

August, 2009



## President's Message

### What Can FM do for you?

What exactly does FM do? As you read this newsletter take note of how much outreach we are doing. Several chapters have excellent symposia that reach hundreds with great educational opportunities. Annually we encourage education through great writing through our award for best article in *Rocks and Minerals*, *Mineral News*, *Mineralogical Record*, and *ExtraLapis English*. In February we honor best educational cases for institutions and individual at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society show. Also in Tucson we hold a day-long symposium in conjunction with the TGMS and the Mineralogical Society of America. We also produce state mineral localities indices to document mineral occurrences. What does FM do? *A LOT!*

### What can you do for FM?

Stay in FM and stay active. There are many opportunities for you to help. Write articles, help judge articles and exhibit cases, volunteer your time to help with committees. Also within these pages you'll read that mineral sites are being closed to collecting. Help get the word out on ethical collecting practices so that we are not the problem. Then work with landowners and lawmakers to inform them of the importance of continued access to collecting locations. Remain positive and keep after this. In the mean time, document sites so that at least we have that valuable data on these sites.

Communication is critical. Please heed Carol's message about communication. It takes a little effort, but will help Carol do her stressful job more easily and helps the organization function better. And copy the board to ensure that all leadership folks know what is happening throughout FM.

Stay in touch and see you in Denver.

Julian C. Gray, President

#### FM Board Meeting

Friday

3:30 PM September  
18, 2009

Denver Gem and Mineral Show

Meeting Room to be  
determined

Check the Denver  
Schedule

All Chapters and Committee Members please get agenda items to FM President Julian Gray. Also, please send all Chapters should send a representative to this meeting. If you are not able to attend, please send a report of your Chapter's activities to Julian.

### 30th Annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium

Friends of Mineralogy is one of the sponsors of this long running symposium held on the campus of New Mexico Tech in Socorro. Twelve speakers present half-hour talks on a variety of topics, mainly concerning Four Corners region, but inclusive of all aspects of mineralogy. The year's featured speaker is Ray DeMark, who will give a presentation that provides a retrospective of his 30 years of collecting and participation in the symposium.

New this year, the symposium will be held in conjunction with the first ever Mining Artifact Collectors Association symposium. The MACA symposium will begin at 1:00 p.m., during a scheduled break in the Mineral Symposium, and run until 3:00 p.m. with the final two presentations concurrent with mineralogical presentations.

The symposium begins with an informal "tailgating" session at the local motels. This year the designated motel is the Quality Inn but wheeling and dealing occurs at other motels and out of the backs of cars. The tailgating is not a formal "show" but it kind of looks like one.

The symposium opens at 8:00 a.m. and talks begin shortly after nine. The symposium breaks at noon for two hours and resumes at 2:00. At the symposium a continental breakfast and all breaks are provided as part of the registration. A cash bar "Sarsaparilla and Suds" begins at 6:00, approximately an hour after the final presentation of the day. A banquet and auction to benefit the symposium ends the Saturday session. The talks resume Sunday morning at 9:00 and end at noon. At 1:30, a silent auction, sponsored by the Albuquerque Gem and Mineral club, is held for the benefit of the Mineral Museum. Table "rent" is \$ 20 with the proceeds going the museum. Sellers keep any profits from the auction.

For more information please contact: Virgil Lueth 575-835-5140 or see our website at:

<http://geoinfo.nmt.edu/museum/minsymp/home.html>

### Southeast Chapter

Again this year, Tellus: Northwest Georgia Science Museum was kind enough to host our annual mineral symposium. This year the topic was "Meteorites" and over 50 people were in attendance.

Robert Ward, a well-known meteorite hunter from Arizona gave a talk about how he finds meteorites all over the world. Dave Gheesling, a local Atlanta businessman, talked about "Meteorites 101" and shared specimens from his vast collection. Scott Harris, a geologist, talked about meteorite craters, shocked quartz and chemical analysis of meteorites and tektites.

After the symposium, a brief auction of meteorite material was held and the proceeds went to benefit Tellus.

The symposium was held in conjunction with the Marty Zinn SE Gem and Mineral Show next door at the Holiday Inn.

Admission to Tellus was free that weekend.

It was a great way to spend a hot weekend in August. Next year the symposium theme will be "Gold".

Anita Westlake, Acting President

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### 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 Etzwiler 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

## Colorado Chapter

The 42nd Annual Denver Gem and Mineral Show will be held September 18–20 at the Denver Merchandise Mart, in the Expo Hall. Speakers and their presentations include:

A Mammoth Find in Florissant by Steven Veatch

Ammonites Windows to The Past by Neil L. Larson

Silicification of Fossil Wood by Richard Dayvault

New Jersey Fluorescents: Today and Tomorrow by Dick Hauck

The Princeton Scientific Expedition of 1877, from College to Colorado by Steven Veatch

Research on the Depositional Environments of the Denver Basin by Bob Raynolds, PhD

Early Fossil Collecting in Colorado by Beth Simmons, PhD

The Saturday Night Special includes a Silent Auction to benefit Rocks and Minerals Magazine, entertainment by the Borsch Brothers, and the presentation “Cruisin the Fossil Highway” by Kirk Johnson.

