President’s Message

As I read over Friends of Mineralogy newsletters of past years I note a decline in membership. In 1989 it was 615 and in December of 1991 the paid membership totaled 497 with late dues bringing our membership to approximately 510 by February.

We can expect to lose a few members each year through death and loss of interest, but it would seem logical that an organization with as much to offer as FM would have people lining up to join. Part of the problem is that many people never heard of FM and this was not intended to be a secret organization.

There are several ways to get the word out and increase our membership. We could man an information booth or put up displays at local shows, libraries, and banks or put announcements in newspapers for local club meetings. Invite new people to attend meetings and symposiums and then invite them to join our fine organization. The U.S. Geological Survey, state geological surveys, natural history museums, and college geology departments are also good places to get the word out.

If half of the people reading this newsletter could encourage a new person to join FM, we would see great growth for our group in 1992!

Arlene Handley, President

1992 Board of Director’s Meeting

Tucson, Arizona, February 14, 1992, 8:35 AM, Al Kidwell opened the Board Meeting and thanked the directors for the jobs they had done. Particular thanks went to Marcelle Webber for writing about FM activities in the Mineralogical Record. Arlene Handley for handling the best paper awards, Art Smith for the Newsletter, and Dick Thomassen for sorting out our finances. New directors Patricia Barker and Steven Chamberlain were unable to attend. New FM officers will be: Arlene Handley, President; Karen Wenrich, Vice-President; Dick Thomassen, Treasurer, and Art Smith, Secretary.

Al noted that there has been a problem obtaining officers from directors and proposed that a nominating committee be elected at this meeting. Al Kidwell, Marie Huizing, and Mike Groben were duly elected to this committee.

The new president, Arlene Handley, took over the meeting. The minutes of last year’s meeting were approved as published in the January-February-March, 1991 Newsletter.

Dick Thomassen read the Treasurer’s report which is published elsewhere in this newsletter. The Southeast Michigan Chapter’s charter was rescinded by the board of directors. Dick also reported the breakdown of membership as of December 1991. It is as follows:

- Colorado: 85
- Southern California: 68
- Indiana: 45
- Pacific Northwest: 84
- Great Basin: 19
- Pennsylvania: 86
- National: 110
- Total: 497

Current membership is between 510 and 520.

Secretary Art Smith again pleaded for Newsletter input from board members. There will again be four issues of the Newsletter providing we have enough material to publish. The deadline will be the two weeks before the end of the last month of that issue. We will continue having Carolyn Jones and The Copy Cat of Denver type setting and printing the newsletter.

The Mineralogical Record Twenty Year Index will not be published but instead a 25 year Index will be published. Tony Kampf assured the board that the MR is aware of our work and interest in this publication.

Pete Modreski reported that the Locality Index project is moving along very slowly. The New Mexico Index by Ray Demark will be published in the September/October issue of Rocks and Minerals. A committee of Pete Modreski, Art Smith, and Al Kidwell was formed to try and speed things up by soliciting volunteers and establishing a standard format. Pete will also look into funding for the publication.

Al Kidwell reported nothing new on the status of Mineral Collecting on Public Lands since his reports in last year’s newsletters. He expects it to be "status quo" on Bureau of Land Management and National Forest lands but the future of collecting in wilderness areas looks bleak.

Marcelle Webber will continue to write on FM activities in the Mineralogical Record. She is planning a series on the histories of the Chapter symposiums.

Dick Thomassen reported on revising our by-laws which are out of date and in conflict with current California laws. After a prolonged discussion of the difficulty of getting a majority vote of the membership, no action was taken since we are grandfathered or automatically superseded by conflicting regulations.

The board of directors voted not to sell or rent the FM membership list to interested parties who would use it as an advertising or solicitation mailing list.

Karen Wenrich agreed to chair the FM Mineralogical Symposium for 1993. The theme mineral for the 1993 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show will be GARNET but papers will not be restricted to that topic.
Report from the Chapters:

The Southern California Chapter had its first year without a symposium but plans to have one this year in October on Minerals of the Great Basin at the Clark County Heritage Museum. Marie Huizing said that Rocks and Minerals will gladly publish the notices of any symposium in their Coming Events column.

