

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

Volume 44, No.2

September 2014

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.

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Colorado Minerals photos by Bob Meyer

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Midwest Chapter 18 Fieldtrips



FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

2014 FALL MEETING

All Members Welcome

Friday, September 12 3:30 pm

Denver Merchandise Mart Meeting Room K44-46

NATIONAL OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Allan Young, 315 East Carter St., Boise, ID 83706; allanyoung@msn.com VICE PRESIDENT: Alex Schauss, P.O. Box 1174, Tacoma, WA, 98041; alex@aibmr.com

SECRETARY: Mark Mauthner, 1737 San Pablo Dr., San Marcos, CA 92078; mmauthner@gmail.com

TREASURER: Gloria Staebler, PO Box 11613, Denver, CO 80211; Gloria@lithographie.org

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NEWLETTER EDITOR: John Lindell, 25714 268th Ave S.E., Ravensdale, WA 98051; lindell4@aol.com

NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Term expires 2015:

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Mark Mauthner; mmauthner@gmail.com Sue Liebetrau; liebetraum@msn.com John Lindell; lindell4@aol.com

Term expires 2016

Bob Meyer, pyrite111@hotmail.com Virgil Lueth; vwlueth@nmt.edu Regina Aumente; RAumente@aol.com Carol Smith; smith72@comcast.net

Term expires 2017:

Allan Young; allanyoung@msn.com Gloria Staebler; gloria@lithiographie.org Nelson Shaffer; shaffern@indiana.edu Alex Schauss: alex@aibmr.com

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS (ALSO BOARD MEMBERS)

COLORADO CHAPTER: Mark Jacobson; markivanjaconson@gmail.com

MIDWEST CHAPTER: Clyde Spencer; c_spencer123@att.net

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER: Bruce Kelley; <u>bruce.kelley@gmail.com</u> PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER: Joe Marchesani; Jmarch06@comcast.net

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER: Bob Reynolds; rreynolds220@verizon.net

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY CHAPTER: Larry Nuelle; lnuelle@shawneelink.net

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER; KC Dalby; fluorite1@aol.com

EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

ROCKS & MINERALS MAGAZINE: Marie Huizing; rocksandminerals@fuse.net MINERALOGICAL RECORD MAGAZINE: Wendell Wilson; minrecord@comcast.net MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA: Alex Speer; jaspeer@minsocam.org

Minutes of the Friends of Mineralogy Board Meeting, 8:30 am 15-February-2014 Tucson, Arizona

The Board meeting was called to order by President Allan Young at 8:49 am.

Attendees:

Regina Aumente, Jim Etzwiler, Marie Huizing, Mark Jacobson, Al Liebetrau, Sue Liebetrau, Virgil Lueth, Mark Mauthner, Günther Neumeier, Alfredo Petrov, John Rakovan, Jolyon Ralph, Bob Reynolds, Nelson Schafer, Alex Schauss, Terry Schuiling, Clyde Spencer, Gloria Staebler, Allan Young.

A majority of the Directors were present which constituted a quorum.

Election of Board Members:

Nominating Committee Chairperson Virgil Lueth presented the slate of Board candidates, who were Allan Young, Gloria Staebler, Nelson Shaffer, and Alex Schauss. Secretary Mark Mauthner reported that the ballots received were unanimous for the four candidates, and these candidates were affirmed as new Board members.

President Young stated that there will likely be some vacancies in the Board next year, and asked everyone to think about who might be a good candidate.

Filling of Vice-President Vacancy:

President Young reported that Vice-President Gloria Staebler resigned from her position effective this Board meeting, and that filling this position was next on the agenda. Alex Schauss was nominated and the nomination was seconded by Nelson Shaffer. There were no other nominations, and Alex was elected to fill the position of Vice-President by a unanimous vote of the Board members.

Officers' Reports:

President:: Allan Young reported on some of FM's activities throughout the year. These included co-sponsoring the 2013 TGMS Symposium, providing financial support to the New Mexico Symposium, sending a letter to Rutgers University in support of their mineral museum (the museum did not close as suggested it would), and presenting Best Article and Best Educational Exhibit awards at the 2013 TGMS Banquet as well as making a cash donation to the respective publications. FM also, for the first time, presented awards for the Best Educational Exhibits at the Denver Show. Finally, FM welcomed a new chapter in 2013, the New Jersey chapter.

Vice President: Gloria Staebler announced the winners of the 2014 Best Article awards as well as the Best Educational Exhibits. These were as follows:

Mineral News: Walter Brown Smith (1858-1939) - Pioneer Colorado Mineralogist-Geologist, by Mark Jacobson.

