Friends of Mineralogy Newsletter

July, August, September 1996

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The East Coast Gem and Mineral Show, held this past August in East Springfield, Massachusetts was a wonderful event. Dan Weinrich Minerals (member of FM Dealers Association) had some of the most wonderful new specimens from Dalnegorsk that I have seen in years....Russia, as well as China just keep producing "impossible" specimens. I would like to thank Isais Casanova, the Dealers Association Chairman for arranging the FM Breakfast on Saturday of the show. Thanks also to Marty Zinn, show promoter and member of the Colorado Chapter, for giving us the space and for financing the event.

The Denver Show, this past September, was one of the best that I have ever attended. The minerals were wonderful...Dave Bunk Minerals (member of the FM Dealers Association) presented for sale not one, but two rooms of the new Red Cloud Wulfenites....these redefine what a wulfenite should be! Bryan Lees, The Collector's Edge, offered for sale yet another NEW find of Sweet Home rhodochrosites with associated minerals on quartz at very affordable prices. The Colorado Chapter, (Ed Raines, President) sponsored a very nice and well attended coffee and donut breakfast for FM members Saturday morning at the Denver Gem & Mineral Show, held at the Denver Merchandise Mart.

I would like to thank those of you who have been good enough to share your thoughts and opinions regarding FM with me and encourage the rest of you to do likewise. May I take this opportunity to wish all of you a very good Thanksgiving, a most happy Hanukkah, and a very merry Christmas.

★ Beau Gordon, President

SECRETARY'S SCRATCHINGS

It has been a busy Summer with lots of field trips, shows, symposia, and great collecting! Be sure to note upcoming activities as advertised later in the newsletter. Thanks to all who participated in FM activities at the Springfield, Denver, and other shows. The U.S. Postal Service has changed its rules again so please bear with me as we change our mailing procedures to accommodate them. We hope to set up a web site soon which should expedite communication. I want to express my thanks to the several people who have contributed information to the national FM newsletters. Next newsletter will have a ballot

1997 National dues and the National portion of Chapter dues are considered delinquent as of February 1. You will still receive the newsletter for most of the year but come December if you still haven't paid up, you will be dropped from the rolls -- and, if you wish to be reinstated, you must pay up not only your current year but any back dues before you are considered a member in good standing.

I will also try to clear up what seems to be a questions in some people's minds (and as I recall was a question in my own at one time), the call for National versus Chapter dues. All FM members are members of the National FM Organization either by their membership in one of the regional Chapters (Pennsylvania, Colorado, Midwest, Great Basin, Pacific Northwest, Southern California) or by direct membership to the National Chapter. For Regional Chapter members, your National dues are paid by your Chapter Treasurer. For those members who are not in a regional Chapter, you must pay your dues directly to the National Treasurer of FM. Of the dues paid through the Regional Chapters (this amount varies from group to group) $5.00 per person is forwarded to National for their part. Dues paid directly to National FM are $10.00 if you are not a member through a regional Chapter.

Now just one final reminder -- dues will soon be due and shortly thereafter overdue please keep those cards and letters coming.

★ Roland Bounds, Treasurer

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

I thank the Chapter Treasurers and National members who sent their 1996 dues in before they were deleted from the system (December is nearing). I would like to encourage anyone who hasn't sent their current dues in yet to renew now and to include dues for 1997. Remember,
for new members to the national Board of Directors. If you have suggestions for nominees please contact Credo Schwab, head of the Nominating Committee.

★ Nelson Shaffer, Secretary

CHAPTER NEWS
Colorado Chapter
Many members volunteered for the ever growing Denver show. Pete Modreski and more than 30 other members helped staff the mineral identification booth. An informal reception for all FM members was held at the main show on the morning of September 14. In addition to all the show activity the group met at the Denver Museum of Natural History in September to see a program about Colorado Topaz. Bylaws have been revised and will be voted on at the November meeting.

The big news from Colorado is that the Minerals of Colorado book has been put out for bid and should be available soon. Be sure to take advantage of the generous prepublishation offer extended by the Chapter on page 3.

Great Basin Chapter
Nick Stellavato hosted the August meeting and treated the group to an exciting explanation of investigations at the Yucca Mountain area as a nuclear waste storage site. Members showed off recently collected fire opals from Virgin Valley, quartz crystals from north of Reno, and topaz from Topaz Mountain. Suggestions about possible donations to promote understanding and appreciation of minerals were discussed.

Don Cerceno hosted the September meeting which showed images of the Trona collecting trip and a locality report by Steve and Dee Scott. Preparations were laid for Chapter involvement in silent auctions and a mini-symposium at the Clark County Gem and Mineral Fair to be held October 26 and 27 at the Clark County Heritage Museum.

Midwest Chapter
Pat Westby furnished a program about crystals and crystal oddities to the June 22 meeting that was held during the Lawrence County Rock Swap in Bloomington, Indiana. Members collected nice ruby red sphalerite at Bluffton, Ohio in July.

In September the group met at the 500 Earth Sciences Mineral Show in Greenfield, Indiana. President Fred Lewis gave a slide talk about his adventures at the 1996 Tucson Show. Numerous field trips were planned for the Autumn.

Pacific Northwest Chapter
The Chapter conducted its annual clean up of the Washington Pass area in August. A successful mineral symposium on Northwest Minerals was sponsored by the group.

Cheryl Burchim and Ray Lasmanis received the Chapter’s Nobel Witt Award for their excellent, long-term service and many contributions to the chapter.

