



to promote, support, protect and expand the collection of mineral specimens and to further the recognition of the scientific, economic and aesthetic value of minerals and collecting mineral specimens.

BULLETIN OF FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

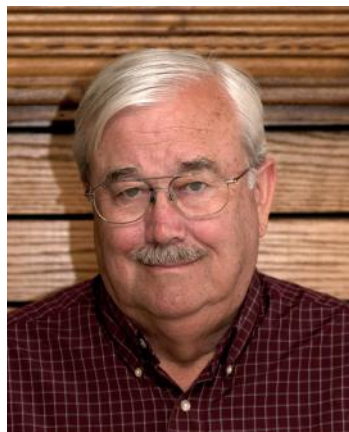
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President's Message By William W. Besse

Hope all of you have kept well during these uncertain times. With the advent of the pandemic, we find that all mineral symposia, and most mineral shows, have been cancelled at least through September. What happens after that is still unclear. We find ourselves continually having to make adjustments.

We hope that you that have been able to: curate your collection, go out and do some field collecting, maybe do some mineral research, begin to write that article you've always wanted to tackle, or try your hand at mineral photography. I know you want to go to mineral shows (we all do), but they are not happening. However, there are new ways to look at minerals online. Whether it is on individual websites, Facebook, or Instagram, there are a lot of dealers and collectors gathering together, virtually. Many dealers have resorted to online sales using various platforms to get their materials to market.

Symposia have gone online as well. The Rochester Mineralogical Symposium was held online and is available for viewing at <https://bit.ly/eRMS2020>. The Dallas Mineral Collecting Symposium will soon be announcing that they will also be streaming live while simultaneously conducting a smaller, more regional, version of the Symposium in person. I am sure there will be more announcements of similar activities in the future. The mineral community will endure and will go forward in new ways.

I am proud to say that we have a new chapter. The Friends of Mineralogy Virginia (FMVA) was approved in mid-May. Their first report and introduction is in this issue of the *Bulletin*.

I know it is half a year away but it is time to consider people for reelection or addition to the National Board of Directors. This coming year we will be selecting an Executive Committee (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary) by vote of the Board. This does not mean that the positions must change this year but Executive Committee terms are two years.

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The 50th Anniversary of Friends of Mineralogy (a personal perspective) Peter J. Modreski Wheat Ridge, Colorado

The year 2020 marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of Friends of Mineralogy. I was not among the founders or charter members, and joined FM a few years thereafter. But I would like to share some of my own recollections and perspectives about FM.

The FM website contains a good article about the History of the Friends of Mineralogy; it's linked on our home page, at <https://www.friendsofmineralogy.org/who-we-are/history-of-the-friends-of-mineralogy/>. It's worth reading! To quote the first line of the article,

“On 13 February 1970, twenty prominent specimen mineralogy advocates met at the home of George A. Bideaux in Tucson and proposed a national organization of not more than 100 people to advocate for specimen and locality mineralogy.”

It goes on to list who those 20 were: John Anthony, Richard A. Bideaux, George Bideaux, Paul Desautels, Peter G. Embry, Joseph J. Finney, Joaquin Folch Girona, Richard Gaines, Mike Groben, Jack Hanahan, Russell M. Honea, Mike Kokinos, Arthur Montgomery, Louis Moyd, Fred Pough, Julian R. Reasenber, John Sinkankas, John White, Jr., Sidney A. Williams, and Leo Neal Yedlin. (Of these, all but Joseph Finney, Mike Kokinos, and John White have since passed away.) The website article describes how on March 9, 1970, a group of five members (Joel Arem, Richard Bideaux, Ray Grant, Mike Groben, and Art Montgomery) drafted a statement of seven aims and activities of FM, and describes how the need was felt for an organization to bring together professional (curators, professors, researchers) and amateurs (dealers and collectors) to the benefit of both and of the study of minerals and mineralogy. And, how the original restriction to “not more than 100 people” was soon dropped, “when essentially all the leading mineral enthusiasts of all educational backgrounds wanted in”.

The establishment of FM was closely linked to founding of The Mineralogical Record. One can read a bit about MR's founding on their website, at <https://mineralogicalrecord.com/about.asp>. There, we read,

“The Mineralogical Record was founded in 1970 by John White, who was at that time a curator in the Mineral Sciences Department of the Smithsonian Institution. White perceived a need for a journal to serve the serious mineral collector and the amateur mineralogist, a magazine to bridge the gap between the highly technical journals such as American Mineralogist and the “rockhound” publications such as Rocks & Minerals, Rock & Gem, and Lapidary Journal.”

The first year's issues of MR contained columns about Friends of Mineralogy, a feature that was continued through many years of the magazine.

2020 was the 66th annual Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, making 1970 the 16th year of the TGMS show. Beginning with FM's February 13 organizational meeting, the Tucson Show became and remained a focus where Friends of Mineralogy members could meet and hold programs. The Friends of Mineralogy pages in the vol. 2, no. 2 (1971) issue of MR contained columns on:

Meeting in Tucson, by Joel E. Arem (p. 91)

Report on Educational Exhibit Competition, Tucson, by Robert W. Jones, (pp. 92-93)

The First Annual Get-Together, by John Sampson White (pp. 93, 95)

Notice to Mineral Dealers and Collectors, by Woodrow Thompson, (p. 95)

FM Region 3 (Pennsylvania) held mineral symposia in 1973 and 1974, which were designated as the First and Second Annual FM-Region 3 Mineral Symposia. In 1973 was the Pennsylvania Mineral Collecting Symposium, Nov 2-3, and in 1974 the theme was Minerals and Ores in Igneous rocks in Pennsylvania. November 1-3 (see <https://www.friendsofmineralogy.org/symposia/past-symposia/>). Both were held at held at Lafayette College, Easton, PA. In 1974 the first FM – MSA Mineralogical Symposium was held, Feb 10-11, at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show. The theme was Mineralogy and Paragenesis of Porphyry Copper Deposits, and Mineral Nomenclature, Terminology and Systematics.

I don't exactly know when I joined FM, but it must have been in 1972 or 1973. I do remember starting my subscription to MR in, I believe, 1972, and ordering the back issues of the first two years of the magazine, which had already been published and were still available. I had earlier met Art Montgomery while I was a graduate student at Penn State (I finished my Ph.D. at Penn State in 1972 and moved to Albuquerque where I began active duty as a 1st Lt. in the USAF.) I cannot exactly recall how I first learned about FM and the MR—whether from mineral-collector friends, or through Rocks & Minerals magazine to which I already subscribed, or through the MSA, of which I was a member.