Rocks & Minerals: Fluorite in Mississippi Valley-type Deposits, by Jesse Fisher, Ross Lily, and John Rakovan.

Mineral Monograph (Werner Lieber award): *Color and Luminescence in Apatite*, by John Rakovan and Glenn Waychunas.

The Mineralogical Record: The Touissit-Bou Becker mining district, Morocco, by Steffen Jahn and Rainer Bode.

Best Educational Exhibit by an Individual: Individual, "Diamonds: Diversity in Forms and Colors," by David Kalins.

Best Educational Exhibit by an Institution: "Treasures of Gold and Gemstones from the River Rhine," by Mineral Museum of Bonn, Germany.

Gloria expressed her thanks to the seven judges that provided their input on these awards.

Secretary: Mark Mauthner had nothing further to report.

Treasurer: Carol Smith was not present at the meeting. Allan Young passed out copies of previous financial reports for several years ending with 2012. As of the end of 2012, the National FM organization had approximately \$23,000 in their treasury, between checking and savings. President Young stated his desire that some of this money should be put to use in promoting the goals and objectives of FM.

Committee Reports:

Before beginning with committee Reports, President Young introduced Jolyon Ralph, who gave an update on MinDat's efforts to become a non-profit organization in the US. He stated that the best option at this point seemed to be to take over an existing non-profit with 501(c)(3) status. As the Hudson Institution has a mission that very much overlaps with MinDat's, it would make a very good fit. Jolyon also brought up possible opportunities for closer, more formal relationship with the friends of mineralogy. FM's involvement in locality indices was brought up and much discussion regarding FM's potential involvement ensued. One of the main issues was the vetting process by which this would be done. Jolyon and others responded to questions regarding this. Nelson Shafer moved and Mark Mauthner seconded a motion to formalize a relationship between the Friends of Mineralogy and MinDat. Further discussion ensued until it was brought up that the motion was for a formal relationship at this point and that details could be worked out later. Clyde Spencer pointed out that a relationship is contingent on MinDat becoming a nonprofit organization. Allan Young requested to table the issue until the New Business section of the meeting. No objections were made to this request.

Awards (Gloria Staebler): Nothing further to report.

Publicity (Regina Aumente): Nothing to report.

Web Master (Jim Etzwiler): Jim reported that the website is up-to-date except that the current newsletter is not yet up. He also called for information on upcoming events and/or news to be posted. Sue Liebetrau asked if the website has visitor tracking. Jim did not know. The question had been raised by Nelson during the February 2012 board meeting and the minutes reflect that Jim replied that we do not have visitor tracking. Gloria asked about passwords and if there are seconds in place that have them. Allan asked Jim to give the passwords to Gloria so that she can be his backup. Allan also asked Gloria to work with Jim on updating the website. Clyde asked if it is AGI that hosts the FM website. It does. Gloria inquired as to the costs of this hosting and Jim responded that our membership in AGI covers those costs. This led to a discussion about our membership in AGI and whether or not the money we pay is worth it. Allan asked the question whether we should continue or go independent. Virgil noted two things: first, that we need to again look at our membership (Carol Smith had previously sent out a questionnaire) and make sure that it is reflected accurately in what we pay AGI as we pay per member, and second, that our membership in AGI. Regina also made the comment that we actually need to do something in order to increase the mineralogy content of the materials provided by AGI.

Mineral Locality Indices (Nelson Shaffer): Covered previously in Jolyon's presentation. He had nothing further to report. Allan Young mentioned that one individual was working on a Hawaii index.

Tucson FM Booth (Nelson Shaffer): Nelson noted that we had signed up new members and are giving away things to children in hopes to increase their interest in rocks and minerals. There also many handouts advertising symposia to give away, and Nelson opined the booth is a good way to build community. Nelson called for members to fill a few slots to man the booth this year. In light of the new insurance requirements, Nelson also asked whether or not we should be doing this next year and the Board voted yes.

Tucson FM Display (Virgil Lueth): Virgil briefly reported that the TGMS exhibit case featured information on the awards presented.

By-Laws (Virgil Lueth): Virgil presented a report on behalf of the By-laws Committee and stated that the bylaws have been reviewed by Sue Liebetrau, Allan Young, and himself to see if any changes needed to be made. He then went over several possible changes, including those dealing with awards, the locality indices project, and the tasks of Secretary and Treasurer. As to the latter it is the Committee's recommendation that membership lists and the letters of inquiry be maintained and addressed by the Secretary. A debate ensued regarding the maintenance of membership lists and how we should go about it. President Young suggested that a work group be formed to look into the problem. Clyde Spencer, Gloria Staebler and Virgil Lueth volunteered as work group members.

