

Mineral of the Month Club



Offering Sheet December 2014

Hello Mineral of the Month Club Member:

Our five special offers for December include two individual specimens, a composite specimen, a pseudomorph, and a fish fossil. Two specimens are from China, and one each from Morocco, Brazil, and Mexico. Their mineral colors range from orange-brown, blue, and silver to olive-green; their crystal habits include radiating “starbursts” and prisms to dodecahedrons. Because several of our Mineral of the Month Club members have expressed a special interest in fossils, we have provided a fish fossil with sharp color contrast and remarkable detail. We think that you will be pleased by this interesting selection of special offers.

This month’s special offers include orange-brown, “starburst” specimens of creedite from Mexico. Since our current Mineral of the Month is creedite from Colorado, members now have the opportunity to acquire creedite from two different localities and to make comparisons between specimens of the same species that differ radically in color and crystal habit.

“Christine’s Pick” from our December offers is the muscovite-after-schorl pseudomorph. “I’ve always been fascinated by pseudomorphs, and these specimens are wonderful examples of one mineral replacing another, while retaining the form of the original mineral,” she says. “And with their silvery color and bright, pearly luster, they make beautiful display pieces.”

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



Muscovite-after-Schorl (pseudomorph)

Collected at the Sapo Mine in Ferruginha, Minas Gerais, Brazil, these specimens consist of clusters of thin, stacked crystals of the mica-group mineral muscovite that have replaced or coated core prisms of the tourmaline-group mineral schorl. The translucent muscovite has a silver-gray base color with bright, silvery highlights. These specimens represent an unusual pseudomorphic combination and make fine display pieces.



Specimen sizes: 1.5" x 3.75" to 2" x 6"

Price: \$75.00- \$300.00



Barite

Moroccan specimens of barite, or barium sulfate, rank among the world's best. Collected at the classic Mibladen locality, these specimens have complex clusters of thin, sharp-edged, translucent, bladed crystals. The crystal color is a delightful blue which, on many specimens, contrasts nicely with the matrix material of reddish-orange hematite.

Specimen sizes: 1" x 3.5" to 3.5" x 7.5"
Prices: \$95.00 to \$300.00



Andradite (Garnet Group)

Collected from the Huanggang Mine in Inner Mongolia, China, these specimens consist of plates covered with dark, olive-green-to-golden-green, dodecahedral crystals of the garnet-group mineral andradite, or calcium iron silicate. The beautifully developed, brilliantly lustrous, sharp-edged dodecahedrons are associated with terminated prisms of white and colorless quartz.

Specimen sizes: 2" x 2" to 5.5" x 6.5"
Price: \$25.00- \$280.00



Specimen sizes: 2.5" x 4" to 4" x 6"
Prices: \$45.00-\$195.00

Creedite

These specimens of creedite, or basic hydrous calcium aluminum fluorosulfate, are eye-catching, spherical, "starburst" clusters of prisms that radiate outward from the center. Collected at the classic Navidad Mine locality at El Rodeo, Durango, Mexico, the translucent creedite prisms are an attractive, orange-brown color due to the inclusion of iron-oxide minerals.



Specimen sizes: 2.5" x 4.25" to 2.5" x 4.75"
Price: \$35.00-\$45.00

Jianghanichtys (Fish Fossil)

Due to rapid burial in volcanic ash that lithified into a fine-grained mudstone, these fossils of the Pliocene Epoch fish Jianghanichtys show extraordinary detail. These five-million-year-old specimens, collected in Hubai, China, make attractive display pieces with their dark, raised, and highly detailed features of fins, bones, and scales that contrast sharply with the light-colored matrix.

Still Available From Last Month:



Specimen sizes: 2.0" x 2.5" to 3.5"
Prices: \$40.00- \$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: .75" x 1.5" to 4" x 6"
Price: \$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 up to one inch in size. Their bright, semimetallic luster and rich, brownish-black color contrast beautifully with the matrix of massive, white quartz.



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

Quartz var. "Herkimer Diamonds"

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.

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 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, 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!

