

# FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

# Volume 43, No.2

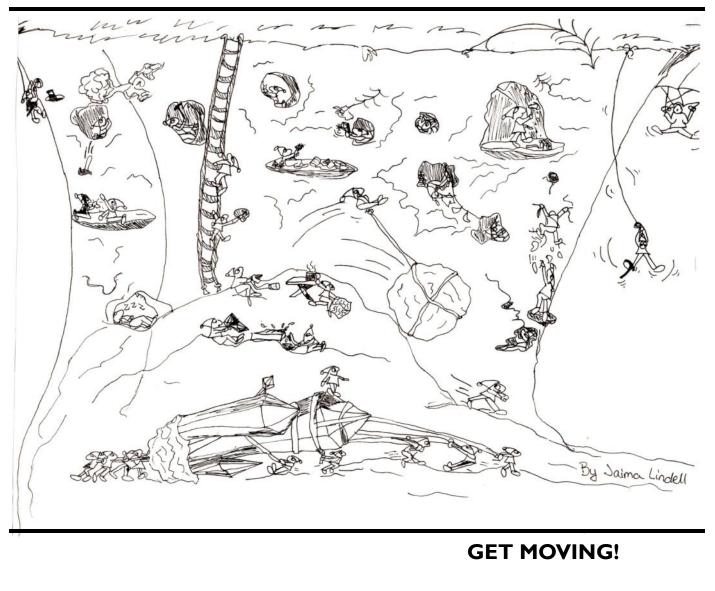
# June 2013

to promote. support, protect and expand the collection of mineral specimens and to further the recognition of the scientific, economic and aesthetic value of minerals and collecting mineral specimens.





# IT'S TIME TO GO FIELD COLLECTING



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A quick editor's note:

It's been almost two years since I agreed to serve as editor for the Friend's of Mineralogy National Newsletter. I promised Allan Young that I would continue as long as he is president. The only problem is that I signed on to be an editor, not to be the writer. I need material to work with. The newsletter is a valuable tool to inform members of the activities of the officers, board, and locals, but it can be more than that. This newsletter belongs to the members of the organization and should be used by all members to communicate with each other. If you take a field trip, send me a picture and a paragraph. If your local has a meeting, send me a picture of the group in action and a brief report of the activity. If you have a bragging rock send me a pic. If you have an opinion on something relevant in the mineral word, express it in a letter to the editor.

The goal of the newsletter is to make it not just informative, but enjoyable to read. If you get it in your email and quickly scan through it but then later feel compelled to go back and reread it in depth, then I have succeeded. I have relied upon my friends and family for the filler material to flush out the newsletter and make it easy and enjoyable to read. This source is wearing thin and becoming redundant. It's time for others to take the 5 minutes to send me something. If you can do it for Facebook, you can do it for this larger audience of serious collectors.

waiting to hear from you john lindell, editor lindell4@aol.com



## FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP FALL MEETING

Merchandise Mart, Denver Show

Friday, September 13, 3:30pm

This meeting is open to all members and serves as an opportunity to discuss issues, voice concerns, and report on activities. Please plan on attending this important meeting.

## NATIONAL OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Allan Young, 315 East Carter St., Boise, ID 83706; <u>allanyoung@msn.com</u> VICE PRESIDENT: Gloria Staebler, PO Box 11613, Denver, CO 80211; <u>Gloria@lithographie.org</u> SECRETARY: Mark Mauthner, 1737 San Pablo Dr., San Marcos, CA 92078; <u>mmauthner@gmail.com</u> TREASURER: Carol Smith, 5085 W 136th Ave, Apt 308, Broomfield, CO 80023; <u>smith72@comcast.net</u>

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## NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## **CHAPTER PRESIDENTS (ALSO BOARD MEMBERS)**

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### Friends of Mineralogy National Chapter Annual Meeting February 15, 2013, InnSuites City Center, Tucson, Arizona

The meeting was called to order at 7:55 am by President Allan Young.

Allan Young (President), Gene Reynolds (representing SCFM), James Hurlbut (representing the Colorado Chapter), Marie Huizing (Rocks & Minerals, ex officio), Guenther Neuemeier (Mineralogical Record, ex officio), Julian Gray (ex officio), Sue Liebetrau, Jim Etzweiler (webmaster), Nelson Schaffer, Brian Swoboda (visitor), Virgil Leuth, Regina Aumente, Gloria Staebler (Vice-President), Clyde Spencer, and Al Liebetrau (visitor) were present. Only eight of those in attendance (in bold) were voting members of the board and it was determined that we did not have a quorum.

