



President's Message: Happy 2006!

We had our best general members meeting in years at Tucson in February, but I still feel like I did last year when New Year resolutions roll around: I don't think either I or FM quite lived up to our potential.

Our regular projects are all still active. We didn't provide significant financial support for worthwhile causes as we did in 2004, but we did offer moral backing for a good cause with our letter to the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences urging appropriate deaccession of their important collection. Some say we may have had an impact; as far as I know the issue still hasn't been finally resolved.

The localities index project is more active than it was a few years ago, and some of our chapters have been very busy. The annual joint symposium on the Saturday of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show has become a little shorter over the past few years, but there are some great speakers lined up to talk about Canada (see schedule in this newsletter). I do know from past experience that our annual magazine and educational case awards are much appreciated by authors/displays, and our own FM case at the Tucson show is good publicity.

On the other hand, attempts to "rejuvenate" FM without changing its essential character have not gone far. Some good ideas turn out to be impractical. Other proposals suffer from a problem common to many "volunteer" groups: nobody to follow through.

What can you do? First and foremost,

please attend the annual meeting and social (see announcement) and give us some ideas. More importantly, jump in and work on a project for a year or two. Also at the meeting perhaps you can get ideas to take back to your chapters to boost their activities and membership.

Second, please vote and mail in the ballots in this newsletter for a minor change to our by-laws, giving us the flexibility to schedule our Tucson meetings as needed, and for FM Board members. It is an inexpensive gesture in time and money to at least send in a ballot and avoid having a shameful number of votes received. Want more choice? Volunteer to be on the board or to undertake some of our projects.

Third, attend the symposium at the Tucson show February 11th. It only lasts a couple of hours, you can come and go as you like, and you will learn something interesting and useful. The schedule appears in this newsletter and TGMS will post the location (room) at the show.

Fourth, if you display at the show, please consider an educational aspect to your case. It makes the cases much more meaningful. AND, make up a little token or sign to note you are a member of Friends of Mineralogy, citing the chapter if appropriate, for your case. We are considering a standardized label/sign/thingamabob we could get made up for members who want them.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

Bill Dameron

FM Board of Directors' Meeting and Breakfast

The National Board of Directors of the Friends of Mineralogy will hold its winter board meeting (and breakfast) on Friday, February 10, 2006 at 7:30 am at the InnSuites Hotel bar. All board members and chapter officers should make every effort to attend.

In This Issue:

Letter—Philadelphia Academy of Science Response	2
FM Leadership	3
Tucson Symposium—Minerals of Canada	4
Chapter Publications	5
Board of Director Nominees	6
Proposed Bylaw Change Vote!	7



Letter: Academy of Natural Sciences



FOUNDED IN 1812
RESEARCH + MUSEUM + EDUCATION

IAN R. DAVISON
VICE PRESIDENT FOR
EXHIBITS AND EDUCATION

215/299-1167
EMAIL: davison@acnatsci.org

1900 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PARKWAY
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103-1195

FAX: 215/299-1028
WEB: www.acnatsci.org

May 23rd, 2005

Mr. William H. Dameron III
1609 N.W. 79th Circle
Vancouver
WA 98665

Dear Mr. Dameron,

I am writing in response to your letter of April 25, 2005 to Dr. D. James Baker, the President and Chief Executive officer of the Academy of Natural Sciences.

We would like to thank you for your interest in the fate of these collections and for your input and advice; we will certainly bear these comments in mind as we move forward with the responsible de-accessioning of part of the Academy's mineral collection using the guidelines established by the American Association of Museums.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ian R. Davison
Senior Advisor the Academy President

FM Leadership

NATIONAL OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	Bill Dameron, 1609 NW 79th Circle, Vancouver, WA 98665; baritebill@aol.com
VICE PRESIDENT:	Virgil Lueth, New Mexico Tech, 801 Leroy Place, Socorro, NM 87801; vvluth@nmt.edu
SECRETARY:	Gloria Staebler, PO Box 263, East Hampton, CT 06424; gloria@lapisint.com
TREASURER:	Regina Aumente, 6 Santa Ana Loop, Placitas, NM 87043; raumente@aol.com
EDITOR:	Gloria Staebler, PO Box 263, East Hampton, CT 06424; gloria@lapisint.com
WEB MASTER:	Jim Etzwiler; kd7bat@arrl.net
FM WEB ADDRESS:	www.friendsofmineralogy.org

