Meeting Announcement

New York Microscopical Society, 2007 Fall Lecture Series

The Preparation of Petrographic Thin Sections for Microscopic Study
Or
How to See Through a Rock

Joe Orosz, Consulting Engineer; NYMS Board Member; and Curator of Mineral Science at the Franklin Mineral Museum

Thursday, September 20th, 2007, 7:30 pm
American Museum of Natural History, People Center, New York, NY

The first implementation of thin sections for the microscopic study of rocks is credited to H. C. Sorby circa 1857. Many of our early NYMS members made thin sections both professionally and for their own pleasure. Petrographic thin sections are used to help identify both rock types and constituent mineral species as well as display their textural relationships. The methodology for thin section preparation has remained essentially the same for 150 years; however, the technology has changed dramatically. Diamond impregnated saw blades have replaced abrasive slurry-coated wires and wheels. Slides illustrating current methods for thin section preparation will be presented. Thin sections of rocks from the Franklin, New Jersey area, studied under the Polarized Light Microscope (PLM) will be shown and discussed. Thin section studies using a Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) equipped for Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy (EDS) are useful when ultimate specie identification requires quantitative elemental analysis. A thin section SEM/EDS case study will be presented.

NYMS Members and their guests are welcome to join the speaker for dinner ($25.00 all inclusive) at 5:45 p.m. at Calle Ocho (http://www.calleochonyc.com/), 446 Columbus Ave, between 81st and 82nd streets. Please reserve your place(s) with Angela Klaus by noon on Sept. 19th. Angela can be contacted by email (avklaus2@yahoo.com) or by phone (201-988-6251).

A Final Farewell to Two Friends of Microscopy…, see page 3
The Mission of the New York Microscopical Society is the promotion of theoretical and applied microscopy and the promotion of education and interest in all phases of microscopy.

Dues and Addresses

Please remember to mail in your Dues to Mary McCann, Membership Chair (see this page for address).

Annual $30
Supporting $60
Life $300 (payable within the year)
Corporate $175 (includes one advertisement in NYMS News)

To avoid missing notices:
Notify Mary if you have changed your address, phone or email.

Alternate Meeting Notifications
Please note that due to time constraints in publishing, some meeting notices may be available by calling Mel Pollinger at 201-791-9826, or by visiting the NYMS website.

Buy and Read a Good Book on Microscopy.
A Final Farewell to Two Friends of Microscopy…

Beatrice Cowan

Beatrice Cowan passed away during the week of August 18, 2007 in Memphis, TN after failing health and a series of strokes. Beatrice was a long-time NYMS member and past secretary of NY Photographic Historical Society (later, American Photographic Historical Society). Her late husband was a past president of NYMS, and their son, Dr. George Cowan was also a member of NYMS. A memorial service for friends in the NYC area is being planned for October.

Reported to NYMS by David Sterner

Leonard Lessin, FBPA, FNYMS

Len (Leonard) Lessin died peacefully at his home on Wednesday, August 22, 2007. He was 78. He had been treated for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma since 1999, and in March this year he was diagnosed also with pancreatic cancer. Throughout his illness he was under the care of an oncologist and recently also the hospice program associated with Continuum Care. In addition to his wife, Len leaves behind their son, Daniel and his wife of 37 years, Donna and a four-year-old granddaughter. Len was put to rest in Chicago, his home town.

Len was a longtime Fellow of both the NYMS and the BioCommunications Association (BCA), was associated for many years with Peter Arnold, Inc. Len co-authored a children's science book, "What Do You See and How Do You See It?", for which he provided the illustrations. He shared his expertise generously with NYMS with great dedication and good humor while undergoing diagnostic medical tests, then chemotherapy. Len contributed, to a NYMS Newsletter, a scholarly article on the history of microphotographs. We, who knew Len Lessin, will miss him. He was a gentleman and an optimist and a professional photomicroscopist. His zest for life was enormous.

Reported to NYMS by Jean Portell

Digital Imaging with the Microscope
Thursday evenings at Montclair

Many people with an interest in photography have made the switch from film to digital image sensors. In scientific photography the reasons for doing so are even more compelling than they are in general photography. Indeed, whenever there is shoptalk about microscopy the topic tends to include digital imaging.

We like to test the waters if there is a need and interest for a micrographics group within NYMS. We have the necessary microscopes, cameras, computers and are eager to put them to use for the benefit of NYMS members.

On the evening of October 18, 25 and Nov. 1st, we will offer a series of informal workshops at Evergreens in Montclair, NJ. An agenda will be available by email. If you wish to attend, give us a call ahead of time. We can accommodate up to six participants. If you cannot come, we still like to hear from you if you think this is a good idea and you have any suggestions for the future.

Jan Hinsch, cjhinsch@optonline.net 201.573.9851

2007 McCrone Microscopy Meeting
Article by Pete Diaczuk

This year the annual microscopy meeting sponsored by McCrone Research Institute (www.McRI.org) took place at the Knockeroocker Hotel in Chicago. NYMS member Jan Hinsch performed double duty between minding the Leica table and giving presentations during the scientific session. Several people from John Jay College contributed with presentations as well.

Presentations by:

Jason Beckert: “What’s Your Handle? A Brief Look at the Wood Used in Common Hand Tool Handles” (MicroTrace, LLC)
Kelly Brinsko: “Identification of Synthetic Fibers by Eutectic Melting Point with p-Nitrophenol” (McRI)
Jack Hietpas: "Utilizing Detrital Heavy Minerals for Geochronology and Source Rock Prediction"
Peter Diaczuk: "Evaluation of Kevlar Fibers as a Bullet Recovery Medium"
Jan Hinsch: “New Directions in the Design of Polarized Light Microscopes” (Leica Microsystems)

and “Oblique Illumination: A Forgotten Technique?”
The catadioptric telescopes (Schmidt-Cassegrain and Maksutov-Cassegrain) are “folded-optic” versions of the simple Newtonian reflecting telescopes which use a single parabolic mirror to capture starlight and reflect it to an image-forming eyepiece via a front surface mirror. In the catadioptric folded optic system, two parabolic mirrors are used to re-reflect or fold the light, thereby increasing the effective focal length of the system before the light is reflected to the image forming eyepiece. The Vickers-A.E.L. microscope objective is also a catadioptric system (two parabolic mirrors), although it is constructed to illuminate a subject with transmitted and incident light from a single transmitted light source.

Summer 2007 Mystery photo

Catadioptric telescope, view from the front
Winner is Weibke Hinsch

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- Technical article
- Images
- For sale
- Wanted to buy
- Any microscopy-related item

Write, call or send an email message to:
201-791-9826 or pollingmel@verizon.net
or
Mel Pollinger
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Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

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