My first in-person contact with FM and its members and officers came in 1974, when I attended the above-mentioned first FM-MSA Symposium in Tucson, at which I gave a presentation, and attended the annual FM meeting and my first Tucson Show, and also took part in the field trips to Arizona porphyry copper deposits that were part of the symposium. Our son, Brian, age 2 months, attended the Tucson Show too, but he did not take part in the Symposium.

And the rest, as they say, "is history"! I'll end my narrative about FM at this point. I served as secretary (1978-79), treasurer (1981-1982) (did I really get talked into doing that?), vice-president (1983-84) and president (1985) of national Friends of Mineralogy (I'm able to give these dates, thanks to the table of past officers that appears in the History of FM article. I've been an active member of the Colorado FM chapter ever since I moved to Denver in 1979 and began working for the U.S. Geological Survey. I did continue to see Art Montgomery a time or two in New Mexico—on field trips to the Harding mine—and I visited him once, before his death, when he lived in Trinidad, CO.

Happy Fiftieth Anniversary to the Friends of Mineralogy!



In Memoriam:
Kay Robertson, April 23, 1920 - March 23, 2020
 By Jessica Robertson



The mineral world knew her as Kay Robertson, but to me she was “Grandma Kay,” a woman I saw only twice a year, during extended visits in summer and Christmastime, but a woman who still had an enormous effect on the perspective and trajectory of my life. During those visits, she would regale us with long tales of her uniquely privileged childhood and lessons on art and textiles, as well as her favorite topic: minerals and her adventures with her mineral friends.

“Kay” is actually a nickname; she was born Gabriella Katharine Loewi in Venice, Italy on April 23, 1920. She was the daughter of Adolph Loewi, who at the time was the Honorary German consul to the City of Venice. She grew up in a Venetian Palazzo, learning the business of art and antiquities from her father, who was a renowned expert and member of the Bernheimer family art and textile house in Munich. Like so many passionate collectors, she first became enamored of rocks and minerals as a child, during the many family trips to the resort towns in the Alps. When she was 8 years old, as a

reward for completing a swim across a lake at the foot of Mount Blanc, her grandmother gave her several lovely rocks and crystals Kay had seen in a shop window and desperately wanted instead of another doll. These were soon joined by additional specimens she was delighted to find wrapped up as “eggs” for Easter—together these pieces kick started an early collection that soon also included a large cabinet sylvite given to her by an Austrian prince, one of many dignitaries that passed through their home.

In 1939, the Loewi family moved to the United States as refugees from the situation in Europe and soon settled in Los Angeles. In 1945 she married Bill Robertson, then an airman in the Royal Canadian Air Force; it was Bill that coined the nickname “Kay.” Bill and Kay made a life in Los Angeles and had three children, James (1946-1952), David (1947-), and Jane (1952-1962). James and Jane were both tragically lost as children, “Jimmy” to a sudden heart failure and “Janie” to complications of cystic fibrosis. Kay and Bill were partners in life and in business. For next 30 years, fine works of art passed through their hands on the way to decorate the homes of old-world nobility, new-world royalty (i.e. Hollywood movie stars) and major museums throughout Europe and North America. Bill passed away in 1986.

Through all this, Kay increased her involvement in the mineral community, appreciating mineral specimens for their aesthetic and scientific merit. Beginning in the 1940s she was for decades a volunteer and supporter of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. By the 1950s and 1960s, Kay was heavily involved in the southern California mineral collecting community and became a leader in several local groups including the Santa Monica Gem and Mineral Society, the Southern California Micromineralogists Society, and more. By the late 1960s, thanks to her curiosity, enthusiasm, fantastic memory, and fluency in multiple languages, she was one of the world’s experts in classic German and European minerals. Kay was a founding member of Friends of Mineralogy in 1970 and served on the board of directors for many years. In the 1990s, when health changes prevented her continued close involvement, she made a farewell gesture by donating an endowment to create the annual “Best Educational Case” award given by the Friends of Mineralogy at the Tucson show. In 2015, a recently-identified mineral was named to honor her contributions in amateur mineralogy: kayrobertsonite.

Grandma Kay often gifted minerals to young acquaintances, and also sparked the interest in rocks and minerals in myself at a young age; she couldn’t help but share the joy and had a deep and abiding passion for mineral education. When I was around 6 or 7 years old, she gave me a set of thumbnails in perky boxes, ones she chose that she knew would capture my imagination and that I would treasure including a fuzzy okenite that looked a bit like a sleeping mouse, bubblegum pink Japanese rhodochrosite, a gemmy little Brazilian topaz that shined like sunlight, a tiny cluster of swordlike Romanian stibnite, and a teal blue Crystal Peak Amazonite that to me resembled some solid blue toothpaste—advanced pieces for a 6 year old perhaps, but she knew just what was needed. Due to physical distance and life obligations (including geology degrees and a related career—how that tickled her!) it took me too long to also become involved in the mineral collecting community, but I now hear stories from dealers and collectors that remember her around the Tucson shows for years that ring completely true to my ears, how she would carefully design a display case for educational merit, how she took pride in hunting out a rare piece at a bargain, and how she would park herself in a booth and “hold court,” telling stories and helping to match friends with special pieces.

In her later years, after travel became difficult but before the more severe complications of dementia set in, Kay still welcomed visits from close friends and carried on extensive correspondence with collectors and museums in the art and mineral worlds. Kay was able to live in her house in Los Angeles until 2018, surrounded by many treasures and memories. As many collectors know, the bulk of her 14,000-piece collection was sold to Robert Lavinsky in 2017 to help offset the cost of care, but she was pleased that suites of significant material were donated to the Museum and that so many pieces would be appreciated by many new collectors, many of them young, to start the cycle again. When my own children were born, of course she also gave them a small set of nice thumbnail specimens. In the accompanying letter, after explaining that these small crystals were carefully chosen and were NOT toys (I still waited a few years to give them to the kids!) she wrote:

Mineralogy is a science. By learning about what a mineral consists of & its internal structures, an amazing amount of things have been invented... And, minerals are beautiful! So, enjoy them together.

It is hard to improve on that.

After resisting leaving the warmth of L.A. for years, Kay finally moved to the Puget Sound area in 2019, where family could be a more constant presence in her life. I am honored that in her last year, I could visit weekly with a “mini mineral roadshow” and tell her about new finds and “talk rocks”—she was in love with minerals to the last. She died peacefully in her sleep in March 2020, one month shy of her 100th birthday, with the treasured Austrian sylvite still nearby.