NATIONAL FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Term			
<u>Expires</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
2006	Susan Eriksson	susan.eriksson@gmail.com	(303) 381-7466
	James F. Hurlbut	jfhu@vanion.com	(303) 279-7796
	Dan Kile	dekile@usgs.gov	(303) 948-2810
	Anthony J. Nikischer	info@excaliburmineral.com	(914) 739-1134
	Carol Smith	smith72@attglobal.net	(303) 466-5863
	Art Soregaroli	arockdoc@telus.net	(604) 731-8946
2007	Regina Aumente	raumente@aol.com	(505) 867-0423
	Bill Dameron	baritebill@aol.com	(360) 546-1267
	Virgil Lueth	vvluth@nmt.edu	(505) 835-5140
	Bob Reynolds	bob.reynold@lsa-assoc.com	(909) 792-3548
	Andrew Sicree	sicree@geosc.psu.edu	(814) 865-6427
	William (Skip) Simmons	simmons@trificient.net	(504) 280-6791
2008	Ray Grant	raycyn@cox.net	(480) 814-9086
	Sharleen Harvey	bill-sharleenharvey@worldnet.att.net	(503) 248-4194
	Allan Young	allanyoung@msn.com	(208) 343-7006
	Nelson Shaffer	shaffern@indiana.edu	(812) 855-2687
	Gloria Staebler	gloria@lithographie.org	(860) 267-1512

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS (ALSO BOARD MEMBERS) AND EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

COLORADO CHAPTER: President, Richard Parsons, (303) 838-8859, richard.parsons@att.net

MIDWEST CHAPTER: President, Ernie Carlson, P.O. Box 11164, Brady Lake, OH 44211, (330) 672-3778, ecarlson@kent.edu; website www.indiana.edu/~minerals

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER: President, Wes Gannaway, 1604 Brookwood Dr., Ferndale, WA 98248, (360) 384-4209, debnwes@comcast.net; website www.pnwfm.org

PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER: President, Doug Rambo, 316 Shipley Rd, Apt. 423, Wilmington, DE 19809, (302) 893-1941, drambo417@comcast.net; Secretary, Juliet Reed, kgreed@aol.com; website: www.geocities.com/sajas.geo/FM/index.htm

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER: President, Bob Reynolds, 220 South Buena Vista St., Redlands, CA 92373-5129, (909) 792-3548 (H); (951) 781-7152 (B), jreynold@empirenet.com; Secretary, Jennifer Rohl, 212 Backs Lane, #C, Placentia, CA 92870; (909) 781-9310, rohl@earthlink.net, website: www.mineralsocal.org/scfm/welcome.htm

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY CHAPTER: President: Bruce Sinemetz; 2706 S Cherokee; Independence, MO 64057; 816-936-3310 (days) 816-795-1641 (evenings); bruce.sinemetz@ssa.gov

SOUTHEAST CHAPTER: President, David Babulski, 2677 Colony Circle, Snellville, GA 30078; 678-584-2475, d.babulski@comcast.net website: www.southeastfm.org

ROCKS & MINERALS MAGAZINE: *ex-Officio*, Marie Huizing, rocksandminerals@fuse.net, (513) 574-7142

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, (703) 652-9950

Friends of Mineralogy, Inc. is affiliated with The *Mineralogical Record*, *Rocks & Minerals*, The Mineralogical Society of America and the American Geological Institute. Please forward newsletter corrections/changes to Gloria Staebler, newsletter editor, gloria@lithographie.org; (860) 267-1512



**Friends of Mineralogy, Tucson Gem & Mineral
Society & Mineralogical Society of America**

present the

2006 Tucson Mineralogical Symposium on
MINERALS OF CANADA!

Saturday, February 11, 2006

Tucson Convention Center
Tucson, Arizona

Program Schedule

10:00 to 10:15 am

Colored Gemstones from Canada: A Well-Kept Secret

Bradley S. Wilson, Coast-to-Coast Rare Stones

10:20 to 10:35 am

Recent Gem Discoveries in Canada

Lee A. Groat, University of British Columbia

10:40 to 10:55 am

TBA

11:00 to 11:15 am

Minerals of the Silver Trail, Yukon Territory, Canada

Mark Mauthner, Houston Museum of Natural Science

11:20 to 11:35 am

Gold in Canada

David K. Joyce, David Joyce Minerals

11:40 to 11:55 am

Chasing Gold Crystals from British Columbia

Mark Mauthner, Houston Museum of Natural Science

Carl Francis, Harvard Mineralogical Museum

For further information contact Symposium chair Dr. Robert Cook (cookrob@auburn.edu)

Midwest Chapter submitted by Marlene Edington

The Field Symposium held September 24-25 was attended by 26 members and guests. Hanson Aggregates Midwest, Sylvania Quarry in northern Lucas County, Ohio, provided the best collecting of the two-day excursion. This quarry belongs to the Middle Devonian Detroit River Group. Sky blue and white to colorless bladed to tabular crystals of celestine were found. Some celestine pockets were filled with pale yellow curved calcite rhombohedra in groups several centimeters across. Rocks exposed in the Graymont

Dolime Quarry at Genoa belong to the fossiliferous Middle Silurian Lockport Dolomite. Celestine is abundant. Some sphalerite and fluorite along with iridescent pyrite and pale yellow calcite crystals were present.

