



FM Newsletter

Jan./Feb./Mar. ■ 1991

1991 Board of Directors Meeting

- The 1991 Board of Directors meeting was held on February 15, at the Santa Rita Days Inn in Tucson, Arizona with 15 directors and three visitors present. The meeting got under way at 8:10 am with a welcome by president Al Kidwell and the introduction of the two new board members, Karen Wenrich and Bernie Murowchick. Mike Groben of the nominating committee announced that nominees for officers were the same as for the past year and they were duly elected Al Kidwell as president, Arlene Handley as vice-president, Dick Thomssen as treasurer, and Art Smith as secretary.
- The minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed in the January-March, 1990 newsletter.
- Arlene Handley, vice president, announced the Mineralogical Record Best Article Award will go to Laszlo Horvath and Robert A. Gault for "The Mineralogy of Mont Saint-Hilaire, Quebec," by unanimous decision of the judges. Neither of them will be present at the presentation, but they have asked that Frank Melanson accept the award for them. It was noted that for the last six years all but one of the best article awards have gone to authors from outside the United States.
- The treasurer's report was given by Dick Thomssen and is published elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Secretary Art Smith stated that only three newsletters were issued during 1990, due to the small amount of news contributed by members. He made an appeal for more input during the coming year.
- Appreciation was expressed to Marcelle Weber, who was unable to attend, for her articles in the *Mineralogical Record* on FM and its activities. Copies of her November-December 1989 article are being used together with the new application blanks to recruit new members.
- Dick Thomssen reported that the new FM Membership Directory is out and mailed. There are numerous changes that are needed, and these can be easily updated in the next edition which is on a computer disk. Obsolete addresses and membership status are an extensive problem to us, and he urged everyone to send in these changes promptly.
- The proposed award to recognize mining companies for their efforts in specimen recovery and preservation was reported on by Dick Thomssen. He got no

responses from several people in the mining industry to whom he wrote. Their response to the idea suggests that most companies would rather not receive such an award. The board decided to take no further action unless there is a specific case where a deserving company would want and appreciate such an award.

- The Mineral Locality Index project was reported on by Al Kidwell in the absence of Pete Modreski, who was unable to attend, but submitted a FAX report. There are presently nine states published or soon to be published, nine states are under way, and 18 states for which there are tentative plans. The remainder are not committed at all. At last year's meeting a completion date of February 1991 was officially suggested by the board. However, in order to accomplish this there will have to be careful planning to complete the job. A copy of any further plan of action by Pete will be sent to each board member for input concerning how he or she might be of assistance.
- Ron Bentley, President of the MR Board, was present and reported on the 20-year index, which is expected to be out later this year. The MR took over the publishing of the index from FM, with the expectation of using the data compiled by the FM Index Committee. Ron reported that they had some problems correlating parts of the data from the last six years and integrating it with the 14-year index data. Consequently, they went back to the Mineralogical Record and recompiled some of the data rather than using the FM compilation. In light of this, the MR Board is asking if FM will consider a reduction in the 15% commission to be received from sales according to the existing contract. Since there were no cost figures available, we do not know how our commission might impact on the cost of the publication. The matter was turned over to a committee consisting of the board officers and Mike Groben, who will consider it when more data can be supplied.
- Al Kidwell reported on the project of Mineral Collecting on Public Lands. There are essentially no restrictions on non-commercial collecting which avoids active claims and produces little surface disturbance, except in specific local areas such as Moat Mountain, NH, and the Salt Plains, OK, which have special rules and possible fees. This unrestricted collecting also still pertains to wilderness areas, such as the Sierra Blanca Wilderness Area in New Mexico, where a recent court case upheld these collecting rights. Further action by FM will be as a watch-dog to see what will transpire with such things as the revision of the 1872 Mining Law. Mike Groben discussed in some detail a relatively new organization, The Western States Public Lands Coalition

(information on which is included elsewhere in this newsletter). Mike, citing his 20 years experience as a forester in Oregon, emphasized that we could have a fight on our hands, and if we are not active we can gradually lose our collecting rights on federal land. The motion was made and passed to endorse this organization, to circulate its information and petitions, and encourage participation by our members.

