

# friends of mineralogy

affiliated with the mineralogical record

## FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY - MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

1979 - No. 1 - January

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### F.M. OFFICERS - 1978

- Jack A. Murphy (President) - Denver Museum of Natural History, City Park, Denver, CO 80205 (303) 575-3923 ofc. (303) 355-3864 home
- Arthur Roe (Vice-President) - 85 Calle Primorosa, Tucson, AZ 85716 (602) 795-5133
- Arthur Y. Johnstone (Treasurer) - 996 Larkmoor Blvd., Berkley, Mich. 48072 (313) 542-3592
- Peter J. Modreski (Secretary) - 12113 El Dorado Pl., Albuquerque, N.M. 87111 (505) 296-9387

The most important reason for sending out a newsletter at this time is to make sure that all FM members know about the annual meeting in Tucson, on Saturday, Feb. 10 (see p. 2 for details). The Tucson show is, of course, an unbeatable multi-faceted experience for any who are able to make it there, and we hope that those of you who are in Tucson will make a point to attend the FM membership meeting if you can. This is our one main chance to get together as a society and find out who we all are and what we are doing.

The FM meeting will be preceded (Friday) by the FM Board of Directors Meeting. We would like to add that those FM chapter presidents who are not members of the Board are invited to attend the Board Meeting if they are in Tucson, or to send a representative there.

We can use some new ideas in FM. The local chapters seem to have been where the action has been at, and the national organization has not been active on many projects. Jack Murphy is going to try to get the Locality Register moving again; are there any other suggestions for worthwhile things the FM can do? Are there any mineral localities in need of protection? Books that need some help to be published? Information about minerals or localities that is worth disseminating? Meetings that could be held? We are open to all suggestions--feel free to contact the president or any of the other Directors to express your ideas.

TUCSON GEM AND MINERAL SHOW AND FRIENDS  
OF MINERALOGY ANNUAL MEETINGS  
February 9,10,11 1979

Annual meetings of the Friends of Mineralogy will again be held in conjunction with the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show this February. Our meetings are scheduled for:

FM Board of Directors Meeting--Fri.,  
Feb. 9, 4:30 pm, Tucson Community  
Center (Maricopa-Mojave Room)

FM General Membership Meeting--Sat.,  
Feb. 10, 4:30 pm, Tucson Community  
Center (Maricopa-Mojave Room)

All FM members are invited to attend and to express their opinions at our annual meeting, and it is hoped that as many of the Directors as possible will be able to attend the Board Meeting. Any members who have particular suggestions for discussion at the meetings are invited to mention their ideas to the President or other FM officer in advance of the meetings. Subjects to be discussed or acted upon at the meetings include:

Election of 1979 FM officers (at the Board of Directors meeting)

How to proceed with the completion of the FM Locality Register

A (final?) report of the FM Locality Preservation Committee

Possible changes in the organizational structure of FM

Plans for a future (1980?) F.M.-M.S.A. Joint Symposium

\* \* \* \* \*

The Tucson Show itself (this will be the 25th annual show) runs from noon Friday Feb. 9 through 6 pm Sunday, Feb. 11. Special events at the show are to include (it will be wise to verify these scheduled times at the show):

Paul Desautels - "Silver" (3:30 pm, Friday)

Meet-the-authors session (participants to be announced), 7:30 pm, Friday

Mineral Museums Advisory Council, Business Meeting, 9:30 am Saturday

Symposium on Labelling and Cataloging of Minerals, sponsored by MMAC, 10:00-12:00 am Saturday

Bill Pinch - "Russian Minerals", 2:00 pm, Saturday

Tucson Gem and Mineral Show award presentations and Mineralogical Record slide contest and auction, 9:00 pm Saturday

Darko Sturman - "New Minerals from the Royal Ontario Museum", 11:30 am Sunday

Second Annual Neal Yedlin Memorial Micromount Symposium, 1:30 pm Sunday

Species Collectors Meeting (successor to a first informal meeting last year (9-12 a.m. Friday?--check at show for definite date and time)

Micromount Room--to be open all during the show for interested collectors to compare specimens under their 'scopes

Further information about the special programs can be obtained from Art Roe, 85 Calle Primorosa, Tucson AZ 85716.

