



COVER: This magnificent collection of crystals and faceted aquamarine, tourmaline, heliodor, sapphire, emerald, ruby, peridot and tanzanite is from Thomas M. Schienider & Associates Fine Gems in San Diego, California. (Photo by Earl Lewis)

REGULAR FEATURES

Craftsman of the Month	16
Show Dates	18
Shop Talk	18
Picks and Pans	32
Many Facets	62
Milestones	72
Lapidary Lore and More	76
Rock Science	78
On the Rocks	88

Rock & Gem (ISSN 0048-8453, USPS 486-290) is published monthly by Miller Magazines, Inc., 4880 Market St., Ventura, California 93003-7783, telephone (805) 644-3824. Periodicals postage paid at Ventura, CA 93006, and additional mailing offices. Single-copy price \$3.99. Subscription in U.S.A. and possessions: 1 year (12 issues) for \$24.00; 2 years for \$42.00; 3 years for \$54.00. Add \$9.00 per year postage for Canada and all other foreign countries. Submission of articles and photos by our readers is welcome, but we can accept no responsibility for loss or damage to unsolicited editorial contributions. Copyright 2002 by Miller Magazines, Inc.

Printed in U.S.A.

Notice: On rare occasions, typographical errors occur in prices listed in magazine advertisements. For this reason, advertisements appearing in *Rock & Gem* should be considered as requests to inquire, rather than as unconditional offers to sell. All prices are subject to change without notice.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
Rock & Gem,
P.O. Box 469113, Escondido, CA 92046-9113
or RockAndGem@pcspublink.com

Rock & Gem

Volume 32, Number 8

August 2002

North Carolina Emerald Strike! 12

Rich green gems are here in abundance;

by Bob Jones

The Colorful History of Alexandrite 20

Russia's signature stone has a fascinating past;

by Yulia Korchevskaya

Rock Shop Spotlight 28

This Northern California rock shop is worth a visit;

by Roger McPherson

Get into Lapidary 34

Find a club near you and get started

My Greenbrier Agate Adventure 40

Finding serendipity in West Virginia;

by Dorothy S. Sites

Mints Coin New Jewelry Lines 48

Designer collections from the kings of currency

Victorio Mountains Beryl 52

Crystal hunting in the New Mexico hills;

by Robert Beard

The Rice Northwest Museum 64

An excellent West Coast lapidary collection;

by Bob Jones

Is Silver Still Precious? 68

The white metal's value drops with its price;

by Steve Voynick

Colorado's Gemstones 80

The Centennial State boasts a rainbow of precious stones;

by Steve Voynick

BOB JONES Senior Consulting Editor; **LYNN VARON** Managing Editor; **CARRIE MEADOWS-HARTMANN** Art Director; **MARY ROBERTSON** Graphic Designer; **DANA GURNEE, JOE HOWARD** Production Assistants; **GAIL BUTLER, WILLIAM A. KAPPEL, ROGER MCPHERSON, STEVE VOYNICK** Contributing Editors; **BRIAN ROBERTS** Advertising Director; **MARLENA COLLIER-MIGACZ** Classified Advertising Manager; **LEE MARTIN** Advertising Advisor; **CELESTE WEINGARDT** Advertising Production Manager; **DRAY BANKS** Advertising Production; **LYNN THOMPSON** Typography; **RAMONA HARVEY** Circulation Manager; **JEFF SHOOP** Publisher

SEND ALL ADVERTISING INQUIRIES TO: Brian Roberts / *Rock & Gem*
4880 Market St., Ventura, CA 93003, (805) 644-3824 x13, fax (805) 644-3875
e-mail: brian@millerlags.com

Miller
Magazines, Inc.