■ The FM Symposium held each year at Tucson was discussed. Karen Wenrich was applauded for the fine group of papers on azurite put together for the 1991 symposium. Peter Megaw, speaking for the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, said they will support us in whatever we do, and they definitely want us to continue having our symposium in conjunction with their show. The board decided to continue using the theme mineral of the Tucson Show, (pyromorphite in 1992) but not to restrict the papers to this topic. Other appropriate and timely subjects will be included at the discretion of the symposium chairperson, with the approval of the board president and coordination with the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society.

■ The idea of FM supplying a list of members qualified and willing to appraise materials donated to museums was brought up by Al Kidwell. The idea was turned down because of possible hidden legal technicalities

when non-professional appraisers are used.

■ The use of the FM member mailing list by others was considered. Treasurer Dick Thomssen reported that there had been interest expressed in use of the list. The board decided that this list, as mailing stickers, could be leased for a one-time use, as long as the use was appropriate. This would be with approval by the board president. The fee would be determined by the treasurer, after he has determined the cost of producing the labels. The money received would go into the FM treasury.

- Al Kidwell recommended that FM establish a yearly bestpaper award for Rocks and Minerals magazine, similar to the one for MR. Awards of Merit would be presented to the author(s), and a grant of \$200 would be made to Rocks and Minerals in honor of the author(s). The selection would be made by a committee of five qualified judges appointed by the vice-president of FM and would be awarded at the annual Rochester Mineralogical Symposium. The establishment of this award was unanimously approved by the board. The first one will be awarded in 1992 for the best paper of 1991.
- It was mentioned that a new and simplified application blank had been designated and a supply had been left at the Tucson Show Information table, to help solicit new members. Additional copies can be obtained from any of the officers or xerox copies may be made of those which are available.
- A dues increase was approved by the board, starting in 1992. The new dues will be \$10 for national members and \$5 from local chapters for each of their members. This increase was considered necessary because of the rising costs in publishing and mailing the newsletters and membership directories.
- Kay Robertson brought up an important item, namely, that our current by-laws do not conform to California laws (where we are registered) and need to be changed. A committee composed of Al Kidwell and Dick Thomssen will look into correcting this. Ray Lasmanis

said he would like to put together a Locality Preservation Committee, whose specific purpose would be to acquire mineral fee lands for collecting. The Northwest Chapter has a special case involving their chapter, and they would like support from the national organization. After considerable discussion, it was decided to take no action at this time because of the legal implications, particularly that of liability protection which is probably expensive.

■ The proposed budget for 1991 was approved as written:

Officer's Expenses	\$ 400.00
Newsletter (4 issues)	1,400.00
Symposium Expenses	300.00
Nominating Committee	100.00
Best Paper Award	200.00
Miscellaneous	200.00
Total	\$2,600.00

■ The marathon board meeting ended at 11:30 am.

FM Treasurer's Report 1990-1991

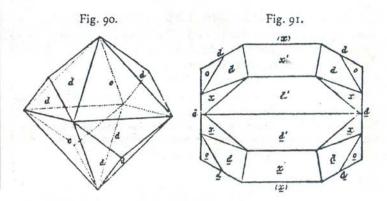
Assets:	
Checking and Money-Market Account	
(January 31, 1991)	. \$9,234.72
Received from previous Treasurer	
Net Change (decrease)	(\$ 753.25

Summary of Income and Expense as of January 31, 1991

Income:

Dues and Contributions	. \$1,726.00
Mineralogical Record Index sales	184.23
Interest (3/22/90-1/31/91)	
	\$2,368.50

:	xpenses:
	Newsletters (3) \$ 747.77
	Membership Directory
	Membership (Computer)
	Symposium
	Filing Fees and Documents
	Membership Badges (250)
	President
	Treasurer
	Director's Meeting 124.50
	Nominating Committee (1989, 1990)
	MR Column
	MR Index Project
	\$3,121.75



Excess of Expense over Income

FM Annual Meeting

■ The 1991 Friends of Mineralogy Meeting was held in conjunction with the Tucson Gem & Mineral Society Show on February 16, 1991, at 4:30 pm. President Al Kidwell called the meeting to order and welcomed those members who were attending.