As in the past, additional mineral dealers not associated with the Tucson Show will be set up in several nearby motels from approximately Feb. 3 to Feb. 10.

\* \* \* \* \*

Final notes on Tucson: Jack Murphy mentions that as a special attraction at the FM membership meeting, he will show a documentary film about his activities this summer at the Idorado Mine--"Collecting Crystal Cavities for the Denver Museum of Natural History". Jack helped collect 4.6 tons of crystalline specimens to be used in reconstructing 3 cavities for a remodeled wing of the Denver Museum. And, an informal meeting of a steering committee for the Locality Register will be held in Tucson; talk to Jack if you are interested in the project.



## FM ELECTIONS

Ballots for the election of six new FM directors to serve three-year terms, 1979-1981, were mailed to all current FM members on Dec. 29, 1978. In addition to the six regular candidates, one additional candidate has been nominated to fill the remaining term (1979) of David E. Jensen, who finds it necessary to resign from his FM position for reasons of health. You are requested to return your ballot to the FM Secretary by January 29, 1979. Ballots have been sent to a total of 445 active FM members; last year, 437 members received ballots and 227 were returned. Results of the election will be announced at the annual meeting of the Friends of Mineralogy in Tucson, Feb. 10 1979. The candidates are:

Millard M. Groben

Delbert L. Oswald

William D. Panczner

Harold R. Steacy

Dee Belsher

Ron Bentley

Paul Seel

1979 national FM officers will be elected from among the Directors at the annual Board of Directors meeting in Tucson. Anyone with recommendations on the selection of officers should convey them to the President prior to the annual meetings.

\* \* \* \* \*

## HARDING MINE BECOMES UNM PROPERTY

Legislation was passed in the 95th Congress to convey the land including the famous Harding pegmatite mine to the University of New Mexico. Arthur Montgomery has desired to turn over the Harding patented and unpatented mining claims to the University (see Min. Rec. 7, p. 270, and 8, p. 115) but it was determined that this could not legally be done without an act of congress. The law was passed (rockhounds in New Mexico

signed petitions supporting the proposal), and the mine will now rest securely in the hands of the University, where it remains open to students and mineral collectors.

\* \* \* \* \*

## DUES DUE

All members are reminded to pay their dues (\$5) for 1979. If you belong to (or wish to join) a local chapter, submit your dues payment to the chapter treasurer; they will forward \$2 of the dues to the national organization. If you are not locally affiliated, send your payment to treasurer Art Johnstone. Art would like me to mention that any new members joining FM via a local chapter should be sure to also fill out a membership application in the national FM organization, and send this to him even though you pay your dues locally. FM membership applications can be obtained from Art Johnstone or from the secretary. Renewing FM members need not fill out a membership application again, even if they have not paid their dues for a year or more. Art Johnstone mails membership cards, membership directories, and an FM name badge to all new members; if any existing FM members lack any of these, please contact Art.

We hope to welcome all our present members back for 1979, and we hope that you will all suggest that any of your appropriately interested friends will also consider joining FM.

\* \* \* \* \*

## OBITUARY - GEORGE BIDEAUX

As was noted in the Nov.-Dec. Min. Rec., George Bideaux, of Tucson, Arizona, died on August 16, 1978 at the age of 79. George was a member of FM, the operator of Bideaux Minerals, and also known as the publisher of the Brewery Gulch Gazette of Bisbee, Arizona and for his watercolors of old mining town scenes.

I recently received a note that FM member Florian Cajori, of Denver, Colorado, died on Oct. 9, 1978.

