

From: Richard Sittinger [mailto:richard@mineralofthemonthclub.org]
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2008 02:47 PM
To: Richard Sittinger
Subject: July 2008 Mineral of the Month: Stichtite

Richard here from Mineral of the Month Club, with information on our July 2008 featured mineral, stichtite in serpentinite from Serpentine Hill, North Dundas, Zeehan District, Tasmania, Australia.



The **Stichtite** forms as sprays of lavender-colored microcrystals in green serpentinite, making for an attractive combination that the miners market as "Atlantasite" when used in beads, cabochons, and carvings. The write-up explains how the stichtite formed from ingredients already present in the host serpentinite. We're very happy to be able to feature such a rare mineral like stichtite that actually comes

in a pretty form, as seen in the top photo at the bottom of this Email, which is of a \$40 specimen that measures 4" across and just over 2" high. This is one of the most enjoyable parts of the month from us, when we get to examine a number of these wonderful specimens prior to sending them to you!

The **Deluxe-size** specimens this month are between about 2.5" by 2" up to about 3" by 2.5" and slightly bigger and are available for \$22.50.

Group 1 specimens are about 3" by 3" up to about 4.5" by 3", for \$30, \$35, and \$40, by size/quality (top photo below).



Group 2 specimens are about 4" by 4" to 4" by 5" for \$50, \$60, and \$70 by size/quality.

Group 3 are the biggest and best, for \$80, \$90, \$100, and \$120. The second photo is of a \$90 piece that measures about 7" across and 5" high.



We also have a small lot of pieces that are comprised of **mostly stichtite, no serpentinite**; most pieces have an altered brown coating on some of the stichtite. We have pieces about 2" by 2" for \$12; about 2" by 2.5" pieces for \$22.50; about 2.5" by 3.5" for \$30; and 3" by 4" and slightly larger for \$80 and \$110. The third photo below is of a specimen from this group that measures about 4" across and 2.5" high.

For those who prefer more exceptional pieces, we picked up a small lot of beautiful botryoidal light green **Prehnite** from the recent find in the Kayes Region, Mali, that we featured in September 2005. We have lovely specimens about 3" by 2" for \$75; same size but on a base of black epidote crystals for \$100 and \$150; and the biggest/best for \$250. The fourth photo below is of a \$100 specimen that measures almost 4" across and almost 3" high.



Also from Mali, we picked up some striking **ANDRADITE GARNETS** with you in mind. These are highly attractive single garnets (no matrix) with lime-green to apple-green color and excellent crystals form, some incomplete enough to allow you to see the dark core underneath! About 1.25" by 1.25" to 1.5" by 1.5" for \$20 and \$24, about 1.75" by 1.75" for \$30, \$36, and \$40.



From one of the Australian connections we made in Tucson we received a few small but choice pieces of **Native Bismuth**, and some small and some larger pieces of **Molybdenite**, our February 2005 mineral. Please Email me back if you want information on either of these. Also, we have some choice pieces of **Red Beryl** still available, please let me know if you want me to send you info on them.

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to order from this list. A second choice is always appreciated. Thanks in advance!

Richard

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