

## David Barthelmy

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**From:** Richard Sittinger [richard@mineralofthemonthclub.org]

**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2009 11:03 AM

**To:** Richard Sittinger

**Subject:** August 2009 Featured Mineral: Chrysoprase

Richard here from Mineral of the Month Club, hope you're having a good month! We're very excited about our August featured mineral, Chrysoprase from the Yerilla Chrysoprase mine, Western Australia, Australia. We hope after this lot is gone we'll be able to get more in the future, as we think these would sell very well at the shows. It's rare, gorgeous, and not too expensive--always a great combination!

The Chrysoprase forms in veins in a light reddish-brown rock known as laterite--the write-up describes not only how the chrysoprase forms, but gives the cause of its lovely color. Caution: Chrysoprase can lose its color if displayed near heat sources or in bright sunlight--see the write-up for details.

Our Chrysoprase in laterite matrix specimens have been cut into slabs and polished on one side to highlight their color and translucence, as you can see from the attached photos. We also attached a photo of a large selenite crystal cluster from Naica--it was too big for us to put a life-size photo in the attached Offer sheet, so you can get an idea of their beauty. The details on the selenite are in the Offer sheet.

We grouped the Chrysoprase specimens by their color--Group 1 specimens are lighter shades of green, while Group 2 and Group 3 have the more intense green so desirable in chrysoprase.

**Group 1** slabs have light-green chrysoprase with less translucence. They range in size from about 4" to 5.5" wide and 1.5" to 2" tall for \$30, \$35, and \$40, by size/quality.

**Group 2** Chrysoprase in matrix slabs have the more intense apple-green color and translucence that chrysoprase is known for. These range in size from 3" to 5" across and wider by 1.5" to 2" high for \$55, \$60, \$70, and \$80, by size/quality.

**Group 3** Chrysoprase in matrix slabs are the biggest and best, from about 6" across and 3.5" high for \$100 and \$120, to about 10.5" across and 5" high for \$200, \$220, \$300, and \$350.

There are some great alternative/additional minerals listed in the attached "Aug Plat Offer Sheet." It's in PDF format, which should be easy for you to open, and includes color photos. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to order something, or if you wish to pass. Thanks in advance!

Richard

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