

Mineral of the Month Club



Offering Sheet December 2015

We are making available five special offers for December vs. our usual four to create more gift giving options for you. Order any mineral from previous offerings and receive a 20% discount on that mineral. All of the offering sheets are available to review under the Mineral of the Month tab at:

www.celestialearthminerals.com

The five specimens this month include one specimen each from China, Bulgaria, and Morocco, and two from the United States. There is a broad range of colors ranging from pale purple and white to metallic copper, silvery gray, and bright blue-green. Shapes include terminated, needle-like crystals in the chrysocolla and calcite; well-formed cubes and tetrahedrons in the galena and sphalerite; and botryoidal masses in the beautiful purple fluorite. And just for a little added interest, one of our offers is a well-preserved, 400-million-year-old marine fossil.

“Lora’s Pick” is the native copper from Michigan. “I especially like the contrast of the reddish, metallic copper against the green of the oxidized copper minerals., it looks like a sculpture!” Lora explains. “These specimens also have historical significance, because Michigan was once the nation’s greatest source of copper.”

Take a gander of what we have and let Christine or Lora know which one’s you will be adding to your collection.

Warmest Regards,

Dimitri, Mary, Christine, and Lora



Specimen size: 1.75" x 3" to 3.5" x 6.75"
Price: \$60.00 - \$125.00

Native Copper- Lora's Pick

These specimens of native copper are from Keweenaw in northern Michigan's historic "Copper County." Consisting of naturally shaped, hackly, irregular pieces of copper with a rich, burnished, metallic copper color decorated with coatings of greenish, oxidized copper minerals, these specimens provide a nice color contrast and make interesting display pieces.

We picked these pieces up Tucson Gem and Mineral Show this year from one of our regular vendors.



Specimen sizes: 2.5" x 3.5" to 5" x 5.5"
Price: \$95.00 - \$225.00

Fluorite

Collected in Henan Province, China, these specimens consist of botryoidal masses of translucent-to-opaque, lilac-colored fluorite, or calcium fluoride.

The botryoidal surface is made up of joined, hemispherical groups of fluorite, each with a soft, frosty luster. These specimens are examples of one of the more unusual fluorite colors and forms.

These beauties were picked up at this year's West Springfield Massachusetts Gem and Mineral Show.

There are some nice large cabinet display pieces.



Galena with Calcite, Pyrite, and Sphalerite

These composite specimens of galena, calcite, pyrite, and sphalerite are from Madan, Bulgaria.

The galena, or lead sulfide, appears as modified cubes with lustrous, silvery-gray faces; the sphalerite, or zinc sulfide, as smaller, black tetrahedrons; and the pyrite as small, glittering, brassy bits.

These metal sulfides are set amid a cluster of terminated, transparent calcite crystals and make complex, eye-catching display pieces.

Just let us know which minerals catch your eye and we will find the perfect match.



Specimen size: 2" x 3" x 1" to 5" x 6" x 2" **Price range:** \$95.00 - \$325.00



Orthoceras (Fossil)

Morocco is one of the world's leading commercial sources of fossils, including those of the mollusk Orthoceras, an extinct nautiloid cephalopod that thrived during the Silurian Period more than 400 million years ago. These specimens, which clearly show septa and other features of the original cephalopod shells, are black in color and have been polished to a bright luster.

Specimen size: 1.5" x 4" to 4" x 7.5" **Price range:** \$10.00- \$40.00



Chrysocolla with Calcite

These mineralogically and historically interesting specimens are from the Chimney Rock Quarry in Somerset County, New Jersey, which was a source of copper during the Revolutionary War. These colorful, composite specimens consist of bright, greenish-blue chrysocolla with well-formed, terminated crystals of transparent-to-translucent, white calcite. They were part of a collection that was assembled in the 1970s before the quarry closed.

Specimen size: 1.25" X 1.5" TO 3" X 7" Price range: \$35.00- \$ 125.00



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Mineral of the Month Club memberships and gift certificates are other gift giving options.

Happy Holidays, from Our Hearts to Yours



Still Available From Last Month:



Specimen size: 1" x 1" to 2.75" x 3.5"
Price: : \$35.00- \$275.00

Peristerite

Each year there is one vendor who we like to purchase from at the Springfield, Massachusetts show, Mike. He is a teacher, a fellow rock hound and usually has a few new surprises from upstate New York for us. This year it was the peristerite.

These specimens are a variety of albite, or sodium aluminum silicate, are from the Ellis Farm in St. Lawrence County, New York, and consist of a large section of an albite crystal showing slight iridescence and sometimes adularescence (as seen in moonstone and labradorite). Each specimen exhibits the optical phenomenon of adularescence and has a bright, blue-green-white sheen that comes from light reflecting from layers of albite microcrystals. When cut and polished, this gemstone is marketed as "labradorite."



Specimen sizes: 2.5" x 3" to 2.5" x 6"
Price: \$100.00- \$275.00

Green Fluorite- variety Botryoidal

At the Springfield Massachusetts show this year everyone was falling over these newly found specimens, so we just had to grab up several pieces for our members. What I liked about them is that these Forest Green masses are also translucent to transparent.

Collected at Xinyang in Henan Province, China, these specimens consist of botryoidal masses of fluorite, or calcium fluoride. The botryoidal surface is made up of joined, hemispherical groups of fluorite; each hemisphere has a bright luster and a glitter that changes with the viewing angle. The semitransparent nature of the fluorite lends depth and richness to the forest-green color, making these specimens especially desirable as display pieces.



Specimen size: 1" x 1.5" to 2.5" x 6.25"
Price range: \$35.00- \$175.00

Muscovite (Mica)- Chris's Pick

The photo does not do this specimen justice. Mica in and of itself may not be "rare" but the beauty of these babies is.

The Kings Mountain district of Cleveland County, North Carolina, is known for its granite-pegmatite minerals, especially the mica-group mineral muscovite, or potassium aluminum silicate. These specimens consist of clusters of compact, stacked muscovite "books," each with a distinct, hexagonal shape. The opaque, platy surfaces have a bright, silvery luster, but when viewed from the edge with intense backlighting, the same books exhibit a translucency with a soft, amber color.

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@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!

