



Friends of Mineralogy 2008 Board Meeting Minutes February 15, Innsuites Hotel

Call to Order—President Virgil Lueth called the meeting to order at 7:40 am.

Minutes of the Last Meeting—The minutes from the 2007 meeting in Tucson were accepted as printed in the newsletter. Virgil said that attendance at the Denver mini-meeting was minimal, and nothing worthy of note occurred.

Treasurers Report—Regina Aumente gave the Treasurer's report. FM had \$3413.65 in expenses and income of \$3321.00 in 2008. We currently have some \$4608.87 in the checking account and \$13,467.28 in the savings account. Regina projects a budget for 2009 that is comparable to that of 2008. She stated that sending out the newsletter electronically saves a good deal of money, but we should try harder to get more people to sign up. It was suggested that we send two copies of the newsletter to each Chapter and have them be responsible for further distribution. The suggestion was tabled pending further review. The Treasurer's report was accepted as read.

Nominating Committee - Carol Smith reported for the Nominating committee. Eleven email ballots were returned to Carol and four paper ballots to Virgil. Those 15 voters unanimously elected the entire slate of nominees to the Board. She then announced the proposed new officers: President, Julian Gray; Vice-President: Allan Young; Treasurer: Regina Aumente; Secretary: Carol Smith. The slate was accepted by acclamation. Carol also raised the point that officers are limited to two consecutive two-year terms, according to the bylaws. A motion was made to amend the bylaws to remove that condition. The members will be notified of the change in the Fall newsletter, and ballots will appear in the January newsletter. She further suggested that some Chapters are not well-represented on the Board, and a more intense effort should be made to rectify that.

Virgil turned the Chair over to Julian, who thanked Virgil for his years of service. He said that he had been quite busy with his new museum for the past year, but the museum is now open, and he is confident that he and FM can move forward.

Awards—Julian Gray presented the 2008 FM best article award winners:

The Mineralogical Record, D. London, – “Barite Roses of Oklahoma”, v. 39, n. 4.

Rocks & Minerals, J. Marty and W. Wise, – “Minerals from the Hidden Treasure and other mines in the Ophir District, Tooele County, Utah”, v. 83, n. 1

extraLapis English - WERNER LIEBER AWARD, P. Powhat – “The Garnet Group: fifteen species, endless variety” (No. 9 – Garnet).

Mineral News, J. Rumrill – “Splitters vs. Lumpers and their influence on species creation” v. 24, n. 3.

Publicity - Virgil has been doing publicity in the absence of a Chair. Gloria agreed to take on the role, and already has Sharleen's records.

Website—Jim Etzwiler said he would be more that willing to put all of the Chapter officer information on the website. He would also like to put up more symposia information, and be able to do it earlier.

Newsletter—Carol stated that it is increasingly difficult to get Chapters to respond with news items. She requested Chapter representatives present to ask that at least she, and better, all, of the National officers get the Chapter newsletters electronically. She also suggested that Chapters should send their newsletters (electronically) to officers of other Chapters.

Continued —>

FM Case — Bill Dameron stated that the FM case had looked pretty much the same for the past five or six years, and perhaps it should be redesigned. He asked for assistance at tear-down time because he has other commitments at that time. Virgil and Julian said they could do it. Bill also stated that this would be the last year he would do the case.

Symposium —Julian Gray was very positive about this year's symposium, which begins at 10:00 am tomorrow, and that the theme for next year's symposium is "Gems and Gem Minerals".

Locality Index - Art Soregaroli reported the Index Project is plugging along. Alaska is to be finished in the Spring; Tennessee, Montana, and Illinois are in the works; Art Smith is working on a couple of others.