The Indiana Chapter had no report but their newsletters show an active group with several good field trips through the year.

The Pennsylvania Chapter continued its symposium and has a good newsletter which keeps members abreast of new information on Pennsylvania minerals. Last year the symposium included papers on minerals of neighboring states.

The Colorado Chapter had no symposium last year but continues the work of updating the information for the Minerals of Colorado.

The Pacific Northwest Chapter had a successful clean-up in the National Forest. They will participate in setting up an interpretive display. They also had a Fall symposium and plan another for next year with the theme of famous localities where you can still collect.

Dick Thomassen brought up the problem of new member dues and for what year they will be credited. The board approved the following regulation: New member dues after October 1st will be credited to the following year and will be at the rate of that year. Multiple year memberships are allowed at the current yearly rate.

Arlene Handley announced the best paper awards. For the Mineralogical Record, they are:


Rocks and Minerals, awards are:


2nd place: (tie) "Washington's Japan-Law Twin and Sceptered Quartz" and "Two autunite Localities in Northeast Washington: The Daybreak and Triple H & J mines" both by L.R. Ream.

3rd place: Minerals of the Golden Horn Batholith, Okanogan County, Washington" by Randy Becker.

The Proposed Budget for 1992 is:

New Directory  1500
Office's Expenses  400
Newsletter  1600
Symposium Expenses  200
Nominating Committee  100
Best Paper Awards  400
Miscellaneous  100

$4300

Al Kidwell passed out information from George Gerhold on his project of storing mineral images and information on a CD disk. He is looking for ideas and feed back and can be contacted at 829 Racine, Bellingham, WA 98226.

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:43 AM.

Friends of Mineralogy, Inc.
Treasurer's Report

2/1/91 - 12/31/91

Funds on Hand - 2/1/91

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TOTAL FUNDS 2/1/91  $9,234.72

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TOTAL EXPENSES $1,661.04

Funds on Hand - 12/31/91

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TOTAL FUNDS - 12/31/91 $10,032.49

Richard W. Thomassen, Treasurer

Private Land from Mining Patents

Since 1781, 288 million acres of public lands have been converted to private ownership as agricultural homesteads. In that same period, 94 million acres of public lands were given as land grants to the railroads. But since 1872, only 3 million acres of public lands, about the size of a typical Western county, have gone into private ownership under the Mining Law patents.

From People For the West, Feb. 1992
1992 FM Annual Meeting

The 1992 Friends of Mineralogy Annual Meeting was held in the Copper Ball Room of the Tucson Convention Center on February 15, 1992 at 2:30 PM. President Arelen Handley presided. Since the meeting was omitted from the Tucson Show Program the turnout was smaller than usual.

- The new board members and officers were introduced. Then the best paper awards for the Mineralogical Record were announced. (see the Board of Directors' Meeting for results).
- Dick Thomassen gave the treasurer's report which is published elsewhere in this Newsletter. Art Smith thanked Dan Kile for his input in the Newsletter and encouraged all FM members to participate.
- Brief reports were given on the MR Index and the Locality index as discussed in the Board meeting.
- Al Kidwells summarized his work on gathering information on regulations on Mineral Collecting on Public Lands. In the National Forests there is no commercial collecting without a valid lease or claim, no trespassing on valid claims, and no excess disturbance of the surface. Recreational mineral collecting is permitted and in some places encouraged. In the Sawtooth Wilderness area collecting is now banned. A policy is being formed for the Sierra Blanca Wilderness area in Lincoln County, New Mexico, where the smoky quartz crystals have been collected in recent years. A lively discussion followed. Bill Smith emphasized that we should be aggressive in our assurance of our rights and demands. What rights do we want for our collecting on public lands?
- Marcell Weber will continue to write about FM activities for the MR.
- A short discussion was held on the by laws.
- Chapter reports were given. See Board of Director's Meeting for specifics.
- Literature on George Gerhold's mineral CD project was available at the front as was some of the Colorado Chapters publication.
- The FM Symposium held in the morning was well attended and went smoothly. Abstracts were available and they will be published either in the MR or the Newsletter.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:52 PM.

