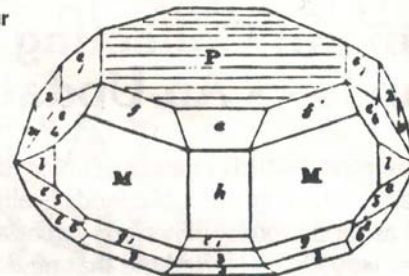


Fig. 8.

Kupferiasur
(Azurite)



FM Newsletter

Apr./May/June ■ 1991

A Note on "People of the West" from the Colorado Chapter

■ I note that the last National FM Newsletter contained an endorsement of the "People for the West" campaign (and a petition) advocating a continuation of current mining and multiple use regulations for public property. Although I can sympathize with those whose interests (including my own) entail the unrestricted use of public property, I don't particularly agree with a blanket acceptance of the status quo, from two standpoints: (1) I don't think that the public should necessarily have the right to do whatever they want on Forest Service or BLM lands; overgrazing, excessive trailbike use, logging, etc., need to be regulated in some way, and (2) I find it quit annoying that almost every worthwhile collecting site on public property is personal domain of either a corporation, a private individual, or a rock club by right of the nonpatented mining claim; this certainly doesn't fit the original intent of the mining laws or the concept of public property/multiple use. I am a firm advocate of our right to collect minerals for recreational purposes, but I can't see that permitting unrestricted wholesale "land-grabbing" by corporations or individuals for mineral rights, as currently allowed under mining law, can benefit the amateur interests that FM purports to sponsor. There is little doubt of a concern that government regulation might eventually lead to a "no use" policy, but I am not sure that we are better off with the old mining regulations that primarily benefit large industries, and encourage abuse by private individuals. For all that matters, I'm not particularly pleased to see the National FM blindly promoting this kind of political activity with little if any allowance for commentary from the membership they are suppose to represent.

President Dan Kile ■

Reply from the Editor

■ Well Dan, as usual, we in the National Chapter have received no comment on "People for the West" from any members. I took your comments from the Colorado Chapter Newsletter. The few petitions I returned may indicate that many other FM members may feel like you or is it plain apathy? However, I cannot really believe that you

would rather see a "no use" policy than the present system continuing. The problem seems to be enforcing the spirit as well as the letter of the law, and changing the law probably will not solve the problem, and the same people who now abuse it still will, and we as collectors will have nothing.

■ If you think you could live with a "no use" policy then move to Texas and try collecting where everything is private and most is "no use" for the mineral collector. A few years here and it would put a little fight in you. Then you would be happy to have the collecting privileges you now enjoy. Why do think we Texans go to Colorado and Arkansas to collect? True, it is cooler in the summer and there is a greater variety of minerals, but the key thing is you still can collect even with the problems you mentioned.

■ The board of directors unanimously endorsed sending the literature and petitions of "People of the West" to members at the last board meeting, but we promised and committed nothing except that. It's up to the individual members to decide what if any commitments they want to make by signing or circulating the petition. I solicited and received 38 signatures from non-FM members but interested collectors. One other member sent in a sheet with 10 signatures. Three other members sent in their own signatures. So 51 signatures were sent through me and maybe a few other members sent signatures directly to "People for the West". Since most of us know generally, if not specifically the mining law, we support and fear what might replace it. I hardly think we are blindly promoting an activity which I would consider nonpolitical.

■ So with Dan's and my own opinion of the "People for the West" expressed, how about some other comments, facts, ideas, and suggestions from other members? This newsletter is for just that. ■

PA Chapter Fall Symposium

■ The Pennsylvania Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy will have a 1991 Fall Symposium on Specimen Mineralogy of the Mid-Atlantic Region (VA, MD, DE, PA, NJ). It will be held on the campus of West Chester University, West Chester, Pennsylvania, on November 8, 9 and 10. Saturday, November 9 will feature a session of papers chaired by Dr. Peter Leavens, University of Delaware. Papers will be by both professionals and non-professionals on the symposium theme. All three days will be filled with activities of interest. ■

Mineral Collecting on Public Lands - - An Update

■ The report which I gave at Tucson this year concerning mineral collecting on public lands is already out of date, at least as far as some Wilderness Areas are concerned. Larry Ream very kindly alerted me that new regulations were being written concerning collecting within the Sawtooth National Recreation and Wilderness areas in Idaho. I contacted them and received a 22 page preliminary report and a letter outlining the action proposed beginning with this field session. I followed this up with a telephone call to Mr. Jim Davis, Sawtooth National Recreation Area Geologist, who supplied additional information.

