



## President's Message

### Denver Board of Directors' Meeting

There will be a short (1 hour) Board of Directors Meeting for Officers, Directors and Chapter Presidents at the Denver show. We are hoping to have enough voting directors present for a quorum, so please plan to attend if you are in town.

The meeting will be held on **Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm in room K 40-42.**

Thank you for even greater active participation at the annual Tucson meeting and for voting at a higher level than in recent memory. We certainly have more members contributing good ideas and agreeing to help. It also makes a real difference to those who put in the time required to "go through the motions" of carrying out the routine, required tasks of running FM that you took the time to vote. Even better next year?

We have in the past discussed competition for Board positions and concluded that for an organization like FM it doesn't make sense. It is hard enough to find people to devote the time required to be on the Board and take on responsibility, and friends don't want to "campaign" against friends. If you disagree, though, let us know. Also, what did you think of the format/length/contents of the meeting? Please drop me a line (baritebill@aol.com) and let me know.

A special thanks to those who helped with the FM booth at the Convention Center. This was the best year yet for volunteers. Those who contributed an hour or two promoted and explained FM and the hobby and also met interesting, different people. I al-

ways learn from chatting with neighboring colleagues from the Mineralogical Society of America and the Mineralogical Association of Canada.

The minutes of the subsequent FM Board meeting on pages 4 and 5 reflect our discussion of future FM activities. Judging from comments at Tucson, many of you are prepared to contribute, so please contact any Board member who you see is working on an activity of interest to you. E-mail addresses are in this newsletter.

The meetings and follow up discussion in Tucson brought home to me that FM is largely about friendships, either at the chapter or national level. Why do most of us who do give time to FM do so? I suspect in many cases it is because of the people we get to know. Recent studies indicate a more active and varied social life improves cognitive function in old age and lengthens life span, so one of the solutions to our "ageing membership" problem is to embrace it—actively. Let us hear from you.

Sincerely,  
Bill Dameron  
President

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## Passed: Douglas J. Kirkpatrick

Douglas J. Kirkpatrick, Executive Director of the Helen Dwight Reid Educational Foundation (HELDREF) and Publisher of some 50 educational journals including *Rocks & Minerals*, died suddenly in July. He was the son of former UN ambassador and long-time Heldref president

Jeane J. Kirkpatrick.

Though long associated with FM, *Rocks & Minerals* affiliated formally in the spring of 2004. In this connection Doug attended the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, where he seemed to thoroughly enjoy his foray into the world of minerals.

Under Doug's leadership, most of Heldref's journals, including *Rocks & Minerals* were redesigned. R&M also saw the addition of published pages and became a full-color publication.

Doug was Heldref's Executive Director for ten years.

## Mississippi Valley Chapter *submitted by Bruce Stinemetz*

**Field Trip:** We will be collecting minerals found in sedimentary rocks north of Manhattan, Kansas and in southern Nebraska. Anyone interested in attending the field trip should meet on October 21 at 9:00 am in the parking lot near the emergency spillway area at Tuttle Creek Lake, which is on the east side of the dam off route 13. The collecting area is currently designated as a motorcycle use area.

Calcite and pink celestine are among the minerals that

occur in this area, which was scoured out during the 93 flood when the water level of the lake was lowered to keep the dam from failing. The Corps controls this area and they don't permit the use of tools to collect, but I have had good success picking up larger chunks and breaking them up at home. Some of the celestine is surprisingly good.

On Saturday afternoon, we will continue north to Odell, NE, where amethyst, calcite,

and barite can be found. The barite occurs as single crystals and as small barite "roses". For further information contact Bruce Stinemetz at (816)795-1641.

**New Arkansas Quartz Mine:** Jim and Kathy Fecho report opening a new mine in Mount Ida, Arkansas. The Fechos have operated Fiddler's Ridge Middle Mountain mine (Fiddler's Ridge) for a number of years. The rights to that site have been sold to an individual in Illinois, and it is currently not

operating. The Fechos recently purchased a new mine, which they call the Bear Mountain mine. Unlike Fiddler's Ridge, which was on property leased from the government, the new Bear Mountain mine is on private property and is open for fee-based collecting. Arrangements to collect are made through the Fiddler's Ridge Rock Shop in Mt. Ida. Kathy indicates that the new mine is easily accessible, and there are toilet facilities on the property.

## Midwest Chapter *submitted by Marlene Edington*

This has been a busy year for the Midwest Chapter. Our January meeting was held at the Indiana State Museum with Dwaine Edington giving a slide presentation entitled the "Trancas Geodes of Chihuahua, Mexico."