Brochantite. Montevecchio Mine, South Sardinia Province, Sardinia, Italy, fov 3 mm.
Collection of Beth Heesacker (ex Allen and Barbara Lundgren collection). Photo by Beth Heesacker. Copyright by Beth Heesacker.

Nevada Patent, United States Only Working Azurite Mine By Tate Wilson

I've been a vendor at some of our countries larger gem and mineral shows such as the Denver and Tucson show for a few years now. Not only am I there to provide awesome material to the public but I am also there to meet miners and be inspired by what they are doing. One such miner is William "Bill" Harrison, and I see him at these same shows. He owns the Nevada Patent Mine, the only U.S. azurite mine in operation. We quickly became friends and we set aside some time so I could travel to La Sal, Utah and visit the mine. With little vegetation around the local geology was impressive and easy to identify. The area is rich in history, and I even got to see remnants of the mysterious

"Malachite Man". I was also able to see how the mine works and even got to assist in blasting with explosives to expose more new material! My trip down was fun and I learned a lot about Bill and La Sal azurite.

My girlfriend, Brittney Musulin, and I loaded up the car and headed down to La Sal from Washington State. The scenery was ever changing as we left the PNW rainforest, crossed the high deserts of Oregon, potato farms of Idaho and into the geological wonderland of Utah. As the miles to La Sal lessened my anticipation grew. I was curious to see the azurite coming out of the ground and learn more about how it is formed and mined. We arrived at the mine late in the afternoon. Day one of our trip comprised of having dinner with Bill and his wife then going to bed. We are going to have a big day ahead of us tomorrow.

The mine is located in Lisbon Valley. Right here in the valley occurs a large faultline, named the Lisbon Valley Fault.



Mine owner, William Harrison stands proud behind his famous "Nevada Patent" azurite mine.



Azurite "blueberries" are plentiful when mining at "Nevada Patent" mine.



An example of a large well crystallized azurite rosette.

This fault line has a vertical strike and it cuts through the Dakota Sandstone formation. Copper bearing solutions traveled up the Lisbon Valley fault and mineralized the Dakota Sandstone. Crystallization occurs in voids, faults, fractures, replaces calcite cements, and carbonate spheres (blueberries).

The main mineral of interest here is azurite, a carbonate mineral. The azurite that is typically found here comes in a number of forms. One of the most popular forms are "blueberries". These spherical balls look like sandstone concretions that have been mineralized by azurite and sometimes malachite.



An large plate of boytroidal azurite displays nicely.

Azurite rosettes are highly sought after by mineral specimen collectors. They form in round clusters of subparallel and individual crystals. The most usable form of azurite comes as broken pieces and seam fillings. The veins of azurite tend to be thin but they are quite stable and polish wonderfully. Much of the material will not need to be stabilized. The broken up pieces of veins and seams will get used in making compressed bricks which are used in making cabochons and other lapidary applications. Not only that but much of the broken otherwise unusable material gets crushed into a powder and is used in making beautiful paint pigments and inlay material. My personal favorite azurite specimens are the rosettes that are cut in half. Inside are lovely azurite geodes. They have a hollow cracked appearance with druzy micro azurite crystals. They make wonderful specimens for a display.

Day two of our trip to the Nevada Patent Azurite mine started early. We woke up at 5AM to prepare for the blast. First order of business was to go to the shop to get dynamite, ammonium nitrate and the detonation cord. Then we drove it all to the mine where the holes had been pre drilled the day before. I hung around while Bill prepared everything and explained the process to me. First he tied the detonation cord to a stick of dynamite and shoved it down the hole. He then took a long pole and tamped the stick to the bottom of the hole. After that he tied the rest of the dynamite to the detonation cord and placed the following 7 charges down their holes. Then Bill took the ammonium nitrate and poured it into each hole. This was to "fluff" the material during the blast. He then ran the detonation cord about 50 feet away and set the ignition cord to it. We then went to the main road and created roadblocks to ensure no one would be around during the blast. We had someone stay at each roadblock in case passerbyers had questions. Bill went back to the mine and gave three loud honks on his trucks horn. That was to let us know the blast was coming. He ignited the detonation cord and about 3 minutes later a very loud blast followed along with a lot of dust and debris flying through the air. When things settled Bill drove back to the mine to make sure all the charges went off, then once clear he gave three more honks to let us know we could come up.

My girlfriend Brittney, Bill's wife, and I hurried up to the mine to see what was uncovered. This was the moment of truth. As we pulled into the mine we noticed a large section of wall was no longer there. It was now all over the ground. The colors blue and green covered everything! We took a hose and sprayed everything down to wash away the dust and make the azurite and malachite stand out more. Many large boulders were covered in sheets of azurite and malachite. Upon looking closer we noticed that the sheet material was covered in well formed azurite crystals. There was also a large amount of rock with thick veins of azurite going through it. Both types of material would end up being used for cabochons. There were also "blueberries" scattered around on the ground. Unfortunately we did not see any rosettes. Bill informed us that we would likely find them at a greater depth.



The mine owner inspects the rock for azurite after a fresh blast.

Later when we leave Bill will have to process all this material. He estimates that in a year he will process 50 tons of material to get 4-5 thousand pounds of usable material. The first step is just to walk the blast area and hand pick all easily seen specimens. This will save them from being damaged later. Next Bill takes the backhoe and takes loads of material over to the processing area. He then loads the material into a trommel which will screen out dirt and small sized rock while washing it more with water. From here the material travels onto a conveyor belt. Slowly the material will pass by him as he hand picks out usable material. The material that was sifted out during the trommel process can be gone through later to hand pick out the azurite "blueberries". The final step is grading the material. He will separate material depending on what it will be used for. Specimens are kept in one area, cabochon material in another, and leftovers are put aside for making compressed bricks and pigment.



At the "Nevada Patent" mine malachite and azurite are often found together.

In the past 3 years the Nevada Patent mine has been producing new minerals that have not been seen from here previously. This story came to be when Bill had some of these specimens for sale at a show. He thought they were a form of crystalized micro azurite. However, a customer corrected him, saying what he in fact had was cyanotrichite and brochantite. Cyanotrichite is a hydrous copper aluminum sulfate mineral that forms bright vivid blue crystals with a radial acicular crystal form. Brochantite is also a sulfate mineral that also forms in an acicular habit, however its color will range from emerald green to a blue green. The customer also said that these specimens are quite nice and worth good money. Bill soon after had the specimens tested using x-ray diffraction at the University of Utah and the results confirmed this to be true. These minerals make great micromount specimens. The crystal structure may be small but they are still stunning even without the aid of magnification.



