The President’s Message

It’s summertime and the collecting is good! Just a few items that I feel need to be highlighted.

More than 50 members met at a breakfast meeting held at the Rochester Mineralogical Symposium. Thanks to Beau Gordon for arranging the breakfast and to Steve and Helen Chamberlin and all the Rochester people for arranging an excellent symposium. A morning social is planned for the main Denver Show on September 19 at 10:30 AM. Contact Regina Aumente Modreski for details. In addition, we plan to gather at the Tucson show for an evening social. More details on that one later.

We are working on a new membership brochure/application. There are a few kinks on how to streamline the approach to National membership versus Chapter membership. We hope to have it completed for reporting by the end of the third quarter newsletter. Please spread the word about FM to your part of the community.

National members in the southeastern part of the country are attempting to organize a chapter for that region. This fledgling chapter will sponsor a symposium on pegmatite minerals on October 2nd through the 4th at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. (see article p. 4). We wish them the very best and appreciate their efforts as they begin to establish our newest chapter.

Congratulations to the Midwest Chapter which held its first symposium at Columbus, Ohio on April 4th with more than 50 participants. Organizer, Ernie Carlson, is planning a second symposium for next year.

With the two symposia mentioned, all chapters are now conducting symposia or workshops. Some, of course, have been done so for many years. That is an accomplishment worth noting for all volunteer groups.

Board member George Megerle has proposed a new FM service to facilitate specimen donations to museums and research facilities (see article p. 2). We will soon be able to accept requests for or offers of specimens on the Midwest Chapter’s web site. Some of the mineral-related links on our web site already have bulletin boards, equipment offerings, and other opportunities to interact with fellow collectors. If you do not have access to the Internet at home, you can participate in most public libraries.

There are still opportunities to contribute to our mineral locality indexes as noted in Pete Modreski’s report (see p.2). Locality index chairs, Pete Modreski and Jim Hurlburt would welcome volunteers to write localities for the remaining states. Perhaps you, or someone you know, could help us complete the indices for this country so that we can expand to the rest of the world!

Good hunting this summer! Nelson Shaffer

New Member

Barbara S. Fenstermacher
3424 Meadow Drive
Aiken, SC 29801; Ph. (803) 649-0959
bfenster@znet.groupz.net

Memberships Renewed

Beau Gordon is NAT99
Richard Flagg is NAT98
Leonard Bourget is NAT98
Susan Eriksson is NAT99
Gerald Jungles is NAT98
System For Donating Specimens Proposed

Friends of Mineralogy can provide a valuable new service by informing potential donors about minerals being sought by museums, educational institutions, or researchers. We can accomplish this through our newsletter, the FM page in The Mineralogical Record, and our web site.

Many FM members have donated specimens or portions of their collections to groups who have legitimate uses for them. Members, and other mineral collectors, are often active volunteers at museums and many of the minerals in museum collections have been donated by such collectors. Rejects from collections have been donated to interest young children in "rock-collecting" or for study by advanced students and faculty. Like most of us, museums and educational institutions have want lists for items needed for specific displays, to upgrade or expand collections, to use as analytical unknowns for students, or for specific research projects.

Our web site will include a “Mineral Wanted” section listing institutions seeking specific minerals. A click on the institution name would connect the viewer to that institution. This would be a fast and relatively simple method of disseminating want lists and alerting members about opportunities to assist worthy works. For collectors who are not computer literate part of our newsletter and even a part of the page in The Mineralogical Record could help to disseminate the information.

To make such a project a success, the participating institutions would have to maintain complete, up-to-date want lists and should be ready to properly acknowledge gifts received. Donors should realize that gifts would have no conditions; samples could be displayed, sold, traded or even ground to dust for analysis.

Comments concerning such a service and willingness to participate as a donor or donee should be sent to: George Megerle, 36 Donnybrook Rd., Montvale, NJ 07645, 201-391-6680.

