

Mineral of the Month Club Newsletter

June 2015



Hello Mineral of the Month Club Member:

The months are flying by and summer is around the corner. Read about our latest and greatest below:

Featured Mineral: This month angelite, the blue-gem variety of anhydrite, (anhydrous calcium sulfate) from Peru is your featured mineral. Angelite is prized for its very fine grain with delicate blue colors that is an exception to most forms of anhydrite which is white or gray in color. The best grades of angelite exhibit a translucency that imparts a softness and depth, usually described as a “glow,” to the basic blue color which is often used in jewelry and small decorative objects such as figurines, ashtrays, hearts, pyramids, and spheres.

Rock Hound Tidbits: Peruvian mining began some 3,000 years ago when pre-Incan cultures began working the rich gold placers. Peru currently ranks third worldwide in the production of copper, silver, tin, and zinc; fourth in molybdenum; and fifth in gold and lead. It is also an important source of borate minerals, chalk, clay, gypsum, phosphate, and travertine. Mining accounts for two-thirds of the value of all Peruvian exports. About 83,000 Peruvians are employed in the nation’s mining industry.

Memberships: To all our members who renewed for yet another year, thank you!

Membership Rates: Over the past several years silver-level members have expressed a desire to have slightly larger specimens and gold-level members have requested a slightly lower cost. After much consideration we have come up with what we think, is a great solution that will meet all member’s needs. Starting this month any new members and any renewing memberships will be at one rate and one standard size. The cost for membership is \$250.00 for the year and the specimen sizes will average between 2” x 2” to 2.5” x 2.5”.

If you would like to set up a payment plan, we will bill your credit card \$23.00 on the first of each month. Note, by paying in full you will save \$26.00 a year.

Father’s Day and Graduation: Remember that a membership to Mineral of the Month Club is a gift that keeps on giving all year long. There is also the option to purchase the perfect

specimen to begin or add to a collection from our website. Don't forget that all members receive 10% off mineral purchases on the site, just use mem10off at check out.

Coming in July: Our Mineral of the Month will be adamite; a basic zinc arsenate from Mexico's famed Ojuela Mine. Adamite was considered rare until 1946, when miners found quantities of fine specimens at Ojuela. Adamite is the mineral that established Ojuela as one of the world's premier sources of mineral specimens. The special section of our July write-up will discuss the origin and purpose of mineral-classification systems.

We are here for you: We are here for you and all your collecting needs. If you have any questions please contact Christine, our Mineral of the Month Club manager, by telephone at 1-800-941-5594 or via e-mail at christine@celestialearthminerals.com.

You can visit our Facebook pages, Mineral of the Month Club and Mineral Crew to mingle with other members and as a forum for discussions among fellow rock hounds.

Thanks again to all our members, and we'll visit with you again in July.

Dimitri, Mary, Christine, and Lora