John Medici's lecture on Saturday evening was on collecting celestine in northwestern Ohio and southeastern Michigan. Joe Vasichko discussed fluorescent and phosphorescent minerals in northwestern Ohio. The symposium ended on Sunday morning at MacRitchie Mate-

rials at West Millgrove. Rocks at this site include the Middle Silurian Lockport Dolomite and late Silurian Greenfield Dolomite. Collecting for celestine was good and crystals were found in white to pale blue with bladed and tabular habits.

Our last meeting of the year was in conjunction with the Micromineral Symposium at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History on Nov. 5. A short business meeting was held. Election of officers for 2006 will take place at our Jan. 15 meeting.



*Celestine; 8 cm high
Kelly Island Stone Co. Quarry,
Clay Center, Ottawa Co.,
Ohio, USA
johnbetts-fineminerals.com
photo*

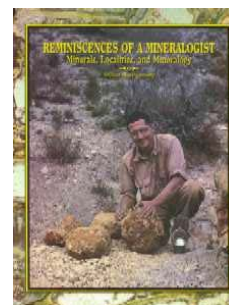
Chapter Publications

Colorado Chapter

Antero Aquamarines by Mark Jacobson (1993); \$12.00 (tax/shipping incl.); address orders to: Friends of Mineralogy
P.O. Box 5276
Golden, CO 80401-5276

Pennsylvania Chapter

Reminiscences of a Mineralogist by Arthur Montgomery \$20+\$3 p&h; address orders to: Arnold Mogel
15 Oak Road
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972



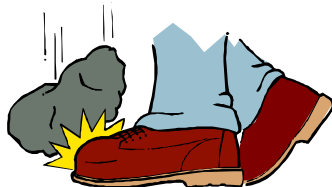
Pennsylvania Chapter submitted by Juliet Reed

The 2005 Fall Symposium (Classic Localities II) of the Friends of Mineralogy, PA. Chapter, hosted at the Delaware County Institute of Science in Media, PA., by Roger Mitchel, mineral curator, on Nov. 5, 2005, was a success.

Interesting illustrated talks included Maryland "Mineral Classic, Present and Future" (Fred Parker), "The Gap Nickel Mine" (Lancaster Co.) (Red Johnson), "History and Mineralogy of the Phoenixville, Chester Co. Lead and

Zinc Mines" (Ron Sloto), and Classic Pegmatite Localities of Connecticut" (Ted Johnson).

During a short but special presentation veteran Delaware County collector, Dr. John D. Hallahan told about having a hole in his shoe as a boy, and tripping over the point of a fine smoky quartz



crystal near the school yard. The audience gasped at the sight of that remarkable specimen, which was the beginning of an eighty year interest in minerals.

After the talks, an auction of books and specimens benefited the Chapter Grant Fund was held, and participants had a chance to look over Chapter books for sale, and specimens available from members, on the giveaway table, and in a silent auction.

On Sunday, participants col-

lected pink dolomite and other minerals at Binkley & Ober Quarry in Lancaster.

The PA. Chapter elected Douglas Rambo president for two years, Arnold Mogel, vice-president for two years, and J. Penrose Ambler as a member of the Chapter Board. John Ebner continues as treasurer, Juliet Reed is the secretary and handles publicity, while Marge Matula is the membership chairman and David Saja edits the quarterly Newsletter, as well the web site.

Board of Director Nominees 2006

December 23, 2005

To: Friends of Mineralogy

Re: Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee for the Friends of Mineralogy is pleased to submit the following nominations for members of the Board of Directors for the period of 2006-2009:

James F. Hurlbut has been an active volunteer at the Denver Museum of Natural History for 18 years and is well known for his work on the Paul Seel micromount collection. He has many publications on minerals to his credit and has taught a continuing education course on the rocks and minerals of Colorado. Jim is past president of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, immediate past treasurer of FM, and a member of many mineralogical and scientific organizations.

Daniel E. Kile, a long-time FM member and past president of the Colorado chapter, recently retired as a geochemist with the U.S. Geological Survey. A well known field collector of Colorado minerals, Dan is now a Scientist Emeritus with the USGS; he teaches optical mineralogy, and coordinates the FM exhibit at the Tucson Show. He was a mid-term appointment to the Board in 2003.

Tony Nikischer is president of Excalibur Mineral Corp, a leading supplier of rare minerals to researchers, museums and private collectors for more than thirty years. He has been a collector since his early youth, and he is also founder and Chairman of the Hudson Institute of Mineralogy, a not for profit research, preservation and educational organization devoted to descriptive mineralogy. He is the owner and publisher of *Mineral News*, and the mineral nikischerite was named in his honor by the International Mineralogical Association in 2001. If elected, this would be Tony's second term serving on the Board of FM.