Affiliations — John Rakovan reported that MSA would be willing to do joint projects with Chapters when appropriate, that Elements magazine would post symposia notices and calls for papers, as, he believes, will the Mineralogical Association of Canada, and that MSA's listserv is open to anyone. Nelson Shaffer said that AGI has a person to represent specimen miners about "onerous regulations", a lobbyist for geological matters before Congress. Congress is also considering a new mining law [Carol Smith has some information about this law if anyone wants it]. Skip Simmons stated that the Forest Service in his area is charging fees and licenses for educational field trips for students in his area. There is said to be no legislative regulation to support this, and that there is no review or appeal process. Regina thanked AGI for the great Earthweek packages we all get.

Meetings and Socials —Regina said only about 30 people showed up for the FM General Meeting and Social. We need to have more advertising flash next year. The sit-down breakfast this morning (as opposed to the usual buffet) worked well, and saved us considerable money as well. Marty will sponsor the Social again next year. Gene Reynolds suggested we send him a thank-you note, and to Kay Robertson and Werner Lieber as well, for their support.

Symposia Support —Virgil requested \$300 to support the New Mexico Mineral Symposium, saying they put on display all FM materials supplied to them, and tried to keep our name in the public eye. If supplied in time, they would put FM information in the symposium packets. Jim Hurlbut moved and Gene seconded the motion.

Chapter Reports - The Mississippi Valley Chapter and the Pennsylvania Chapter had no representatives at the meeting.

Jim Hurlbut presented a written report from the Colorado Chapter, which is printed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Aaron Weiting reported the Pacific Northwest chapter held its 34th rd Annual Symposium in October, with speakers including Brad Wilson and Mark Mauthner. They also held their annual cleanup/collecting trip to Washington Pass and held a fund raiser for the Rice Northwest Mineral Museum. The theme for their 2009 Symposium will be "Minerals of Africa"

The Midwest Chapter is a strong group of field collectors, and holds its meeting in locations around the region. They did not have a 2008 symposium, but John Rakovan is work on 2009, to be held in Cincinnati.

Gene Reynolds reported the Southern California Chapter had a good year, signing up a number of new members. Their work continues on the Owens Valley mines and minerals and the Museum Assistance Program, and are working on a data base upgrade.

Adjournment—The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Smith, Secretary

A Note from the Editor

Over the past year we have encountered two main problems: a lack of effective communications, and the inability to get timely chapter reports to the newsletter editor.

To take a first step to alleviate these problems, Chapter Presidents are requested to submit to all the National officers and the newsletter editor (President Julian Gray, Vice-President Allan Young, Treasurer Regina Aumente and Secretary/Newsletter Editor Carol Smith) a list of all of your Chapter officers and newsletter editors with both their email and snail mail addresses. Jim Etwiler will also post as little or as much of this information as the Chapters choose.

Additionally, there should be a more comprehensive newsletter exchange: newsletter editors should submit (electronically, to save money) their newsletters to all National officers, as well as well as to, at least, the President and Secretary and/or Newsletter Editor of each other Chapter.

——Carol Smith

The Southern California Chapter has put together an impressive packet of information regarding mineralogical and geological resources on the internet. The information includes several commercial web sites as well as USGS links, including the Geographic Names Information System, Earth Science Information Center, Ask-A-Geologist, and the National Atlas of the U.S.

To request a copy, write or call:

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Mineral News was founded more than twenty years ago by Lanny Ream of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Over the years, it developed a following of avid mineral collectors seeking timely information about new finds and other items of interest to the collector community. With the purchase of Mineral News by Excalibur Mineral Corp in 2003, the monthly newsletter has expanded to sixteen (16) pages a month, and it has added significant features such as frequent book reviews, photographs to supplement new mineral descriptions and a greater focus of articles directed to descriptive mineralogy.

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Midwest Chapter submitted by Bob Harmon

Ernie Carlson is recovering from surgery and now working on spring and summer field trips. Len Gritzer has taken over treasurer duties for our chapter. We had a Terry Huizing program on his mineral trip to China. It was given at the Richmond, Indiana rock show and very well received. Our next meeting will be at the upcoming Cincinnati show; with our meeting being worked into their program schedule and either be May 2 or 3.

Dee Slater, active in several clubs and societies, passed away following heart surgery several weeks ago.....she will be sorely missed.