TGMS Symposium (Julian Gray): Julian Gray was not present at the meeting to give a report on the TGMS symposium as he was attending the current symposium. Allan Young noted that the theme of next year's TGMS show was "Minerals of Western Europe" and that Board members might want to think about potential speakers for next year's symposium and contact Julian about them.

Newsletter (John Lindell): John Lindell was not able to attend the Board meeting this year but informed Allan Young that he would be willing to stay on as newsletter editor until February 2015. Allan asked the Board to start thinking about a replacement. The person does not have to be a Board member, and perhaps there is someone in one of the chapters that would like to do this.

Chapter Reports:

Colorado Chapter (Mark Jacobson): Mark reported on the activities of the Chapter, which were outlined in the current National newsletter. He reported that FM volunteers maintained a mineral identification booth at the Denver show. He also stated that the Chapter was considering sponsoring a symposium the week before next year's Denver show.

Midwest Chapter (Clyde Spencer): Clyde reported on a number of developments concerning the Midwest Chapter. A new President, First Vice-President, Treasurer and newsletter editor were appointed, with the Second Vice-President continuing from the previous year. Nelson Shaffer was appointed Liaison Officer for the Chapter. Clyde reported that the demographics of the chapter members have shifted over the years, so that now the largest concentration is in Ohio. During the year, the Chapter registered as a Ohio non-profit corporation, reviewed and balanced 2012 records (audited by former Chapter Treasurer), addressed several bookkeeping issues, moved their checking account to a new bank, reduced the mail distribution list and cut postage expenses, implemented Google Groups Email system for newsletter distribution, purchased new liability insurance policy for Ohio, and documented Chapter Treasurer procedures and practices. The Chapter held a mini-symposium at Miami University (Oxford, OH) with presentations by John Rakovan (sabbatical in Poland), Terry Huizing (Morocco MinDat trip), and Tom Bolka (TGMS fluorite displays), and Nelson Shaffer presented a talk on Indiana meteorites at a local mineral show. A number of summer field trips were also sponsored by the Chapter. Chapter dues were raised to \$20 per year upon approval by the membership. Additional funds were raised from an FM T-shirt sale. Clyde reported on the planned second edition of the book, Minerals of Ohio by Dr. Ernie Carlson, which will require financial support. (The request for support was deferred to New Business.)

Pacific Northwest Chapter (Sue Liebetrau): Sue reported on the Chapter's Symposium held in October, 2013 (the theme of which was minerals from alkaline igneous intrusives). The 2014 symposium's theme will be Colorado minerals; 2015, fluorescent minerals.

Pennsylvania Chapter: No report.

Southern California Chapter (Bob Reynolds): Bob reported that there were two symposia this past year and one upcoming. The chapter also financially supported research on rare-earth minerals and other projects.

Mississippi Valley Chapter: No report.

New Jersey Chapter: No report.

Old Business:

Kid's Supplement: Mr. Young stated that there was nothing new to report regarding a possible kid's supplement to the MR.

Merit Badge: President Young reported that he had not made much progress on the idea of a Boy Scout merit badge for mineralogy. The Boy Scouts together with SME are about to unveil a new merit badge relating to mining, and this effort took many years to get to this point. Allan promised to renew his efforts to develop a draft proposal for BSA to consider.

National Liability Coverage: New Jersey chapter president, Mr. Dalby, reported to President Young that he had done considerable investigative work into the possibility of FM obtaining national liability coverage though a single policy. This work was not successful in coming up with an affordable plan, but he thanks all of the Chapter presidents who provided information on this subject. President Young stated that he will continue to investigate this possibility.

New Mexico Symposium: Virgil Lueth presented a letter to the Board from the New Mexico Bureau of Mines & Mineral Resources asking for financial assistance in support of their annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium. President Young tabled a vote on the subject for new business.

National Newsletter: Some discussion was held regarding the problem of some of our members not receiving the National newsletter and the possibility of using Google Groups. President Young asked Gloria Staebler and Clyde Spencer to work together and come up with a better process for distributing the newsletter and report back to the Executive Committee.

New Business:

Connecticut Museum Grant: President Young reported on a presentation made at the General Membership meeting by John Pawloski, Director of the Connecticut Museum of Mining and Mineral Science. He is looking for help in funding a third wing of the museum, which will be used as an earth science education center.

Budget: President Young opened discussions regarding how better to use National funds for promoting the goals and objectives of FM. It was suggested that we establish a limit for donations and other financial support, but no motion was made regarding a specific number.

