

Bulletin of the New York Mineralogical Club

Founded 1886 ♦ New York City, New York ♦ Incorporated 1937

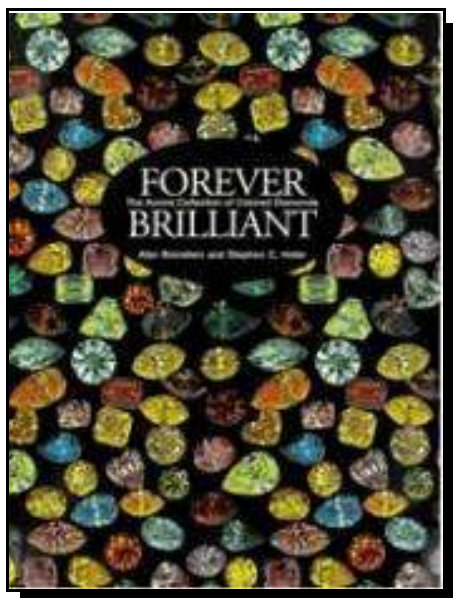
Volume 125, No. 7/8

Celebrating 125 Years

July / August 2011

NO July or August Meetings!

There will be no regular meetings of the New York Mineralogical Club during July and August. The next "meeting" of the NYMC will occur at the banquet on September 21, 2011 (Wednesday Eve) celebrating the Club's 125th Anniversary!



"Forever Brilliant, The Aurora Collection of Colored Diamonds" catalogues the world's most famous diamond collection consisting of 260 natural colored diamonds; Published August 2000; 265 photos, 90 pages. Several copies will be available in the silent auction proceeding the 125th Anniversary Dinner! (You can ask Mr. Bronstein to autograph your copy if you win it!)

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Alan Bronstein of Aurora Gems to Speak at Banquet Very Successful June Auction Helps To Fund 125th Anniversary Dinner!

By Mitch Portnoy

The annual club benefit auction was held at the Holiday Inn Midtown Manhattan on June 15, 2011 in the evening.

After the smoke cleared and all 112 of the lots offered were sold, more than **\$3,300** was deposited into the Club's treasury.

This number, which includes monies donated after the auction (some members "round up" their totals) and proceeds from a few items that were sold in advance, was the **best single amount** ever raised by the club during this annual event!

Full details of prices realized and a summary analysis can be seen on page 5 of this bulletin and we thank **Sam Waldman** for diligently recording this information.

This result, which happened due to the generosity of members and friends of the Club (e.g., mineral show dealers), could not have occurred at a better time! ***Most of the money will be used to fund and enhance the celebration of the Club's 125th Anniversary – including (mostly) the Banquet/Dinner Meeting of September 21, 2011 – which will take place in the same room in the same Holiday Inn!***

Alan Bronstein is among the world's most trusted advisors of colored diamonds to leading jewelers, fine jewelry designers, and private investors. Alan is the respected curator of the world's most famous natural fancy colored diamond collections, the Aurora Pyramid of Hope and the Butterfly of Peace Collection. He lectures widely ranging from the United Nations to the New York University. He has published two seminal books, "*Collecting and Classifying Coloured Diamonds - An Illustrated Study of the Aurora Collection*" and "*Forever Brilliant: The Aurora Collection of Colored Diamonds*". Alan sets uncompromising standards of qualifying and sourcing the most rare and beautiful diamonds for discerning collectors and connoisseurs.

"... All the colors of flowers and foliage and even the blue sky and the glory of the sunset clouds, only last for a short time, and are subject to continual change, but the sheen and coloration of precious stones are the same today as they were thousands of years ago and will be for thousands of years to come. In a world of change, this permanence has a charm of its own that was early appreciated."
G. F. Kunz, 1913

Aurora Gems

For over 25 years the mission of Aurora Gems has been to seek out and supply the worlds most rare and beautiful natural fancy color diamonds. Aurora Gems has helped pioneer the renaissance of interest in natural color diamonds through international exhibitions, publishing books, lectures, participation in documentaries and over 100 newspaper and magazine articles. Reputation, expertise and the utmost discretion are why Aurora Gems is a trusted advisor/supplier to international jewelers, leading designers and private collectors.

(Continued p.2, *President's Message*)

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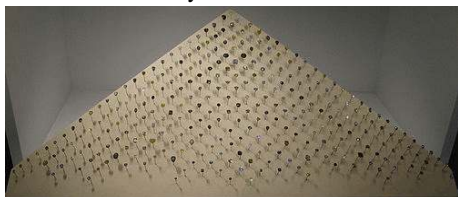
President's Message

By Mitch Portnoy

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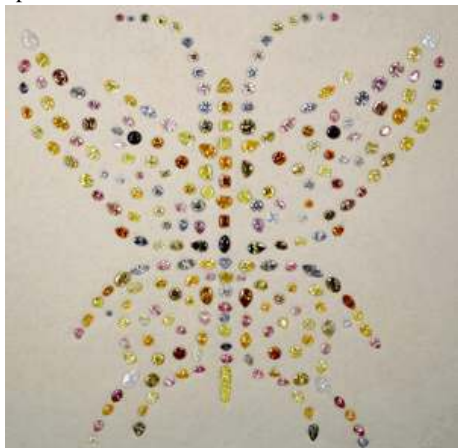
Pyramid of Hope

The Aurora Pyramid of Hope is the most comprehensive collection of natural color diamonds in the world. It consists of 296 diamonds weighing a total of 267 carats. It contains examples of all the color families including red diamonds, green diamonds, blue diamonds, purple diamonds, pink diamonds, orange diamonds, violet diamonds, yellow diamonds, brown diamonds, olive diamonds, gray diamonds, black diamonds and white diamonds. From 1989-2005, The Aurora Pyramid of Hope was on display at The American Museum of Natural History in New York.



