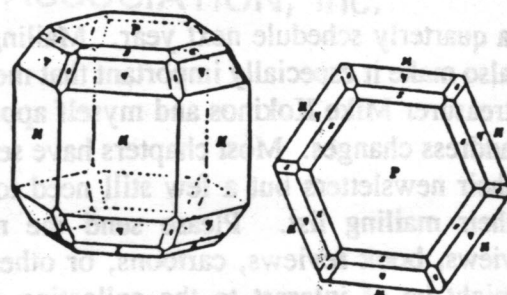


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Fig. 70.

Apatite



FM Newsletter

June, July, August, September, 1993

President's Message

So you want to know why we, as mineral collectors, should be concerned about Paleontological collecting. Why should you or I write to our congressman, senator, or representative asking them to support "The Paleontological Resource Preservation Act of 1993" which was written by the American Lands Access Association (ALAA). Because we should!

It is important that any bill regulating any facet of rock, mineral, fossil, or sea shell collecting leave us with the opportunity to collect. Regulated collecting is good. It saves something for future collectors. Forbidden is bad.

If the hobbyist cannot go out and collect, the only way to add to our collections is to trade or purchase specimens. Without new supplies to the dealers, (remember, I'm a dealer with 2 stores, as well as a collector of 45 years) prices will go up. This will encourage illegal collecting.

Some of the first collecting I did was with Alice and Russ Haggard of Lynnwood, Washington. They would take the "neighbor girl" to Salmon Creek, Washington for agate, petrified wood, and "coprolite." Last month, my husband Tom and I drove up to the new Mt. St. Helen's visitor center to view Mt. St. Helen's crater. It was only a few miles extra to stop at Salmon Creek for a couple hours of happy slogging along the creek to collect. We didn't get much, but the joy of being out doors at a familiar old location was great.

Please join & support ALAA and maybe even give "People for the West" a helping hand. These organizations are trying to keep us from over-regulation.

Please note that my phone number has been changed to 206-695-0318

Arlene Handley, President ■

Note\$ from the Trea\$urer

Some of the chapters have not forwarded all dues or a current roster. I would appreciate receiving them shortly. As of July 15, 1993 we have \$2322.43 in checking and \$8745.32 in savings.

National Members

If you haven't paid your 1993 \$10.00 dues, please do so immediately to avoid being dropped from the newsletter mailing list. Send the dues to:

Friends of Mineralogy
c/o Michael Kokinos, Treasurer
4620 Doe Street
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Directors' Meeting - Tucson, February 11, 1994 - NEW LOCATION

The annual Directors' meeting will be held at the Ghost Ranch Lodge, 801 West Miracle Mile, Tucson. Coffee will be served at 7:30 a.m. and breakfast at 8:00 a.m. sharp. If you wish to stay at the Ghost Ranch, call 1-800-456-7565. Rates are \$62.00 to \$88.00 a 10% discount is offered if you are an AARP and AAA member.

Chapter Presidents or their representative are encouraged to attend the meeting. RSVP to Mike Kokinos, Treasurer, 4620 Doe Street, Shingle Springs, CA 95682 if you plan to attend.
Mike Kokinos, Treasurer ■

Secretary's Scratchings

A hearty thanks to all those who contributed newsletters, comments, and suggestions. Because we are trying to reduce costs we have gone to bulk mailing which along with travels and travails of officers resulted in considerable delay in sending the current newsletter. As a result this year we will have three newsletters. We hope to get back onto

a quarterly schedule next year. Mailing changes also make it especially important that members keep treasurer Mike Kokinos and myself apprised of any address changes. Most chapters have sent copies of their newsletters but a few still need to put me on their mailing list. Please send me more news, views, book reviews, cartoons, or other items that might be of interest to the collecting community. Arlene has asked that I enclose information about federal laws that will possibly affect collecting in the future. Next newsletter will have information about Tucson show and Friends of Mineralogy activities. Hope to see you there!