Vice-President's Report: Gloria Staebler presented the winners of FM's 2012 educational case and best article awards.

Best Article Awards (awarded Tucson 2013):

MINERAL Monograph Blue Flash and Red Fire: Mining Jacksons Crossroads Amethyst by Ryan Bowling

Mineral News Whitecapsite Igor Pekov, Anthony Nikischer, Martin Jensen, Joseph Leising

Rocks & Minerals

Copper-banded Agates from the Kearsarge Copper-bearing Amygdaloidal Lode, Houghton County, Michigan by Tom Rosemeyer

The Mineralogical Record The Sulfur Mines of Sicily by Renato Pagano & Wendell E. Wilson

Best Education Cases (awarded Tucson 2013):

Individual: Ellen Alexander for "Happy 200th Birthday– James Dwight Dana" Institution: Natural History Museum, Los Angeles County for "Fluorite Fun Facts"

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Carol Smith was not present at the meeting and no report was presented.

Secretary's Report: Secretary Mark Mauthner was not present at the meeting to report the results of the election of board members. He later emailed that the slate of members was elected by unanimous decision.

Allan noted that he and Vice-President Gloria Staebler would reach the end of their term limits in two years. Gloria has declined to run for president, we thus need to recruit a new slate of officers for 2015.

**Publicity**: The position was vacant. Regina Aumente volunteered to take the position at the meeting, and she was appointed.

Webmaster: Jim Etzwiler reported that the site is up to date.

Locality Indices: Marie Huizing distributed a list of the states with published locality indexes as well as of those yet to be done. The latter list is as follows: Alaska (Doug Tolland working on it), Arizona, Delaware, Florida (Leonard Himes working on it), Hawaii, Kansas (Mark Sherwood working on it), Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oregon (Aaron and Jade Weiting are working on it), Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, West Virginia.

John Lindell and Bart Cannon are working on an update of Washington state.

**TGMS FM Booth**: Nelson Shaffer feels that the FM booth is a success and is even well staffed, although there are open 30-minute slots available for members who wish to greet potential members.

By-laws: Virgil Leuth is working on an update to the by-laws to reflect changes in the way the modern FM operates.

TGMS Symposium: The symposium is chaired by Julian Gray, who reported an exciting slate of speakers for the 2013 Fluorite Symposium. The theme of next year's symposium is Diamond. Julian is looking for speakers for the 2014 symposium. Julian would love to be working with a co-chair.

**Newsletter**: Editor John Lindell was not in attendance. Allan Young reported that he is pleased with the newsletter and that the GIA has requested to reprint an article that appeared in it. There are ongoing requests for advertising space, which we have historically declined.

#### **Chapter Reports:**

The <u>Colorado</u> chapter was represented by Jim Hurlbut, who gave no report.

Clyde Spencer, new President of the <u>Midwest</u> chapter, reported that the chapter's board has undergone significant turnover, and they are seeking new leadership. They would like to organize more field trips in the future. The chapter is hosting a mini symposium with John Rakovan speaking on his experience teaching geology in Poland and Terry Huizing speaking on the mindat trip to Morocco. A review of the TGMS fluorite exhibit will also be presented.

Sue Liebetrau reported for the <u>Pacific Northwest</u> chapter. She noted that the chapter's highly successful symposium was held in October 2012. Speakers included Dick Dayvault, Les Presmyk, Alfredo Petrov, and Bill Dameron. The chapter's annual field trip took the form of a road cleanup at Washington Pass. The PCNW chapter recently updated its bylaws.

The Pennsylvania chapter was not represented at the meeting.

The <u>Southern California</u> chapter was represented by Gene Reynolds who reported a stable membership, an upcoming symposium on hematite, which included a collecting trip across the state line into Arizona.

Nelson Schaffer reported that the <u>Mississippi Valley</u> chapter is seeking new leadership as a number of officers have stepped down.

Affiliations: Three of the five organizations with which we are affiliated had representatives present, but none had anything to report.

