Friends of Mineralogy Newsletter

President's Message
Over the past six months, I have had quite a few members of FM ask "How can I, as a National member, become more involved in the Friends of Mineralogy?" The answer is actually quite simple, "VOLUNTEER". There are quite a few committees in the organization and you do not need to be on the board of directors to serve on any of them.

Awards Committee
The Awards Committee consists of the Vice President as Chairperson and five judges that he/she appoints. The judges annually select the best articles published in the Mineralogical Record and Rocks and Minerals during the calendar year. The Vice President tallies the results and makes the final decision. If you like to read, this committee is for you. Van King, P.O. Box 9088, Rochester, NY 14609, (716) 288-0059.

Membership Chairperson
The membership chairperson maintains a database of the entire membership. This committee is responsible for the preparation of the membership directory for printing by the Secretary. If you like computers and detail work, consider this. Regina Aumente Modreski, 8075 W. Fremont Drive, Littleton, CO 80123-4315, (303) 978-9926, rmodreski@aol.com.

Historian
The historian maintains a permanent file of important legal records and historical events of the Friends of Mineralogy. If you like history or genealogy, this may be the one for you. Richard Thomassen, P.O. Box 1656, Carson City, NV 89702-1656, (702) 246-3711.

Symposium Chairperson
The Symposium Chairperson arranges for facilities and speakers for symposia sponsored by the Friends of Mineralogy. If you like a hard job with national and international involvement, this may be for you.

Karen Wenrich, 63 S. Devinney St., Golden, CO 80401, (303) 278-1574, fax, (303) 278-1218.

Dealers Association Committee
This committee is responsible for liaison with member dealers offering special benefits to the regular membership. If you are a member dealer, you need to be on this committee. Isaias Casanova, P.O. Box 1376, Goldenrod, FL 32733-1376, (407) 695-7299.

Mineralogical Record Publicist
The Mineralogical Record Publicist is responsible for providing an FM article in every other issue of the MR. This is a true labor of love for those of you who like to keep up with FM activities and write. Marcelle Weber, 1172 W. Lake Ave., Guilford, CT 06437-1342, (203) 457-9810.

Mineral Locality Index Committee
This committee is responsible for the preparation and publication of an index of important mineral localities for each state. It will also make recommendations for the compilation of these indexes into a single volume. Has your state been compiled yet? Pete Modreski, 8075 W. Fremont Dr., Littleton, CO 80123-4315, (303) 978-9926.

Publicity Chairperson
This committee is responsible for developing ways and means for promoting FM and its objectives. Do you like promotion and publicity? Try this one. Credo Schwab, 4701 W. San Rafael St., Tampa, FL 33629-5507, (813) 251-3360, BigCredo@aol.com.

Public Lands Committee
The Public Lands Committee is responsible for keeping the membership informed of potential and actual problems concerning the collecting of earth science specimens on public lands. The committee makes recommendations to the membership on methods to protect collecting. If you are politically oriented or an
avid field collector, call this home.

Please, volunteer...take part in YOUR organization.

★ Beau Gordon, President

NOTE$ FROM THE TREASURER

In order to coordinate payment of National Chapter dues more with our fiscal year, I am requesting that all FM members with only a National affiliation please pay your 1997 dues by December 31, 1996. Send your checks, (made payable to Friends of Mineralogy) to Roland Bounds, Treasurer, Friends of Mineralogy, 317 Stamford Drive, Newark, DE 19711.

All other members please get your 1997 dues in to your Chapter membership people as quickly as possible to reduce the paperwork in tracking you down. Some of you still owe dues for 1996, these should have been paid by February 1. You will be dropped from the rolls on December 1 if you are not caught up. Remember, the National bylaws require written notification if you are dropping your membership and do not want to be held accountable for being unpaid but active if you renew in the future.

★ Roland Bounds, Treasurer

SECRETARY’S SCRATCHINGS

Summer is here and the field beckons! We are all busy, however, please take time to look through this issue of your newsletter. FM events at the Springfield, MA, and Denver, CO, shows as noted below offer excellent opportunities to meet new collectors, renew old friendships, swap stories, and make plans for the future. Postal rates have increased again so be sure to keep the FM secretary informed of address changes. Be sure to read the Mineralogical Symposium announcements below and consider contributing to them.

★ Nelson Shaffer, Secretary

DEALER’S ASSOCIATION

The East Coast Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show in August, 1996, will provide an opportunity for the FM members to meet.

Martin Zinn, the show promoter and FM member, has graciously arranged for a light breakfast on Sunday,

August 11, at 9 a.m. The show will start at 10 a.m. and admission will be free to FM members that day.

This is a great opportunity to enjoy food, friends, and an excellent mineral show.

The show address is The Better Living Center, 1305 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield, MA. Entrance will be through Door #7.