Malachite stained human bones were found buried deep underground while working the azurite mine.

Last year during the annual Desert Gardens gem show in Quartzsite, Arizona I came up to Bill and asked him if he ever gets bones that have been replaced or stained by copper minerals. He smiled and said "Actually yes we have!" Bill went on to tell me about what is known as the "Moab Man" or "Malachite Man". The story goes that back in 1971 a man named Lin Ottinger uncovered human remains while looking for azurite and malachite specimens, where Bill's mine currently is. These were no ordinary remains. These bones were stained with a bright green malachite from leaching solutions out of mineral deposits. This created a bit of a controversy when a few creationist claimed that these fossils go back to cretaceous times

because of the rock that surrounded them was from that age. This would have huge anti evolutionary implications. These bones were later dated by the University of Utah and said to be around 200 years old. A later discovery was made by Bill after he acquired the property. He found the remains of 10 human skeletons with the green malachite staining. They were tested and said to be about 1450 years old. Bill and others suggest that because the bones were found in loosely unconsolidated blow sand, they were victims of a cave in during mining activities. They died in the mine consisting of hard sandstone then it filled in with sand and debris. Bill told me he buried most of the bones back where he found them so they could rest in peace. However he did keep a few examples, which I was able to see while visiting the mine.

In this article I also wanted to mention Bill's wife Ekaterina. She is quite the artist. Ekaterina makes her living as a blacksmith. She does everything from forging and casting to woodworking as well. When Bill and Ekaterina team up to combine his azurite and her artistic skills, a wonderful thing happens. At their home I was able to see some beautiful art work made by their combined efforts. My favorite art piece is Lizzy the lizard. This gorgeous work was cast in bronze and the patterns on the lizards back were inlaid with azurite. Some other great pieces are the forged peas in a pod. The pea pods were forged with copper and the peas in the pods are azurite and malachite "blueberries". Ekaterina has also made many wonderful wooden bowls, hand carved and inlaid with azurite.

If you would like to meet Bill, see his azurite, and have the opportunity to purchase some you will find him at three of our countries larger mineral shows. You may see him at the Denver NWC mineral show in September, Desert Gardens in Quartzsite, Arizona in January and 22nd Street Mineral and Fossil Show during February in Tucson, Arizona. You may also see much of Bill's material being used in jewelry on the Home Shopping Network. If you have some time you can learn more about Bill and his azurite mine on his website www.bluecrystalmines.com. If you are interested in visiting his mine and having a chance to collect azurite yourself you may contact the guide company Deep Desert by going to their website www.deepdesert.com and arranging for a tour of the mine. After visiting the mine myself, I would highly recommend this option as I saw plenty of good material laying around!

It is important for me to mention that Bill's Nevada Patent azurite mine is private property. There is no trespassing or mineral collecting. In addition, Bill and his wife live onsite so you wouldn't want to show up trying to visit the mine randomly. So I would highly recommend going through DeepDesert charter trips

If you happen to go to La Sal, Utah and visit the mine using the guide service I would recommend a few other things to do while you are there. Chances are you will pass through Moab while on your way to La Sal and I would highly recommend stopping there. This small but bustling town welcomes visitors year around with many wonderful restaurants and galleries. This town has a very hip and artsy feel to it. In addition to that it is a great place to enjoy outdoor recreation. There are rafting guides to go on and mountains to explore. There are many canyonlands with spectacular geological features such as arches and giant balancing rocks. The place I would really recommend is Mt. Peale. It is right in the La Sal area. If you go up there to explore you will find many trails to take and they all are worth taking. We had the chance to spend a few hours hiking up the mountain. I was very surprised as I previously had thought Utah to be very barren and dry. Yet up there at that high elevation there were towering aspens and water coming out of the ground everywhere I looked. This area is absolutely beautiful.

Day 3 of our trip to La Sal, Utah was a day to wrap things up. Brittney and I spent a few hours going through Bill's shop and selected the nicest specimens we could find to purchase. Then it was time to say goodbye. It was hard to leave after spending a few great days with friends. While we had been friends for a few years, this was our first time seeing them in their natural environment, seeing where they live and what they do. We enjoyed learning about Bill's history of working the mine, seeing his amazing collection, learning about the mysterious "malachite man", visiting Ekaterina's blacksmith

shop and seeing their amazing collaborative efforts, and helping out with the blast back at the mine. I am looking forward to seeing Bill at the Denver NWC show and at 22nd Street in Tucson, so I can see what he uncovered during that last blast. Surely he will have some prized azurite specimens with him for us to see.

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**Denver Gem and Mineral Show Cancelled**

To the Member Clubs of the Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council:

On Tuesday, June 2, the Denver Gem and Mineral Show Committee, with considerable regret, unanimously agreed that it was prudent to cancel the 2020 Denver Gem and Mineral Show. The Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council subsequently approved this measure; thereby making official the cancellation of our 2020 Show.

Our decision was driven by the need to follow state and local restrictions currently banning gatherings in excess of 10 people. While we see some loosening of closures at this time, functions deemed "large gatherings" (especially indoors) are likely to be prohibited for the foreseeable future.

Those conditions aside, our primary concern was the well being of our visitors, dealers, exhibitors and volunteer staff. We could see no way to attempt a show format, even remotely resembling our norm, that could satisfy social distancing, ensure adequate sanitation and conform with whatever crowd size limitations were in place at the time.

Club volunteers are the power that drives our show. Without them there could be no show. Realistically, the Council was especially concerned for those club volunteers, and there are many of you (and us) who fall in the Covid-19 high-risk category. Had we persisted in staging a show, we could have experienced a short fall in the needed number of volunteers.

We hope that next year you will join us again as we carry over our Fabulous Fluorite theme. Your participation and camaraderie in 2021 will help us all forget the disappointments of 2020.

On behalf of the Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council, may you, your family and friends stay safe and well until we gather again in 2021.

Sincerely, Larry Havens, Secretary, GDAGMC



Calcite  
3.2cm x 2.4cm x 2cm  
Haymarket Quarry (Flooded), Virginia  
Ex. George Reimherr Collection  
Photograph: Thomas Hale, Virginia Mineral Project



## NEW CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENT

Hello fellow FM national members! We are excited to share with you the development of a new chapter: Friends of Mineralogy Virginia (FMVA).