**Old Business:** Allan Young noted that Werner Lieber once again donated \$500 to Friends of Mineralogy. Allan sent a thank you note. Werner Lieber, Marty Zinn and Kay Roberston are Life Members of Friends of Mineralogy.

Virgil Lueth submitted a formal request for a \$500 grant to support the New Mexico Symposium, something we have done for several years. As we did not have a quorum, we agreed to hold a vote via email as provided for in the bylaws.

**New Business**: Allan Young opened the floor to Brian Swoboda of Blue Cap Productions, who pitched the idea of FM's funding an advertising supplement to the Mineralogical Record, expected to be released this year, that highlights young collectors. Brian presented a number of thoughts:

A child-focused cover

Copies provided free to Mineralogical Record subscribers

Additional copies, those perhaps funded by FM would be given wider distribution

A DVD supplement to the supplement was proposed

Some discussion ensued. Questions and suggestions that were raised included "What is the budget of the project?" How many additional copies are they requesting funding for? (Swoboda promised to get back to us on both.) "What is the possibility of distributing the supplement with the AGI packets during Earth Science Week?" (This did not seem to work with the Min Record's publication schedule, but Swoboda agreed to investigate the possibilities.) Swoboda was considering highlighting collecting on a foreign trip and one member wondered whether it might be nice to keep the field collecting aspect closer to home and more in reach of the target audience.

The discussion was tabled until Swoboda could provide more information and a quorum was present. Blue Cap Productions is a for-profit business.

Allan received three additional written funding requests:

The New Haven Mineral Club is seeking support to enhance their child education fund. The Rice Northwest Museum has sent a letter requesting funds for a new Mineralogy Room Claudia Sherman is seeking funds for a "California Native Rock Park"

The letters are available for any board member who would like to review them. None of the requests were put to vote.

Allan also received a letter from a group in New Jersey inquiring about starting a chapter in that state. The requirements for starting a new chapter were discussed and Allan agreed to reply to the New Jersey group.

Allan suggested and offered to follow-up on arranging to make available merit badges that can be earned by Boy and/or Girl scouts.

Gloria Staebler suggested that FM begin to give awards for the best educational cases at the Denver Show in addition to those at Tucson. This idea has been floated before, but this time, we agreed to initiate the awards: one for the best educational case by an individual and another for the best case by an institution. As Vice-President Gloria will arrange for judges and will makeup the award certificates. It was not determined where and/or when the winners would be awarded their certificates. Allan Young will check with the Denver Show committee before finalizing this plan.

FM officers were twice approached in 2012 with questions about creating new chapters. A new chapter must have at least 10 members. Virgil and Allan agreed to put together the guidelines, which will be posted on the website.

It was noted that Rutgers University is looking at disposing of their mineral collection. Allan will send a formal letter to the university questioning the advisability of such a decision.

Adjournment: Allan Young adjourned the meeting at 9:20 am, but not before expressing his disappointment with the board's poor attendance at the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted, Gloria Staebler, Vice-President



Friends of Mineralogy informational booth at the 2013 Tucson Show

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, Carol Smith, 5085 W 136th Ave, Apt 308, Broomfield, CO, 80023 (email: <u>smith72@comcast.net</u>). 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.

FM Members:

I recently spent 15 months serving as a member of the Western Mojave (WEMO) Transportation Management Area (TMA) Subgroup which documented valid access to BLM lands in an effort to prevent road closures. We divide the types of recreation we found into:

**Vehicular Recreation:** Cycles, quads, SUVs that were testing vehicles and drivers abilities without regard for the environment.

**Vehicle Assisted Recreation**, where vehicles were used to reach a destination where recreation started. This includes Hobby Collecting (Rocks & Minerals), bird watching, BLM volunteers assisting with paleo & archaeo resource management, inventory of biotic communities, USGS fault mapping, etc.

The BLM felt that Vehicular Recreation was the biggest group of desert users. With a lot of research, we were able to show that Vehicle Assisted Recreation was a very strong (but silent) presence in the Mojave. For all groups using public lands (BLM, USFS, State Lands) I would encourage you to make your numbers and user days known to the agency. Make contact, and let an individual know that they are supporting an "Educational public outreach program" (they get credit for that). Ask for a waiver of camp ground fees; ask if they have dumpsters where you can deposit trash left by others that you collect; send them pictures of happy groups around a camp fire. I know this sounds corny, but our per capita access to public lands needs to be documented or access roads will be closed for the sake of satisfying a judge in Washington DC (or other special interest groups).