National Dues: Given our current financial situation, it was suggested that, in order to help out the local chapters, a reduction in the dues that the National organization receives from the chapters may be in order. Clyde Spencer mentioned that the current National dues amount of six dollars per year per member was established when the Newsletter was being sent out by mail, thereby incurring a significant cost. Virgil Lueth noted that with a reduction in membership fees there might be a concomitant reduction in donation funds. Clyde Spencer moved and Sue Liebetrau seconded a motion to reduce the National dues from six dollars per member per year to four dollars. A vote of the Board was taken and it was unanimously approved to reduce the National dues to four dollars per member per year, effective in 2014.

New Mexico Symposium Support: Mark Jacobson moved, seconded by Alex Schauss, to donate \$500 to the symposium, as we have done in recent years. The motion was approved by vote of the Board; one abstention.

Minerals of Ohio Book Project: Clyde Spencer moved and Mark Jacobson seconded a motion for the National FM to provide financial support for the publication of the second edition of the Minerals of Ohio book in the amount of \$500. A vote was taken and the motion was carried with one vote opposed.

Affiliation with MinDat: Mark Jacobson moved and Nelson Shaffer seconded a motion to form a formal affiliation with MinDat. The motion was unanimously carried. Alex Schauss volunteered to head up a committee to develop a plan for how the two organizations would work together to achieve their common goals.

As there was no additional new business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 am.

TWINS:



Quartz, Reichenstein-Grieserntal Twin, Mt. Teneriffe, King County, Washington, USA. I Icm. Collected 5/11/89 by John Lindell. Photo by Mark Mauthner



Quartz, Japan Law Twin, minor Luinaite(OH), Bald Hornet Claim, King County, Washington, USA. 9.6cm. Collected 7/15/84 by John Lindell. Photo by Mark Mauthner.

ART



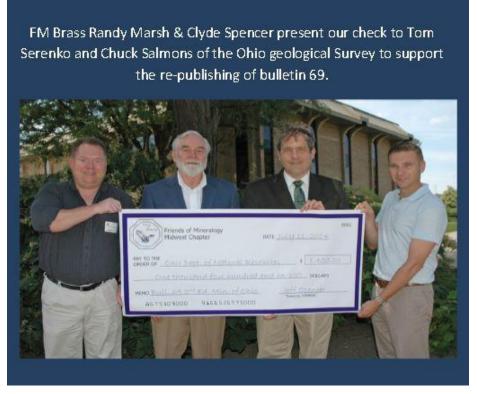
Wulfenite, Rowley Mine Maricopa County Arizona, USA, 3.0 cm. Collected 2/7/83 by John Lindell. Artwork by Kendra Sermersky.





The hike to Green Ridge, King County, Washington, USA . Artwork by Kristin Hansen Lindell

Midwest Chapter Friends of Mineralogy Funds Ohio Minerals Bulletin 69 reprint



Members of the Midwest Chapter Friends of Mineralogy present a check for \$1,400.00 to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to help fund the publishing of the revised edition of Bulletin 69 –Ohio Minerals book. This included \$500.00 from their treasury, \$500.00 from the National Friends of Mineralogy treasury and \$400.00 from individual member contributions.

FM and Dr. Werner Lieber to sponsor TGMS exhibit case

If you were present at the Main Convention show in Tucson this past February, you could not help but notice the beautiful new exhibit cases that debuted there. You may also have noticed that some of these cases had a small brass plaque affixed to them. TGMS (a not-for-profit organization) is accepting donations to help offset the cost of these cases. For a one-time donation of \$500, the donating party will have a brass plaque with their name on it attached to one of the new cases for TGMS visitors to see for years to come.

As many of you know, Dr. Werner Lieber has been a supporter of the Friends of Mineralogy for many years, and just this past January sent FM another cash donation of \$300. National Friends of Mineralogy President, Allan Young proposed that FM sponsor one of the TGMS cases in the amount of \$500 and that the plaque should be in the names of both Dr. Werner Lieber and Friends of Mineralogy. The Board voted overwhelming to support this measure.







Leslie Moclock, Curator, and Alex Bridge

Julian Gray new Executive Director of Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals Leslie Moclock assumes Curator position

Julian Gray has been selected as the new Executive Director of the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals; Leslie Moclock has been chosen as the new curator. Both assumed their positions at the museum in May.

Julian was formerly curator at the Tellus Science Museum in Cartersville, Georgia. He worked on the expansion of the Weinmann Mineral Museum from 2005, helping to turn it into the Tellus Science Museum in 2009. He earned his Bachelor of Science from Georgia State University in 1981 and his Master of Science in geology from the same school in 1998. Julian is a long-time member of Friends of Mineralogy and past president of the national organization. He and his wife, Barb Epstien, are excited to be in the Pacific Northwest, fulfilling a dream they have had for some time.