FMVA was created out of a statewide initiative, known as the Virginia Mineral Project (VMP), to update our state mineralogy book while developing community projects to promote and preserve Virginia's mineral and mining heritage. Over the last year, clubs and organizations have come together under this initiative to engage in dialogue and open discussions about the future preservation of Virginia's mineral history. Our goal now, as FMVA, is to continue these discussions and develop a relationship between our organization and the state community to promote the knowledge of mineralogy.

FMVA is a project-oriented organization comprised of various committees dedicated to specific topics such as safety, education, historical preservation, and research. By engaging in meaningful programs and partnerships with museums, universities, and local clubs, we will develop a state-wide network for mineral education. Despite our state focus, we are dedicated to the broader field of mineralogy. Our current projects include a statewide workbook for earth science teachers and a Virginia state directory which can be found [here](#).

FMVA meetings are held bi-monthly starting in January and will be on the last Friday of the month at 7:00pm Eastern Time. All meetings will have a virtual component, in addition to the physical meeting location, allowing people from across the community to attend. Locations are TBD due to COVID-19, but meetings will alternate between Richmond and Northern Virginia to accommodate our diverse geographic membership. **Meetings for the remainder of 2020 will be held on Zoom.**

We have two online events scheduled in June:

Scufflin Acres Amethyst Locality (June 24<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm EST) Register [HERE](#)

FMVA Interest Meeting (June 26<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm EST) Register [HERE](#)

To learn more about FMVA, check out our [website](#), [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#). We also have a [YouTube](#) channel where we will post recorded meeting presentations and community projects. You can find several videos up already from the VMP's community outreach events over the summer.

We welcome anyone from across the country that is interested in being part of this new journey and look forward to building relationships with fellow FM chapters!

Contact [friendsofmineralogy.virginia@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofmineralogy.virginia@gmail.com) for more information on how to join FMVA or to sign up for updates on the chapter!

## An overview of Calcite Occurrences in Michigan

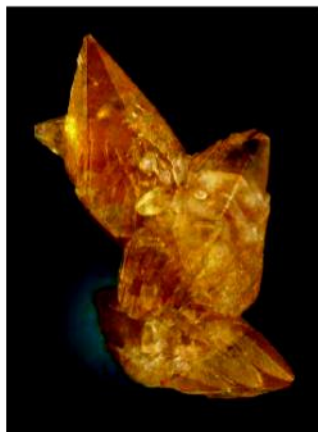
By Frank Konieczki

Calcite,  $\text{CaCO}_3$ , is one of the most common minerals on Earth. It has hundreds of crystal forms, and many of them are seen in Michigan. Its colors also vary, as do its associated minerals, depending on the geological environment, so a collector can assemble a varied and interesting collection composed of nothing but Michigan calcite.

Calcite occurs abundantly throughout the Midwest, including Michigan, as a rock forming mineral in the Ordovician, Silurian and Devonian Age limestone and dolostone deposits that were once shallow seabeds. Some of these strata now serve as the host for a suite of minerals, including calcite, that is characteristic of Mississippi Valley Type (MVT) deposits. However, Michigan's geology differs from its neighbors, so calcite also is found extensively in the western portion Upper Peninsula in both igneous and metamorphic rocks, including significant occurrences in major copper and iron deposits.

### Sedimentary Deposits

Calcite occurs in sedimentary deposits through the Lower Peninsula and the eastern half of the Upper Peninsula. It is found as massive material, and it also forms crystals in vugs contained in dolostone and limestone in many areas of the region. The crystals vary in size, from surfaces coated with tiny crystals (druzy), to scalenohedral ones that exceed 10 cm, and colors vary from almost transparent to white, yellow, orange and brown. Of the deposits in the Lower Peninsula, arguably the most attractive crystals come from the quarries in Monroe and southern Wayne County. France Stone Quarry (Fig. 1), Newport Quarry, Maybee Quarry, and Holloway Quarry have produced many splendid specimens, some alongside fine celestine and, more seldom, fluorite crystals. Other associated minerals in the aforementioned quarries include quartz, sulfur, strontianite and gypsum.



*Figure 1. Calcite, France Stone Quarry, Monroe Co. Michigan. A.E. Seaman Museum Mineral Collection. Specimen is 5 cm on longest axis. Photo courtesy of A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum*

Some of the calcite in southern Michigan exhibits interesting characteristics. Calcite found at the Wallace Stone Quarry in Bayport (Huron County), often is markedly iridescent. Much of the calcite that is found in the southeastern Lower Peninsula is fluorescent, and some of it also is quite phosphorescent. Specimens from the Great Lakes Aggregates/Sylvania Minerals Quarry in South Rockwood (Monroe Co.) show intense white fluorescence and prolonged phosphorescence under long wave ultraviolet light (Fig. 2), as does calcite from the Maybee Quarry. Interestingly, fluorescence in most calcite specimens from the former is largely restricted to the edges of the crystals, with the central portions showing little to none. Some calcite from local quarries that is used as breakwater barriers above the Lake Erie shoreline glows warm pink under LW light.



Figure 2. Calcite, 7.6 x 5.4 x 3.2 cm, shown under LW ultraviolet light, Great Lakes Aggregates/Sylvania Minerals, South Rockwood, Monroe Co. MI. Collected and photographed by author.

Calcite is also a major component of many fossils found in many of the sedimentary deposits in Michigan, including the state fossil, Petoskey Stone, which is a fossilized colony coral, *Hexagonaria percarinata*. Petoskey stone is found along much of the shoreline in the northern Lower Peninsula, and in gravel pits and quarries. Additional marine fossils found in Michigan include other colony corals, rugose corals, chain corals, brachiopods, echinoderms, blastoids, bryozoans, gastropods, cephalopods, trilobites and stromatolites.

### Metamorphic Deposits

Much of the western portion of the Upper Peninsula has large areas of metamorphic rock, and the iron formations in this rock are of particular interest to mineralogists, and in past years, to the mining industry. Heinrich and Robinson (2004) noted that "Unquestionably the most significant group of metamorphic rocks in the state is its Precambrian iron formations."<sup>1</sup> There are three major iron formations, known as ranges, in Michigan. East to west, they are the Marquette Range, the Menominee Range, and the Gogebic Range, which extends into Wisconsin.<sup>2</sup> Mines in these areas were in production from the 1840s until 2016, when the Empire Mine in the Marquette Range closed. Many of the iron mines yielded calcite specimens occurring in a variety of habits, including scalenohedral, prismatic, rhombohedral, and sometimes in botryoidal masses. Clear, colorless crystals occur, as do white, gray, yellow and pink ones. Not surprisingly, many of the crystals were iron stained, or contained red hematite inclusions. According to Heinrich and Robinson, the principal sources of crystals in the Marquette Range were the Jackson, Princeton, Negaunee, Lucy Mine, and in Iron County and Dickinson County (Menominee Range), quality calcite specimens were found in Vulcan, West Vulcan, and Hiawatha Mines. Gogebic Range sources included the Penokee, Plymouth and Norrie mines, all producing botryoidal coatings on brecciated hematite ore. There are a host of associated minerals in these metamorphic occurrences.