Take a few minutes to review the Subgroup Report, as well as the 500MB appendices. When roads to collecting localities in your area are threatened with closure, you just might need to use this as a format.

The Subgroup report can be found on the Desert Advisory Council webpage: <u>http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/info/rac/dac.html</u> Appendices: ><u>http://www.DeathValley.com/dac/wemo/</u>

> >
>If you would like to download a copy of the Final Report, please visit:
>http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/ca/pdf/cdd/upcoming\_dac\_meeting.Par.62318.File.dat/
WEMO\_Subgroup\_DAC\_Report\_lune2013.pdf

Thanks, Bob Reynolds

Taken from the spring newsletter



Vol. 41 No. 1

#### SPRING 2013

### **President's Message**



Well, Spring is upon us, and the cold weather is soon to be a memory. The Winter was uneventful for usexcept that I did turn 67. Some wise, old man once told me: "If I'd known I was going to be around this long, I would have treated myself a bit better!" I believe I can relate to this! For an excellent

indoor Winter activity, like many of you, I have been working on my collection.

The first field trip of 2013 was held at the Cornwall Mine in Cornwall, PA, on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Despite the day greeting us with a rather brisk breeze, it turned out to be beautifully clear and warm - perfect for collecting!

I was glad to see about 20 people show up for the event. Many folks left with specimens. Along with some neat geological specimens, the minerals collected were: garnets, magnetite, pyrite, byssolite, and possibly ruizite (still to be confirmed). All in all, it was a well-rewarded outing for those who came - I was sorry that more members didn't take advantage. I tried photographing some of the specimen found but my camera failed me.

I recently was able to obtain another small collection of Cornwall specimens. They were obtained while the mine was still operating. They are mostly thumbnails and micros. These, I believe, were also puttogether by both Milt Leet and Art Montgomery. I have yet to go over them in detail. I'll have more on this collection as I explore it further.

Ihope to hold a Board meeting in June to plan two other field trips for 2013, and of course, we will plan the Symposium for this Fall (first weekend of November 2013).

Please contact me with suggestions for possible field trip locations that you'd be interested in.

I want to thank all who have paid their 2013 dues. It keeps the Chapter going! I sent out a postcard reminder this past month to those who have not yet paid their 2013 dues. Despite the smeared ink on some of them, I had a very good response so far (ink malfunction ?). I thank you for your quick responses! If you received a postcard notice and have not responded, I must assume you have lost interest in the Chapter. With that said, this will be your last newsletter, unless I receive your dues by the end of May.

I visited Mt Pleasant Mills Quarry in early February. The pit showed very little activity, except for the Wavellite areas on the ridge. It is still possible to obtain Wavellite specimens. The pit, on the other hand, was rather void of good collecting material. It is my understanding that the quarry has been taken off the market for now. This is good news for mineral collectors, at least for the 2013 season. It is my understanding that activity has resumed in the quarry again, as of April, but has produced little - if any -



"collectible material"

Please visit the FM-PA Chapter web site. There is a wealth of information that you can access. Ron Sloto keeps it updated, and current with the addition of new material, and links to other sites you may not be aware of. There is also information on our Chapter's activities.

Arnold Mogel, President, FMPA. Chapter

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Collecting at Cornwall

# Page 9

### Cornwall field trip specimens

Photos by William Kochanov

Right:. "hairy" byssolite (not natrolite as discussed during the field trip) on magnetite.

Below: Ruizite (to be confirmed).







# MIDWEST CHAPTER NEWS

Taken from the May-June Newsletter

## President's Message

There have been a lot of changes in the last few months. Nelson Shaffer resigned as treasurer at the January business meeting, and Jeff Spencer (no relation that we are aware of) stepped up and has been doing an excellent job getting us back on our feet. We have been operating for the last several years without being incorporated and without a nonprofit tax status. Jeff filed the articles of incorporation with the state of Ohio, and opened a new checking account close to his home with USBank, which has a branch near where I live. He is now going over the financial records from the Indianapolis credit union, which the chapter has used for several years, and is trying to sort things out. About 15 of you have complained that your membership checks have not been cashed. We are trying to get to the bottom of this also. I apologize, but we may have to ask that some of you re-submit a check for membership.

