

Mineral of the Month Club Newsletter

December 2015



Hello and a Happy Holiday Season to You!

As a token of our appreciation to you we are including a keychain with a tumbled stone as a gift in each mailing this month. We hope you enjoy it as much as we do....I (Christine) have a clear quartz one and Lora has an amethyst one.

Featured Mineral: This month we are happy to present to you, hyalite a type of opal that was collected in Zacatecas in North Central Mexico. There are two types of opal, one that is opalescent and often seen in jewelry which is considered the “precious” variety of opal. The second type of opal is not opalescent and considered the “common” variety of opal. Hyalite is the common variety which is transparent and when the light reflects on it has a beautiful play of colors.

It has a lustrous, transparent appearance that is a bubble-like, botryoidal coating that sits atop an altered granite matrix. You can see a dance of colors as the light and it fluoresces in daylight which is a property rarely found in other minerals

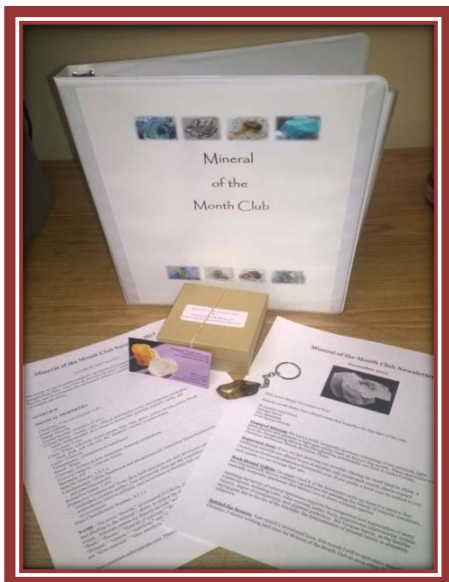
Rock Hound Tidbits: On the top of page 8 of the write-up you will see, “Mineral Species: 5,000...and Counting”. In this section you can read all about how mineral species are classified as well as a bit of information on the history of mineralogy.

Behind the Scenes: Okay, so first I introduced Steve Voynick who is a well-known author in mineralogy circles and also writes for Rock and Gem magazine. He researches and creates the monthly write-ups that accompany your mineral shipments each month. Then I introduced Lora, then myself, Christine and this month, last but not least I would like to introduce you to Dimitri and Mary Spanos. Dimitri and Mary are avid mineral collectors who have a room in their home dedicated solely to their collection as well as a library of books on crystal and mineral collecting. They love to travel and find new treasures for our members.

Now that is the behind the scenes of who we are at Mineral of the Month Club.....**how about you?** Who are the members of the club? Are there specific localities or species of minerals that you like to collect? Do you want to share a photo of a favorite mineral or your collection? Please feel free to share any information or photos that you would like and I will include it in our

monthly newsletter or on our Facebook Page, Mineral Crew –Mineral of the Month Club (of course only with your permission).

Gift Giving Ideas:



The holiday season is suddenly upon us, but there is still time to purchase a membership to Mineral of the MOnth Club (MOTMC). It is surely a gift that can be enjoyed throughout the year.

Our memberships appeal to both the beginning collector as well as the seasoned rock hound. All new membership packages will include a mineral specimen, the write-up, newsletter and a binder to store their monthly write-ups in as well as a mineral key chain.

If you would like a gift card enclosed, just let us know and it will be done.

You too will receive a gift, a complimentary month added to your membership for every gift membership you purchase.

Gift certificates: are also available in any dollar denomination that you would like to make purchases through the website or by phone.

Memberships: Thank you to all our members who renewed for yet another year!

Coming in January: Halite from Searles Lake in Trona California will be the featured mineral of the month. Halite is an evaporate mineral occurs as perfectly-shaped, translucent, cubic crystals that are either a light gray or pale pink in color. The pink color, as our write-up will explain, is created by reddish pigments produced by halobacteria (salt-loving bacteria) that thrive in the Searles Lake brine.

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.

Don't forget there is a growing community of members on our Facebook pages called Celestial Earth Minerals and Mineral Crew/ Mineral of the Month Club, Instagram and Twitter as well as Pinterest.

Dimitri, Mary, Christine, and Lora

www.celestialearthminerals.com Phone# 800-941-5594