### Igneous Deposits

Without doubt, the best known and highly prized calcite crystals from Michigan are those from Copper Country in the Keweenaw Peninsula, the world's most prolific native copper deposit. The variety of habits, colors, and associated minerals in calcite specimens from this area is amazing. Heinrich and Robinson observed that Palanche (1944) found 138 different crystal forms in a sample of just under 200 crystals. Common associates include the chlorite group, epidote, pumpellyite, quartz, microcline feldspar, datolite, and sometimes spectacularly, copper.



Figure 3. Calcite with copper inclusions, 4.5 cm, Quincy Mine, Houghton Co., MI. A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum, T. Reeder Collection. Photo by J. Jaszczak

The list of Michigan copper mines that yielded calcite is immense, since the mineral commonly occurs in all three types of copper deposits- fissure, amygdaloid, and conglomerate. Some of the best quality crystals in Ontonagon County were extracted from the Caledonia, Ridge, and Minesota (correct spelling) mines. Some contained copper inclusions. The White Pine Mine, which is in the west part of the county, exploited a different type of deposit, and it produced scalenohedral crystals containing hematite spherules that tinted them reddish-brown.

The crown jewels of Michigan calcite specimens are those from several mines in Houghton County, including Quincy (Figure 3), Franklin (Figure 4), Isle Royale and Pewabic. Many contain copper inclusions, which tint the crystals delicate shades of pink and orange.



Figure 4. Calcite with copper inclusions, 8.5 cm on longest axis. Quincy Mine, Houghton Co., MI. A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum, T. Reeder Collection. Photo by J. Scovil, courtesy of A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum

Several specimens from these mines are considered to be among the finest calcite crystals in the world.

Fine calcite specimens also have been found in Keweenaw County, the northernmost in Michigan. Calcite from the Allouez Mine sometimes contains significant cuprite inclusions, which result in red crystals, and many fine calcites have come from the Phoenix Mine. Keweenaw County also contains an unusual calcite occurrence near Copper Harbor. Limestone layers in Copper Harbor Conglomerate contain Precambrian stromatolites that occur over a long stretch. Some of the best examples occur near Horseshoe Harbor. Note- Horseshoe Harbor is a Michigan Nature Association (MNA) preserve, and collecting at MNA sites is strictly prohibited, so please take only photographs. Several excellent photographs can be found at [mindat.org](http://mindat.org).

There are abundant opportunities for collectors to obtain representative samples of calcite from Michigan. Several active quarries are open to collecting by organized student groups or rock clubs, and specimens still routinely appear at local rock and mineral shows. One can also obtain them from both online and brick and mortar vendors. Fossil hunters can find calcite on Great Lakes and inland beaches, and in limestone outcrops.

Happy hunting!

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## Accidental Encounters: Reflections on the Role of Serendipity in Mineral Collecting by Richard Francaviglia

For more than sixty years, I've collected minerals under varied circumstances. Like most collectors, I've found some in the field at sites such as mines and known locales, discovered some on field trips, traded specimens with other collectors, and purchased some from rock and mineral shops -- and more recently on-line. However, out of the thousands of specimens I have collected, several stand out for the unique circumstances under which I encountered them. In this essay, I describe five totally unexpected finds.

### "Keep your eye on the Road"

My first unusual encounter with minerals occurred in 1959 when, at age fifteen, I was driving a brand-new Renault Dauphine using my learner's permit in what was then the boon-docks near Coahuila, California. My uncle Victor "Vic" Riffin was my instructor, and he gave me some sage advice that I've never forgotten. "Keep your eye on the road -- not only up ahead to avoid accidents, but also where your wheels will be rolling so that you can avoid tire or front-end damage." That advice was especially good for driving on gravel roads, including one we were now driving on that was recently graded and ran through some hilly country. I'd heard that there were some coarsely crystalline pegmatites in this area that were known to yield some interesting minerals, so this would be a two-for-one experience -- a driving lesson and a mineral collecting opportunity.

After a driving a couple of miles down that road, as we approached a road cut, I noticed an object sticking straight up from the road surface. The object was about two inches long, and looked pretty menacing. At first I thought I'd simply straddle it, but I stopped about ten feet away from it because it seemed so unusual. My uncle and I speculated: *What is that? Looks like a metal blade, but maybe the tip of a rod.* Curiosity got the better of me, so I got out of the car to take a closer look. Kneeling down, I was astounded to discover that the mysterious object was a black tourmaline crystal! Moreover, the end protruding from the road was perfectly terminated and undamaged! Using a screw driver, I carefully excavated the crystal, which turned out to be about three and a half inches long. This schorl crystal was a beauty -- jet black, deeply striated, and in perfect condition, though the tip was slightly covered with silver-colored muscovite. How it got there unscathed despite being moved around by a road-grader still amazes me. In retrospect, it was not only the best tourmaline crystal I've ever found, but more endearing because I'd found it by accident. Nevertheless, back in 1970, I gave that crystal (and a number of other specimens) to an educator in Oregon who was enthusiastically looking forward to teaching geology classes. This may sound counter-intuitive as it was a personal favorite, but my rationale was that specimens should be shared for the greater good.

### A Trunk Full of Treasures

My next accidental find occurred about fifteen years later. In the early 1980s, I managed Environmental and Community Development programs for the SouthEastern [sic] Arizona Governments Organization (SAEGO) which was headquartered in Bisbee. One day, as I was having lunch at a cafe near my office in the Warren section of Bisbee, I overheard an old miner relating some of his experiences in the various mines, including the Campbell shaft. This old timer had fallen on hard times, and realized that I was intensely interested in Bisbee's fabulous mineralogy. After the others left, he asked: "Would you be interested in buying some specimens that I collected while on the job?" After replying "Would I ever!" he asked me to follow him out to his car, a pretty beat-up looking 1971 Plymouth Duster. Any doubts I may have had vanished when he popped open the car's trunk. There, gleaming in the sunlight, were about two dozen jaw-dropping specimens, most fist-sized but some larger. They were everything one thinks of when the name "Bisbee" is mentioned: not only showy specimens of cuprite, azurite, malachite, and even native copper, but also more unusual forms of "corkscrew" calcite, shiny blades of specularite (hematite), nicely crystallized galena, pyrite, and many others. When he asked "How much will you give me for them?" I could only answer "You name the price." When he answered "How about fifty dollars cash?" I was stunned. I wasn't making a lot of money at the time, but had about one hundred dollars on me. Not wanting to take advantage of this fellow, I asked "How about seventy-five?" He accepted, and we carefully placed the specimens on a blanket in the trunk of my car.