Alan Goldstein arranged a field trip to the Fluorite District in Kentucky in April and the Midwest Chapter is becoming affiliated with the Ben E. Clement Mineral Mu-

seum in Marion, Kentucky. The Museum held its first mineral show in June, and some of our members were able to attend.

Robert Harman presented a program in June on geodes from a sandy siltstone formation in Monroe County, Indiana that are a distinct subtype of Indiana geodes. July was filled with a field trip to the IMI Quarry near Pendleton, Indiana, where we collected clear to honey

colored calcite. On July 14, members of the Midwest Chapter attended an MSHA training course given by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources in Columbus, Ohio, and we collected at the Clay Center quarry in west central Ottawa County, Ohio on the 22nd.

A field symposium to the Findlay Arch district of northwest Ohio is planned for September 2-3 with collecting at Sylvania, Genoa,

Delphos and Bloomlock.

Our September meeting will be held at the Greater Indianapolis Mineral & Fossil Show with William Wuestenfeld giving a program entitled "A Visit to the Canadian Diamond Mines." The last meeting of 2006 will be held in conjunction with the Micromineral Society of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's Micromineral Symposium in November.

## Southern California Chapter *submitted by Jennifer Rohl*

In June, SCFM members visited the Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society's Museum to see the progress that it has made.

On July 22<sup>nd</sup>, we visited the Mojave River Valley Museum in Barstow, CA. SCFM members voted to donate suffi-

cient funds to the museum for materials to build storage cabinets for the mineral specimens. Museum volunteers will build the cabinets according to specifications provided by Bob Reynolds. SCFM members began auditing, photographing, and listing specimens in one

large display case in a database. Discussion of the collection focused on the development of a suitable accession and cataloging system for tracking donor and locality information for each specimen.

On October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>,

the SCFM will hold its semi-annual symposium, this time at Copper Mountain College near Joshua Tree National Park. The Saturday lecture sessions on local geology, mining, and mineralogy will be followed on Sunday by a field trip to localities in the area.

## FM Leadership

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Friends of Mineralogy, Inc. is affiliated with The *Mineralogical Record*, *Rocks & Minerals*, The Mineralogical Society of America and the American Geological Institute. Please forward newsletter corrections/changes to Gloria Staebler, newsletter editor, gloria@lithographic.org; (860) 267-1512

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes: Tucson 2006

**Call to Order:** President Bill Dameron called the meeting to order at 7:36 am on February 10, 2006. Twenty-five board members were present, including all directors and all but one chapter represented.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting:** The minutes of the 2005 meeting in Tucson were accepted as recorded in the Spring 2005 newsletter (Vol. 35; issue 1).

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Regina Aumente read the treasurer's report, which was accepted as read. Regina also requested (later in the meeting) that we continue to support efforts to collect and update her with member email addresses.

**Nominating Committee:** Tony read the list of nominees to the FM Board. Each would serve on the Board from 2006 to 2009. Nominated were: James Hurlbut, Daniel Kile, Tony Nikischer, Art Soregaroli, and Carol

Smith. Gloria reported that 49 ballots were returned by the membership and that the nominees were unanimously accepted. The election was certified and accepted by the Board.

Tony Nikischer, Art Soregaroli, and Carol Smith were nominated to serve on the nominating committee for 2006. The board unanimously accepted their nominations.

**Awards:** Virgil announced the award winners for best articles this year:

*Rocks & Minerals*—Martin Jensen for the article "Fluorite from the Xuanghualing Ore Field... China;"

*The Mineralogical Record*—Guanghua Liu & Berthold Ottens for the "China" issue;

*extraLapis English*—Federico Pezzotta for the "Elba" issue.

The best educational case

award winners would be announced at the TGMS Saturday banquet.

Werner Lieber photo sales are continuing. Pete Modreski has the photos and will put selections out at the Colorado chapter silent auction in May.

**Affiliations:** Nelson Shaffer reminded the board of our affiliation with AGI and said that we are not taking full advantage of the relationship. He discussed the possibility of our contributing to their extensive and effective youth outreach programs including agiweb.org in order to get more mineral-related information out to interested youth. He also suggested that we produce a flyer for inclusion in the teacher pack that GAI distributes each year.

Carol Smith suggested Mineral Information Institute might be a good organization with which to affiliate ourselves.

John Rakovan mentioned that the MSA is working in developing information on the relevance of mineralogy for outreach purposes. Pete Modreski volunteered to pull together the MSA information and "package it" for distribution in the AGI teacher packet and elsewhere.

**Locality Index:** Art Soregaroli reported that the status of all of the indices is pub-

lished on the website. He has available or has in the works as many indices as there is publication space.

