

Friends of Mineralogy

A Quarterly Newsletter

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JULY-SEPTEMBER, 2000

President's Message

I hope that your summer has not been as hot as ours in the central US. It seems that we are breaking records everyday recently! The year is rapidly flowing by and I look forward to the upcoming fall season, not just for relief from the heat, but because that is the time of year that our Chapters have most of their activities. The kids are back in school, their long summer vacation completed, and our lives settle back into a semblance of order. Yet many activities on the National level presently deserve our attention. The committee assignments talked about in February now surface with their deadlines. I encourage all who labor under these deadlines to work toward finishing them as quickly as you can so you can relax and enjoy the holidays because your tasks are completed.

Many of my personal goals, set out in my first message, I have met, but many remain. Have you talked to a school class this year? If not, now is a great time with the school start up to serve as a resource person in the sciences, particularly mineralogy. If you don't feel comfortable teaching, then offer a teacher the option of a field trip to some collecting location where the kids can find some minerals. You will not believe the eagerness and excitement that elementary students have over the opportunity for them to actually find a specimen! No collectable minerals in your area? Then perhaps a fossil, like petrified wood, or an unusual rock type or lapidary material will do instead. I have found that when dealing with older students, like middle school or high school, something they have never seen can surprise and interest them. For example, taking a few thin sections of local rocks and letting them see them with a polariz-

ing microscope, then giving the students a brief introduction into the principles and history of such a tool. They can't believe that they are looking at a rock! Rocks are not boring when seen from a new perspective, and as old as petrography is, it is a new perspective for most of these students.

These are just a couple of ideas I have had. Send me some of yours and I will include them in my next message!

Have a great fall and be certain to attend your nearest FM Chapter Symposium. Don't forget the Werner Lieber Photo Contest either! I am certain that Karen would love to have to pick from a 100 or so pictures to show the Board next February!

Mike Howard

Notes From AGI: Earth Science Week

As geoscientists throughout the world prepare to celebrate the third annual Earth Science Week, October 8-14, the popular saying "think globally; act locally" aptly describes the scope of this popular public outreach program. In 1999, geoscientists in all 50 states, Australia, Canada, and at least 20 other countries organized Earth Science Week activities in their communities including field trips, demonstrations, lecture series, film series, exhibits, school visits and open houses. The American Geological Institute (AGI) initiated Earth Science Week on behalf of the geoscience community to provide an annual focal point for public education about Earth and earth processes. Objectives

SPECIAL ITEMS OF

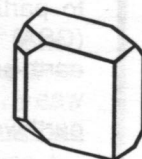
INTEREST:

- *AGI on Earth Science Week*
- *Special Feature! Highlighting the Chapters pg. 4.*
- *Chapter News, pg 5.*
- *FM 22nd Symposium on THE MINERALS OF RUSSIA, pg. 6*
- *Werner Lieber Contest, pg. 7*

The Newsletter Goes Digital!

Effective with the second quarter, the FM newsletter is now posted on the FM website in Adobe Acrobat format. To get the full effect of the format, download the font file called "crystals" and place it in your windows/fonts directory. See pg. 5.

Www.indiana.edu/~minerals/fm



for Earth Science Week 2000 include increasing public access to information about local geology and fostering public awareness of the important contributions the earth sciences and geoscientists make to their communities.

Since the launch in October 1998, an estimated one million students have participated, and Earth Science Week materials have been used in over 25,000 classrooms. In the United States, the President and members of Congress have issued statements supporting Earth Science Week, and last year 39 state governors, the Fort Peck American Indian tribes in Poplar, Mont., and mayors of major cities including Houston and Washington, D. C., signed Earth Science Week proclamations. Many state geological surveys, regional societies, and academic geoscience departments organized activities in their communities. The U.S. Geological Survey, a major supporter of Earth Science Week, sponsored events and activities in 43 states. More than 150 museums, science centers, libraries, and bookstores participated in Earth Science Week '99. Nearly 20 percent of the Borders Books and Music stores nationwide featured the week at their fall teacher appreciation nights and in their stores.