Dr. Art Soregaroli is a retired geologist who has served in a wide variety of significant positions in the private sector with brief forays into academia and the Geological Survey of Canada. He is still an active consultant to the private sector. Art is a collector and a long-time director of FM and *The Mineralogical Record* and past president of the British Columbia Museum of Mining.

Carol Smith is former president of the Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council. Her interest in minerals dates to 1976, when she met her husband Bill. They have collaborated on a number of magazine articles for *Rocks and Minerals* and *The Mineralogical Record*. She worked in local government as a computer programmer/analyst and has been involved in Democratic politics in Boulder County, Colorado. Carol grows orchids and is addicted to murder mysteries.

The above nominees have all expressed their willingness to serve on the Board of Directors, if elected. A ballot for the election of directors is included with this report for publication (facing page); to be completed by members and mailed prior to February 1, 2006, to the Vice-President of FM, Virgil Lueth, New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology, 801 Leroy Place, Socorro, NM 87801. **You may also vote via email.** Please email your vote to: gloria@lithographie.org

Respectfully submitted,
Sharleen Harvey, Anthony Nikischer, and Art Soregaroli
FM Nominating Committee



e-Newsletter

The e-newsletter saves volunteers time and FM money! Help us by getting newsletter via email!

Ask your chapter secretary to notify National FM, alternatively you may email Regina (raumente@aol.com) or Gloria (gastaeblar@aol.com) to receive this newsletter via email.

We respect your privacy and will never share or sell your email address!

Southeast Chapter Project

The Weinman museum and the Southeast Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy have been invited to help Bob Cook revise his "Minerals of Georgia" bulletin published by the Georgia Geological Survey in 1978.

Weinman curator Julian Gray has scanned the old report

into a Word document and completely reformatted it . . . all 171 pages. Next he's going to index the list by species.

Bob has requested corrections and new mineral locality information, but has received little input thus far. This is where the Friends of

Mineralogy come in. Please get any new location information to Bob either directly or through Julian.

The Weinman Museum is hoping to publish the new Minerals of Georgia and welcomes FM's involvement.



Proposed Change to the Bylaws

Not holding our annual membership meeting during TGMS Show hours last year greatly increased attendance and provided input for the subsequent Board meeting.

FM's bylaws stating when the Directors meet do not actually allow for flexible scheduling of the general member's meeting.

Your Board recommends a

change to the bylaws to permit greater flexibility as we seek the best time to hold meetings.

Current bylaws, Article V (emphasis added):

Section 6. - Meetings

A An annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held in the same city as the annual meeting of the membership and **shall precede** the membership

meeting.

Amended bylaws would read:

Section 6. - Meetings

A. An annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held in the same city as the annual meeting of the membership and shall **occur within 7 days before or after** the membership meeting.

Use the form below to cast

your ballot for or against the proposed change to the bylaws as well the re-election of the 5 Board members.



Vote!

BALLOT for ELECTION of FRIENDS of MINERALOGY NATIONAL DIRECTORS 2006 (vote for five)

____ Jim Hurlbut

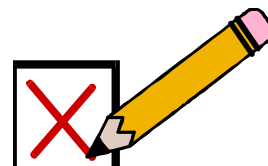
____ Dan Kile

____ Tony Nikischer

____ Art Soregaroli

____ Carol Smith

(Other) _____ (Other) _____



BALLOT for AMENDING SECTION 6 ARTICLE V of the BYLAWS

____ FOR amending Section 6 of Article V

____ AGAINST proposed amendment

Mail by Feb. 1, 2006: Virgil Lueth, New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology, 801 Leroy Place, Socorro, NM 87801
or **email your ballot by Feb. 1, 2006 to:** gloria@lithographie.org



Friends of Mineralogy
PO Box 263
East Hampton, CT 06424-0263
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Notice! Dues are Due!

The upper left hand corner of your address label indicates your chapter affiliation and the year through which your dues are paid.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.FRIENDSOFMINERALOGY.ORG

FM Annual Members' Meeting & Social – Tucson



FM Annual Members' Meeting and Social
on Tuesday, February 7 at 4:00 and 5:00 respectively
at the Cactus Room at the Clarion Hotel
102 N. Alvernon Way (1 block north of Broadway)
Tucson, Arizona

All Friends of Mineralogy members and prospective members are invited, encouraged, indeed URGED to attend our annual meeting in Tucson. The meeting will begin promptly at 4:00 pm and the social will follow at about 5:00 pm.

We need your input and ideas for our annual Board meeting, which will be Friday morning. Please, come, contribute and then socialize with some really great people!