



## From the President

Most FM members probably read *The Mineralogical Record* and noticed that Publisher Wendell Wilson wrote a fervent and convincing editorial in the January-February issue on why his readers should be members of Friends of Mineralogy. We can all draw upon his way with words to confront FM's greatest challenge—finding new members while retaining the old ones. The task is really not a difficult one. If we simply ask others to join, citing what we do and stand for, most serious collectors will likely agree. If each member were to bring in one new member, we would be well on our way to returning to former membership levels.

FM presents four much appreciated awards at Tucson. We continue to support and oversee the publication of highly valued state mineral locality indexes in *Rocks & Minerals*. We jointly organize and host the popular symposium in con-

nection with the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show. Perhaps most importantly, our seven regional chapters sponsor activities, outreach programs to schools, collecting trips and well-attended symposia. All this costs each of us no more than a couple of beers or lattes.

FM was founded to support the serious aspects of mineral collecting: to give back to a pastime that means a lot to us and to insure the hobby's future growth. This newsletter contains a list of FM committees and the directors. You can help, either through your chapter or on the national level. Contact a director to get involved.

Regina Aumente arranged one of our most successful FM socials at Tucson this year, with good hot food. We would like to thank Marty Zinn for picking up the tab. We held a very productive directors' meeting, and I urge you to read the minutes in this newsletter. This was not the case for our general membership meeting on Saturday. As usual, only a very few dedicated members attended. We are considering holding the general meeting in connection with the social next year in order to improve attendance. We would certainly appreciate

hearing your ideas for boosting attendance at the annual meeting.

Thank you for agreeing with the directors' request to change our bylaws and operating regulations in order to make it easier for us to do business. We will continue to look at our bylaws.

In an effort to cut costs and keep up with changing times, you will be provided in this newsletter with an opportunity to elect to receive your newsletters via e-mail only. E-mail newsletters would save FM postage costs, but there are also some advantages to hard copies. The choice is yours.

Putting together and mailing the newsletter is one of the most time consuming and important jobs in FM. For the past several years Andrew Sicree took on this task, and he came up with some very interesting articles in addition to reporting on normal "FM business." As he hands over the reins to Gloria Staebler, we owe him our thanks for a job well done.

We would like to thank the Executive Director of Heldref Publications, Douglas J. Kirkpatrick, for agreeing to an FM affiliation with *Rocks & Minerals* magazine. This wouldn't have happened without the kind sup-

port of *Rocks & Minerals* Managing Editor Marie Huizing.

Susan Eriksson again organized an FM booth in the entrance hall at TGMS. While some directors helped man the booth, volunteers were scarce (think about putting in an hour next year!). Alex Speer and John Rakovan kindly helped us from the adjoining booth for the Mineralogical Society of America.

Finally, please urge your chapter to report all FM regional chapter news items regularly to Gloria (gastaebler@aol.com) for each newsletter, and to send an additional copy to Mike Howard for inclusion in the FM webpage. Sharleen Harvey, who is providing information for the FM space of each issue of *the Mineralogical Record* and *Rocks & Minerals*, will ask for chapter information from time-to-time. Our strength is in our chapters, and we want to help them with publicity. You will see upcoming chapter symposia listed in these two magazines and on our webpage.

We look forward to your renewed participation and to hearing from you!

Bill Dameron  
President


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## Friends of Mineralogy Board of Directors Meeting—FEBRUARY 10TH, 2004 AT CLUB 21, TUCSON, AZ

**Call to Order**—The meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM by Vice President Bill Dameron in the absence of President Susan Eriksson. Twenty-two people were present: Dameron, Lueth, Hurlbut, Etwiler, Modreski, Huizing, Soregaroli, Aumente, Nikischer, Gray, Sicree, Staebler, Wilson, Gressman, Rakovan, Speer, Simmons, Grant, Harvey, Shaffer, Reynolds and Kile.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting**—The minutes of the last meeting in Denver were accepted as recorded in the October/November 2003 newsletter (Vol 33; issue 3).



**Treasurer's Report**—Jim Hurlbut presented the treasurer's report. As of December 31, 2003, the national FM Wells Fargo account in California had a balance of \$13,256.28. The national FM Vetra bank account in Colorado had a balance of \$3,773.15. The Treasurer's report was accepted as read.

**Nominating Committee**—Sharleen read the list of nominees to the FM Board. Each would serve on the Board from 2004 to 2007. Nominated were: William (Skip) Simmons, Andrew Sicree, Regina Aumente, William Dameron, Virgil Lueth and Robert Reynolds. Virgil reported that 19 ballots were returned by the membership and that all but one were accepted unanimously. Virgil certified the election, which was unanimously accepted by all those present at the meeting.