## MINERAL NOTES

Books

Minerals of Colorado: a 100-Year Record by E. B. Eckel, U.S.G.S. Bulletin 1114 (1961) has been reprinted (1978) and is again available. It may be ordered (\$5.00) from the U.S. Geological Survey, Branch of Distribution, 1200 South Eads St., Arlington, VA 22202. This 399-page book is the most thorough reference available on the minerals of Colorado; the Colorado Chapter of FM is reported to be working on a sequel (1958-78) to the book.

Quest for New Jersey's Minerals by Robert Speiser (28 p.; published by Robert Speiser, 13 Beam Place, Haledon, NJ, 07508, 1978; \$2.25 postpaid) was mentioned in the book review section of the Nov-Dec 1978 Mineralogical Record. The booklet is a very brief description of 17 collecting localities, including good sketch maps. If you are already familiar with the localities in N.J. you will probably not find much of interest in the book, although a few comments might be of general interest--for example, that the Upper New Street Quarry is no longer used as a storage yard, and collecting is again possible if permission is obtained. I can't resist quoting one paragraph from Speiser, with apologies to all my friends who are micromounters: "The minerals here [Little Falls Quarry] are very limited, and of little significance to the serious collector. But, good micromounts can be obtained. If you have to travel a long way to get here, don't bother."

Magazines

Mineralogical Record, Nov.-Dec. 1978, contains a list of additions and corrections (the third) to the Glossary of Mineral Species, 1975.

Geotimes (News of the Earth Sciences; published by the American Geological Institute, 5205 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041; subscriptions \$8 to geoscience students and members of AGI-affiliated societies, \$12 to others) in its January issue reviewing progress in the various fields of geology contains a column (p. 39-40) by Paul Moore about recent

advances in mineralogy. Paul's article is worth looking at; it has brief comments about research on manganese oxides (in weathering and in deep-sea deposits--the word is that romanechite and hollandite are the most common weathering products in dendrites, etc., not pyrolusite), on new techniques to photograph mixed-crystal mineral intergrowths, and many other items.

The December, 1978 issue of Lapidary Journal contains several items of interest (really!). One is a long article, by Martha L. Peters, about Bob Trimmingham and his mineral collection. Bob, our former FM secretary, has a very extensive collection housed in innumerable cabinets which completely fill his garage. Bob specializes in California minerals, plus about nine other categories. The starting point of this article is Bob's winning a trophy at the California Federation Show for his display of California minerals. I have had one brief opportunity to see Bob's collection, and one thing that particularly impressed me was that each label includes not only the usual information, but also a thorough description of the specimen--which mineral is which if several uncommon species are present, associated minerals, unusual or noteworthy features of the specimen, etc. This issue also contains a fairly good article about the Franklin Mineral Museum and Ewald Gerstmann's private museum in Franklin, N.J. Finally, there is a most interesting article by Kurt Nassau about his testing of a device, the "Ceres Diamond Probe", which is designed to differentiate diamonds from all other gemstones in a few seconds using a thermal conductivity probe which is held in contact with the stone. Diamond has the highest thermal conductivity of all known substances; only pyrolytic graphite comes close, and the conductivity of diamond is 30 to 100 times greater than that of most minerals, and several times greater than copper and silver. The prototype instrument appeared to work quite well.

Minerals

The April 1978 newsletter of the Colorado FM Chapter mentioned four new mineral species recorded from Colorado, based on studies by Dub Crook:

(cont. p.6)



REPORT ON THE FOURTH ANNUAL NORTHWEST  
MINERAL SYMPOSIUM

Robert J. Smith

The Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Friends of Mineralogy presented its 4th annual mineral symposium on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 in Tualatin, Oregon. The subject of this year's meeting was the mineral Quartz.

Early arrivals at the Ramada Inn (the site of the symposium) were treated to refreshments at a Hospitality Room on Friday night. The speakers were present and the conversation was lively.

The doors of the symposium opened at 8:30 AM on Saturday Sept. 30. The registrants were greeted by three fine mineral dealers and by a number of select displays. The dealers this year were Nature's Treasures of Hawthorne, Cal., The Mineral Mailbox of Auburn, Wash., and Si and Ann Frazier of Berkeley, Cal.

