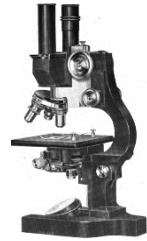




January 2024

A Watermelon World By Eric Brosius



In 1949 a Brooklyn, NY Jewish lawyer turned songwriter, Carl Sigman, penned a song considered a Christmas Holiday song titled “A Marshmallow World” even though the song mentions nothing of the Holiday. The song compares marshmallow covering the ground to a snowfall and was made famous by singers Bing Crosby, Dean Martin, and others. The first stanza starts:

**It's a marshmallow world this winter
When the snow come to cover the ground
It's time for play, it's a whipped cream day
I wait for it the whole year round**



The Leidy Microscopical Society gathered on an unusual meeting day, Saturday December 16, for a Christmas Holiday meeting. The weather was more in tune with a warm spring day as temperatures went to the mid to upper 50°s. One would want to start planting a garden than shovel snow. Therefore, I took a cue from Carl Sigman and penned my version of that song I heard on the radio that morning:



**It was a watermelon world at Leidy
The red and green minerals were in view
It's time to say, what a micro day
I wait for it the whole year round**

The Leidy Microscopical Society celebrated the Holiday season with an overflowing kitchen of delicacies from tomato pie, bite size hoagies, salad, vegetables with dip, to crackers and cheese and of course the decadent indulgence of cookies, cakes, breads and even the traditional fruit cake.

Don McAlarnen handled the silent auction, in honor of the late Ralph Thomas. Members and guests then sat down to view spectacular mounts of red and green specimens. Bill Prince not only provided some nice micros from his collection but a stunning display of macro red and green mineral specimens from locations throughout the world. Several members joked with Juan Proano, as his wife Luisa was enthusiastically introduced to micromounts and how he'll have to obtain a good microscope for her to use. We all enjoyed the company of Bruce Geller as he joined the meeting from Colorado via the Zoom® digital connection.



Bill Prince specimens (from left) Cinnabar nodule, Almaden, Spain; Varasite with Wardite and Crandallite, Little Green Monster Mine, Clay Canyon, Fairfield, UT; Corundum on Calcite, Sterling Mine, Ogdensburg, NJ; Malachite, New Cornelia Mine, Ajo, AZ

In other Society business, the January meeting will be on Saturday January 20th at 10:00 AM and will feature a Micromount Roundtable of what you are currently working on. Future joint meetings at the Delaware County Institute of Science, Media, PA with the Philadelphia Society for Microscopy are being planned for April, May, June, September, October, and November in 2024. Stay tuned for more information.

As the meeting wound down early in the afternoon, everyone wished each other a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year as we headed for our homes.