Status of the State Mineral Locality Index Project

FM's Locality Index Project is to prepare and ultimately combine and publish in one volume an index of the most significant mineral localities in each state of the U.S. (and thereafter, the rest of the world). Below is an updated list of all the states presently completed and published since 1979 (20 total; 18 in Rocks and Minerals, 2 in The Mineralogical Record), plus those states for which indices are presently in review or in varying stages of preparation. Some 13 states are not yet in progress. In the near future, Jim Hurlbut and I will be contacting all those people who have work in progress or who have tentatively offered to work on particular states, as well as FM chapters or others who may be willing to work on some of the remaining states. Any potential volunteers who would like to help prepare or review the indices for any of the states not yet published, should contact either Jim or myself; all offers of help will be much appreciated:

Pete Modreski, 303-236-5639, pmodresk@usgs.gov
Jim Hurlbut, 303-757-0283, jhhu@csn.net

FM - State Mineral Locality Indices, Summary as of May 31, 1998

PUBLISHED INDICES (20)

Arkansas - Art E. Smith Jr., 1988, R&M 63:104-125 (Mar-Apr)
California - Tony Kampf et al., 1989, MR 20:129-142
Colorado - Barbara Muntyan, 1979, MR 10:323-328
Georgia - Jennings B. Gordon, 1989, R&M 64: 184-208 (May-June)
Louisiana - Art E. Smith Jr., 1994, R&M 69:156-162
Missouri - Mark Sherwood & Glenn Williams, 1998, R&M 73:98-117
North Carolina - W.F. Williams & B.J. Mckenzie, 1985, R&M 60:84-93 (index for part of state)
Ohio - Ernie H. Carlson, 1990, R&M 65:512-540 (index for part of state)
Texas - Art E. Smith Jr., 1991, R&M 66:196-224 (May-June)
Utah - P.D. Richardson et al., 1983, R&M 58:381-393 (index for part of state)
Vermont - Vandall King & Janet Cares, 1996, R&M 71:324-338 (Sep-Oct)
Virginia - D.A. Penick, 1985, R&M 60:164-170

INDICES CURRENTLY COMPLETED & IN REVIEW OR IN PRESS (7)

Montana - Bryant Harris (Missoula, MT), in process of review & update by Pete Modreski & others
Nevada - Dick Thommsen and Steve Pullman, in review for R&M
New Hampshire - Art E. Smith Jr., in review for Rocks and Minerals
Oregon - Mike Groben, in process of review & update by Pete Modreski, John Cornish
South Dakota - Art E. Smith Jr., in review for Rocks and Minerals

Wisconsin - Bill Cordua, in review for Rocks and Minerals
Wyoming - W. Dan Hausel, in review & revision for Rocks and Minerals

INDICES IN PREPARATION OR PROMISED (10, + 1 partial index to complete)

Delaware - Roland Bounds
Florida - Bernie Murowchick
Hawaii - Art E. Smith Jr.
Kentucky - Alan Goldstein, Louisville, KY (?)
Maine - Vandall King
Massachusetts - Vandall King and Carl Francis
Minnesota - Terry Boerboom & David Southwick, MN Geol. Survey (?)
Mississippi - Michael Bograd, MS Geol. Survey (?)
New Jersey - Pete Modreski
Ohio [(remainder of state) - Ernest Carlson]
Rhode Island - Vandall King

INDICES NOT YET UNDERWAY (13, + 2 partial indices needed to complete)

Alaska, Maryland, South Carolina, Arizona, Nebraska, Tennessee (Elrod Lewis?), Illinois, New York, West Virginia, Iowa, North Dakota.

Partial States to Complete:

Kansas, Pennsylvania, (FM North Carolina), (Pa. Chapter?), Utah

Peter J. Modreski
Chapter Notes

Colorado

The chapter held a mineral auction on Sunday, May 17th. They are now "off" for the summer but thinking and planning for their participation in the Denver Show in September. They always run a mineral identification booth in addition to a FM social.

Great Basin

The editor particularly appreciates the Great Basin and Pacific NW Chapters because they send newsletters with some substance so we can report on their activities.

The Great Basin Chapter has accepted with regrets the resignation of President Jim Abbott. Jim continues to be a valued member but business and family obligations are demanding his time. Great Basin contacts are now in the hands of the Vice-President Steve Scott or Treasurer Marilyn Mills.

The May meeting dealt with fluorescent minerals with a "blacked out" show and tell.