Also, John Blue resigned as newsletter editor. Tasked Tom Bolka if he would serve as editor and he graciously agreed to do so. He previously produced the newsletter for the Miami Valley Gem and Mineral Society. This is his first newsletter for Friends of Mineralogy.

There are a couple of short bio's for Jeff and Tom in the newsletter.

Jeff's wife typed out the Constitution and Bylaws from one of the very few hard copies in existence. Thanks to her effort, you can now all have electronic copies and the Chapter will be in compliance with the governing documents, which says that all members are to be provided with copies.

If you missed the mini-symposium at Miami University in March, you missed three very interesting presentations with some great pictures. Also, the university has a great small museum that was open for browsing.

The Chapter has liability insurance and I'm happy to report that we were able to make the premium payment on time.

I have been coordinating with Reggie Rose to try to put together a field trip program for this field season. I have been corresponding with the president of the Mississippi Valley Chapter of FM to try to arrange some joint trips. We are trying to get some trips together for other than the usual Ohio and Indiana trips. Reggie's report has more details on this.

At this point we still need to fill the position of First Vice-President (Program Committee Chair), and Liaison Officer. This chapter can only be as good as the people who are willing to support it. Please consider donating your effort to improve the chapter.

Lastly, I want to let everyone know that there will be a short business meeting on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, at noon, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Cincinnati Gardens (2250 E. Seymour Ave., Cincinnati) during the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Cincinnati Show Geofair 2013. See you there.

## Minutes for the FoM meeting, March 16th, 2012

Miami University, Oxford Ohio

Officers present: Clyde Spencer, Reggie Rose, Jeff Spencer, and John Davis. Also, Tom Bolka, our new newsletter Editor.

There were 8 Midwest Chapter members and 2 National members for a total of 10 FoM members present.

After a tour of the university mineral museum and enjoyable presentations by John Rakovan on collecting in Poland, Terry Huizing on collecting in Morocco, and Tom Bolka giving a Tucson 2013 recap, the meeting was called to order.

Clyde Spencer, president, expressed concern about our ability to hold formal meetings and if we met the full quorum requirements because we are missing two officers and we don't actually know the number of members in the chapter. The meeting was dominated by an update on the efforts of Clyde Spencer and Jeff Spencer to establish an Incorporated and non-profit status for the Midwest Chapter of FoM. It appears that the original FoM Indiana chapter was dissolved in 1996 and any corporate or non-profit status was dissolved with it. The only existing documentation uncovered related to the Midwest Chapter is a 2001 constitution and a 2009 Employee Identification Number.

Jeff Spencer, treasurer, is still unsure of our financial status, because of his inability to get records from the credit union that our chapter has been using. It appears that we may not have as much money in our account as thought. He has to get Bob Harman and Nelson Shaffer to sign off on that account and to authorize he and Clyde as the new representatives in order to access records and open a new account. This is not proving to be an easy task. Also, it appears that there are many checks written this year for membership dues that were not deposited. After Jeff gets things straightened out, there may be a need to have some membership checks rewritten. Jeff states he's not even sure if we have paid our National dues for 2012. Jeff also shared that the check book shows that the last deposit made was Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> 2012; however, the checkbook was last balanced two years ago.

Clyde has spoken with our insurance company. For anyone who wants to collect somewhere that requires liability insurance while on personal or corporate property, we are insured for that. If anyone needs proof of this insurance, Clyde can get this proof within 24 to 48 hours notice on a case by case basis. The next premium, about \$600, is due in April.

Reggie asked John Davis to research a possible Western Kentucky fluorite field trip. Also, he is researching a possible auto call system for future field trip notification. This would solve many problems with notifying members regarding upcoming trips. Reggie is currently checking on collecting opportunities in New York, and Clyde is looking into possibly returning to Indianapolis for the great pyrites.

The January minutes stated that a vote was taken on "per diems" for Clyde Spencer and Nelson Schaffer while at the Tucson show. This was a misstatement. It should have been called a partial reimbursement of expenses associated with going as our representatives. Also, Clyde Spencer has stated that if the records show we don't have as much money as previously thought, he will not be requesting the reimbursement.