Also to be noted is that road cuts in this area of the Midwest produced several high quality geode specimens (and some fossils) after the freeze/thaw cycles earlier this spring. Much of the fallen debris has now been cleaned up and mineral specimen production is again becoming sparse. Wait until next year or until we have our quarry field trips.

Pacific Northwest Chapter submitted by Wes Gannaway

2009 Symposium

The symposium will be held at the Kelso Red Lion Inn on October 16th, 17th, and 18th, 2009. Our theme is Africa and our guest speakers are Bill Pinch and Rock Currier. Most of our members may remember when Rock gave his talk back in during our banquet. Bill is the proud owner of one of the world's best rare mineral collections. I hope that all of you will be there to listen to the speakers and view some great displays. Our favorite dealers will be back in the main room and of course we should have a good turnout of satellite dealers. See you all there.

The Annual Washington Pass Cleanup and Collecting Trip

The 2009 PNWFM Washington Pass field trip is scheduled for August 7th, 8th, and 9th.

Again, we have some camp sites at the Klipchuck campground set aside for us. Our camp hosts will have a chore for us Saturday morning and then we are free for the rest of the weekend to hunt for those elusive rare minerals up in the granite rocks at Washington Pass. I will be there on Friday so come up and enjoy the beautiful area and collect some of the rarest minerals on earth. For more information if you haven't been there before, email me at for more details. Hope to see you there.

Southeast Chapter

The SE Chapter of the Friends of Mineralogy in conjunction with the Tellus: Northwest Georgia Science Museum, and the Meteorite Association of Georgia, are proud to announce our annual symposium in August will be on "Meteorites". This is a timely topic as recent fireballs have been witnessed in Texas, Georgia and Canada. Public interest continues to grow in this field. Details about the symposium, date and time, etc. will be published in the August 1st FM newsletter.

The symposium, like last year, will be held the Saturday of the Marty Zinn gem and mineral show in Cartersville (next to Tellus). There are lots of reasons to be in Cartersville that weekend!

For more information, please contact Anita Westlake at 404-761-7849 or email: libawc@emory.edu

Pennsylvania Chapter submitted by Doug Rambo

The Pennsylvania Chapter Board of Directors has been working diligently to prepare for the upcoming symposium on Pennsylvania Mineralogy. This year's event is scheduled for the weekend of November 7 & 8 and will take place on the campus of Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, PA. Dr. Stan Mertzman and the faculty and students of the Geology Department have opened their facilities to us and graciously agreed to host our gathering. The speaker list for the event continues to grow and the topics for talks range all the way from the Minerals of Adams County, Fluorescent Minerals of PA, and the Bridgewater Titanite occurrence. There will be a field trip or two scheduled for Sunday November 8th.

We have elected some new officers: Arnold Mogel, President; Pen Ambler, Vice-President; and Doug Rambo, Treasurer.

The Chapter was saddened to lose three members from our membership. Dr. Allen Heyl (October 24, 2008), Neil Wintringham (January 31, 2009), and Harvey Cantor (February 2, 2009) have all passed away in the past few months. All three were great supporters of the organization in one way or another. Our sympathies go out to their families.

Call for Papers

Friends of Mineralogy Symposium

Gems and Gem Minerals

13 February 2010

The thirty-first annual Friends of Mineralogy symposium will be held in conjunction with the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show and will take place on Saturday, 13 February 2010. It is sponsored by the Friends of Mineralogy, the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, and the Mineralogical Society of America. The symposium theme is the same as the show theme: *Gems and Gem Minerals*. Presentations on descriptive mineralogy, paragenesis, classic and new locations, and related subjects are welcome. An audience of amateur and professional mineralogists and geologist is expected.