Nelson Shaffer, Secretary ■

Chapter News

Colorado Chapter

The Colorado Chapter has been really busy. They helped sponsor publication of a new book, Antero Aquamarines, written by M. I. Jacobson. Limited copies were printed but you can obtain a copy from book stores or by mail from L. R. Ream Publishing Co., P.O. Box 2043, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-2043 for \$16.95 paper or 34.95 hardcover plus \$2.00 shipping & handling. The July Summer meeting was a pot-luck dinner at Pete & Regina Modreski's home where Mark Jacobson signed copies of his new book. The manuscript for Minerals of Colorado is being edited by Eugene Foord and photo selection and map preparation are underway. The Chapter provided an exhibit on Colorado Beryl, helped identify minerals, and provided support services at the Denver show held September 16-19. Jim Hurlbert, Regina Modreski, Neil Henricks, and Judy Konoshaug and many others were busy with the very successful and growing Denver Show.

The September meeting featured discussion of show plans plus video programs from the U.S. Bureau of Mines about Silver and Platinum. A field trip to the Sweet Home Mine was announced and the newsletter summarized developments at that mine. Four new members were welcomed. An updated membership list was prepared by Carol Smith.

After an extraordinary show (11,000 attendance, nearly 20% increase) everyone took a breath and

reported on the show at the October meeting where Dale Denhaus spoke on "The discovery of Bazzite at Mount Antero and Mount White" and Jack Murphy reported on "What's new in Colorado Minerals." Meetings are held at the Denver Museum of Natural History where Jack is Geology curator. The Newsletter is presenting articles by Dan Kile about optical mineral identification.

Great Basin Chapter

Field trips and the Great Basin Mineral Symposium highlighted activities of the Great Basin chapter. On June 20, the Virgin Mountain pegmatites were visited where several nice specimens of beryl, mica, and garnet were recovered. On July 4, a trip to Garnet Hill was held, then a trip made to Mountain Pass - Kokoweef, California area base metal mines. A harrowing trip replete with breakdowns marked a September trip to the Virgin Mountains near Mesquite. An easier trip to Searles Lake, at Trona, California yielded many evaporite mineral specimens on an October trip. Steve Scott presented an overview of Searles Lake minerals at the August 29 meeting. Six new members were welcomed to the Chapter. A caution about digging near rodent middens because they can contain Hantavirus that causes an often fatal respiratory disease was given.

The Great Basin Mineral Symposium was held October 16 and 17 at the Clark County Heritage Museum with a theme of Desert Treasures. Speakers included Michael Wise, Smithsonian Inst.; Joel Barthsch, Houston Museum of Natural Science; Bruce Veek, Round Mountain gold; Tom Lergasky, MacKay School of Mines; and Walt Lombardo, Nevada Dept. Mines. Attendance was up from 1992. Next year's symposium will be October 15 and 16 with a theme of Minerals of the Great Basin.

Indiana Chapter

The growing Indiana chapter under President Hal Roepke meets bimonthly at regional mineral shows. The membership recently voted to change the Chapter name to Midwest Chapter to better reflect the regional distribution and collecting area. The Chapter met in June at the Lawrence County show in Bloomington, Indiana where Kim Greeman of the



AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION, Inc.

June 7, 1993

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Dear Mr. Smith:

Enclosed you will find a copy of a Legislative Bill that the ALAA has written and revised as a response to the fossil legislation introduced into the US Senate in the summer of 1992, commonly called the Baucus Bill (S-3107). Also inclosed is a Summary of our Bill. Please review this Bill and Summary. If you have any questions about the bill or the ALAA, feel free to call me any evening.

The ALAA is currently attempting to get this Bill introduced into the United States House of Representatives. If we succeed, we will need the support of **ALL** amateur hobbyists, country wide, in order to get this legislation passed. Your leadership in the support of this Bill is crucial. Because there is no national list of hobbyists we can mail to, the ALAA cannot reach enough people to get this bill and message across.

Granted there are provisions and language both in and even omitted from our Bill that concern me. But to have a good chance to get this Bill passed, we must make concessions to the other very interested parties which include the museums, professional and academic paleontologists, the commercial interests, and of course, the land managers.