■ Vice President Arlene Handley announced the Mineralogical Record Best Paper Award winner. (See

board of directors' meeting for results.)

■ Dick Thomssen gave the Treasurer's report which is

published elsewhere in this newsletter.

■ Art Smith, secretary, said he hoped to get out four newsletters this year and welcomed any items from

members and chapters.

■ Al Kidwell gave his report on Recreational Mineral Collecting on Public Lands. (See board of directors' meeting.) There was considerable discussion and there seemed to be a consensus that we need to be doing more. Al recommended that each chapter should designate one person to observe and collect data on any action by special interest groups in their area. This data should be forwarded to the president so we can disseminate it to all members and recommend appropriate action as a group. Literature on the Western States Public Lands Coalition was available to those present.

■ The planned publication of the 20-Year MR Index was taken over by MR and will be out later this year. (See

board of directors' meeting.)

■ Al Kidwell thanked Karen Wenrich for chairing the fine FM Symposium on Azurite which was held that morning. Attendance ranged from 85 to 100 and all the talks were well received. The plans for next year are to have a symposium on pyromorphite, the show theme mineral, but it will also include other topics of interest to be selected by the symposium chairperson who has not yet been appointed.

■ The following local chapters gave reports: Colorado (Dan Kile) The Colorado Chapter plans no special symposium or projects this year. They hope to concentrate all their efforts on the completion of the update of The Minerals of Colorado: A 100-year Record. We all look forward to the completion of this project that has been in the works for over 15 years. Northwest (Arlene Handley) The Northwest Chapter's 14th symposium on Zeolites, in September, had four floor dealers and eleven room dealers and was a big success. Next year the symposium will be in the Tacoma area with tourmaline the subject mineral. The chapter's clean-up and collecting weekend in the Washington Pass area was also a success and will be repeated next year. Southern California (Kay Robertson) The Southern California Chapter's symposium on collecting and cleaning techniques in conjunction with the Pasadena Show was a success and had 65 people in attendance. They plan to continue their monetary donations to several museums and to have a project to update Minerals of California which is done every ten years.

■ The Great Basin, Indiana, and Pennsylvania Chapters had no reports. The meeting ended at 5:30 pm.

Notice From The Colorado Chapter

■ The Colorado Chapter is busy working on their project to update 100-years of Minerals in Colorado. There are two published reports of the mineral alstonite, a barium, calcium, carbonate occuring at the Bitter Root Mine, north of Durange. X-ray diffraction and SEM examination of two such labeled specimens showed them to be crystals of clear calcite covered by a 3 to 4mm layer of white dolomite and a 1mm golden brown coating of ankerite.

We would be pleased to test any other labeled specimens to verify this occurrence of alstonite. Please contact Jack Murphy or Jim Hurlbut at the Denver Museum of Natural History, 2001 Colorado Blvd., City Park, Denver, CO 80205 (303-670-6445) if you have any information on this locality.

Call For Papers

■ The Friends of Mineralogy, Pennsylvania Chapter's 1991 Fall Symposium will be on "The Mineralogy of the Mid-Atlantic States." The symposium committee and the board of directors have set the dates of the symposium as November 8-10, at West Chester University, West Chester, Pennsylvania.

Papers on this year's symposium theme should reflect current specimen mineralogy of this geographic region in the broadest sense. Any aspect of the subject may be submitted. Abstracts are due no later than July 1, 1991, to the Symposium Chairman, Arthur Dorne, 1668 South Forge Mountain Drive, Valley Forge, PA 19481. Papers will be reviewed by a committee chaired by a professor from the University of Delaware.