The major display of the symposium was the excellent quartz crystal display from the Royal Ontario Museum of Toronto, Ontario. The other displays included specimens from the collections of the speakers as well as from a number of leading northwest collectors.

Each registrant received a packet containing a program, notes and a little surprise. Ray Schneider, a member of the Pacific N.W. Chapter, donated a number of small quartz crystals. Each registration packet contained one crystal.

At 10 AM the program was called to order by Bob Smith, the symposium director. After a few introductory remarks the first speaker was introduced. Dr. R.I. Gait of the Royal Ontario Museum presented an excellent introduction to the world of quartz.

After the speakers and registrants shared a nice luncheon, the second speaker was introduced. Paul Seel of Bala-Cynwyd, Pa. gave the assembled group a very entertaining and interesting talk on the numerous forms of quartz.

The noted mineral dealer and mineralogist, Si Frazier, presented the final

paper of the day. His talk was on the Literature of Quartz. A number of interesting and rare books were displayed.

At the conclusion of the day's formal presentations a mineral auction was held. A number of fine specimens were auctioned off by Mike Groben. The proceeds from this auction go to help to defray the expenses of the symposium. After the dinner hour, the dealer area remained open until about 11 PM. This gave everyone an opportunity to shop for a bargain or two as well as to have more interesting conversation.

The meeting was reconvened again at about 9 AM Sunday, Oct. 1. Lanny Ream, noted author and field geologist, gave the first of his two presentations. He showed slides and discussed the Denny Mountain region of Washington.

The next talk was by Lew Landers, well known northwest field mineralogist. His topic was the external morphology of quartz. He used a large number of examples of crystals from the Denny Mountain and other areas in Washington state.

Lanny Ream's second presentation was on the subject of the topaz and beryl of the Thomas and Wah Wah ranges of Utah. He showed slides of the area as well as displaying many fine specimens from these locales.

The meeting was brought to a close for another year at around noon. There were about 70 to 75 people in attendance at this year's symposium. Once again, the speakers were excellent and the dealers and displays were superior. All of the registrants seemed to enjoy the meeting.

For the past four years the Pacific Northwest Chapter has sponsored the Northwest Mineral Symposium. There have been speakers of the calibre of Clifford Frondel, Richard Jahns, Tony Kampf, Bill Panczner, Fred Pough, Bill Roberts, John Sinkankas, Rudy Tschernich, and Bill Wise, as well as many others. There have been great dealers and major displays. The success of this meeting over the past years has been due, in great part, to the cooperation of the symposium committee and all of the members of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the

(cont. next page)

## NORTHWEST MINERAL SYMPOSIUM (cont.)

Friends of Mineralogy. The support of many other interested people in the Northwest has been very important as well.

If this symposium is to continue, the continued support of all interested people will be needed. The major problem in running the meeting is usually financial. The symposium has barely broken even or perhaps lost a little each year. What is needed mostly is to attract a larger number of registrations.

Soon the executive committee of the Pacific NW Chapter will begin plans for the next symposium. If you are interested in helping in the planning of the 5th annual symposium or if you just want to be kept informed of our plans, please contact one of the following;

M.M. Groben  
Rt. 1, Box 16  
Coos Bay, OR 97420 or.  
  
Robert J. Smith  
Box 197 Mailroom  
Seattle University  
Seattle, WA 98122 (206 626-6739)

We hope to be able to see many more of you at the 5th annual Northwest Mineral Symposium.

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For those who are interested, the financial report on the 4th Annual Northwest Symposium shows expenses for speakers' travel and lodging, meeting rooms, shipping of displays, security, printing, etc. of \$1,922.42; and receipts from dealers, registration, luncheon, the auction, and donations of \$1,922.42, exactly balancing the expenses. The receipts include one donation of \$142.17 made by unspecified person or persons which was evidently made to allow the symposium to break even. Any group wishing additional information which might help them in planning their own symposium might do well to contact Robert J. Smith for advice.