The ALAA was privileged to be invited to a meeting in Washington, DC, last February to meet with and learn of the concerns of these various parties. The resulting Bill (enclosed) is our best effort to address their and our concerns.

In attendance at this meeting was Jan Campbell Miller, the legislative assistant to the Honorable Senator Max Baucus. We have also been communicating to her, amateur concerns with the original Bill.

I hope you agree with us and will join the ALAA in this effort to keep this part of our hobby alive and vibrant by communicating your support to your membership and writing to your congressional representatives.

Sincerely yours,

Jon Spunaugle, President
Encl: Paleo Bill & Summary
ALAA Newlsetter

SUMMARY OF:

The Paleontological Resource Preservation Act of 1993
(proposed) by American Lands Access Association, Inc.

Purpose of the Bill: (Section 3, pg. 5)

- "To provide for the preservation of scientifically significant paleontological resources"... and,
- "to provide incentives and opportunities for amateur and other private paleontologists to collect fossils on public land"... and,
- "to foster increased cooperation and exchange of information".

Defines 11 key words and concepts including:

- Casual Use Collecting (pg. 9 #9) and exempts this activity from permit requirements (pg. 11 Sect. 6 (a)(1);
- Amateur Collector (pg. 5, Sect. 4 #1);
- Paleontological Resource (page 6 #3);
- Scientifically Significant Paleontological Resource (pg. 10 #11).
- Suitable Institution (pg. 8 #8) as a qualified repository.

Provides for permits: To be issued under certain terms and conditions for;

- Commercial Collecting (pg. 12 #3);
- Non Commercial Collecting [not qualified as casual use collecting] (pg. 13 #4);
- for Excavation of Scientifically Significant Resources (page 14 (b)).

Conditions for suspension/revocation of permits (pg. 16 (f))

Custody of resources (pp. 17,18 Sect. 7) -provides for depositing of scientifically significant resources in a qualified institution or protected at its original location.

Property rights (pp. 18,19) -including amateur collectors rights to retain resources collected unless they are "very rare and scientifically significant".

Prohibited Acts (pp. 19,20) -prohibits unlawful removal and transportation of scientifically significant resources, and prosecution under trespass rules.

Civil Penalties (pp. 20-21) -provides for fines of \$1000 and \$2000 by the land managers for violations of the Act.

Resource Confidentiality (pp. 22-23).

Provides for a public awareness program (pg. 25) including **setting aside recreational collecting sites** where practicable.

Has a section on "Savings Provisions" (Sect. 14 pg. 26) to assure that the Act does not "repeal, modify, or impose additional restrictions on activities permitted under existing laws" and does not apply to collecting rocks, minerals or fossil resources not covered under the Act.

"It is better to follow the long route of education of the public to the needs of scientists who study fossils rather than to attempt the quick fix of enacting Federal legislation punishing people with fines and imprisonment."

Dr. John Pojeta, Jr., Chief, Paleontology and Stratigraphy Branch, U.S. Geological Survey

HOUSE BILL PROMOTES FOSSIL COLLECTING ON PUBLIC LANDS FOLLOWS NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE RECOMMENDATIONS

This is a brief synopsis of the benefits of the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act of 1993 (hereinafter referred to as the House Bill) as well as some points of difference between this Act and the Baucus Bill introduced in the Senate in 1992.

SUMMARY

Fossils are abundant. Fossils are a "non-renewable" resource only in that an individual fossil once lost to the elements is gone forever. This unique nature of the paleontological resource demands that fossils be collected to be preserved. The same forces of weathering which expose fossils to our eyes will inevitably destroy them if they are left uncollected. In fact, most fossils once exposed are lost in this way. The science of paleontology is also unique in that the average person can, and often does, make valuable contributions by discovering fossil specimens and sites. Historically, some 80% of all scientifically significant specimens have been discovered by amateurs.