Information On Regional Groups (Not Chapters of FM)

There are numerous regional groups of mineral collectors of all types, some with a formal intrastructure and others very informal. For various reasons, usually numbers, these groups have not become chapters of FM although usually a significant number of FM members belong to these groups. It is hoped that by giving information on these groups, they may grow and possibly become chapters. Information on any group you know of is welcome. Please send it to the national secretary.

■ Group name: Florida Mineral Collectors. Area of meetings: Central Florida, Tampa area. When: Monthly at various locations. Purpose: To unite Florida mineral collectors. Structure: Informal. Membership requirements: Interest in mineralogy; Publication: *The Dodecahedron*, monthly. Editor: Credo Schwab, 4701 San Rafael Street, Tampa, FL 33629, 813-251-3360. Affiliation: None.

FM Newsletter

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Friends of Mineralogy, Inc.

1991 Officers

Elected board meeting, Tucson, AZ, February 15, 1991. President Al Kidwell 14403 Carolcrest, Houston, TX 77079 (713) 497-1066 Vice President Arlene Handley 800 NW 72nd Street, Vancouver, WA 98665 Secretary Art Smith 9118 Concho, Houston, TX 77036 (713) 774-1689

Treasurer ■ Richard W. Thomssen P.O. Box 1656, Carson City, NV 89702

Board of Directors

Until February 1992 Richard Hauck ■ 8 Rowe St., Bloomfield, NJ 07003 Jay Lininger ■ Blair Mtn. Rd., Rt. 2, Dillsburg, PA 17019

Peter J. Modreski
8075 W. Fremont Dr., Littleton, CO 80123 Al Kidwell ■ 14403 Carolcrest, Houston, TX 77079

Anthony Kampf ■ 12923 Warren Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90066 Marie Huizing ■ 5341 Thrasher Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45247

Until February 1993

Raymond Lasmanis ■ Morse Merryman Rd., Olympia, WA 90808

Kay Robertson ■ 10334 Ilona Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90064 Dan Behnke 2981 Lanwher Rd., Northbrook, IL 60062 Richard W. Thomssen ■ P.O. Box 1656, Carson City, NV 89702 Arlene Handley ■ 6160 Highway 99, Vancouver, WA 98665 Art Smith 9118 Concho, Houston, TX 77036

Until February 1994

Mike Groben ■ 1590 Olive Barber Rd., Coos Bay, OR 97420 Robert Jones ■ 3520 N. Rose Circle Dr., Scottsdale, AZ 85251 Bernard L. Murowchick ■ 2428 Hollingsworth Hill Ave., Lakeland, FL 33803

Betty Tlush I 1202 Perion Dr., Belen, NM 87002

Marcelle H. Weber ■ 1172 W. Lake Ave., Guilford, CT 06437 Karen J. Wenrich ■ 63 S. Devinney St., Golden, CO 80401

Regional Chapter Presidents

Colorado Dan Kile 333 Salem St., Aurora, CO 80011

Great Basin . T. Daugharthy 5475 E. Camino Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89118

Indiana R. Eddy

5235 Hartford Ave., Columbus, IN 47203 Pacific Northwest R.A. Harris

38646 Rtoschy Rd., Yacolt, WA 98675 Pennsylvania ■ A. Mogel

2503 Village Rd., Orwigsburg, PA 17961 Southeast Michigan ■ (In-Active)

Southern California Mike Gray P.O. Box 1110, Venice, CA 90294

Affiliations

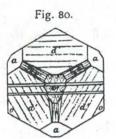
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Liaison: D. Caudle 1248 E. Prince, Tucson, AZ 87519

The Mineralogical Record ■ Tucson, AZ Mineralogical Society of America

Liaison: Gene Foord ■ 906 Cole St., Golden, CO 80401

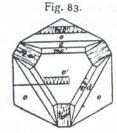
The Mineralogical Society of Australia c/o CSIRO Division of Mineral Chemistry

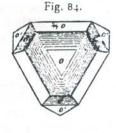
P.O.B. 124, Port Melbourne, Victoria 3207, Australia













Art Smith Sectretary, FM 9118 Concho Houston, TX 77036

First Class Mail



People for the West!

A GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGN IN SUPPORT OF WESTERN COMMUNITIES

WESTERN STATES PUBLIC LANDS COALITION, P.O. BOX 4345, PUEBLO, COLORADO 81008 TEL: (719) 543-8421

Mr. Al Kidwell 14403 Carolcrest Houston, Texas 77079

Dear Mr. Kidwell:

A mutual friend of ours, Mike Grobin from Coos Bay, Oregon, said I should pass on to you some information regarding a Western States Public Lands Coalition campaign, "People for the West!" and how it is something that could benefit gem and mineral collectors. Also, he said I should ask for the support of this effort by the Friends of Mineralogy.

I am enclosing for you a brochure which we are using in the campaign, a copy of the petition we are circulating and some other information about "People for the West!" As is probably apparent to you, all public lands uses, including access of public lands to prospect and collect minerals, are jeopardized by an over active and reactive national environmental lobby. Among their goals is take all public lands out of public use. Western States Public Lands Coalition was organized to counter their political agenda by building coalitions of people who believe in the multiple use principal. We are a bipartisan, nonprofit corporation with members from all walks of life.

The "People for the West!" campaign, which started out focused mainly on the retention of the Mining Law, has expanded as local coalitions were formed to come to the defense of all multiple use activities: public recreation, mining, logging, grazing, and oil and gas exploration and development. Our goals are two-fold preserve multiple use and retain the Mining Law. The campaign's objectives are: (1) gather one million signatures on the petition we are enclosing, and (2) build a network of at least 100,000 activists who will stir up their communities in support of our goals by contacting their congressional delegations.

In the last Congress, we helped head off the Cranston Desert Wilderness Bill, the five-fold increase in grazing fees and amendments to the Mining Law which would have been disastrous to many small miners and prospectors. But, we have a long way to go in organizing and could use the help of gem and mineral collectors, who depend upon public lands access as much as any other single group of users.

Please review the information I am sending you. I'll give you a call in the near future. Hopefully, this is a venture the Friends of Mineralogy can support. All of us, working together, can convince Congress that multiple use of public lands is needed.

Sincerely,

Bill Grannell

Executive Director

PETITION

WE SUPPORT THE ECONOMIC SURVIVAL OF THE WEST

-- AS A PART OF A STRONG AMERICA!

WHEREAS, we support the Mining Law and the Multiple Use of Public Lands. Livestock grazing, oil and gas production, timber harvesting, mining and public recreation are all integral to the economic survival and lifestyle of the west, and

WHEREAS, the great wealth of the nation's natural resources is found on America's public lands which are largely located in the Western United States, and

WHEREAS, the sensible development of these resources makes a tremendous contribution to a vigorous economy which is essential to the well being of all citizens, providing basic materials for housing, consumer goods, medical supplies, and other very important products needed by people, and

WHEREAS, despite the strong commitment by this nation to both provide goods and to protect its environment, an elitist group of environmental leaders wants to make extreme changes in federal law to stop, forever, natural resource development on all public lands in the United States, and

WHEREAS, their agenda includes the repeal of the Mining Law, and other harsh steps, which have only one goal in mind, to stop public lands multiple use. These actions, if successful, will devastate many communities, stripping many people in the West of their jobs, their dignity and a future, and

WHEREAS, these environmental leaders, who are striving to shut down public lands, have persuaded their organizations to spend millions of dollars to convince Congress and the American people they are right,

WE YOUR PETITIONERS urge the Congress of the United States to boldly stand strong in the face of these groups irrational appeal. We urge Congress not to depart from the balanced approach current law provides for both environmental protection and the sensible harvest of our important natural resources. We urge Congress to not wholesale repeal basic natural resource laws which have well served both the nation and its people.

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Art Smith, 9118 Concho, Houston, Texas 77036

This petition may be copied.
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