This story does not end there, for I faced a challenge. I had an embarrassment of riches, so to speak, because I did normally collect specimens larger than about 1 1/2 inches on a side. A few days later, I brought them to David Garske (b. 1937), who owned a wonderful little mineral shop in Brewery Gulch. David acknowledged that I had some real treasures and was interested in them. It did not take us long to work out a deal that involved no cash changing hands. Here's how it worked: although I kept a couple of the larger specimens, we both agreed they would be worth more if carefully "reduced" in size. David proved to be a master at trimming specimens, and for his effort I would get one fine smaller specimen. For each new specimen he created (sometimes three or four from one big one), David promised me one from his inventory. This was a great deal for me as that inventory included some excellent specimens from varied locations that I had eyed for my collection; these included some from one of my favorite locales -- the Copper Country of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Our arrangement turned out to be financially beneficial for David because most of that material I provided him flew off his shelves. This is another way of saying tourists were hungry for mineral souvenirs from Bisbee, known as "The Queen of the Copper Camps." David and I both came out ahead -- the best kind of deal -- and I still treasure those specimens (including fine emerald green uvarovite garnets, and pink corundum crystals) whose labels bear his name. As those labels confirm, some were personally collected by him, but many others were from older mineral collections he'd acquired. David had wisely attached those labels to the new ones, a reminder that good collecting preserves not just specimens but their provenance as well. I recently visited Bisbee (2019) where David is still remembered as honest, intelligent, and having two passions: collecting minerals and making them available to the public at a reasonable price.

**(To be continued in the next issue)**

## From Your Editor

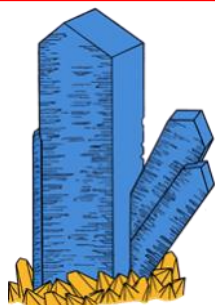
I invite all chapters and anyone from the Members At-Large to either email me their chapter newsletters or a President's report each quarter. Chapters would really like to learn from each other what is working for them or what exciting things are happening like field trips or presentations.

I request that they be emailed since I can store them in one location and not have to search around the internet for every chapter that posts theirs. Just add me to your email list. Beth Heesacker, heesacker@coho.net .

I also invite your pictures of your minerals to grace the pages of this newsletter.

Also please let me know if your President changes so I can keep the officers' page up to date.

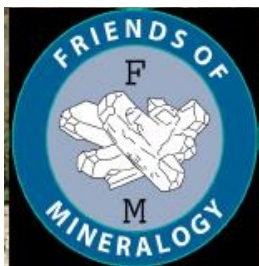
Your articles can make this Bulletin a greater resource for mineral collectors around the world. Thank you in advance.



**Interested in a wonderful resource for teaching children about minerals?**

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**<http://www.diamonddanpublications.net/>**



**COLORADO  
CHAPTER  
UPDATE**

<http://friendsofmineralogycolorado.org/>

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic FMCC has not been meeting and events like our annual action was canceled. To keep interest with our membership our chapter has started a remote lecture series that can be accessed by computer. The idea is to have a speaker once a month through the summer. Since the presentation is done remotely speakers from around the globe are being asked to present. Our first presentation was a talk by Dr. Rob Boswell from England, his presentation was on Minerals of Tsumeb and was presented on June 11<sup>th</sup>. The talk was great and well received. We are looking forward to our July speaker.

The Minerals of Tsumeb Mine, Tsumeb, Namibia: Dr. Robert Bowell  
Abstract

Many mines have complex mineral deposits that can lead to a wide variety of minerals and different mineral assemblages. With over 400 known minerals, as of 2020, 71 type minerals of which 16 are only known from this location and 38 elements that are geochemically anomalous in concentration, the Tsumeb mine in Namibia is perhaps one of the most comprehensive mineral assemblages. In addition, the sulfide-bearing breccia pipe deposit was subject to oxidation by surface and groundwater generating three distinct zones of oxidation. Add to this a location in karstic limestone and the potential for cavities in which large perfect crystals can grow and Tsumeb is truly an African treasure box. Mining of the high-grade ore, once the largest global producer of lead and germanium, took place over a 96-year life that finally ended in 1996. Potential still exists for both ore and minerals, but sizeable challenges are also present but maybe one day this giant of the mineral world will awake again.

Dr. Robert Bowell, Speaker Biography

Rob Bowell is a geochemist working in the mining industry. He started as a coal miner before going to university followed by work in Africa, starting at Tsumeb. Following a PhD he worked in Africa for mineral exploration. He has worked for SRK Consulting for 25 years globally. He has collected minerals since he was 8 years old and has an emphasis on collecting suites from mining districts including Tsumeb, Lavicon, Tiger and Gwennap parish in Cornwall as well as a worldwide micromount collection.

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Willemite. Tsumeb, Namibia. Fov 4.5 mm. Collection of Beth Heesacker (ex Allen and Barbara Lundgren collection). Photo by Beth Heesacker. Copyright by Beth Heesacker.



MIDWEST CHAPTER UPDATE

www.fommidwest.org

Also see article on page 14.

Message from a Past-President

Dear Friends,

With the present pandemic, these are trying times for all, and very difficult times for some. There will be future consequences for most. Our chapter will have its own unique problems. We weren't able to have our annual safety and hazard training this Spring, and it remains to be seen if we can even arrange any training this year. This will affect our ability to get into most quarries in Ohio. We may have to consider out-of-state trips that don't require us to have training certificates.

We haven't had a fund raising committee chairman for some years, and Randy Marsh has taken up the slack by running a 'swap table' at Geofair for the last several years. Geofair has been cancelled this year. Therefore, money that we usually raise will not help our treasury.

Which brings me to the main point of this missive. Unrelated to the COVID-19 epidemic, we also don't have a president or vice-president of programs. Under normal circumstances, this would be bad enough. However, we are going to need leadership to take the initiative to address the consequences of the lockdown, address the probable decline in chapter membership (and income) if we don't have field trips, and to coordinate planning for the future.