The AGI Member Societies' role in the success of Earth Science Week is significant, and its long-term growth and cumulative impact are largely dependent on the levels of their participation and support. This year's co-chairs, M. Ray Thomasson, president of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) in 1999, and David Stern, founder and chief executive officer of Research Systems Inc., are encouraging professional societies and their members to increase their participation. Last year, 18 of the 35 AGI Member Societies and at least 100 other geoscience organizations participated in the second annual celebration. Activities sponsored by the Paleontological Research Institution in New York, for example, included exhibits on biodiversity, a radio show on global change, technical talks and a Family Exploration Day. Other Member Societies promoted the participation of their members and teachers by distributing the Earth Science Week poster, bookmark, and related materials. In addition to encouraging its members to participate, the Geological Society of America (GSA) has developed a member-recommended earth-science reading list, which is posted on its web site, <http://www.geosociety.org/educate/earthweek.htm>. The Society of Exploration Geo-

physicists (SEG) also maintains an Earth Science Week web site, <http://students.seg.org/EarthScienceWeek/>, and they also make a slide set and a CD available to members in search of presentation and outreach materials.

"Although the recognition of Earth Science Week is growing worldwide," Thomasson notes, "local celebrations and the efforts of geoscientists in their communities are at the heart of its success." "Grass roots" activities are the essence of Earth Science Week, and geoscientists in a growing number of states are building networks of volunteers who participate in continuing programs. Geoscientists in Arizona and Texas have been especially effective in expanding and extending Earth Science Week's influence. Building on the success of its 1998 celebrations in Tucson and Phoenix, the Arizona chapter of the American Institute of Professional Geologists developed a statewide network of committees that organized tours, field trips, demonstrations, and activities throughout the state during Earth Science Week. In Texas, geoscientists in Austin, Dallas, Houston, and Midland are planning for Earth Science Week 2000. During Earth Science Week '99, one TV weatherman in Austin included earth-science questions and answers in every broadcast. The Dallas Geological Society "adopted" 18 schools, launching a program during Earth Science Week for members of the society to mentor teachers and students. The program has continued through the school year.

Many Earth Science Week efforts focus on students or teachers. Last year, all 330 students in an elementary school in Baldwin County, Ala., spent the week studying their state's land regions and waterways and doing hands-on experiments about groundwater, erosion, rocks and minerals. This year the teachers hope to share their activities with other schools in the county. More than 800 Earth Science Week kits were used in teacher-training workshops in Arizona. Based on a conservative estimate that each teacher reaches 25 students, potentially 20,000 students in Arizona classrooms alone were exposed to Earth Science Week.

Shopping malls, community festivals, fairs and, parks have become increasingly popular venues for reaching people during Earth Science Week. In Lexington, the Kentucky Geologi-

cal Survey used exhibits in a shopping mall to promote public awareness of geology in everyday life. Public interest was high, and the geoscientists staffing the exhibit were kept busy answering questions and providing information about geologic hazards, water quality and supply, waste disposal, and energy and mineral resources.

Many parks, national monuments, and mineral clubs hosted special activities. The Florida Geological Survey officially designated two state parks as geological sites: the Caverns State Geological Site near Marianna, and the Devil's Mill Hopper State Geological Site near Gainesville. The Smoky Mountain Mineral Society provided a display for the Stokely Memorial Library in Newport, Tenn.

Requests for materials and questions about starting Earth Science Week programs flow into the Earth Science Week web site from all over the world. U.S. organizations with international affiliations, such as the AAPG, have also promoted international interest. That trend has continued and in 1999, geoscientists and geoscience organizations in Argentina, Australia, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Liberia, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Puerto Rico, Saudi Arabia, Scotland, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan and Trinidad began developing Earth Science Week activities. As the North American and Australian initiatives expand, geoscientists from Europe to Asia to South America are also working to establish annual programs.