They have a library case on display in the Charleston Branch Library containing specimens loaned from the membership.

Collecting trips: Memorial Day; Hallelujah Mountains (Petersen Mt.). Quartz specimens, fee trip led by Mineralogical Society of Southern California. June tentative; Virgin Mountains for aquamarine, beryl, garnet and chrysoberyl. July tentative; Zapot claims near Hawthorne for amazonite, topaz and smoky quartz. Labor Day; Ely area for garnets.

Pacific Northwest

I have a fine letter from President Bob Meyer listing the year’s planned activities:

1. At the March 7 meeting: Western Washington University Geology Department. Staff geologist George Mustoe, host, led a participative learning experience:

   "Reconstructing the Geologic History of Washington." Following the meeting the x-ray diffractometer was demonstrated and members used the photomicrographic equipment.

2. The June 6 meeting was at the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals. Very fine specimen displays including the fine sperrylite specimen from the cover of the March-April issue of *The Mineralogical Record*.

3. In late June the Chapter will collect in Utah. The trip will start on June 22 at the visitor’s center in Wendover, Utah. Sites: Gold Hill, Topaz Mtn. and the Tintic District.

4. On August 7-9 they will conduct their 9th annual Washington Pass Cleanup. The rugged spectacular North Cascade Mountains are a popular collecting area. The Washington Pass area has produced many specimens and is the type location for zektzerite, okanoganite-(Y) and calciohilarite. On the 8th attending FM members will pick up litter and/or help remove non-native plants in coordination with Okanogan National Forest Personnel. Interested? Contact Cheryl Burchim, (206) 665-4379.


Friends of Mineralogy
Werner Leiber Photo Contest and Traveling Museum Exhibit

Sponsored by FM, Inc. A traveling Museum exhibit will be created from the best photographs submitted for the contest.

Categories:

Juniors, Amateur Adults, Professionals, and Digital or Computer-enhanced Photography.

Rules:

* Matted 8" X 10" print. Matte must be 11" X 14".

* The photo must be related to the contest theme: MEXICAN MINERALS

* Each photo must have a caption with locality, scale, photographer, and other relevant information.

* Photos will be displayed at the 1999 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show. Winners will be announced then.

* All photographs become the property of FM. Copyright will be retained by the author, but FM has royalty-free use.

A non-monetary award will be presented to the winners.

Contest deadline: November 1, 1998.

Mail submissions to Dr. Karen Wenrich, P. O. Box 5054, Golden, CO 80401. For additional information, contact Karen at (303) 278-1218 (phone and fax) or by e-mail at CrystalsUL@aol.com

New Chapter Begins

An organizing committee has begun the task of trying to put together a Southeastern Chapter affiliated with Friends of Mineralogy. They are soliciting help and information from anyone interested in such a venture. There are about 40 National members in the Southeastern area who have been without easy access to a group for some years now. With collecting opportunities and symposia access a real problem in the Southeast, this opportunity seems ideal.

Support for this effort is needed. The "kick-off" will be at a Symposium to be held on October 2, 3 & 4 at Virginia Tech, in Blacksburg, Virginia. The organizing committee is shown below. Chuck Miller is leading the communications effort and, if you are interested, I suggest you write or e-mail him.

Charles Miller (Chuck), 3320 Dawn Circle, Roanoke, VA 24018, Ph. (540) 989-0861, cmiller@roanoke.infi.net

Susan Eriksson, PhD, Department of Geological Sciences, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0420, (540) 231-5360, serikssn@vt.edu

Anna Balog-Szabo, PhD, Virginia Western Community College, 3095 Colonial Ave., S.W., PO Box 14007, Roanoke, VA 24038, (540) 857-7222, abalog-szabo@vw.cc.va.us

Joe Hartsel, Route 2, Box 85-E, Hardy, VA 24101, (540) 890-1876, jhartsel@roanoke.infi.net

Friends of Mineralogy
Agenda For Southeastern Chapter’s First Symposium

Pegmatite Minerals of the Southeastern U.S.