Consequently, a policy of open access for the collection of this resource is necessary if fossils are to be preserved. This is contrary to most Land Management practices which restrict access to resources in order to preserve them. Currently a maze of conflicting bureaucratic rules and policies are being misapplied that restrict access to fossil collecting on public lands. The House Bill establishes clear guidelines to the Land Management Agencies to open access for fossil collecting. It also provides for the special treatment of the occasional rare fossil by placing ownership of significant specimens with the United States government.

House Bill vs. Baucus

The most basic and irreconcilable differences between the 1993 House Bill and the 1992 Baucus Bill are the premises upon which each bill is written:

House Bill

- The House bill was written in response to fears about excessive regulation raised by the Baucus Bill in the amateur paleontological community.

- The House bill was written by the American Lands Access Association* (an organization formed by the largest amateur societies of paleontological collectors in the United States), in consultation with academic and commercial paleontologists.

- The House Bill remains faithful to the recommendations and statement of principle of the 1987 National Academy of Sciences report on *Paleontological Collecting*. This study resulted in a consensus document encompassing the concerns and interests of the entire paleontological community and those of federal land managers.

- The House Bill acknowledges that protecting paleontological resources on public lands requires that

access be allowed so that fossils are discovered and collected.

- The House Bill recognizes that such access is best encouraged by a clearly defined policy allowing reconnaissance and collecting without permits for all casual collecting.

- The House Bill mandates a reasonable permit process and agency oversight for more extensive collecting by museum, research and commercial paleontologists.

- The House Bill provides misdemeanor penalties for violators of this Act.

- The House Bill mandates that Land Management agencies implement educational programs and provide collecting sites to encourage interest in, and the collecting of, fossils.

* ALAA, Jon Spunaugle, President (206) 957-1343

Baucus Bill

-The 1992 Baucus Bill violated every recommendation of the 1987 National Academy of Sciences report referred to above.

-The Baucus bill was written primarily by an aide to Senator Baucus in consultation with a few academic paleontologists and some Federal Land Management agency personnel.

-The 1992 Baucus bill did not represent a consensus even within the small academic paleontological community and was widely rejected by the larger paleontological community including all the major amateur societies, the American Association of Museums

and the American Association of Paleontological Suppliers.

-The Baucus Bill assumes that protecting paleontological resources on public lands requires restricted access to public lands and fossils.

-The Baucus Bill requires that such restricted access be enforced by increasing the surveillance and enforcement personnel of the Land Management Agencies.

-The Baucus bill further mandates that violators be charged with felonies which carry penalties of hundreds of thousands of dollars and prison terms.

Benefits of the House Bill

The House Bill benefits Land Management Agencies because:

- it clarifies their mandate to manage this resource.
- it creates a positive, educational role for them by encouraging the public to understand and preserve this resource.

The House Bill benefits Science because:

- it encourages fossil collecting which preserves the resource.
- more collected fossils benefit the science of paleontology.
- unimpeded access to fossils aids research in the related fields of stratigraphy, sedimentology and sedimentary geochemistry, etc.
- it increases the pool of recruits into all these areas of study both as vocations and avocations.

The House Bill benefits museums and universities as well as earth science classes and clubs at all educational levels by:

- allowing permit free access for field trips and educational groups for casual collecting.
- providing more specimens for study at all educational levels.
- providing more display specimens for public and private museums and collections.

The House Bill benefits the resource by:

- increasing the chance that the fossils on public lands will be discovered and preserved.

Most importantly, the House Bill benefits the general public because it is a fiscally responsible bill which does not require more tax dollars to fund the agencies required to manage this resource. The public, in the person of the amateur collector, has always been an integral part of the science of paleontology by making most of the important discoveries. Therefore, it is of paramount importance that public access to fossils on public lands be encouraged. As the 1987 NAS report, titled *Paleontological Collecting*, (page 3) stated: "We feel strongly that only with unimpeded access can our knowledge of ancient life move ahead with vigor."