AGI's continuing role in Earth Science Week is to facilitate participation. The Earth Science Week web site, <http://www.earthsciweek.org>, provides a wealth of ideas, activities, and materials. Earth Science Week information kits containing posters, book marks, and a variety of other useful "user-friendly" outreach materials are available from AGI. Single copies of the kit are free. To request a kit or learn more about Earth Science Week, please visit the web site or contact Julie Jackson at AGI headquarters, 4220 King St., Alexandria, VA 22302. E-mail, jjackson@agiweb.org; voice mail, (703) 379-2480.



SPECIAL FEATURE: HIGHLIGHTING THE FM CHAPTERS

The strength of FM lies in the growth and vitality of its chapters. This is the first of a series of articles, each written by a chapter representative, providing a deeper insight into the history and activities of the regional FM organizations.

The Midwest Chapter

The Indiana Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy had its genesis in two conversations which took place, appropriately, while field collecting minerals in Indiana. The first was in the Corydon Quarry, where I met Vern Swanson, and where I learned from him some collecting etiquette (such as not pounding my rock hammer on the same boulder he was already working on!) We talked about mineral collecting, and I sounded him out about forming a state-wide mineral organization for education and collecting opportunities. He was all in favor of it and offered to help get it going. He then proceeded to pull out a beautiful calcite crystal and I knew I needed to get the new organization going so I could go collecting with this guy!

The second encounter was at the Harrodsburg road cut, where I ran into Nelson Shaffer of the Indiana Geological Survey. I shared my idea to start a mineral group and he was very encouraging, even to the point of handing me the Chapter's first donation to cover the cost of organizational mailings. And as if that weren't enough, he then pointed down the road to the best section of the road cut for collecting.

The helpfulness of those two men encouraged me to proceed with organizing a club, not only because of their interest, but also because their practical help to me while I was collecting reinforced the value of knowledgeable and experienced mineralogists helping people like me who were just getting started. A state-wide organization would help to promote such education.

I sent out an "are-you-interested?" letter to people I knew from several local clubs and took flyers to at least one rock show. The results were very encouraging, and soon we had an organizational meeting. Next came a meeting to

approve a constitution, by-laws, and officers... Surprise! I was elected the first president, Wanda Aldred as Treasurer, Vern Swanson as VP for field trips, and Nelson Shaffer as VP for programs.

Early in the Chapter's formation there were several decisions made which I believe strengthened the new organization at that stage. First, the decision to affiliate with the Friends of Mineralogy. I was an at-large member of FM, having moved to Indiana from Pennsylvania, where there was an active chapter. I agreed with the other founding members that the national affiliation would be important. Second, the name Indiana Chapter was chosen because the incorporation, majority of members, and much of the collecting were in Indiana. However, before long the scope widened as members from 6 states joined and collecting trips expanded to at least 5 states. The later name change to Midwest Chapter was appropriate when it came truly reflecting the regional impact of the Chapter. Third, there was a good mix of programs and activities. Half our meetings were held at the Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis, thanks to Ron Richards and Vern Swanson. The other meetings were then tied to various shows and swaps from Bloomington Indiana to Greenfield Indiana to Cincinnati Ohio. With the contacts known to people like Nelson Shaffer and Terry Huizing we benefited from first rate speakers like Carl Francis of Harvard. Fourth, field trips to many locations were arranged and well attended by members and protected by our Chapter's insurance and collecting policies. The opening of many quarries to our chapter and collecting field trips, underground into mines in Shoals Indiana (gypsum) and the Doe Run Mine in Missouri; Viburnum Trend (galena & barite) were a real incentive for membership. Finally, due to the fact many members, myself included enjoy both minerals and fossils, there were suggestions that we should at time have programs on fossils. I believe we made the right choice, however, to limit our program focus to minerals and not be distracted by related fields.

Rich Eddy

Rich now resides in Sacramento, CA (ed).

The Pacific Northwest Chapter

PROFILE OF PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER OF THE FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, REGION 12.

The Pacific Northwest Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy evolved from the national organization in late 1971 - 1972. Mike Groben became the National FM Director for Region 12. There were three people at his first meeting. By 1972 there were twelve members and they began holding regular meetings. The region covers Alaska, B.C., Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Our first newsletter was printed in February, 1973 and continues on a quarterly basis.