October 2, 3 & 4, 1998, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

Tentative Agenda

Friday, October 2nd

6 to 8 PM Early Registration & Open House, Museum of Geological Sciences, Hosted by Susan C. Erickson, PhD, Curator.

Saturday, October 3rd

8 to 9 AM Registration


9:40 to 10:15 AM Coffee Break

10:15 AM to 11 AM “Pegmatites of Kings Mountain, GA”, John White (Invited).

11 AM to 11:30 AM “Industry of the Pegmatites”, Alex Glover (Confirmed).

11:30 AM to 12 N “The Mineralogy of the Morefield Virginia Pegmatite”, Lance Kerns, PhD, James Madison University (Confirmed).

12 N to 1 PM Luncheon

Speaker: Mr. Sam Dunaway, Morefield Gem Mine, Amelia, VA (Confirmed).

1 PM to 1:30 PM “Comparison of Northern and Southern Pegmatites”, Mike Wise, PhD (Smithsonian Inst., Invited)

1:30 PM to 2 PM “Alabama Pegmatites”, Jennings B. (Beau) Gordon (Confirmed)

2 PM to 2:30 PM “Pegmatites of Crabtree, North Carolina”, Curtis Hollabaugh (Invited).

2:30 PM to 2:45 PM Coffee Break

2:45 PM to 3:30 PM Open Discussion “Collecting Pegmatite Minerals”, Henry Barwood, Moderator (Invited).

3 PM to 6 PM Auction, Reception and Open House in the Geological Sciences Museum.

Sunday, October 4 Field Trip (Location to be announced).

Registration is $35 per person. If you are interested you can register by sending the registration fee to Friends of Mineralogy, Southeastern Chapter, c/o Anna Balog-Szabo, PhD, Virginia Western Community College, 3095 Colonial Ave. S.W., PO Box 1407, Roanoke, VA 24038. Please indicate if you will attend the field trip on Sunday and if you would like information on lodging accommodations.

(Article by the Editor. Summarized from Chuck Millers information advertising the Seminar.)

Here & There In Minerals

Credo Schwab

Not much has come across the desk in the last few months, but here is a book worth mentioning:

At the Rochester Symposium, Marie & Terry Huizing had an interesting little book on Russian minerals. The nastrophite drawings in this letter came from there. The title is: Minerals First Discovered on the Territory of the Former Soviet Union by Igor V. Pekov. Published in Russia (in English), it is an excellent listing of Soviet minerals. It also includes some locality maps, listings, and some color pictures. Neat little book. Visit Terry or Marie at the next show or contact them at: Mr. Terry E. Huizing, 5341 Thrasher Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45247. Ph./Fax (513) 574-7142.
Call For Tucson Papers

The twentieth Mineralogical Symposium sponsored jointly by the Friends of Mineralogy, the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, and the Mineralogical Society of America will be held in conjunction with the forty-fifth Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, Saturday, 13 February 1999. The topic of the symposium will be Minerals of Mexico — the show’s theme.

The 1999 symposium is also dedicated in honor of Dr. Miguel Romero for his outstanding efforts in the advancement of studies of Mexican minerals. Papers on descriptive mineralogy, paragenesis, classic and new locations, and related subjects 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) James A. McGlasson, symposium co-chair (The Collectors Stope, 9641 East Hickory Tree Dr., Tucson, AZ 85728; (520) 529-2231; e-mail pmgaw@imdx.com) with your topic, a few sentences describing the paper, and your address, phone number, and e-mail. Presentations will be 15 to 20 minutes, followed by a period for questions. Upon acceptance of topics, authors will be required to submit a 200-300 word abstract by 15 September 1998 (firm date). The abstracts will be published in the January/February issue of The Mineralogical Record (subject to the approval of the editor), which will be for sale at the show.

James McGlasson
Tucson, Arizona

Dues — Dues — DUES!!

August 1, 1998 Is the Deadline

We are entering the process of putting together a new edition of the Directory which we do every other year. There are a number of people who have not paid their National dues. Please consider paying dues so we can have an up to date manual. If you have not paid by August 1, 1998 your name will not appear in the Directory.

Note from the Membership Committee, Regina Aumente Modreski, Chairperson composed by the Editor.

Pay Dues Please!

Acanthite