Leslie has worked on and off in museums since she was an undergraduate at Amherst College, where she graduated in 2009 with a degree in geology. She received her masters degree in geology from University of California, Davis. Recently she worked at Oregon Museum of Science and Industry. Leslie's husband Alex Bridges is a doctor in residency at Oregon Health Sciences University and both are relative newcomers to Portland.

The museum, located just outside of Portland Oregon in Hillsboro, has a long and close association with the Pacific Northwest Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy (PNWFM). Richard L. Rice and Helen M. Rice began it as a private museum in 1952, and their daughter Sharleen made it a nonprofit 501(c) 3 corporation in 1997. Sharleen is a charter member and former president of PNWFM. Chapter members loan specimens for display, and contribute specimens, money and time. The chapter is a group member of the museum, entitling members to free entry and other benefits. The museum hosts PNWFM events and is an important exhibitor at its annual October Symposium, now in its 40th year. Its first full-time curator was PNWFM charter member and zeolite expert Rudy Tschernich. When he retired Lara O'Dwyer Brown became curator and also acted as Executive Director in 2013 -2014. Lara is moving to Denmark because of her husband's work and will be sorely missed.

Pacific NW Chapter Friends of Mineralogy

40th Annual Symposium & Mineral Show

Minerals of Colorado

October 10-12, 2014

Red Lion Hotel, Kelso, Washington

Main Floor Dealers - Lehigh Minerals, Xtal, Pacific Rim Gem & Mineral, Cascade Scepters.

Satellite Dealers – Located in first floor rooms in north wing of hotel. Dealers must be registered symposium attendee. Contact Al Liebetrau at liebetrauam@msn.com.

Exhibits – Fine mineral exhibits can be seen in the Main Floor area. Display cases provided by FM. Contact Bob Meyer at pyrite111@hotmail.com.

Auctions – Silent auction ongoing during show hours and live auction during Saturday night banquet. Donations for both auctions needed. Contact Karen or Gary Hinderman at gkmhind@comcast.net.

Contests – Mineral ID contest for individuals and best self-collected specimens (macro and micro). Entry forms available at registration desk.

Guest Speakers – Seven excellent talks on the show theme are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday.

Speakers:

Mark Jacobson is a retired geophysicist for Chevron Corporation and is currently president of the Colorado Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy. Since his high school days on Long Island, he has been interested in pegmatite mineralogy and geology and holds degrees in mineralogy and geology from Penn State and UCBerkeley, respectively. In 1993, he authored the book, Antero Aquamarines, and has written many articles for various mineralogical magazines.

Ed Raines is a geologist, mineralogist, and mining historian. He presently serves as Collections Manager for the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum. He is currently president of the Mining History Association, and is active in organizing their annual conferences. He is a past president of the Colorado Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy, and has written numerous papers on the geology, mineralogy, and mining history of many Colorado mining districts.

Dan Kile and his wife Dianne have been collecting minerals for more than 42 years. He has an interest in the topographical mineralogy of Colorado, the mineralogy and geological formation of noteworthy occurrences, and historical optical mineralogy, and has authored numerous articles in magazines and professional journals. He is presently Scientist Emeritus with the U.S. Geological Survey and Adjunct Faculty at the Hooke College of Applied Sciences in Illinois.

Don Ernest received his geology degree from The Ohio State University in 1973 and soon after took a job at the Idarado mine in Colorado. He has since held geology and management positions at mines in New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, Idaho and Montana, as well as served as a geological consultant for various U.S. companies. He collects minerals from mostly U.S. localities, and presently heads Resource Evaluation Inc., a consulting firm based in Tucson.