The chapter held its first annual symposium in Portland, Oregon on October 4, 1975. The topic covered was "Zeolites". Speakers included John Sinkankas, William Wise, and Rudy Tschernich. There were about 85 enthusiastic attendees. Symposia have continued each year and our 26th annual event is in Tacoma, Washington on September 22 - 24, 2000. Attendance remains fairly constant with 85 - 100 participants each year.

On June 2, 1979 the organization incorporated as a non-profit corporation in the state of Oregon. There were forty-seven members at that time. In this same time frame the chapter developed a locality registration program for the region. This program has continued but could use some updating.

Today we hold regular meetings in conjunction with other activities on a quarterly (or thereabouts) basis. The activities include field collecting trips, campground cleanups, meetings at various universities, museums and/or collector's homes, meetings in other public places with programs and swap sessions, and of course our annual meeting is held at our September symposium. Officers are elected at the annual meeting for two year terms.

The chapter sponsors exhibits at local gem and mineral shows and members have always been active in presenting classroom presentations to students. Our symposium is the greatest educational event, always featuring a major topic with renown speakers; and "what's new in the Northwest" as a final presentation each year. The symposium includes about (20) fine exhibits with many focused on the current topic. The main floor has 3 to 5 quality mineral dealers and there are about 20 - 25 room

"satellite" dealers (mostly field collectors sharing their finds.) An area is set aside for use by the micro-mineral enthusiasts. The three-day event is truly an educational "happening". The chapter's membership for 1999-2000 is about 107.

Sharleen Harvey, President

CHAPTER REPORTS

Pacific Northwest Chapter-Sharleen Harvey

The chapter's annual symposium will feature the Minerals and Mines of Nevada and will be held at the Days Inn, Tacoma, Washington September 22-24. Walt Lombardo, Nevada State Geologist, will present "Mineralogy of Nevada" and "Mineralogy of the Goodsprings Mining District. Casey and Jane Jones, Miners and Mineral Dealers, will speak on "Specimen Recovery at Operating Mines: the Muray Mine and the Meikle Mine". The program will also include a special program for micro mineral collectors and a Benefit Auction for the PNWFM Chapter. Displays, Floor Dealers and Satellite Dealers are always popular attractions. It promises to be a FUN weekend!

Midwest Chapter—Ernie Carlson

The Midwest Chapter will hold its fourth symposium on Saturday May 5, 2001, at the Cincinnati Convention Center in conjunction with the Cincinnati Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show. The theme for both the show and symposium will be *Colorful Carbonates*. On July 15 a field trip was run to the Anderson-Pendleton quarry, near Anderson, IN, and on July 22 to the Stoneco Maumee quarry, in Maumee, OH. Our next meeting is November 4 at Cleveland in conjunction with the Micromineral Symposium sponsored by the Micromineral Society of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Colorado Chapter- Bill Chirnside

A field trip to Wyoming is scheduled for chapter members on September 21-24, 2000.

Southeast Chapter —Chuck Miller

The symposium on Gold in the Southeast has been postponed until April 2001. A membership meeting and Board meeting has been scheduled for November 25th at 1:00 PM at Virginia

Western Community College in Roanoke, VA .

Mississippi Valley Chapter-Larry Nuelle

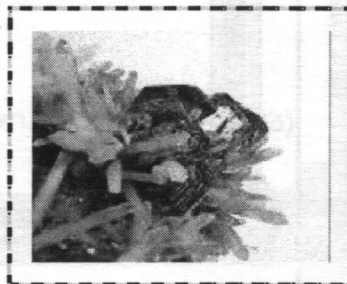
The chapter's first symposium is scheduled for October 20-22nd. The Topic is Mississippi Valley Type Deposits. A field trip is planned. For details contact Larry Nuelle at 573-364-3799.

The Newsletter: New Directions?