■ Later Mr. Davis called me again to say that the policy definitely being adopted within the Sawtooth National Recreation and Wilderness areas will prohibit collection of minerals for any reason, even for valid scientific reason. The area is presently being posted with signs informing of the new policy.

■ According to the "Report on Crystal Collecting in the Sawtooth Wilderness", the rationale for taking this action was based on (1) the considerable value of crystals taken from the Sawtooths (estimated at \$60,000 - \$80,000 in an average year), (2) illegal use of drilling and blasting for collecting and use of helicopters for access and removal of specimens, and (3) deterioration of pristine condition of certain areas due to intensive collecting.

■ The real problem here is that legitimate mineral collectors are being penalized because unscrupulous entrepreneurs have been breaking the rules through illegal activities, including excessive collecting for commercial purposes, and it seems probable that many of these people will continue to break the law. It seems doubtful that Forest Police will go so far as to shoot down an unidentified helicopter. The foot-borne collector with a rock hammer and a pack on his back will be the real target because he will be easily caught.

■ It is obvious from all this that there is no uniform national policy at present concerning mineral collecting in Wilderness and National Recreation Areas. Each entity is free to adopt regulations to solve what they perceive as their local problems.

■ I plan to contact other Wilderness Areas in the near future to see what their policies are with respect to mineral collecting and hope to have more information for the next Newsletter.

■ The rules regarding mineral collecting on Public Domain lands in either National Forests or BLM Lands still appear to be reasonably uniform, i.e. if there is no commercial intent, valid claims are avoided and surface disturbance is minimal.

■ In the case of Acquired Status Lands, which occur mainly in the eastern half of the U.S., the surface management agency can determine in which areas and under what conditions mineral specimens can be collected, and whether an approved permit shall be required.

■ I recently made contact with Mr. John Nichols, Forest Geologist, Ouachita National Forest, concerning rumors I had heard that Forest Security personnel had threatened certain individuals if they brought hand tools into the forest to prospect for quartz crystals. Mr. Nichols assured me that this is not

true, that their policy toward the public has not changed in any way, and that they are always willing to work with bona fide mineral collectors. He also mentioned that arrangements might be possible with non-commercial groups such as clubs with scientific interests who have discovered specimen-bearing mineral deposits, to allow leases with suspended fees, provided they will cooperate with National Forest personnel in policing their activities. This is an idea which may have appeal to mineral clubs in various parts of the country.

■ We will try to keep you informed of any major change taking place within collecting localities on public lands. There is every indication that there will be further restrictions on mineral collecting in general. If you have any doubt about such restrictions in a particular area, an inquiry to the appropriate local agency is recommended to avoid embarrassment and possible legal action. We will also appreciate your input on any aspect of this subject.

Al Kidwell ■

Colorado Chapter

■ The Colorado Chapter met in March 1991 at the Museum of Natural History in Denver and heard Ed Raines speak on "Mines and Minerals of the Clear Creek County Mining Districts." The May meeting was the annual mineral specimen auction to raise money for special chapter activities. The Denver Museum also benefited as they auctioned some specimens from the Tom Addenbrooke collection.

The officers of the Colorado Chapter are:

Dan Kile, President

Pete Modreski, Vice President

Jim Hurlbut, Treasurer

Carol Smith, Secretary

Gene Foord, Ed Raines, Glen Johnson, Directors

■ The September 1990 auction of the Greater Area Gem and Mineral Council of which the Colorado Chapter is a part sent \$1035 to *Rocks and Minerals* which will be used for color photos in future issues.

■ Under the heading of "What's New in Colorado Minerals" is the following: A note from Kory MacFarlane, a Central City resident actively engaged in mining and specimen recovery, relates:

"We have recently broken into a watercourse in the Hayseed mine containing excellent, lustrous galena crystals. The vein is offset from the Hayseed vein structure, and heads southeasterly with a near-vertical dip. This vein (which has flowing water) is vuggy and varies from 1 to 12 inches in width.