Minerals of Colorado Program

FRIDAY

12:00 am **DEALER & EXHIBITOR SET-UP** 5:00 pm **MAIN FLOOR OPENS** 10:00 pm **MAIN FLOOR CLOSES**

SATURDA Y

8:00 am MAIN FLOOR OPENS

8:30 am *Opening Remarks-* Bruce Kelley and Julian Gray

8:40 am Pegmatites of Colorado, A Survey of Localities -

Mark Jacobson

9:30 am **BREAK**

9:45 am Crystal Collecting at the Idarado Mine- Don Earnest

10:35 am **BREAK**

10:50 am The Leadville Silver Boom -Ed Raines

11:40 am MORNING SESSION ENDS

12:00 pm FM BUFFET LUNCH

1:30 pm Collecting Colorado I -Dan Kile

2:20 pm **BREAK**

2:35 pm Collecting Colorado II -Dan Kile

3:25 pm AFTERNOON SESSION ENDS

6:00 pm BANQUET AND LIVE AUCTION

10:00 pm MAIN FLOOR CLOSES

SUNDAY

8:00 am MAIN FLOOR OPENS

8:00 am FM BUSINESS MEETING

9:30 am Creede, A Caldera Full of Silver - Ed Raines

10:20 am **BREAK**

10:35 am The Mount Antero Mineral Locality- Mark Jacobson

11:25 am Closing Remarks- Bruce Kelley

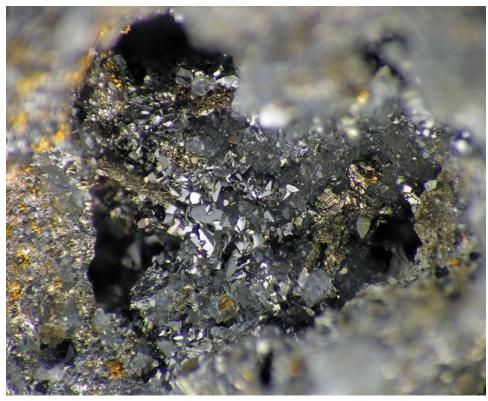
11:30 am SYMPOSIUM CLOSES

regis	tration form
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TOTAL ENCL	OSED \$
*Please pay yo	ur dues for the FY ending June

7/1/14. Only current members may register for Symposium. We cannot accept dues for previous or future years. Mail dues and completed registration form to:

15791 Bear Creek Pkwy.

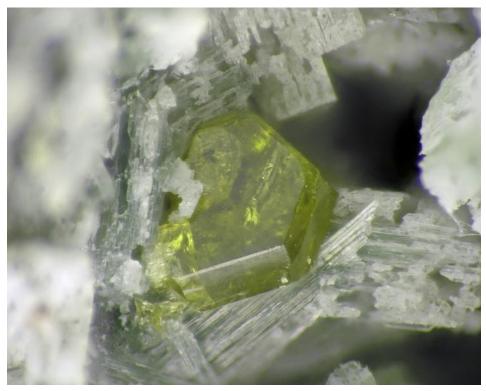
Colorado Minerals, Photos by Bob Meyer



Petzite crystals, Cash Mine, FOV=4.0 mm,



Melonite massive on Krennerite crystals, Cripple Creek, FOV 5.0 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{mm}}$



Epidote Calumet Mine, Linda Smith collection, collected by Jim Hall. I cm FOV



Pink Zircon--Calumet Mine, Linda Smith collection, collected by Jim Hall. 3 mm FOV

Reprinted from PNWFM Newsletter

North West Micro Mineral Study Group by Beth Heesacker

We each have our own view of the world, from the micro to the macro. I like to look at it in all its various sizes but recently I have focused more on the micro, micro minerals of course. A few years ago Don Howard and Gerry Petitmermet made a presentation on micro minerals at my local rock group, Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club. I was amazed at the beauty of what I saw. They invited anyone interested to join them for the next meeting of the North West Micro Mineral Study Group. Of course, being the ultra curious type I went dragging my hubby, Paul, along.

The first couple of hours of the all day meeting is spent heads bent over microscopes identifying, admiring, discussing and sharing the beauty of these very small mineral specimens. Lunch follows at noon and then the business meeting and slide presentations of new finds or of mineral collections. Of course all during the day the free tables are covered with material to be taken home to add to the members' collections.

The group is focusing a lot of its energy on Washington Pass minerals. Members have participated in the Washington Pass Cleanup event and have collected quite a suite of minerals, some unidentified. A list with pictures of the unidentified crystals has been made available to members and funds allocated occasionally to scientifically determine the chemical com-position of these minerals.

Recently Rudy Tschernich decided to retire as President. Following my philosophy that I will learn more if I get more involved, I volunteered to be President. I was assured that a high level of expertise in identifying minerals was not required for the task.

One of my first acts was a selfish one, to see if I could get started some means to help those of us without the mineral identification expertise to get up to speed a little bit faster. One request I had was the addition of beginner articles in the Micro Probe newsletter. Don Howard has written one and I sensed it was working for me, at least a little, when I woke up the next morning with an image of levyne with an erionite coating in my head.

Two people have also volunteered to host monthly identification meetings toward this end. I have attended two meetings, with some other members, at the home of Don Howard and not only have I gotten a few of my unidentified micros now identified, I am feeling comfortable occasionally making an educated guess at what the mineral is and receiving positive, or sometimes negative, feedback.

This is a hard working group that is not only collecting but actively increasing the scientific knowledge of the Washington Pass and other areas. I invite you to join us at our next meeting, November 1, 2014 from 9 am to 4 pm. The place is yet to be determined since the Vancouver PUD may need our normal room for one of their functions that day and we are searching for an alternative. Please email me if you are interested and would like to attend and I will let you know the place. (heesacker@coho.net)



Charles, Gerry, Loraine and Beth (Paul is taking the picture and Genie is assisting in the background.)