Respectfully submitted,

John Davis - http://www.flickr.com/photos/57016498@N04/Secretary



# PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER NEWS

**Dear fellow mineral collectors,** we are well into spring and into what seems a spate of warm weather. In years past, such warm streaks passed only to be followed by summers that never seemed to materi-

alize. Let's hope this year that the fine weather is a harbinger of an excellent summer and fall.

When I last wrote, one issue that faced us was what to name our next symposium. Based on recommendations and numerous ideas, the symposium committee voted and arrived at: *Minerals Galore: Alkaline Intrusive Complexes of the World*.

The idea came about when we considered what distinguishes Alkaline Intrusive Complexes from other localities. One thing stood out—they are diverse—many produce hundreds of individual species—literally *Minerals Galore.* 

Planning for the symposium is well underway. We have put together an outstanding slate of speakers and their talks will span the world from our local favorite, Washington Pass, to Greenland, Quebec, and Malawi—literally *Minerals Galore*.

Our topic this year had gained a somewhat underground following, and was decided by the popular vote of our members at our last meeting. The topic is an area where there is much to learn—so it should be a great opportunity for our members to explore this area of mineralogy. Since it is an area where some of us, at least, are not as familiar, we welcome those who wish to display at the symposium this year to expand into the realm of Minerals of the Northwest should they not be able to mount displays from Alkaline Intrusives. This is in line with the undercurrent of perhaps the greatest Northwest Locale—Washington Pass. Of course, displays are always welcome that are different from the symposium theme. If, for example, you specialize in blue minerals, or fluorite from Mozambique, your displays of those specialties will be welcome.

I should mention that Alkaline Intrusives are not devoid of display worthy specimens. Some famous Alkaline Intrusive localities that have produced outstanding display specimens include the Erongo district in Namibia; Mount Malosa, Malawi; Mont St-Hilaire, Quebec; and our own Washington Pass area.

We will have a business meeting at the Seattle Mineral Market this year. The Mineral Market is on a Sunday— May 26—and the general meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. Topics will include a proposed work party to move our recently purchased display cases down closer to the site of our symposiums. The Seattle Mineral Market itself is an event that is worth attending. There will be a good number of mineral tables and dealers present, and the show attracts attendees from across the country.

We will once again hold our annual Washington Pass clean-up. This year, the clean-up will occur on August 9-

11 at the Klipchuck campground in Okanogan National Forest. Please contact the Clean-up organizer, Wes Gannaway, <u>debnwes@comcast.net</u>, should you wish to attend. For those who have not attended, it is perhaps our most enjoyable annual event and you should come. We spend part of Saturday performing work for the National Forest, and the rest of the time is spent collecting and socializing. Highlights usually include collecting using UV lamps in the evenings, and a potential hike up Liberty Bell. This year is the year to attend, given our symposium topic.

As always, one of the best parts of this job is the opportunity to communicate with members. I encourage you to stay in touch via e-mail or telephone, and let me know what you are thinking about PNWFM.

Best Mineral Wishes, Bob Meyer



Zektzerite with Astrophyllite inclusions, Washington Pass, collected by Kristin Lindell Photo by Frank De Wit

# The Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Friends of Mineralogy 39th Annual Symposium and Mineral Show

October 11-13, 2013 Red Lion Inn, Kelso, Washington

# **Minerals Galore!**

# **Alkaline Intrusive Complexes of the World**

**Speakers** 

Randy Becker

"The Golden Horn Batholith"

# **Henrik Friis**

"The Ilimaussaq Complex"

"Comparison and Contrast: Washington Pass, Mt. Malosa (Malawi) and Gjerdingen (Norway)"

# **David Joyce**

"Mont St. Hilaire" " Calcite Vein-Dykes of the Grenville Geological Province"

**Mike Wise** 

"Mt. Malosa"

# **Main Floor Dealers**

EARTH'S TREASURES: Richard Kennedy LEHIGH MINERALS: Jim and Yolanda McEwen PACIFIC RIM MINERALS: John Meek XTAL: Dennis Beals

# **Room Dealers**

North hallway rooms will be selling minerals from Pacific Northwest and worldwide locations