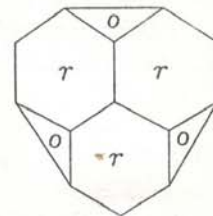
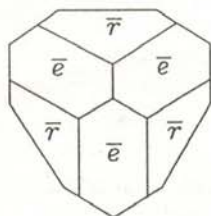
Minerals in the vein include galena, in lustrous crystals to 1 1/4 inches, some of which show unusual hopper or other growth patterns; ankerite, occurring as a coating on many earlier-formed minerals; argentite and chalcocite, which are very rare; pyrite; chalcopyrite, occurring as minute crystals; and sphalerite, which is abundant. Specimens range in size from thumbnails to plates 10 inches across." ■

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER FRIENDS of MINERALOGY
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THE 17th ANNUAL MINERAL SYMPOSIUM

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AT THE SHERWOOD INN
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THREE DAY PROGRAM INCLUDES:

SPEAKERS

- CAL GRAEBER - Tourmaline from southern California
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- Tourmaline from New England

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BANQUET DINNER

PHOTO/SLIDE, SELF COLLECTED MINERAL AND BEST CASE COMPETITIONS

SATURDAY EVENING PROGRAM WITH BENEFIT AUCTION AND SOCIAL GATHERING

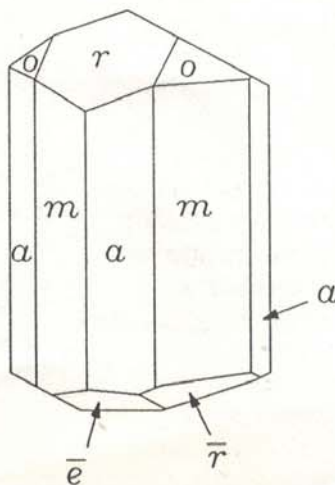
DEALERS AND DISPLAYS WILL BE OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC FOR \$3.00 AT THE DOOR
ON FRIDAY NIGHT FROM 5:00pm TO 11:00pm AND SATURDAY NIGHT FROM 7:00pm TO 11:00pm

This year we have planned to have breakfast, lunch and the banquet dinner on Saturday. Pre-registration will include the banquet, no other meals are included. By signing up for these other two meal functions you will be saving money as the hotel restaurant will be more expensive. Also, by signing up for these meals you will help keep the FM Party together during these two meals. We must have a final count 48 hours in advance, so only those who have pre-registered will be able to attend these meal functions.

All meals include tax and 15% gratuity. Let's all support the 1991 symposium by pre-registering as soon as possible.

NOTE:
Room reservations must be made directly with the
SHERWOOD INN:

(206) 535-2800



REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

☐ I plan to bring specimens for display, please allow
room for _____ cases.

Member registration cost:

(includes banquet)

Before Sept. 10 \$30.00 \$ _____

After Sept. 10 \$35.00 \$ _____

Non-member registration:

(includes banquet)

Before Sept. 10 \$45.00 \$ _____

After Sept. 10 \$50.00 \$ _____

Saturday Breakfast \$6.00 \$ _____

☐ Eggs benedict

☐ Ham & cheese omelet

Saturday Lunch \$8.00 \$ _____

Saturday dinner only \$19.00 \$ _____

Satellite dealer's donation \$15.00 \$ _____

Mail to:
Cheryl Stewart
511 Choker Ct. S.E.
Lacey, WA 98503

Total enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to: Friends of Mineralogy 1991 symposium.
Non-member registration fee includes 1 year membership
in the Pacific Northwest Chapter.

The Sterling Hill Mine, A Northern New Jersey Attraction

■ If you are vacationing in the east this summer or fall be sure to plan a visit to the Historic Sterling Hill Zinc mine and museum in Ogdensburg, New Jersey just off Route 23. The Hauk brothers have done a marvelous job of restoration that will delight all of your family and acquaint them with some history that is not in most of the history books. Northern New Jersey is a world of its own that seems much further away from the rush of New York City than the one hour drive. It will be a memorable stop for all. ■

Call For Papers

■ The Thirteenth Mineralogical Symposium sponsored jointly by Friends of Mineralogy, the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, and the Mineralogical Society of America will be held in conjunction with the 38th Tucson Gem and Mineral Show on Saturday, February 15, 1992. Pyromorphite is the show's theme mineral. Papers on the descriptive mineralogy, paragenesis, classic and new occurrences of pyromorphite or secondary lead minerals are invited. Papers on other subjects—new species, new occurrences, etc.—are also welcome. An audience of knowledgeable amateurs as well as professional mineralogists and geologists is expected.

