

Mineral of the Month Club



Offering Sheet November 2014

Hello Mineral of the Month Club Member:

This month, our five special offers are somewhat unusual in terms of their geographical origins. Usually a majority of our special offers come from foreign localities, but this time three of our five offers are from the United States—specifically from the mid-Atlantic and northeastern states of New York, Connecticut, and New Jersey. Our other two offers are from localities in Brazil and Peru. As always, our offers have been selected to provide an interesting range of colors and crystal structures. In this month's selections, opacities vary from opaque to extremely transparent; luster from bright and vitreous to gleaming sub-metallic; crystal forms from long prismatic and botryoidal to double-terminated equant; and colors from light gold and pale green to deep greenish-black. We think that you will be pleased by this interesting selection of special offers.

“Christine’s Pick” for the month are the Herkimer Diamonds. The colorless, transparent rock crystal is not in and of itself unusual, but their remarkable degree of transparency and perfect clarity are absolutely breath taking. Add that to the double-terminated, hexagonal crystal form, and you have a truly striking specimen.

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



Quartz var. "Herkimer Diamonds"

"Chris's Pick"

Many collectors say that Herkimer diamonds have the most perfect transparency and brilliant clarity of any crystal in the mineral world. Collected at the Crystal Grove Mine at Lassellville in Fulton County, New York, these are double-terminated, hexagonal quartz crystals with a vitreous luster on a matrix of off-white dolostone. The Herkimer diamond crystals are colorless and exhibit a stunning transparency.

The crystal sizes range from .5" x .5" to 2' x 2.5" .

Specimen sizes: .5" x 1.0" to 2.5" x 3.0"
Price: \$25.00-\$275.00



Muscovite var. "Star"

The "star" variety of muscovite is arguably the most beautiful form of the mica-group mineral muscovite. These specimens, from the pegmatites of Minas Gerais, Brazil, consist of clusters of twinned, five-pointed, thin, tabular crystals with a vitreous-to-pearly luster, soft translucency, and delicate, light-golden color on albite. Some of the specimens have quartz crystals making for a lovely dance of light.

Specimen sizes: 2.0" x 2.5" to 3" x 5"
Prices: \$40.00- \$275.00



Specimen sizes: 1.5" x 1.5" to 2.0" x 2.5"
Price; \$20.00 to \$40.00

Prehnite

Prehnite is widely collected for its distinctive, ridged botryoidal form, soft translucency, waxy luster, and lime-green-to-yellowish-green colors. These specimens consist of thick, botryoidal, prehnite coatings on a matrix of altered basalt. Collected from the classic locality in the massive basalt formations at Prospect Park, New Jersey, they exhibit the most desirable prehnite features.



Specimen sizes: .75" x 1.5" to 4" x 6"
Prices:\$25.00- \$175.00

Ilmenite

These specimens of ilmenite, or iron titanium oxide, are from the classic locality at Litchfield in Litchfield County, Connecticut. The opaque ilmenite crystals are in the form of hexagonal tabs from .5" x .5" to 2.5" x 3.5" in size. Their bright, semimetallic luster and rich, brownish-black color contrast beautifully with the matrix of massive, white quartz.

Epidote

Collected at the Pampa Blanca locality in Huancavelica Department, Peru, these specimens consist of beautiful sprays of long, prismatic crystals of epidote, or basic calcium iron aluminum silicate. These specimens have all the classic epidote features: well-developed, sharp-edged, terminated, opaque crystals; bright luster; and deep, greenish-black color.



Specimen sizes: .5" x 1.75" to 3" x 3"
Price: \$15.00- \$80.00

Mohs Mineral Hardness Scale Set

We now have available a Mohs mineral hardness science kit. You can test, classify and identify minerals using the tools, guide and 9 mineral specimens that are included in the kit.

The front of the box states that it is for Ages 8+. So it is a great gift for a beginner as well as a basic kit for the little kid in all of us.



Still Available From Last Month:



Specimen sizes: 1" x 1" to 3" x 3.5"
Prices: \$30.00- \$150.00

Almandine (Garnet) on Graphite

From the Red Embers Mine in Erving, Franklin County, Massachusetts, these perfect, dodecahedral crystals of almandine, the iron aluminum silicate member of the garnet group, occur within a thin, silvery matrix of foliated graphite, or elemental carbon. When backlighted, the deep, burgundy-red almandine crystals glow brightly to make these unusual specimens eye-catching display pieces.



Specimen sizes: 2" x 2" to 3" x 4"
Price: \$25.00-\$45.00

Bavenite and Xenotime-(Y)

These very unusual specimens of bavenite, or basic calcium beryllium aluminum silicate, and the rare mineral xenotime-(Y), or yttrium phosphate, are from the bavenite type locality at Baveno, Italy. The Bavenite is present as aggregates of fibrous white crystals; the xenotime-(Y) appears as small, translucent, yellow prisms. Both of these rare minerals rest atop a peach-pink matrix of altered granite.



Specimen sizes: 2" x 3.5" to 5" x 6"
Price: \$55.00- \$175.00

Selenite on Halite

These composite specimens from Peru's Ica Department exhibit excellent crystal development of two mineral species that are not often associated. Sharp, twinned blades of translucent, honey-gold selenite, the crystalline form of gypsum or hydrous calcium sulfate, rest atop a matrix of well-developed, cubic crystals of fluorite, or calcium fluoride. The fluorite's delicate hint of blue nicely complements the honey-gold of the selenite.

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!