Sharleen then read the

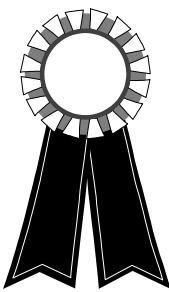
nominees for officer positions: President: Bill Dameron  
Vice-President: Virgil Lueth  
Secretary: Gloria Staebler  
Treasurer: James Hurlbut  
The slate of officers was unanimously approved.

Skip Simmons, Art Soregaroli and Tony Nikischer were nominated to serve on the nominating committee for 2004. The board unanimously accepted their nominations. The new officers assumed their duties.

In his welcoming remarks Bill Dameron gave special thanks to Wendell Wilson for his editorial in the January-February issue of *the Mineralogical Record* urging his readers to join FM. The meeting immediately moved to other committee reports.

**Awards**—Bill Dameron reported that the Werner Leiber photo contest was discontinued and would be replaced in 2004 with the Werner Leiber award for the best article in *extraLapis English*. Skip Simmons, who has been saving the 40 print photo library that had been part of the Werner Leiber contest, asked the Board what should be done with the photos that had been collected. Discussion ensued.

Marie Huizing offered to include the photos in the silent auction that is held in Denver each year. FM will be the beneficiary of the auction's proceeds. It was agreed that the photos would be auctioned in Denver. Virgil asked Skip to scan and archive the photos for the FM library before the auc-



tion. Skip agreed. Members of the Colorado Chapter who are active in the Denver show were pretty certain there would be no problem but will double check.

Bill listed the award winners for best articles this year: *Rocks & Minerals*: Tom Rosemeyer; *The Mineralogical Record*: Tom Moore and Peter Megaw; *extraLapis English*: Rupert Hochleitner and Terry Huizing

The best educational case award winners won't be known until the show, of course. As new Vice President, Virgil Lueth will take over the awards committee.

**Membership Committee**—Bill Dameron reminded the Board that the Membership Committee as described in the bylaws is really a Membership Roster Committee, not a committee to attract new members. He said we should probably change the name (this will require Executive Committee action). The Committee, i.e. the Treasurer, is responsible for maintaining an up-to-date membership list. It is also the appropriate committee for putting together a membership roster. Jim Hurlbut noted that 335 of the 485 members who paid in 2003 had not yet paid their dues for 2004. Most of the unpaid memberships were the result of the chapters not having sent in their member's national dues yet for 2004.

Some discussion followed on a membership roster and privacy issues, and an electronically available roster versus hard copy. It was decided to accept Regina's offer to put the membership roster together electronically. We would let the general membership know of the availability of the list in a newsletter. Members would

then be able to request either an electronic roster or a hard copy. The electronic list would be offered in .pdf format, which would help make it less subject to use by spammers.

**Historian**—Bill Dameron reported that the historian (Mike Howard, not in attendance) needs copies of EVERYTHING. He also needs help. Bill Dameron volunteered to assist him.

**Symposium**—Skip Simmons has agreed to chair the Symposium in 2005. The 2004 chair, Bob Cook, agreed to assist Skip. Bill noted that Symposium coordination with TGMS needs to be kept up at all stages and all FM officers informed of developments; there had been a small scheduling conflict this year when TGMS added an event which wasn't part of the symposium itself and Bill had neglected to check thoroughly with all concerned. Former symposium chair Ray Grant noted that the Wendell needs the abstracts in advance as they are published in the Min Rec.

**Mineralogical Record Publisher**—The work of this committee also involves all publicity in other fora and Bill suggested the committee title should probably be changed to Ongoing Publicity (requires Executive Committee action). Considerable work in the last few months (by Bill) will start showing up with the early 2004 issues of *the Mineralogical Record*. We will change some of the contents of the FM page in MR every issue, starting by listing our award winners, and keep it up to date, something that has not been done. Sharleen will take over this committee,

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backed up by Bill. Sharleen requested to be kept informed when the chapters change officers so that she can better keep the page updated. Information on chapter-sponsored symposia should also be sent to Sharleen (and all the officers) for use in our magazine publicity and web page.

We will also now have part of a page in *Rocks & Minerals*, which will also fall under this committee, and all publicity and information will also be sent to Mike Howard for the FM website.