Our host, Don Howard

Taken from PNWFM Newsletter

Recent Microphotos by Bruce Kelley



Chlorargyrite
Copper Stope,
Silver Coin Mine,
Humboldt Co., NV
FOV: 0.715 x 0.552 mm
Stacking: 68 frames at 4 µm



Nissonite
Boss Mine,
Goodsprings Dist.,
Clark Co., NV
FOV: 1.15 x 0.954 mm
Stacking: 148 frames at 4 µm

From Midwest Chapter FM Newsletter

Field Trip Report "Roger's & Lehigh Heidelberg Quarries"

(Reggie Rose)

FUN & SUN IN THE HOOSIER STATE FM made a trek west to Indiana on the weekend of June 27 & 28 to do some collecting and to attend the Lawrence County mineral Show. The weekend began with 16 members attending the Friday collecting field trip to the Roger's Group Quarry in Mitchell, Indiana. This quarry is known for selenite and pyrite, and it did not disappoint. The group started on a lower quarry level but were not having much luck.



Subsequently, the group moved to an upper level where shale overburden is dumped. Here selenite was abundant in a tabular habit from clear thin plates to thicker plates exhibiting fishtail twin growth. Kathy Bailey (Dayton, OH) found the largest thin plates, while Jeff Spencer (Cincinnati, OH) found the largest plate with the fishtail twin feature. Their specimens were easily six inches across. There was a fair amount of pyrite present. It was seen in thin layers 5 mm. or less and exhibited masses of cubes piled on each other 1 -2 mm in diameter. The fragile pyrite plates were 2 - 5 mm in thickness.

Bored with the pyrite and selenite, John Lindsay (Pinckney, MI) and Mike Royal (Defiance, OH) journeyed back to the lower level and came up with huge calcite specimens massed together in stepped scalenohedrons, sometimes commonly called a cathedral habit. Friday continued and concluded with the group splitting up to collect geodes at various sites. Maps to geode collecting sites were passed out on small piece of paper. If you received one of these, you can discard it, because the maps were inaccurate. Better maps will be available next year.

On Saturday, 17 FM collectors attended a second collecting trip to the Lehigh Heidelberg Quarry of Mitchell, Indiana. In previous years we have collected calcite, celestine, gypsum, selenite, marcasite and quartz. Although the collecting was tough, this author did find one specimen with all three minerals which represented all that I saw "mineralogically". The specimen had clear blocky celestite up to 5 mm, sugary, white calcite with an indistinct crystal habit which appeared to be somewhere between a typical rhomb and a scalenohedron (2 - 3 mm). Also, it had one distinct doubly terminated white hexagonal quartz crystal between 2 and 3 mm on its long axis. Also seen were potential yard rocks with masses of rhombohedral calcite. Frank Konieczki (Belleville, MI) identified some microcrystalline marcasite. That was about it, a tough day here with only a few specimens to treasure. After the morning field trip we were privileged to hear our own and Indiana's finest, Dr. Nelson Shaffer speak at the FM meeting. In the audience, in addition to the chapter officers, were three longtime FM members: Dave Straw, past FM president (Richmond, IN) and the Heaton brothers George (Haslett, MI) and Roger (Amelia, OH). It was a nice chance to catch up on things with a couple of past and present FM members who were working as dealers. Past FM president Bob Harman (Bloomington, IN) was selling off part of his massive geode collection, while Stan Espenshade (Tucson, AZ) and Dave Straw also manned dealer tables.

From Midwest Chapter FM Newsletter

Field Trip Report "Great Lakes Quarry" (Reggie Rose)

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WOLVERINE STATE SAYS "GO BLUE"

On July 12th, FM went on a collecting field trip to the Great Lakes Aggregates quarry in South Rockwood, Michigan. This trip had many built in twists and turns that refer to the Big Ten athletic conference. FM Midwest has a significant number of members from Michigan, so they must chuckle when their FM field trip VP has to write a field trip report on a quarry in their home state. To add another Big Ten twist to this scenario, the quarry is located right in the heart of the University of Michigan's support base. The Saturday quarry crew were ardent U of M fans, so the FM field trip leader's vehicle created quite a stir. Great Lakes employees could not appreciate the beauty of the "Buckeye" van. To further complicate the Big Ten picture, the quarry superintendent turned out to be a graduate of Michigan State, home of the (green and white) Spartans. And to put one more cherry on top, FM members Frank Konieczki (Belleville, MI) and Marty Povirk (Franklin, MI) have been seen on field trips in blue shirts with yellow M's on them. Marty gets a pass this time because he works for GM and the field trip leader's van in a GMC. If the truth be known, we can all chuckle at such sports rivalries as mineral collectors, because we are all friends in the same hobby, and our hobby has a higher purpose than any gridiron rivalries.