**Operating Regulations:** Virgil reviewed the proposed changes to the operating regulations. The board voted on and approved the suggested changes. Dan Kile proposed changes to awkward use of "he/she" throughout the operating regulations. The Board agreed that the officers could make minor language adjustments and consider the changes approved by the Board. (Note: this has been done and revised operating regulations have been circulated.)

**Publicity:** Sharleen is making good use of keeping the FM space in *Rocks & Minerals* and *The Mineralogical Record* updated. It was later suggested that FM have a placard template for members to copy and place in their cases in order to raise awareness about FM.

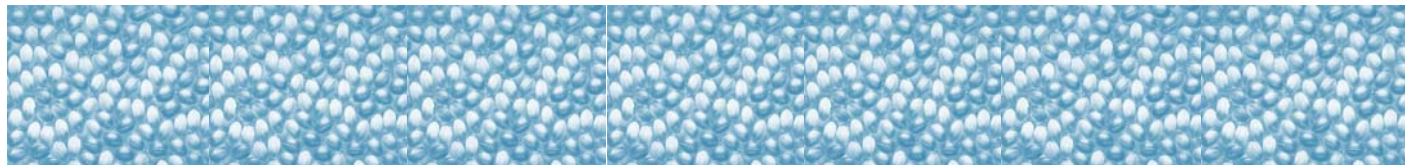
**Website:** Jim Etwiler has taken over as webmaster and is doing a bang up job. He asked for a understudy who would be aware of what was going on (passwords, providers, etc.) and be able to carry on for him were he no longer able to continue, and Carol Smith volunteered to be Jim's backup.

**Membership:** Following discussions at the general

## e-newsletter!

Opting to receive your newsletter electronically saves time and money, allowing your dues fund FM projects.

FM will never share or sell your email address; so there's really no reason not to email Regina (raumente@aol.com) or Gloria (gastaebler@aol.com) and receive future newsletters via email.





## BOD Meeting Minutes (cont.)

meeting, the board decided that the membership roster will be sent by regular mail to anyone who does not receive their newsletter via email and will be emailed to those that do.

**Symposium:** Julian Gray will chair the 2007 Tucson Symposium. Ray thinks that the Symposium should be better advertised and would like poster and flyers detailing the program. Carol suggested preparing a flyer similar to the one that Denver does. Regina noted that if the publicity is prepared by December, she might be able to advertise the symposium in Marty Zinn's Tucson show guide. There was a suggestion for a large sign in the booth space in the entry to the TGMS.

Julian requested suggestions and help with speakers. He asked anyone with ideas to email him. Jim said that he would publicize the symposium on the website.

Skip thanked all those who stepped in for him in 2005, when he was unable to fulfill his duties because of Hurricane Katrina.

**Information Booth at TGMS:** Nelson reminded all that he needed volunteers to man the booth in the entry.

**New Business:** Outreach (K-12): FM's working to provide mineralogical materials to universities and libraries was discussed at

the general meeting. Bill brought up the subject as new business and the ensuing discussions went a number of directions:

1) Carol wondered whether we couldn't do something to help bring schools and libraries back online in New Orleans. Skip said that these institutions were devastated by Katrina and he would look into what we might be able to do to help.

2) Elementary/middle-school children was Carol Smith's target as she suggested we ask local libraries about their most heavily checked out rock and mineral related titles, then purchase and donate the most popular titles. Gloria promised to provide websites in which teachers request needs such as mineral kits or books and "angels" can fill those needs. (Note: The website for two of the organizations matching donors to teachers is [www.donorschoose.com](http://www.donorschoose.com) and [www.iloveschools.com](http://www.iloveschools.com). One can search by region on the word "mineral" — there are a number of teachers who would like to teach mineralogy, but need samples, test kits and other materials.)

3) MSA has a very good website for teachers — the most visited pages on its site in fact. With that information and the thought of sharing the MSA's knowledge base, the discussion

began to sound a lot like that of coordinating with MSA to prepare teacher materials and providing them to AGI and now beyond... Volunteers to work on the kids projects were Pete Modreski, Sharleen Harvey volunteered to share materials and experience gathered for and at the Rice Museum. Ray Grant agreed to share what was being done at a Phoenix area Museum.

**Public Lands:** Alan Young discussed public lands and the closure of more and more localities. He suggested that we might build maps of public lands with the mineral localities marked on them to make people aware that when a hearing was coming up on the use of a given public land, that collectors would be aware that this land means that locality. Alan agreed to study the matter and make a recommendation at a future meeting.

**Outreach (Universities and Institutions):** The discussions returned to FM's supporting libraries and institutions with books and periodi-

icals. Skip, Gloria, Marie, Wendell, and Tony agreed to be part of a committee to look into the needs of libraries and institutions. Nelson suggested that we likewise "adopt" some museums; Virgil suggested that the museums turn to Society of Mineral Museum Professionals (SMMP) for their needs.