■ If you wish to present a paper, please write or call Dr. Carl Francis, Chairman (Harvard Mineralogical Museum, 24 Oxford Street, Cambridge, MA 02138) with your topic, a few sentences detailing the paper, and your address and telephone number. Presentations will be 15 minutes followed by a brief question period. Following acceptance of topics, authors are required to submit a 200-300 word abstract by September 15, 1991 which will be published in the January-February 1992 issue of *The Mineralogical Record*. ■

Southern California Chapter

■ With no reports for 1990, the California Chapter plans regular newsletters for 1991. New officers are:

Mike Gray, President

Bob Reynolds, Vice-President

Jessie Hardman, Recording Secretary

Pat Gray, Corresponding Secretary

Treasurer, Kay Robertson

Directors: Joel Bartsch, Tony Kampf, Cal Graeber, Bill Reifel, Jean Hamel.

■ The meetings take place at various locations in the southern part of California. In January, at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, Bob Jones of Phoenix talked to the group and gave a preview of his film made for TV about the Smithsonian collection. He gave some insight on how it was made.

■ A major project of this chapter will be updating the *Minerals of California* which is just getting organized. Such an

effort will require the work of a lot of dedicated volunteers to collect and assemble the data.

■ The May Meeting at U. C. Santa Barbara had Bill Wise talk on a computer crystal program. The July meeting was planned for San Diego on July 27th. ■

Pennsylvania Amethyst Find

(From the Pennsylvania Chapter Newsletter, Spring 1991)

■ There was a very exciting, albeit brief, find of amethyst made last summer (1990) at the Rhone-Poulenc Rorer construction site near Collegeville, Montgomery County. The discovery was originally made by a V.P.I. student doing soil sampling in the area and the news was relayed to Pennsylvania collector Byron Brookmyer through Bob Downs and Susan Eriksson of V.P.I. The occurrence, which is now under buildings and parking lots, consists of hydrothermal quartz veins cutting a Triassic sandstone member of Passaic formation. Byron reports that collecting was fun but frantic. Amethyst crystals were recovered in all sizes up to 30 cm and in varying degrees of clarity. Some of crystals show scepters, and many are more prismatic than those from most other eastern U.S. localities. This item was from the "What's New in Minerals" section of the 18th Annual Rochester Mineralogical Symposium by George Robinson and Vandall King. ■

Mining History Association

■ As mineral collectors we may have broad interests which carry over into related subjects such as mining and its history. Although most mining history includes nonspecimen producing mines, every specimen producing mine does have a history and getting an interest in mining history can really get you hooked into a broad field. The result is a collection of mining artifacts, ores, mining photographs or post cards, and books on ghost towns, personal narratives of miners, and mining history.

■ The Mining History Association caters to people with an interest in mining and is already in its second year of existence. Although the membership is quite diverse, it is primarily controlled by authors of books and studies on mining history whose names would be familiar to anyone who has read much on the subject. Other groups beside mineral collectors represented in the association are mining artifact collectors, mining post card collectors and, a relatively new group to me, industrial archaeologists.

■ This year the Second Mining History Conference was held at the National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum at Leadville, Colorado, in July. The program was diverse and included papers on various aspects of mining history of specific locations and the efforts of historic preservation of mining sites from several locations.

■ If you are interested, membership is open to all interested in the mining past and dues are \$10 a year. Mail it to the Mining History Association, P.O. Box 150300, Denver, CO 80215. ■

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Fig. 54.

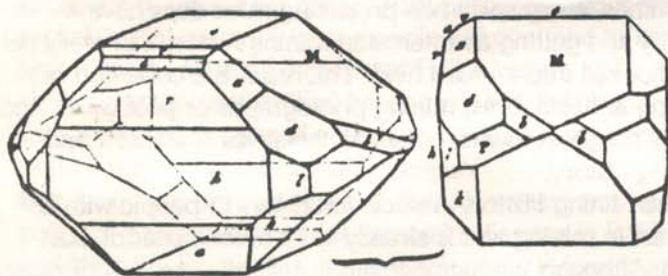
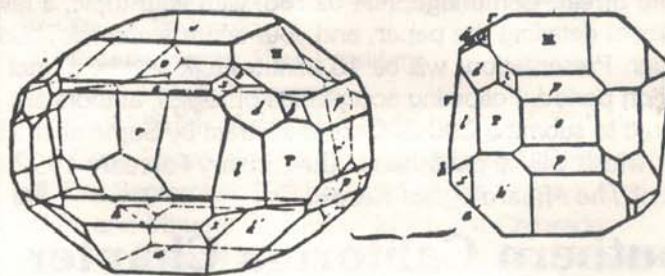


Fig. 59.



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