

EDUCATIONAL EXHIBIT COMPETITION - submitted by Robert W. Jones

You have undoubtedly read John White's excellent editorial concerning educational exhibit competition in the May-June issue of MR. If you have not, read it. It is directed not only to readers of MR, but to members of FM in particular. John makes a significant point of the need for the "professional exhibitor" to get involved with educational exhibits. It should be obvious that we have many such "professional exhibitors" within our own ranks.

Paul Seel, in a letter to Mike Groben some weeks ago, expressed much the same concern about FM members getting directly involved with our program goals. This feeling has been felt by all of us and expressed by many of us. Our goals, our programs to attain these goals, must be actively supported by the membership.

There are a number of tremendous things starting within the ranks of FM. Some are not too visible to the general mineral fraternity in spite of the importance of those programs. Educational exhibit competition, on the other hand, is extremely visible to the fraternity. It is a way that we can "advertise" or demonstrate our sincerity to help and promote the entire hobby of amateur mineralogy.

The guidelines developed and tested at Tucson last year have been revised and are in the hands of Federation officers, several show committees, and others within our organization. These guidelines are going to be applied at the following shows during the next 6 months: The Greater Detroit Gem and Mineral Show, the Pasadena Gem and Mineral Show (both on the first weekend in November) and the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show on Feb. 11-13, 1972.

As chairman of the educational exhibits competition committee I would like to propose that you consider one or two of these shows as your opportunity to support the program of educational exhibits. Plan to enter an exhibit. Whether you enter it in competition or not is really incidental since we can still, as a group, apply the guidelines for our own interest and education. Furthermore, plan your exhibit such that you would be willing to donate or loan it to FM after the show. This will, hopefully, result in a "stockpile" of excellent exhibits which FM can then make available to shows, Federations, libraries or other worthy causes for the edification of the general public. This is an obvious step toward fulfilling one of our most important goals as an educational organization.

MEMO to all FM members - from Joel E. Arem, Sec'y. FM

Criticism has been voiced in recent weeks about possible "stagnation" of FM, due to lack of achievement of "tangible" results. I feel that this is partly due to limited publicity of these achievements. Full report will be available for distribution (with biographic sketches of FM members) later this Fall (if you never sent in a questionnaire, NOW is the time to get it to me; biographies will be based on these). Consider this as interim report on recent activities of FM members:

- Educational exhibits (Jones)-guidelines have been formulated; Tucson show has authorized \$150 for educational competition.
- Locality Preservation (Lapham)-goals clearly defined; program about to get underway.
- Membership (Arem)- about 150 members now, growing steadily. Could be greatly increased through personal recommendations by FM members.
- Organization (MR-J. White)- MR is now NON-PROFIT; donations will be tax-deductable!
- Foshag Memorial Award (Mrose)- for best writing by student for MR. Proposal by M.Mrose soon to be formalized, and implemented.
- Min. Record Sales - Vi Frazier did superb job at San Francisco Show. I sent out 25 letters asking for support in regional distribution (shows, dealers) of MR. Only 5 replies! These very encouraging - C. Peat will handle sales in Toronto area; we will have table for 5 days at National Show in Seattle (Bob Smith); Spruce Pine show very successful for MR. Hundreds of copies of the magazine have been shipped to various parts of US and Canada. Frank Chambers is including flier with all personal book-sale correspondence (Francis Paul).

IS THIS STAGNATION?? More support for MR vitaly needed now. Success of MR is top priority of FM. THE BANDWAGON NOW EXISTS- LET'S ALL GET ON IT!