## MINERALS (cont. from p. 4)

Texasite,  $\text{Pr}_2\text{O}_2(\text{SO}_4)$ ; tengerite,  $\text{Ca}(\text{Y,RE})_3(\text{CO}_3)_4(\text{OH})_3 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ; behoite,  $\text{Be}(\text{OH})_2$ ; and rowlandite,  $(\text{Y,RE,Fe})_3(\text{SiO}_4)_2(\text{F,OH})$ . The texasite - the second reported occurrence in the world - occurs with jarosite as an alteration rind near cyrtolite and thorite in the Luster Pegmatite. The other three minerals occur as alterations of gadolinite at the White Cloud pegmatite. All are from the South Platte district, Jefferson Co., a province of some 75 complex pegmatites notable for abundances of rare earths,  $\text{Fe}^{+3}$  and F, and for a lack of tourmaline, topaz, beryl, and apatite.

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## FROM THE SECRETARY

I hope you like the idea of these newsletters; my thought is that if the members of FM are a little more in touch with what is happening, they may be able to make more happen. We shall see. This issue started out to be a short announcement about the Tucson meeting, but it grew a bit. I wanted to try adding some items about minerals to the newsletter, since all our members are presumably interested in them in one way or another. I'll try not to devote space to items you are all likely to read about elsewhere; and I'd welcome contributions from FM members about minerals (or anything else of general interest).

The last newsletter (the only one in 1978) was mailed early in October; let me know if you didn't get one. To spread the word about FM around a little more, I sent copies of the newsletter and some other information about FM to the editors of the several regional federations of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and I plan to continue to do this.

We are getting a pretty good return on the Directors' election ballots--about 150 received so far.

I should express thanks to a few friends who, though not FM members, helped me mail out the last newsletter--my wife, Regina, and Robert and Michelle Dickie. FM people are kind of scarce in Albuquerque.

---PJM 1/10/79



ADDITIONS TO FM MEMBERSHIP ROSTER--We welcome the following new and rejoined members to the Friends of Mineralogy. This list supplements the membership directory for 1978 sent by Treasurer Art Johnstone to all FM members earlier this year; the list is up-to-date as of 1/5/79. Please notify Art Johnstone of any errors in this information.

BRICE, WILLIAM R. - Dept. of Earth & Planetary Sciences, University of Pittsburgh,  
Johnstown, PA 15904 (PA)

BRYANT, W.M.D. - 65 N. Wawaset Rd., West Chester, PA 19380

BURCH, JACK J. - 2446 Fairway, Richardson TX 75080

DETOFSKY, LOUIS B. - #9 Thomas Nelson Bldg., Clusters at Washington, Turnersville NJ 08012 (PA)

FADDIS, DAVE - P.O. Box 176, Concrete, WA 98237 (PN)

GILMORE, TEX - 1117 N. Water St., Uhrichsville, OH 44683

HANDLEY, ARLENE - 6202 Hwy 99, Pacific Plaza #1, Vancouver, WA 98665 (PN)

HARGIS, JAMES - 8804 N.E. 162nd St, Battle Ground, WA 98604 (PN)

KEIDEL, FREDERICK - 705 Prospect Ave., Bellefonte, Del. 19809 (PA)

KELLER, RICHARD P. - 3179 Waldorf, Riverside, CA 92507

KLAGES, HELEN - 435 Santiago Ave., Orlando, FL 32807

KLAGES, K.W. - 435 Santiago Ave., Orlando, FL 32807

KOWALEWSKI, DAVID R. - 406 Morton Ave., Ridley Park, PA 19078 (PA)

MILLER, GARDNER - 3824 Mount Ave., Missoula, Mont. 59801

MILLER, MARY - 3824 Mount Ave., Missoula, Mont. 59801

MOLSEE, EDWARD L. - P.O. Box 211, Arlington, WA 98223 (PN)