**Website Report**—Virgil submitted a written report by webmaster Mike Howard. Mike's report indicated that few changes were made to the site in 2003, but through the efforts of Bill Dameron, the site was



significantly updated in early 2004. Mike has asked for web site content and a regular flow of information from the chapters. In his report, he reminds the Board the website should be kept current with FM's activities and announcements. Suggestions for the website can be sent to him at [jmichael-howard@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jmichael-howard@sbcglobal.net). Corrections should be addressed to [darcyhoward@sbcglobal.net](mailto:darcyhoward@sbcglobal.net). Bill suggested that Andrew and Gloria get copies of past newsletters to Mike to be archived.

**Locality Index**—Art Soregaroli, who has agreed to chair this committee, is compiling a list of the locality indices that are complete as well as those that need to be updated. Art mentioned that the lists are

## Friends of Mineralogy Board of Directors Meeting (cont.)

presently inconsistent. Pete Modreski has offered his continued assistance. Marie noted that a **Kentucky index** had been completed and would be published. Nelson Shaffer indicated that the AGI would be willing to post the locality indices on their website.

**Bylaws**—Bill and Virgil are on this committee. Proposed changes to the bylaws were published in the October/November 2003 newsletter (Vol. 33; issue 3) as well as in the Winter 2003 (Vol. 33 issue 4) newsletters. Virgil received 17 votes on the changes. With the exception of one vote against item 3 and one vote against item 4, all of the votes were in favor of the proposed changes. Bill and Virgil have already begun working on the further changes to the bylaws. They plan to propose changes that would drop obsolete language and modernize somewhat FM's operations.

**Affiliations**—Tony Nikischer chairs this committee. He looked into beginning an FM chapter in the northeast. He surveyed clubs and found them uninterested in affiliation. He found them to be interested, however, in help arranging 1) speakers, 2) bulletin content and 3) field trips. Tony suggested an affiliation fee (possibly \$50). Affiliate clubs would be provided newsletter content, and a speaker list. Tony's ideas were discussed and it was generally decided that FM was not currently in a position to provide the services the northeastern clubs were seeking.

Nelson Shaffer reported that our AGI affiliation "pays for itself" in terms of discounts. Bill asked Nelson to prepare

something for the newsletter so that the FM membership would realize the benefits of our AGI affiliation.

Our proposed affiliation with *Rocks & Minerals* was still pending at the time of the meeting. The executive director of *Rocks & Minerals* later approved the affiliation.

**Display**—Bill described the FM case for the 2004 Tucson Show, the second year we will have a case. He will keep the Best Educational Case plaques up-to-date. Dan Kile has agreed to take over as chair of this committee, and Carol Smith will continue to help round up specimens meeting the TGMS show theme.

**Information Booth at TGMS**—Susan Eriksson will continue to be in charge of our booth near the entrance to the Show. Volunteers from all of the FM membership as well as the Board are badly needed to man the booth, in one hour stints. We are next to MSA, which has been very helpful in watching our booth when we don't have volunteers, and thanks were expressed to MSA.

**Socials and Meetings**—Regina continues to chair this committee. All agreed that the just-ended Tuesday social had been one of the best.

Some new members were signed up. Marty Zinn had agreed to combine his social at the EI with ours and pay the majority of the cost, and Regina suggested a letter of thanks from FM to Marty (note: in the

event, Marty picked up the entire tab for the 2004 social!).

It was agreed there would be another Board meeting at Denver this year; Friday morning had proved to be the best time. Details will be provided well in advance.

Bill urged attendance at the general FM annual meeting on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:30. There was some talk about abolishing the meeting as it is very poorly attended, but it is required under the bylaws and the Board agreed to work toward improving attendance. Most thought that holding a general meeting in conjunction with the Tuesday social was a good solution.

**Newsletter**—See new business below.

**New Members**—This is a new committee with a mandate to increase membership, chaired by Tony Nikischer. One suggestion from Skip was to compile a list of willing speakers to speak at local clubs and create goodwill (and provide info) about FM.