Chuck Miller

Mike Howard and I are always striving to improve the quality and content of the newsletter. This year we are taking advantage of the tremendous improvements in communications by converting the newsletter to Adobe Acrobat format. It can then be uploaded to the FM website. Members can download the entire newsletter and print it at their leisure. The Adobe Acrobat reader software is readily available from Adobe at www.adobe.com. The software is common for text-heavy documents like reports and technical articles. Effective with this issue, we are also uploading the 'crystals' font file we use to create the line graphics in the newsletter. The file is different from SHAPE. It simply converts letters of the alphabet into crystal forms! Downloading the small font file and placing it in the windows/fonts directory will provide members with a complete system to view the newsletter exactly as we publish it in hard copy.

With this new capability in place, the way is now clear to consider integrating photographs into the articles. While the hard copy versions of the newsletter would continue to be mailed in black & white, the digital version posted on the net could include the full color versions of the photos. They could be easily accessed and printed. All proper credit would be given to the authors/photographers and any copyright issues would be spelled out as well. If you'd like to submit a shot or two, all I need is a JPG or GIF file made from a scanner or a digital camera. You may also just send me a 5x7 photo— I'll do the rest and return the original. As an experiment, here's a shot of an old ugly Pyrrhotite from Dalnegorsk, Russia.



The 22nd FM-TGMS-MSA Mineralogical Symposium

THE MINERALS OF RUSSIA

In Conjunction with the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show

Saturday, February 10, 2001

Call For Papers

The twenty-second annual Mineralogical Symposium, will be held on February 10, 2001 at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show. It is cosponsored by Friends of Mineralogy, the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, and the Mineralogical Society of America. The topic of the Symposium is Minerals of Russia - the Tucson Show's theme for 2001. Papers on descriptive mineralogy, paragenesis, classic and new locations and related subjects about the minerals of Russia are welcome. An audience of amateur and professional mineralogists and geologists is expected.

Anyone wanting to present a paper should submit a 200 to 300 word abstract to:

Raymond W. Grant, Show Chairman

Mesa Community College

1833 W. Southern Ave.

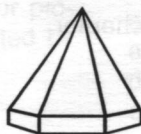
Mesa, AZ 85202

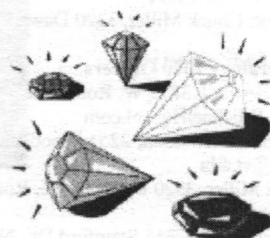
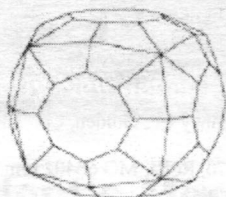
(480)461-7008 (phone)

(480)461-7234 (fax)

rwgrant@mail.mc.maricopa.edu (e-mail).

Presentations will be twenty minutes, followed by a period for questions. Abstracts must be submitted by September 10, 2000. The abstracts will be published in the January/February 2001 Issue of the Mineralogical Record.





Werner Lieber Photo Contest and

Traveling Museum Exhibit

Sponsored by **Friends of Mineralogy**

A traveling Museum exhibit will be
created from the best photographs
submitted for the contest

**Categories: Juniors, Amateur Adults--(a) Micro and (b) Macro Minerals,
Professionals, and Digital/Computer-Enhanced Photography**

Contest Rules:

1. Matted 8"x10" print. Mat must be 11"x14".
2. The photo must be related to the contest theme:
Russian Minerals.
3. Each photo must have a caption with locality, bar scale or description of crystal size, photographer, category, and other information submitter deems relevant. Caption should be attached to back of mat.
4. Photos will be displayed at the 2001 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show. Winners will be announced then.
5. All photos become the property of FM. Copyright will be retained by author, but FM has royalty free use.
6. A non-monetary award will be presented to the winners.
7. Contest deadline: November 1, 2000.
8. Mail submittals to Dr. Karen Wenrich, P.O. Box 5054, Golden, CO 80401--(303) 278-1218 (Phone & Fax); email: CrystalsUL@aol.com.

Masthead

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(Crystal forms using Crystals TTFont by Robert Boehringer)



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