**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

Many Midwest quarries are closed as the slow economy has put a squeeze into road construction, thus dampening demand for crushed stone and other quarry products. We have not gotten into several quarries this spring, but did go to Salem, Indiana quarry where collecting for CELESTINE and CALCITE was pretty good. We will go to Delphos, Ohio quarry on August 28.

Much discussion is currently revolving around the news article appearing about May 27 in several Indiana newspapers stating that "Roadside rock collecting in Indiana is not only dangerous, but illegal". As many of us know, several roadcuts in Indiana have yielded great fossils and minerals and geodes over many years. These specimens grace many museums and private collections. Midwest collectors have come to these roadcuts, like the famous Harrodsburg, Indiana geode cuts, for these many years and spent countless tourist dollars in Indiana with little trouble. Now the Indiana Dept of Transportation (INDOT) seems to be taking a heavy handed approach that all the rocks on the roadside right of way are state property and it is illegal for the individual to take them; convincing the local and state police to either arrest roadside collectors or at least run them off.

Could roadside rock collecting in Indiana be nearing an end ??? Or perhaps can the club leaders organize and approach the Indiana Department of Tourism and convince them to get INDOT to "lighten up", perhaps issuing a yearly collecting permit with appropriate collecting rules and regulations like fishing and hunting permits. Within the next year or two, "time will tell".

## Pacific Northwest Chapter submitted by Wes Gannaway

Our symposium on African minerals is right on schedule with our guest speaker list including Rock Currier, John Schneider, Steve Ouderkirk, and George Gerhold giving talks on African Minerals and mineral cataloging. The Symposium will take place on Oct. 16, 17, and 18 at the Red Lion Inn in Kelso, Washington. The hotel phone number is 360-636-4400. Please identify yourself as a FM member to get the discount rate.

Our annual August trip to Washington Pass was a success with 11 members and guests showing up. Some of us even climbed to the base of the spires at Liberty Bell Mountain to collect in the boulders on the slopes. Please join us next year, always on the 2nd weekend in August. Contact Wes Gannaway at [debnwes@comcast.net](mailto:debnwes@comcast.net) for more information.



### 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](mailto:raumente@aol.com)) or Carol ([carolsmith72@msn.com](mailto:carolsmith72@msn.com)) to receive this newsletter via email.

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

## Pennsylvania Chapter *submitted by Doug Rambo*

New Officers for the Pennsylvania Chapter are:

President Arnold R. Mogel [Pioche@verizon.net](mailto:Pioche@verizon.net)

Past President Doug Rambo [Drambo417@comcast.net](mailto:Drambo417@comcast.net)

Reminiscences of a Mineralogist by Art Montgomery

Price \$6.00 plus 3.00 shipping

Order from Doug Rambo 105 Delaware Ave , Wilmington , DE 19803

### 2009 Fall Symposium

“PENNSYLVANIA MINERALOGY”

Saturday November 7 and Sunday Nov 8, 2009

Contact Doug Rambo [Drambo417@comcast.com](mailto:Drambo417@comcast.com)

or Arnold Mogel [Pioche@verizon.net](mailto:Pioche@verizon.net)

Registration form at

[www.geocities.com/sajas.geo/FM/index.htm](http://www.geocities.com/sajas.geo/FM/index.htm)



Silverton-Durango Train Station, May 2009



## 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](mailto:juliang@tellusmuseum.org); phone 770-606-5700; fax 770-386-0600. Presentations will be twenty minutes in length, followed by a period for questions. Abstracts must be submitted by 1 August 2009.



Durango to Silverton Narrow  
Gauge Railroad

May, 2009

Photo by C. Smith

*The Mineralogical Record* magazine, founded in 1970, is the most authoritative and widely respected mineral collector's journal in the world; no serious advanced collector would be without it. Contents include reports on important mineral localities old and new, and articles on the fascinating history of mining, mineralogy and mineralogical literature, as well as reviews of public and private collections, market reports from contemporary mineral shows, oversized special issues devoted to particular themes, and occasional supplements on special topics. All of these articles and features are illustrated by abundant top-quality color photography of fine mineral specimens. Six issues per year, 80 to 96 pages (or more) per issue. To subscribe visit [www.MineralogicalRecord.com](http://www.MineralogicalRecord.com), where back issues, books, and useful databases can also be found.

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### National Friends of Mineralogy Board of Directors

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### Chapter Presidents (also Board Members) and ex-Officio Members

**Colorado Chapter:** President, Larry Havens, Lghavens@aol.com; P.O. Box 5276, Golden, CO 8-401-5276

**Midwest Chapter:** President, Bob Harman; website [www.indiana.edu/~minerals](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.mineralsocal.org/scfm/welcome.htm)

**Mississippi Valley Chapter:** President: Larry Nuelle, [rreynolds220@verizon.net](mailto:rreynolds220@verizon.net)

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

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



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
[WWW.FRIENDSOFCMINERALOGY.ORG](http://WWW.FRIENDSOFCMINERALOGY.ORG)

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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.