To get to the actual field trip, 21 FM collectors journeyed to the Great lakes Aggregate's South Rockwood Michigan quarry. It is known to have fluorite (clear to brown), calcite (yellow nailhead), Celestine (white to blue), and quartz (drusy / chert). This author has seen all four minerals here in the past, collecting here has been historically tough, and this year was no exception. Despite a lack of high quality specimens, good samples were present, representing what was a wider variety of minerals present than listed above. This year Celestine was present in clear and blue with a blocky habit; some specimens displayed both colors and some crystals showed abrupt zoning from clear to blue. There was a wide variety of calcites present: nailhead (clear to yellow), poor rhombohedral (yellow and gray), and drusy scalenohedral (forming white coatings and "popcorn" masses). Also, a surprise guest showed up at the quarry in the form of sulfur (chalky looking, dull and yellow). Not surprisingly, chert was also found. Though chert is of little interest to most collectors, this microcrystalline variety of silica showed a number of interesting features. Most were light or dark gray or bluish. Sometimes the chert showed color horizons, some were finely banded, at least one specimen showed a wild bullseye pattern.



Calcite - "popcorn masses" - Reggie Rose

Now back to the Big Ten references. Why such a strange title for a mineral report? Well, the quarry is in the Wolverine state, thus the word wolverine appears. But why the phrase "Go Blue"? "Go Blue" is in the title because this quarry is known for its beautiful glassy clear blue Celestine. And at least one FM collector was saying "go blue" all day. That collector was Jay Medici (Fredericktown, OH) who hit a nice pocket of blue Celestine. Hopefully a picture of his specimens will appear in this report. And if we can't say "Go Blue", at least we'll say "oh (what a pretty) blue".

From Midwest Chapter FM Newsletter

Field Trip Report "Keweenaw Mineral Days Event" (Randy Marsh)

The Keweenaw peninsula contains one of the largest and most unique native copper deposits in the world. The peninsula is approximately 150 miles long and 50 miles wide. Utilization of copper from glacial float as well as shallow mines can be traced back at least 6800 years. Native Americans may have mined between 100 and 500 million pounds of copper from deposits on the peninsula and Isle Royale. More than 11 billion pounds of copper were produced in the district over roughly 150 years of mining activity, almost all of which was stopped in 1967. Collecting is now done mainly in the waste rock piles from the mines. In addition



finding native copper, it is also possible to find copper-silver hybrids, copper-included calcite crystals, chalcocite, copper arsenides, secondary copper minerals, datolite nodules, chlorastrolite (greenstone), and Lake Superior agates.

Each year in August the A. E. Seaman mineral museum organizes a week of collecting at various sites, known as Keweenaw Mineral Days. This year I set out with John Davis to participate in the event. We arrived on Monday, August 4 and spend the day driving around. We found a number of folks who were selling mineral specimens out of their yards (some great deals!), and also spent some time looking around Prospector's Paradise, the largest mineral shop in the area. On Tuesday, August 5 we enjoyed the open house at the A. E. Seaman mineral museum and listening to Chris Stefano give an introduction to local minerals. In all, about 140 people had signed up to participate in all or some of the events over the remainder of the week. The morning of Wednesday, August 6 we headed to Seneca for seven hours of collecting. Seneca is well known for native copper and native silver. Soon the air was filled with the excited chirping of dozens of metal detectors as about 80 people starting scanning all the rock that had been turned over with a backhoe for the event. John and I probably loaded 200-300 pounds of rock into the back of the truck on this first day. On Thursday, August 7 we were off for four hours at Connecticut and another four hours at Central Exploration. The focus at these sites was datolite and greenstone in addition to native copper. Friday, August 8 was split between three hours at Wolverine and four at Baltic, hunting for native copper, chalcocite, and copper in agate amygdules. We joined a picnic at Keweenaw Gem and Gift back in



Houghton that evening, and watched how copper specimens are prepared for sale at the store by soaking in muriatic acid, washing in water, soaking in nitric acid, washing in water, and then soaking in Copper Bright, followed by a last wash in water. This results in very shiny specimens (since the nitric acid etches into fresh copper). Using just muriatic acid alone and a power washer gives more natural looking specimens with most of the original patina intact. Our last day, Saturday, August 10 was spent at Central. I wound up finding my nicest specimen of the trip there. The specimen was prepped by soakin in muriatic acid for an hour (see photo above). For anyone who likes collecting copper, this is the place for you. Given that various companies are grinding up the dumps to make gravel, collecting in the peninsula may only be around for another dozen years or so.

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 self-sustaining. 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 a new mineral species named in its honor (minrecordite), and 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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