Butterfly of Peace

The Aurora Butterfly of Peace is a unique work of art, designed by using natural fancy color diamonds. It pays homage to our greatest earthly symbol of peace and beauty. It consists of 240 natural color diamonds weighing a total of 167 carats and took 12 years to complete. It includes examples from the whole diamond spectrum of colors.



From 1994-1996 it was exhibited at the Houston Museum of Science. In 2004-2005 it was exhibited at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C. where it was seen by more than 3 million museum visitors.

Additional Banquet Notes

On Monday, June 20, I had a Banquet Committee Meeting at my apartment (actually across the hall in my neighbor's huge apartment).

It was attended by about ten people, both officers and invited guests. To give you some sense of the scale of this meeting, from an agenda standpoint, there were more than 50 items to discuss, decide, or dismiss relating to the 125th Anniversary Banquet!

Tasks and many sub-projects will be assigned and completed over the next few months in order to ensure we have an event to remember.

You can see the first "formal" banquet announcement on page 10 in this bulletin. Keep in mind you will also receive some time in early August a more formal, printed invitation. Frankly, this item is meant more as a keepsake so please use the form included and get your reservations in.

Note: If you would like a banquet invitation sent to a non-member, such as a friend or colleague or maybe a former member who will want to attend, please let me know.

Club Meeting Minutes for June 15, 2011

By Vivien Gornitz, *Secretary*

Attendance: 45+

President Mitch Portnoy presided.

Announcements

Congratulations to Vivien!

Early this year I submitted two of Vivien's articles from 2010 to be judged in the EFMLS/AFMS Bulletin Editor's Contest. The articles sent were (1) *Harder than Diamond* (March '10) and *Mineral Evolution* (June '10), both in the category of Advanced Adult Articles.

Because Vivien won the EFMLS Trophy in 2009, she is NOT eligible for a regional award in 2011 (with a two year moratorium). However, her articles could still be judged and submitted for a possible national (AFMS) trophy.

I am pleased to report that one or both of these articles sailed through the regional level and have placed in the top 10 of the AFMS Contest. Specific awards will be presented during the AFMS/EFMLS Convention on July 10, 2011.

Details of the award(s) will be announced at the next meeting and in the September 2011 Bulletin. — Mitch

- ◆ **Roland Scal** provided an overview of the educational grant he was recently awarded from the NSF for gemological education.
- ◆ The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the auction (see page 1).

Members in the News

- ◆ Past club president **Demetrius Pohl** co-authored an article with Rock Currier about mineral collecting in Mali that appeared in the May-June 2011 *Mineralogical Record*.
- ◆ **Bob & Stephanie Snyder** sponsored the following insert in the same issue.



- ◆ **Alfredo Petrov** is referenced in an article about Bolivian phosphophyllite seen at the 2011 Tucson show in the same issue.

125th Anniversary Checklist

1.		125 th Anniversary 2011 Almanac
2.		Postcards (Sept '10)
3.		Poster & Calendar (Nov '10)
4.		Membership Card (Nov '10)
5.		Post-its (Dec '10)
6.		NYMC Pin (Dec '10)
7.		Mug (Jan '11)
8.		Candy & Holder (Feb '11)
9.		Tote Bag (March Show '11)
10.		Baseball Cap (March '11)
11.		Collector Mineral Stamps (April '11)
12.		Subway Garnet Patch (May '11)
13.		NYMC Pens (June '11)
14.		Summer Gift? (July/August '11)
15.		Banquet Gifts!! (Sept '11)

New York Mineralogical Club, Inc.

Founded in 1886 for the purpose of increasing interest in the science of mineralogy through the collecting, describing and displaying of minerals and associated gemstones.

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Dues: \$25 Individual, \$35 Family per calendar year. **Meetings:** 2nd Wednesday of every month (except July and August) at the Holiday Inn Midtown Manhattan, 57th Street between Ninth and Tenth Avenues, New York City, New York. Meetings will generally be held in one of the conference rooms on the Mezzanine Level. The doors open at 5:30 P.M. and the meeting starts at 6:45 P.M. (**Please watch for any announced time / date changes.**) This bulletin is published monthly by the New York Mineralogical Club, Inc. The submission deadline for each month's bulletin is the 20th of the preceding month. You may reprint articles or quote from this bulletin for **non-profit usage only** provided credit is given to the New York Mineralogical Club **and permission** is obtained from the author and/or Editor. The Editor and the New York Mineralogical Club are not responsible for the accuracy or authenticity of information or information in articles accepted for publication, nor are the expressed opinions necessarily those of the officers of the New York Mineralogical Club, Inc.

Next Event: 125th Anniversary Banquet – Wednesday, September 21, 2011

Mezzanine Level, Holiday Inn Midtown Manhattan (57th St. & Tenth Avenue, NYC)

See reservation form on page 10!

Special Lecture: Alan Bronstein — “The Aurora Colored Diamond Collection”

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FIRST CLASS



George F. Kunz
 Founder