# Displays

The Show will feature at least sixteen world-class mineral displays, including a display from the Northwest's finest mineral museum: The Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals

# Free Admission to the Mineral Show and Dealers Registration required for Speaker Program and Banquet

For more information: Contact

Bob Meyer (pyrite111@hotmail.com, 425-433-1088)

Albert Liebetrau (liebetrauam@msn.com, 541-504-4751)

# **The Micro Mineral Collector**

By Bob Meyer

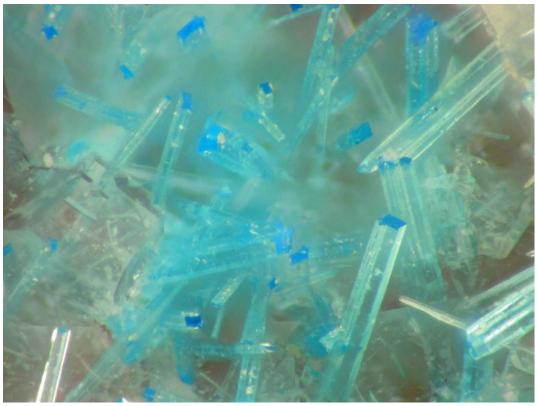


Goethite—superb golden bow-tie sprays on Quartz from Walker Valley, near Mount Vernon, Skagit County, Washington. The field of view is 1.6 mm.

# Buy and Use a Good Microscope-adopted from Neal Yedlin

The micro mineral collector operates on a number of levels. The second premise set forth in the early installments of this column is that using a microscope can teach us something we would not otherwise learn about virtually every mineral specimen in our collections. This premise is well-illustrated by the photograph above. With the naked eye, the specimen is simply a piece of druzy quartz with a covering of tiny brown spots. However, when we study the specimen with a microscope, we learn that the geochemical environment responsible for the druzy quartz later fostered the formation of these lovely golden sprays of goethite. Without magnification, the real significance of this specimen is not evident.

The selection of photographs in this installment of *The Micro Mineral Collector* are intended to illustrate aspects of what can be learned when one puts an innocent, unsuspecting mineral specimen under the microscope. It is my hope that you enjoy these examples.



Pentagonite—unusual pseudosymmetrical multiple twinned crystals displaying pentagonal basal patterns from near the Owyhee Dam, Malheur County, Oregon. The odd basal faces of these crystals and their pronounced pleochroism are not evident at all without magnification. The field of view is 1.1 mm.



Arthurite—two apple green radial sprays of terminated crystals from the Copper Stope, Majuba Hill Mine, Pershing County, Nevada. This is a detail from a large cabinet specimen that is richly covered in tiny rosettes like these. The specimen is nice without magnification, but details such as the deeper green terminal faces are not noticeable without a scope. The field of view is 1.8 mm.



Olivenite—sharp green crystals on a limonitic matrix from the Majuba Hill Mine, Pershing County, Nevada. The crystals appear to be dramatically color-zoned green and red-brown with the naked eye or with low magnification. The photograph shows the zoning to be due to the transparency of the Olivenite and the color of the underlying material. The field of view is 2.1 mm.

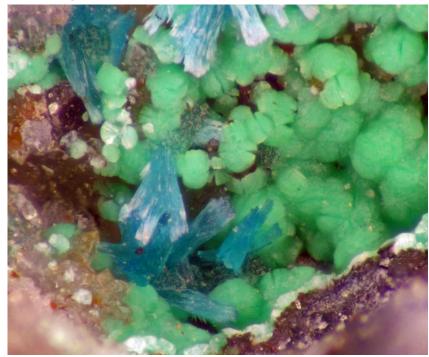


Realgar—a bright red equant crystal with a couple of smaller elongated crystals on sandstone from the north side of the Green River Gorge, across from the Reward Mine, King County, Washington. This specimen was collected by FM Newsletter editor John Lindell and obtained from him for \$0.94 in 1989 (John, my version of the Kyanite you obtained for \$2 from BC). Without magnification the tiny elongated crystal is not evident, nor is the interesting surface texture of the crystal. The field of view is 5.2 mm.