**Chapter Reports**—The **Pacific Northwest Chapter** was very busy in 2003. Jim Etwiler reported that the chapter participated with six other clubs to produce two Seattle Regional Gem and Mineral Shows as part of their educational outreach program. It sponsored a week-long field trip through Idaho and Montana. It also hosted the 13th annual North Cascades cleanup coordinated with the US Forest Service followed by mineral collecting in the surrounding area. The 29th Annual Symposium with a theme of "Minerals of China" was held in the fall. Rock Currier and Bob Cook were featured speakers in addition to presentations made by local members. At the

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## FM Awards



The Friends of Mineralogy annually presents awards at the Saturday night banquet of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show. There was a tie this year for the best article in *the Mineralogical Record*. In conjunction with the Best Article awards, FM presents a check for \$200 to *Rocks & Minerals*, *the Mineralogical Record* and *extraLapis English*. The awards given at the 2004 Tucson Show were:

### 2003 Best Article Awards

*The Mineralogical Record*, Thomas P. Moore & Peter K.M. Megaw

*The Mineralogical Record*, Berthold Ottens

*Rocks & Minerals*, Tom Rosemeyer

*extraLapis English*, Rupert Hochleitner & Terry Huizing

### 2004 TGMS Best Educational Case

**Individual**, Jesse Fisher & Joan Kureczka

**Institutional**, Houston Museum of Natural Science

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## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes (cont.)

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fall meeting, the chapter approved the Mineral Education Project in coordination with NFMS (Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies) to create "A-Z sets of identified minerals" and distribute them to schools for education aids. The sets are to include mineral specimens and descriptive text about the minerals and their commercial uses. Jim shared a sample set with the board. Activities for 2004 include continuation of education and environmental outreach programs to the public and field trips for members. The 30th Annual Symposium will be held in September and the theme will be skarn deposits.

Julian Gray enthusiastically

reported that the **Southeast Chapter** sponsored a fabulous fall symposium at the Wyman museum, and that they are already planning their 2005 symposium (Nov. 13, 14). The chapter is on the move with a new webmaster, new newsletter editor and new treasurer.

### Southern California

**Chapter** sponsored two symposia and is making mineral kits for museums and schools.

Pete Modreski reports that the **Colorado Chapter** will hold a symposium in 2005 and will once again sponsor a mineral identification table at the Denver show. Pete also distributed a list of publications available through the Colorado chapter.

Bill Dameron urged all chapters to report symposia information as soon as known

to him, to Sharleen for use in magazines and to Mike Howard for the website. He added that he had written a special article for the July/August 2004 issue of *Rocks & Minerals* on the Pacific Northwest Chapter's upcoming 30th symposium. As part of that article, Marie had offered to run a sidebar listing all the FM chapter's upcoming symposia this year.

**New Business**—The FM Newsletter had not been discussed earlier, and most of the "New Business" agenda item was devoted to it. The Board welcomed Gloria as the new coeditor of the Newsletter, and returned to the subject of providing the newsletter electronically, a subject discussed at all

recent meetings. Gloria suggested that to save time and money the newsletter be made available via e-mail rather than being sent through the US mail. This suggestion generated much discussion, with the advantages of paper versus electronic outlined. It was finally decided that members would be given the option, on their membership application for new members and in a forthcoming Newsletter for current members, to receive their newsletter either by e-mail or by US mail.



The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

## FM Leadership

### NATIONAL OFFICERS

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<b>EDITOR:</b>	Gloria Staebler, PO Box 263, East Hampton, CT 06424; gloria@lapisint.com
<b>WEB SITE COMMITTEE CHAIRS:</b>	Mike & Darcy Howard; dhoward954@aol.com
<b>FM WEB ADDRESS:</b>	<a href="http://www.friendsofmineralogy.org/">http://www.friendsofmineralogy.org/</a>

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msherwood@swbell.net; Ted and Carol Ferguson, 3912 Queen Ridge, Independence, MO 64055 (816) 478-6418,  
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**MINERALOGICAL RECORD MAGAZINE:** *ex-Officio*, Wendell Wilson, minrec@earthlink.com, (520) 299-5274

**MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA:** *ex-Officio*, Alex Speer, j\_a\_speer@minsocam.org, (202) 775-4344

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**Friends of Mineralogy ❖ Application for Membership (or Renewal) / Member Data Sheet**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (home): \_\_\_\_\_ (office) \_\_\_\_\_

FAX (home): \_\_\_\_\_ (office) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Affiliation Desired: \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to receive my FM newsletters via (please check one) US mail \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Friends of Mineralogy, Inc., is composed of members of 7 local chapters, plus national members not affiliated with a chapter. **Prospective National Members should send their application and \$10.00/year dues to Jim Hurlbut, 2240 S. Adams St., Denver, CO 80210-4912. Phone 303-757-0283.** Prospective members of a chapter should submit form directly to the chapter contacts (Colorado, Midwest, Pacific NW, Miss. Valley, SouthEast, Pennsylvania, or Southern California). You will be billed for your chapter dues, since they vary with individual chapters.