Call for Papers

14th FM Mineralogical Symposium, Tucson

The fourteenth 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 39th Tucson Show, Saturday, February 13, 1993. The topic of the symposium will be garnet—the theme mineral for the show. Papers on the descriptive mineralogy, paragenesis, classic and new localities, etc. are invited. 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 (immediately) Dr. Karen Wenrich, Chairperson (USGS, Mail Stop 939, Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225: 303-236-1563) with your topic, a few sentences describing the paper, and your address and phone number at which you may be contacted. Presentation will be 15 or 20 minutes in length followed by a period for questions. Upon acceptance of topics, all authors will be required to submit a 200-300 word abstract by September 30, 1992 (firm date). Those abstracts deemed to be scientifically sound and substantive by the editor of the Mineralogical Record will be published in the January/February issue, which will be available for sale at the 39th Tucson Gem and Mineral Show.

Colorado Chapter

The December meeting of the authors and committee working to update "Minerals of Colorado" by Edwin B. Eckel shows 339 out of approximately 800 minerals species written, up from 285 as of the October 1991 report. The updated graph projects a completion date for all species sometime in 1993 or 1994. The chapter authorized an initial expenditure of up to $500 for black-and-white photography of minerals. The book will have both color and black-and-white photographs. Ed Raines is chairman of the Photographic Committee for the volume. A Map Committee will be in charge of single page size maps to be included in the book which will show the general location of prominent mines and mineral localities throughout different regions of Colorado. Jim Hurbut, Tom Kohnen, Pete Modraski, and Ed Raines are on the committee.

The new address for the Colorado Chapter is: Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter, Post Office Box 150401, Lakewood, CO 80215-0401.

Why not have the Chapters Swap Newsletters?

So writes Jessie Hardman of Southern California Chapter with what sounds like a great idea for disseminating pertinent and useful information between chapters. We try to fill part of this gap with this National Newsletter; however, there is much interesting and useful information in many newsletters that lack of space prevents us from reprinting, and I always feel that I am cheating the chapter from whose bulletin I reprint a lot of data because they have already seen it.

So newsletter editors, have at it; and when you send one to each of the other chapters, be sure to send me one also if you are not already doing it.

Art Smith

SCFM Donates Specimen to Museum

The Southern California Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy donated a specimen in the memory of Marion Gadshaw to the Los Angeles County Museum. The specimen is a gorgeous, large vivianite from Bolivia which Tony Kampf found in Tucson and was purchased for $350. It is a specimen that is reminiscent of one in Godshaw's collection in the 1960's and should fit in well with the museum's minerals.
FM Newsletter

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Friends of Mineralogy, Inc.
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Elected board meeting, Tucson, AZ, February 14, 1992
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800 NW 72nd Street, Vancouver, WA 98665
Vice President ■ Karen J. Wenrich
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Secretary ■ Art Smith
9118 Concho, Houston, TX 77036 (713) 774-1689
Treasurer ■ Richard W. Thomassen
P.O. Box 1656, Carson City, NV 89702

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Kay Robertson ■ 10334 Ilona Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90064
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Arlene Handley ■ 800 NW 72nd Street, Vancouver, WA 98665
Art Smith ■ 9118 Concho, Houston, TX 77036

Until February 1994
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Robert Jones ■ 3520 N. Rose Circle Dr., Scottsdale, AZ 85251

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Anthony Kampf ■ 12923 Warren Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90066
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Steven C. Chamberlain ■ 105 Academy St., Manulux, NY 13104
Patricia Barker ■ P.O. Box 810, Cambont, NY 03223

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Pacific Northwest ■ R.A. Harris
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P.O. Box 1110, Venice, CA 90294

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The Mineralogical Record ■ Tucson, AZ
Mineralogical Society of America
Liaison- Gene Foord ■ 905 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 ■ Secretary, FM
9118 Concho ■ Houston, TX 77036
First Class Mail

Drawings from Goldschmidt’s Atlas der Krystallformen.