★ Isaia Casanova, Dealer’s Association

FM SOCIAL - Denver Gem & Mineral Show - September 14

Join Colorado Chapter members for donuts and coffee on Saturday morning at the Denver Gem & Mineral Show, September 14, at 10:30 a.m. Members and prospective members are invited to stop in for conversation and refreshments in the aisle F meeting room (see show program for exact location). Hear the latest about "the Update" and who found what during the summer collecting season.

Topaz is the featured mineral at the 1996 Denver Gem & Mineral Show, September 13-15, at the Denver Merchandise Mart. Show hours are 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. on Friday; 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Saturday; and 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Sunday. The show features 100 displays from museums and collectors, 140 retail and wholesale dealers, lectures, and demonstrations. As one of the 10 hobby clubs sponsoring the Denver Show, FMCC members provide free mineral identification and kids’ activities for show visitors. Seven concurrent satellite shows help make the Denver Show the second-largest in the U.S.

Werner Lieber Photo Contest and Traveling Museum Exhibit

The Werner Lieber donation will be used by FM to sponsor a photo contest and subsequent traveling Museum Exhibit that will be created from the best photographs submitted for the contest. The primary purpose of this project is to create an educational display and to encourage mineral photography among amateurs, including school kids. To meet that goal we have
created 3 categories:
1. Juniors
2. Amateur adults
3. Professionals (defined as an individual who has received payment for mineral photography)

Contest rules:
1. A matted 8" x 11" (or smaller) print must be submitted along with a second unmatted copy of the print.
2. The photograph must be related to the contest theme. For the 1997 contest the theme is "Copper and Copper Minerals." Photographs of or relating to the theme that include minerals, mining operations, collecting activities, depositional environments, and the importance of copper to our environment are welcome.
3. Each photo must be accompanied by a caption that includes the locality, scale, photographer, and any other information that the submitter deems important.
4. The photo contest committee will determine whether each photograph meets the above criteria. If so, the photo will be displayed Saturday, February 15, 1997 at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show for public vote. The best photo in each category will be selected. The committee will then select the top 50 photographs for the exhibit based on the judging results and their evaluation of which photos will best contribute to a balanced educational exhibit. These photographs will then be assembled into a traveling exhibit that will rotate through the year to different museums.
5. A non-monetary award will be presented to the winners in the Junior and Amateur categories.
6. All photographs become the property of Friends of Mineralogy.
7. Contest deadline is November 1, 1995.
8. Submittals should be mailed to: Dr. Karen Wenrich, GeoExpositions, P.O. Box 5054, Golden, CO 80401 (303-278-1218).

★ Karen Wenrich, Lieber Award Chair

CHAPTER NEWS

Colorado Chapter

The group saw a slide presentation given by Ed Raines that featured "History, Geology, and Mineralogy of the Gilman District" at their May 9 meeting that was held at the Denver Museum of Natural History. Unfortunately the Chapter's popular auction planned for May had to be postponed. The group is discussing future plans for the auction. Work on bylaws revisions is going well and the group is awaiting a ruling on their tax-exempt status. The Chapter always helps with the Denver Show (see announcement for FM social there). A meeting is planned for November 14 at the Museum.

Great Basin Chapter

Marilyn Mills hosted the April meeting at her home in Las Vegas where arrangements for the Henderson Show were finalized. The Great Basin Chapter exhibited five display cases at that show that was held April 12 and 13. Steve Scott, Don Cercone, Marsha Hilmes, Glen Miller, Bruce Hurley, and Nick Stellavato provided specimens and support. Several new members were recruited as a result.

Twelve members attended a trip to Topaz Mountain on May 4 and 5. Steve Scott arranged a visit to the site where bixbyite was first located. John and Mike Halfert, who operate the claim made it possible for club members to have considerable success. The next meeting will be held in August at Nick Stellavato's home.

Midwest Chapter

The group met May 4 at the Cincinnati, OH, mineral show. Famed mineral photographer Jeffery Scovil spoke to the group about Arizona's colorful minerals and mines. Collecting trips to Lime City, OH; Maybee, MI; Rock Ridge, OH; and Cave-in-Rock, IL were arranged by Pat Westby. President Fred Lewis made a brief report about amber in the Chapter newsletter.

Pat Westby gave a slide program about minerals of Ohio at the June 22 meeting that was held at the Lawrence County Mineral Show in Bloomington, IN. A field trip to Bluffton, OH, is planned for July.