It would be unthinkable for a ship to embark on a voyage without a captain and first mate. But, here we are in a situation where we have a willing crew, but no one to direct the ship to its destination and deal with the rough weather ahead.

This is an unprecedented situation of not having two key officers. I think that we can resolve the problem by having the executive committee appoint volunteers as acting, interim officers, and then have them formally elected at our November business meeting, should they be willing to continue.

However, this is contingent on having members who are willing to volunteer to fill the vacant positions. Ideally, these would be people with a vision of how to improve the organization, and experience in running small organizations. However, the latter is not a requirement if you can think on your feet and are willing to learn on the job. If in doubt, you can ask for advice from the executive committee or past officers. They will be more than happy to provide help. The important thing is being willing and able to devote time to the job, and a desire to improve the organization.

To paraphrase President Kennedy, "Ask not what your chapter can do for you, but what you can do for your chapter".

In summary, we are in desperate need of volunteers to serve as President, VP of Programs, and Fund Raising Chair. Please contact one of the officers listed at the end of this newsletter if you are willing to serve. For information on the duties and responsibilities of the open offices, please see our chapter constitution at "http://www.fommidwest.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/FMMW_Constitution.pdf".

Respectfully,
Clyde Spencer



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY CHAPTER UPDATE

Your Report could be here!



NEW JERSEY CHAPTER UPDATE

<https://fomnj.wordpress.com/>

Your Report could be here!



Cacoxenite. Cappoterra, Cagliari Province, Sardinia, Italy. Fov 4.5 mm. Collection of Beth Heesacker (ex Allen and Barbara Lundgren collection). Photo by Beth Heesacker. Copyright by Beth Heesacker.



PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER UPDATE

www.pnwfm.org

President's Message Toby Seim

Greetings All,

The pandemic environment has been challenging in many different aspects but has shown us what we can accomplish when we stand together. As we continue to build a culture of inclusion that supports diversity in its broadest sense, let our PNWFM organization lead by our actions to engage each other to listen and share, as well as strive to learn and understand each other's experiences and perspectives.

Determining how our mineral events and activities advance is no easy feat. Just because a state, province or region removes restrictions does not mean PNWFM will return to "normal conditions". We are within a higher range of risk and ensuring the health of our members is priority over everything. In order to return to "normal conditions" there will need to be full assessment and concurrence by our executive board in assisted by member input.

Our May 24th, 2020 FM meeting was a true reflection of empowerment to our members and all suggested input being carefully considered. These won't always be easy discussions – and may be uncomfortable at times – but it will make us stronger and I commit to personally leading our efforts to build an inclusive Friends of Mineralogy – Pacific Northwest Chapter culture we can all be proud of.

Symposium 2020

The Talks

The annual Symposium, *Aesthetic Minerals – Color & Crystallography*, will not be held onsite at the Red Lion Inn this year. Due to current conditions and the unknown conditions within the upcoming months, we will be presenting a Virtual Symposium. The Virtual Symposium will consist of our speaker presentations being pre-recorded then displayed on Saturday, October 17th, 2020 with a live segment (with the speakers) for questions and answers at the time of the showing. This is exciting because it will allow registered members to interact from the comfort of their homes. In addition, we will have our first fully recorded Symposium where the content can be utilized in future activities.

Special thanks to Julian Gray for providing a fantastic proposal and taking a lead role to work with the talented Bryan Swoboda, Blue Cap Productions, in providing a great solution to address symposium talks.



PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER UPDATE

www.rasloto.com/FM/

President's Message

Well, it seems things haven't changed much from the Spring newsletter.



America is still on lockdown, but some states, like maybe Montana and South Dakota, are opening back up. Public unrest is putting America at risk from itself, and for some odd reason the stock market has climbed from a low of below 19000 to over 27000 within the last three months.

By the time you read this, we will have had our first field trip for the Spring (Wednesday 10 June 2020). A quick day trip out to the Amethyst site, a good trial run to test the waters and see if we can start getting back to normal. This collecting site has always spooked the writer and have yet to find something worthwhile. Patience is a virtue.

In the Spring 2020 newsletter, we discussed how there would be a new venue for the Fall 2020 symposium. We are looking at a Lancaster location as a possibility, but because of this Coronavirus dilemma, are

also entertaining the option of an online symposium. However, the Symposium field trip will definitely occur. So, read through this newsletter carefully, and provide some feedback to your friendly FM-PA board as to your thoughts. As we toss around cancellation, postponement, and the different Venue options, a decision will most likely be made sometime in September, and with a bit of luck, installed into the Fall 2020 Newsletter.

Have fun, be safe and all the best.

Joseph Marchesani



Calcite crystals with coating, York Building Supply Quarry, York, PA. 11.4 cm / 4.5" across. Collected by Skip Colflesh and his colleagues. D. Glick photo.



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER UPDATE

COVID-19 led to cancellation of our spring program the last weekend of March as State of Nevada closed all public facilities mid March. Our trip to Searchlight Nevada Museum for symposium and two days of field trips in the local area went down the tubes and with a second wave surge of coronavirus cases and deaths forecast for this fall, we are standing down for 2020.



VIRGINIA CHAPTER UPDATE

See page 13.

Editor's note: Please welcome Virginia as our newest FM Chapter



NATIONAL MEMBERS "AT-LARGE"

Your Report could be here!

**Would someone like to speak up for the "at-large"
members?**

Needs, wants, comments?

FM AFFILIATES



The Friends of Mineralogy is a long-time affiliate of The Mineralogical Record magazine. The magazine was founded in 1970 by John White, who was at that time a curator in the Mineral Sciences Department of the Smithsonian Institution. With the initial help of a financial backer, Arthur Montgomery, White succeeded in launching and bootstrapping the fledgling publication to the point where it was marginally self-sustaining. After seven years as editor and publisher, White stepped aside for a new Editor, Wendell Wilson.

Since then the Mineralogical Record has grown steadily in size, quality and prominence, thanks to the contributions of over 700 authors, photographers, artists, advertisers and donors. It has become a collective labor of love on the part of the entire mineralogical community worldwide. It is the only journal to have a new mineral species named in its honor (minrecordite), and it is the only journal to have received the Carnegie Mineralogical Award. Subscriptions, back issues, books and a variety of free databases are available online at www.MineralogicalRecord.com.

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Mineral News
The Mineral Collector's Newsletter