PETTUS, DAVID SANDERS - 10403 Sageberry, Houston, TX 77089

RIPPERE, KENNETH H. - 10628 N.E. 38th Place, Kirkland, WA 98033 (PN)

ROBERTS, BETTY C. - P.O. Box 1267, Twain Harte, CA 95383

ROBERTS, KENNETH A. - P.O. Box 1267, Twain Harte, CA 95383

SCHMEER, BLAINE A. - 4260 S.W. Halcyon Rd., Tualatin, OR 97062 (PN)

STINCHFIELD, LYNNE - Rt. 3, Box 204, Murray, KY 42071

TAPAROWSKY, JAMES J. - 27 Circuit Ave., Worcester, MA 01603

THOMPSON, M. ELEANOR - 4710 Sunnyside Rd., S.E., Salem, OR 97302 (PN)

TOVREA, VERNER B. - 1004 Lombard Ave., Everett, WA 98201 (PN)

TUTTLE, THOMAS W. - P.O. Box 908, Mt. Vernon, WA 98273 (PN)

WALLACE, DOUGLAS - 9005 Glen Creek Court, Dallas, TX 75243

We also have the following address corrections to the information in the 1978 Directory:

Sherwin N. Berger - P.O. Box 1722, Scottsdale, AZ 85251

David A. Burgess - 444 "F" St., Apt. B, Coronado, CA 92118

Bryan Chakoumakos - Dept. of Geology, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, VA 24061

Maria Luisa Crawford - Dept. of Geology, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

William A. Crawford - " " " " " " " " " " " "

Jennings B. Gordon, Jr. - 7961 S.W. 198 St., Miami, FL 33189

Paula L. Hansley - 750 South 41st St., Boulder, CO 80303

Joseph F. Murter - 13646 Kingman Rd., Woodbridge, VA 22193

John S. Sobolewski - 18422 57th St. N.E., Seattle, WA 98155

William R. Yambor - Perkiomenville Rd., Woxall, PA 18979

Bruce M. Benthin - 1980 Denell Way, Boise, ID 83705

Ralph W. Dietz - P.O. Box 936, Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Donald T. Hoff - 5840 Chambers Hill Rd., Harrisburg, PA 17111

+ + + last flash! - 4 more new members: + + +

HECKMAN, RUSSELL F. - 2996 East Caley Ave., Littleton, CO (CO)

ODIORNE, HOWARD H. - 1645 W. Sterne Parkway, Littleton, CO 80120 (CO)

WARREN, WILLIAM J., JR. - Dept. of Geophysics, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO 80401 (CO)

ZOWADER, DONALD A. - 6455 Kline St., Arvada, CO 80004 (CO)

Peter J. Modreski, Secretary

Friends of Mineralogy

12113 El Dorado Pl., N.E.

Albuquerque, N.M. 87111

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

Friends of Mineralogy - local chapter presidents:

Colorado Chapter - Jack A. Murphy, Denver Museum  
of Natural History, City Park, Denver CO  
80205

Pacific Northwest Chapter - Robert J. Smith,  
1521 Second Ave. West, Seattle, Wash.  
98119

Pennsylvania Chapter - Donald Schmerling,  
1780 Prescott Rd., York, PA 17403

Southeastern Michigan Chapter - James F.  
Cipielewski, 1216 Boyd, Troy, Mich. 48084

Members of the board of directors:

for Mike Groben  
1978 William D. Panczner  
Willard L. Roberts  
Harold R. Steacy  
Robert J. Trimmingham  
Delbert L. Oswald

for Carl A. Francis  
1978- Richard V. Gaines  
1979 David E. Jensen  
Donald R. Peacor  
H. Earl Pemberton  
Peter J. Modreski

for Martin L. Anne  
1978- Richard C. Erd  
1980 Arthur Y. Johnstone  
Vincent Morgan  
Jack A. Murphy  
Arthur Roe