Pacific Northwest Chapter

The group met at the home of Rudy Tschernich in Snohomish, WA, to observe his collection. Preparations were made for the NWFMS Show to be held July 12 to 14 at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds at Bremerton. Carl Harris and John Lindell are arranging speakers and dealers for the fall symposium. John Cornish presented an informative story about field boots in the newsletter.
Rudy Tschernich gave a summary of the first annual crystal swap in Longview, WA. The next crystal swap is planned for March 22, 1997. Contact Rudy for details. A letter to President Wes Gannaway reported that Richard and Helen Rice have set up a nonprofit museum to showcase rocks and minerals. Letters in support of such a museum should be addressed to Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Rice, Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals, 26385 N.W. Groveland Drive, Hillsboro, OR 97124.

Pennsylvania Chapter

President Roland Bounds called for volunteers for several positions. The Chapter's Board is revising bylaws and operating regulations. A Chapter symposium about Native Elements is to be held November 15 to 17 at the West Chester University (PA) Geology Building.

Juliet C. Reed, long time editor of the Chapter newsletter, announced that she planned to step down after publication of the Winter 1996 newsletter. We will all miss her excellent, careful, and informative writings.

The popular Geologic Story of Pennsylvania has been revised by John Barnes and William Sevan. It is available from the Pennsylvania Geological Survey. A manuscript by Arthur Montgomery was delivered to Jay Lininger for final design and publication.

Southern California Chapter

The Southern California Chapter met in April at the San Bernardino County Museum in conjunction with the annual mineral symposium. The Mineralogical Society of Southern California made a contribution to the Chapter for expenses incurred at the Pamaon Show. Bill Rader suggested that a kids' table be provided at forthcoming shows. The group met May 4 to put together rock and mineral kits for schools and to work on the California mineral locality data. They met May 18 at the Costa Mesa Mineral Show. Plans to complete mineral kits were made and it was decided to provide two exhibits at the Riverside show August 9 to 11. The group will meet August 24 at the San Diego Natural History Museum.

CALL FOR PAPERS - 18th FM-TM\GMS-MSA Mineralogical Symposium

The 18th 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 43rd Tucson Gem and Mineral show, Saturday, February 15, 1997. The topic of the symposium will be Copper and Copper Minerals the theme "minerals" for the show. Papers on the descriptive mineralogy, paragenesis, classic and new localities, etc., are invited.

If you wish to present a paper, please write or call Dr. Karen Wenrich, chairperson (GeoExpositions, P.O. Box 5054, Golden, CO 80401; 303-278-1218) with your topic and a few sentences describing the paper. Presentations will be 15 to 20 minutes in length followed by a brief period for questions. Upon acceptance of topics all authors will be required to submit a 200-300 word abstract by September 15, 1996 (firm date). Abstracts will be published in the Mineralogical Record.

★ Karen Wenrich, Symposium Chair
(Reprinted from an earlier newsletter)

JASPER PROJECT

Mineral collectors are invited to assist in THE JASPER PROJECT by helping our scientists identify all known sources of jasper on the East Coast of the United States (extending westward throughout the Appalachians). This is your chance to make a valuable contribution to the study of rocks and minerals. If you know of collecting localities for "yellow, brown, buff, red, green, or black" JASPER (sometimes called FLINT or CHERT) please send small samples and a detailed description of the location including a copy of a map identifying the site, if possible:

Professor Barry E. Scheetz, 223 Materials Research Laboratory, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802; Phone: (814) 865-3539; FAX: (814) 865-2326; Email: se6@psuvm.psu.edu

Please include a description of the color and quality of jasper (i.e., sandy or glassy) at each site.

Other information such as the name of the geological formation in which the jasper occurs, the formation age, the rock type, the extent of the occurrence, as whether the jasper is found in situ or as float, is highly desirable but not necessary.

IMPORTANT: Include the name, address, and phone number when you send in jasper locations or samples. If may be necessary to contact you for more information.
INVITED SPEAKERS:
(Subject to Additions or Changes)
Jeff Scovil (Author and Mineral Photographer)
"Collecting Better Minerals by Camera"
Susan Erickson (Virginia Tech Museum)
"Only a Calcite?"
Robert Witkowski (Research Associate,
Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)
"Colorado Rhodochrosite"
Henry Barwood (Indiana Geological Survey)
"Arkansas River Valley Carbonatites"
Ernest Carlson (Kent State University, Ohio)
"Dolostone & Ironstone Septaria from Ohio"
Jim Hurlbut (Denver Museum of Natural History) "Minerals of Pennsylvania"
Nelson Shaffer (Indiana Geological Survey)
"Origin of Large Calcites in Indiana"
Wolfgang Vogl (New Jersey Paleontological Society) "Mineral Fakes"
John Passaneau (Pennsylvania State University) "Making Better Micromounts"
Will White (Pennsylvania State University)
"Minerals in Carbonate Caves"
Paul Zell (Pennsylvania State University)
"Geological History of Pa. Carbonates"
David P. Gold (Pennsylvania State University)
"Kimberlites in Eastern North America"

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Friends of Mineralogy

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