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Nordstrandite—exceptionally good crystals of this uncommon aluminum hydroxide mineral with a cluster of black altered Siderite from Cerro Sapo, Ayopaya Province, Cochabamba Department, Bolivia. Cerro Sapo is an usual Andian alkaline complex and home of superb Amesite, Dawsonite, Ankerite, and others. The Nordstrandite is a relatively recent addition to the locality listing. This is an example of a locality that is friendly to the micro mineral collector. The field of view is 3.3 mm.



Utahite—blue sheave-like crystals of this rare copper zinc tellurate from the Centennial Eureka Mine, Tintic District, Juab County, Utah. Utahite is one of six type locality species for the deposit. Each of these type-locale species contains tellurium, none are available in macroscopic crystals, and none would have been submitted for description without the existence of microscopes (or observant micro mineral collectors). The FOV is 1.1 mm.



Variscite—a sharp curved pink-magenta crystal of ferrian Variscite from the Iron Monarch open cut, Iron Knob, Middleback Range, Eyre Peninsula, South Australia, Australia. While the tiny pink-magenta crystals are visible on this piece without magnification, the beauty and exquisite crystallization of the mineral is not at all evident without study under the microscope. The field of view is 3.8 mm.



Legrandite—transparent golden terminated crystals from the Ojuela Mine, Mapimi, Durango Mexico. In closing, most mineral collectors wish they had a magic specimen enlarging device (be nice if this was actual size). The only such existing device is a microscope. FOV=5.0 mm. Cheers!

# CALL FOR PAPERS 34<sup>th</sup> Annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium November 9-10, 2013 Socorro, New Mexico

The New Mexico Mineral Symposium provides a forum for both professionals and amateurs interested in mineralogy. The meeting allows all to share their cumulative knowledge of mineral occurrences and provides stimulus for mineralogical studies and new mineral discoveries. In addition, the informal atmosphere allows for intimate discussions among all interested in mineralogy and associated fields.

This year's symposium will consist of a day and a half of formal papers presented in 30minute time blocks. Papers will focus on mineral occurrences from New Mexico and adjacent states, as well as Mexico. A few selected papers may be presented from other parts of the world. An informal pre-symposium social and tailgating session will be held at local motels beginning on Friday, November 8, 2013 and will last through the weekend. No formal field trips are planned.

A silent auction, sponsored by the Albuquerque Gem and Mineral Club for the benefit of the Mineral Museum, will be held on Sunday afternoon, November 10. The auction will be open to the public and all interested may buy or sell. All sellers pay a modest fee to the club to benefit the symposium and Mineral Museum. More information will be available at the symposium.

# **CALL FOR PAPERS**

Papers on mineral occurrences in New Mexico and adjacent states (including Mexico) are invited for 30-minute presentations. All papers on the history of collecting, geology, and geochemistry of mineral occurrences, new mineral localities, and mineralogical research will be considered.

Titles of papers must be submitted by July 15, 2013, to be included in the final announcement and program. Abstracts must be submitted no later than September 15, 2013. Abstracts can be no longer than 1,000 words. Electronic submissions are encouraged, via email or on standard electronic storage media. Hard copy versions are also accepted if sent in a timely manner.

Please submit titles and abstracts to:

## Dr. Virgil W. Lueth

New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources New Mexico Tech 801 Leroy Place Socorro, NM 87801 vwlueth@nmt.edu 575.835.5140

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# FM AFFILITIATES



The Friends of Mineralogy is a long-time affiliate of *The Mineralogical Record* magazine. The magazine was founded in 1970 by John White, who was at that time a curator in the Mineral Sciences Department of the Smithsonian Institution. With the initial help of a financial backer, Arthur Montgomery, White succeeded in launching and bootstrapping the fledgling publication to the point where it was marginally selfsustaining. After seven years as editor and publisher, White stepped aside for a new Editor, Wendell Wilson. Since then the *Mineralogical Record* has grown steadily in size, quality and prominence, thanks to the contributions of over 700 authors, photographers, artists, advertisers and donors. It has become a collective labor of love on the part of the entire mineralogical community worldwide. It is the only journal to have received the Carnegie Mineralogical Award. Subscriptions, back issues, books and a variety of free databases are available online at www.MineralogicalRecord.com.





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Linarite; 7 cm across. Blanchard Mine, Bingham, Hansonburg District, Socorro County, New Mexico, USA. Mark Mauthner photo; courtesy Heritage Auctions (<u>ha.com</u>).