Pennsylvania Chapter
The Pennsylvania Chapter will hold its Fall Symposium featuring Native Elements on November 15-17 at the Department of Geology of West Chester University (see announcement). Neil Wintringham and John Ebner were elected as new members of the Board of Directors. The Chapter was saddened at the passing of Allan Byers. The Chapter awarded its Memorial Grant to Chuma Mbamu-Kesva, a student at Penn State University who is working under Dr. David Gold to study fresh kimberlites exposed in the Tanoma Coal Mine. Several FM members attended or spoke at the Penn State Mineral Symposium on Calcite that was arranged by Andrew Sicree at the Earth and Mineral Sciences Museum.

The Chapter extended its best wishes, as we all do, to Gene Ford of the Colorado Chapter who is finishing several books and papers while he is receiving treatment for cancer. Juliet Reed reports that galleys of Art Montgomery’s book have been made and that Jay Lininger is making final preparations for publication. Daniel Hall and Jay Lininger wrote articles that appeared in Matrix.

Southern California Chapter
The group met August 24 at the San Diego Natural History Museum. Dr. Michael Hager, Museum Director spoke to the Chapter about the future of the Museum and conducted a tour of the lab and back rooms. Chapter President Garth Bricker led the business meeting that included discussions of the two new rock kits. The group will meet October 12 for a workshop on these kits and mineral locality data. A motion was passed to produce a new display case. Bob Reynolds proposed making a brochure about mineral museums in the area and inviting speakers from these to talk at the California Show in Pomona, November 15 to 17. Suggestions for a web site and calendar of events were also discussed.

The Chapter will hold a Mineral Symposium and field trip October 19 and 20. Garth Bricker will speak about the Red Cloud Mine and Bob Housley will speak about corundum in California. He and John Jenkins will lead the field trip to the Cascade Canyon corundum deposit. The symposium will also have a silent auction, a favorite slide show, and the still famous pot luck supper.
Announcing...

MINERALS OF COLORADO

By Edwin B. Eckel

Updated and revised by
Robert R. Cobban, Donley S. Collins, Eugene E. Foord,
Daniel E. Kile, Peter J. Modreski, and Jack A. Murphy

Originally published in 1961 as USGS Bulletin 1114, Minerals of Colorado has served, until now, as the definitive reference of Colorado mineralogy. Since 1961, the number of mineral species reported from Colorado has nearly doubled, making this update indispensable to those interested in Colorado minerals. This important work (of approximately 900 pages in 8 1/2 by 11 inch format) is complemented by 120 color photographs, 26 SEM photographs, eight maps, and many previously unpublished chemical analyses.

Now Available to You at this
Special Pre-Publication Offering - $90
To be delivered - September, 1997
(After Publication Retail Price - $150)

Please reserve _____ copies ($90 each) = _______
Colorado Residents add 7.2% sales tax = _______
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(Credit card charges will not be processed until July or August, 1997.)

Send orders to: FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY--COLORADO CHAPTER
P.O. Box 11005, Denver, Colorado 80211-0005
The Pennsylvania Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy
Presents a Fall Symposium
for the Mineral Collecting Community

on

NATIVE ELEMENTS

to be held
November 15 - 17, 1996
at the Department of Geology
at West Chester University
West Chester, Pennsylvania

Friday, 11/15:
7:00 - 9:00 PM  Registration and "What's New"
If you have any slides or pictures of minerals or localities at which you've collected, bring them along, we would like to hear about them.

Saturday, 11/16:
8:00 - 9:00 AM  Registration & Coffee hour
9:00 - 11:30 AM  Lectures
12:00 - 1:30 PM  Lunch & Keynote Speaker
Dr. Robert Jenkins II will speak on Gold from the Homestake Mine in Lead, South Dakota.
2:00 - end  Lecture, FM Business Meeting and Memorial Grant Fund Benefit Auction. Please bring donations for the auction with you on Saturday. Minerals, mineral / geology books, and mining memorabilia always seem to do well.

Sunday 11/16
Field Trip: Time and location to be announced.
For insurance purposes it has become necessary to limit the field trip to FM members only. If you are not a member, here is a chance to join the organization.

FM PA CHAPTER 1996 Fall Symposium Registration Form

Name(s):
Address:
City    State    Zip Code
Phone   

Need Campus Map / Motel List?  Y  N  FM Member?:  Y  N

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Make checks payable to: F.M. PA Chapter
1) Student registration requires photocopy of current class schedule or student ID
2) A very limited number of meals will be available at the door. Please sign up in advance.
3) Only those registered for the symposium will be permitted on the field trip.

Please return completed form and payment to: Arnold Mogel, 15 Oak Rd, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972.
For more information contact George Rambo at (302) 798-4163.
ANNOUNCING:

Great Basin Mineral Symposium V
"ILLUSIVE TREASURES OR THE PROSPECT SOLD"

in conjunction with

CLARK COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL FAIR

When: October 26 & 27, 1996

Where: Clark County Heritage Museum
1830 S. Boulder Hwy.
Henderson, Nevada 89015
Chris Leavitt, Curator of Education
(702) 455-7955

Sponsored by: Clark County Heritage Museum
Friends of Mineralogy, Great Basin Chapter
Nevada Division of Minerals
Las Vegas Gem Club

THEME: Mines & Mining Promotions of Southern Nevada & Death Valley

COST: $25.00 for both days - includes Saturday evening reception and silent auction

For More Information: write to
Great Basin Friends of Mineralogy
PO Box 44230
Las Vegas, NV 89116
Attention: Walt Lombardo
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c/o CSIRO Division of Mineral Chemistry  
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Address Correction Requested