The 1993 Paleontological Resources Preservation Act -the House Bill- provides a common sense, scientifically sound, approach to the management of paleontological resources on public lands. A healthy nation encourages education and the proper use of its resources rather than imposing the dark shadow of restrictive regulation and enforcement. Education may seem like "the long route" but it is the only practical option for the continued preservation of this marvelous resource.

USGS spoke about pegmatite minerals. They honored founding President, Rich Eddy, with a plaque. Summer field trips were arranged by Make Davis to Corydon for dolomite and fluorite. A trip was also made to Ft. Wayne where fluorite, calcite, dolomite, and sphalerite were collected. Members visited Lima City, Ohio and Maybe, Michigan in August. The May meeting was held in Cincinnati, Ohio in conjunction with the Cincinnati show.

The Chapter is preparing an educational display about geodes coordinated by Al and Sylvia Sicree. An updated membership roster was provided by Secretary/Treasurer Sylvia Sicree.

In September the group met at the 500 Earth Science Show at Greenfield, Indiana where chapter member Fred Lewis spoke about British flint and fossils. A brief discussion of the Bacus bill (S-3107) to limit collecting on Federal lands was held.

Pacific Northwest Chapter

Several members traveled to an open house at the M. Y. Williams Geological Museum on the University of British Columbia campus sponsored by curator, Joel Nagel who demonstrated his computerized specimen catalog system. The Annual Picnic and Swap Meet was held at Chapter president John Lindell's ranch. Thirty-six members and guests participated in the 4th Annual Field Trip & Clean Up on August 20-22. Specimens of elpidite, amazonite, siderite, arfvedsonite and other minerals were collected at the Silver Star pullout site.

The Chapter's 19th Annual Mineral Symposium featuring Pyrite and Friends was held in Tacoma, Washington September 24 to 26. Bob Gait of the Royal Ontario Museum spoke on Mineralogy of Pyrite and also on Mineralogy of Nanisivik Mine, Baffin Island. Lester Zeihen talked about Mineralogy of Butte, Montana and John Medici presented talks about Ohio Pyrite and the Spruce 16 Claim, Washington. Numerous other activities including dealer displays, workshops on photo and microscope work, competitive displays, and a banquet were important parts of this long-running symposium series.

Pennsylvania Chapter

The Chapter visited a slate quarry and a collecting site at abandoned mines in the Hazard Paint Member. The Chapter's fall symposium on World Class Mineral Deposits was held October 8 - 10 at Penn State University which co-sponsored the event. Speakers included David Gold on the habitat of diamonds; Chuma Mbalu-Keswa on Mineralogy of Tanoma Kimberlites, Pennsylvania; Heyward Wharton on the Viburnum Trend Lead-zinc Discoveries; Dean Smith on Genth Collection of Penn State; Marcelle Weber on Mineralogy of Mont St. Hillare; and Richard Bostwick on the Franklin-Sterling Hill District. Tours of Penn State Geology Department and Museum were made. A very organized and productive field trip concluded the symposium.

Southern California Chapter

The July meeting was held at the home of Cal and Kerith Graeber in Fallbrook followed by a visit to the Elizabeth R. Mine. Plans for a Minerals of California display at the CFMS show were made. Robert and Jennifer Reynolds and Rick Gundy organized California mineral locality sheets, abbreviating data into 354 localities and proposed a plan to generate complete forms for each. The September meeting was held at the World Museum of Natural History of La Sierra University in Riverside where Director William Allen will show off his museum's collections. The group then visited the Pacific Silica Quarry led by Garth Brieker and Dana Gochenauer. The Chapter is concerned about potential cuts in funding for museums.

In October the Chapter held a California Minerals Locality Workshop at the San Bernardino County Museum with a tour of the museum and a trip to the Nuevo Pegmatite locality.

Beryl Symposium Booklet

A few copies of the FM Symposium on Beryl: paragenesis and descriptive minerology as presented to the 9th FM Symposium at the 1988 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show are available for \$2 plus \$2.60 shipping (US and Canada) from Arlene Handley, 800 NW 72nd St., Vancouver, Wa 98665.

FM Newsletter

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