Anyone wanting to present a paper should submit a 200-300 word abstract to Julian C. Gray, Tellus Northwest Georgia Science Museum, P.O. Box 3663, Cartersville, Georgia, 30120; email juliang@tellusmuseum.org; phone 770-606-5700; fax 770-386-0600. Presentations will be twenty minutes in length, followed by a period for question. Abstracts must be submitted by 1 August 2009.



e-Newsletter

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

Ask your chapter secretary to notify National FM, alternatively you may email Regina (raumente@aol.com) or Carol (carolsmith72@msn.com) to receive this newsletter via email.

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

Friends of Mineralogy - Colorado Chapter
Annual Report to the National Meeting of
The Friends of Mineralogy at Tucson, February, 2009

Our five regular meetings last year enjoyed presentations on a wide range of topics and experiences:

Bruce Geller, having settled into his new role as curator of the Mineral Museum of the Colorado School of Mines, conducted a behind the scenes tour of the museum. Member Len Keller shared with us the nuances of species collecting. Jim Burnell gave us his take on uranium mining operations in Colorado and elsewhere. Harry Covey presented his experiences mining gold tellurides from his own Boulder County, Sunshine Mine. Dr. Bob Carmein explored the mining history of the fabulous Cripple Creek and Victor mining districts in Colorado's Teller County.

In September, FMCC Board members, Bruce Geller, Jim Hurlbut and Pete Modreski were key organizers for the M & M 6 international gathering held at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Colorado. FMCC provided financial support for the Poster Paper sessions held during this conference.

In 2007 the groundwork was laid for the formation of a conservation committee to explore how our chapter might better meet the needs of our mineral community in the following areas:

- Awareness
- Preservation of Localities
- Preservation of access to collecting localities
- Preservation of specimens for public, research and educational access
- Dissemination of information regarding mines/mining history, the scientific, esthetic and educational value of minerals; and to serve local teachers.

We continue to explore and plan in these areas.

In '08, for the Denver Mineral Show, Richard Parsons organized a discussion panel about mine closures and alternatives. Richard was also instrumental in starting a micro-mineral study group which meets monthly at the School of Mines and is rapidly gaining members. One of its longterm goals is to host a micro-mineral symposium.

In May we will conduct our annual silent auction. The silent auction is seen as just one way FMCC can encourage mineral specimen preservation as it keeps minerals moving on to new homes rather than collecting dust in old abodes.

In September of '09, we will again man our mineral identification booth at the Denver Gem and Mineral Show.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Havens, President

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FM Leadership

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Midwest Chapter: President, Bob Harman; website www.indiana.edu/~minerals

Pacific Northwest Chapter: President, Wes Gannaway, 1604 Brookwood Dr., Ferndale, WA 98248, (360)384-42B9, debnwes@comcast.net; website www.pnwfm.org

Pennsylvania Chapter: President, Arnold Mogel, 15 Oak Road, Schuylkill, PA, 17972, pioche@verizon.net; Secretary, ; 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), rreynolds220@verizon.net; Secretary, Jennifer Rohl, 212 Backs Lane, #C, Placentia, CA 92870; (909)781-9310, rohl@earthlink.net, website: www.mineralsocal.org/scfm/welcome.htm

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Southeast Chapter: President, Anita Westlake, 1253 Spencer Avenue, East Point, GA 30344; (404) 761-7849; libawc@emory.edu; website: www.southeastfm.net

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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, (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 Carol Smith, newsletter editor, carolsmith72@msn.com; 303-4639-9090.



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.FRIENDSOFMINERALOGY.ORG

Please check the year in the upper right hand corner of the your mailing label. If it is any number less than 2009, your dues are overdue, and this might be the last newsletter you receive.

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Dues Reminder –
Chapter Treasurers &
National Members

It's that time of year again when we beg, plead and cajole you to remit your dues for the coming year. National members please send your check for \$11 to the treasurer, Regina Aumente, 6 Santa Ana Loop, Placitas, NM 87043. Chapters, please send your updated membership lists and dues payments as soon as possible. Your continuing support is needed so that we can afford to communicate with members, provide donations for Chapter symposia, offer awards at the Tucson show, and in other ways provide encouragement for mineral collectors.