the Piedras Verdes multi-metal mine at Urique, Chihuahua, Mexico, these specimens show white, translucent hexagonal quartz prisms side-by-side with slightly iridescent, brassy tetrahedrons of chalcopyrite, or copper iron sulfide. On a matrix of massive, green uvarovite, a garnet mineral, these specimens are an interesting study in different crystal forms.



Specimen sizes: 1.5" x 2.5" to 3.5" x 4.5"
Price: \$35.00 to \$180.00

Pyrite

Back by popular demand, these specimens exemplify the best qualities of the pyrite, or iron disulfide, coming from the classic locality at Navajún, La Rioja, Spain. Specimens consist of one pyrite cube or clusters of pyrite cubes in a partially relieved matrix of altered, grayish-tan marlstone. Individual crystals are sharp-edged, beautifully formed cubes with gleaming, mirror-like faces and a rich, brassy color. Navajún is recognized as the premier of perfectly developed pyrite cubes.

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@celestiaearthminerals.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!