### Expanding the Membership:

It was suggested that FM become a more visible presence in Canada. Julian suggested we should instead expand our direct advertising. Bill agreed to look into affiliating with the Mineralogical Association of Canada.

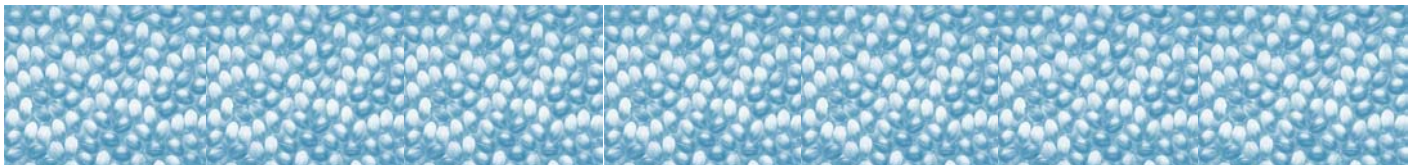
**Symposium Support:** Virgil requested expanded FM's support for chapter symposia. He asked for \$300 to defray printing costs for the New Mexico Mineral Symposium. His proposal was accepted. Virgil agreed to put together a template for other Symposia wishing to apply for FM funds.

**Adjournment:** The meetings was adjourned at 9:28 am.

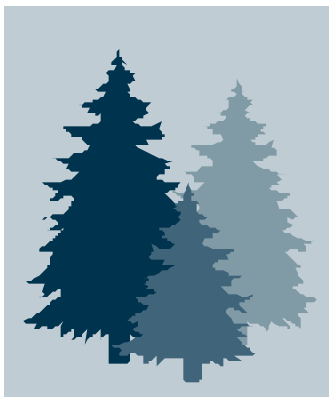
## Southeast Chapter Fall Symposium

The southeast chapter's annual fall symposium is scheduled for November 11 - 12, 2006. The topic will be aluminosilicate deposits

of the southeast. For detailed information on the symposium email Julian Gray at [julian.gray@comcast.net](mailto:julian.gray@comcast.net).



## Pacific Northwest Chapter submitted by Bill Dameron



For the second year former chapter president Aaron Wieting and his wife Jade organized an FM table at the Rice NW Museum of Rocks and Minerals' "Summerfest" to sell the excess stock of local collectors for the benefit of the Museum's recently opened Northwest Minerals Gallery (a separate building).

Aimed primarily but not exclusively at making specimens available for beginning young collectors at very low prices, members donated scores of flats of primarily self collected specimens and inexpensive extra pieces from their collections. The sale of the Wietings in-kind contribution, \$700, was matched in cash

by Jade's employer, Stockamp & Associates, and a total of \$1,861 was raised to support the gallery, which features professionally designed displays of top quality regional minerals, curator Rudy Tschernich's renowned zeolite collection and a large recreation of an Indian zeolite pocket.

### Pacific Northwest Friends of Mineralogy

## 32nd Annual Mineralogical Symposium and Show

*featuring the*

# MINERALS OF SOUTH AMERICA

October 20-22, 2006

Longview, Washington  
40 minutes north of Portland, Oregon



### Speakers

Dr. Anthony R. Kampf, Curator and Department Head at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County  
Dr. Kampf has led numerous mineralogical excursions to Brazil

Geologist and mineral dealer Scott Werschky, who has made over 50 trips to Peru

David Waisman, geologist, Westward Look Show organizer and frequent visitor to Brazil.

*This long running symposium includes dealers, a popular Saturday night banquet and auction and displays by leading collectors and the Rice Museum. For details contact George Gerhold at ggerhold@comcast.net (360-733-9265) or Wes Gannaway at debnwes@comcast.net (360-384-4209).*

## Colorado Chapter submitted by Richard Parsons

The Colorado Chapter is in its thirtieth year of operations! In late July, the Board of Directors and guests gathered at the home of Chapter President Richard Parsons to reminisce about highlights of the past 30 years and begin to plan future activities.

Participants were first asked to talk about high points in their experience as members of FM Colorado. Many of the participants' best memories were of taking part in the rewrite and publication of the updated *Minerals of Colorado*. Participants fondly recalled doing research or photography for the book that, for some, led to ongoing volunteer roles with the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Other board members cited opportunities to serve the Chapter as an officer or Newsletter Editor as high points in their tenure with the Chapter.

Sponsoring symposia in conjunction with the Denver show has been another rewarding activity, and has gotten numerous members engaged.

After dinner, participants were asked to identify activities that would continue and enhance FM Colorado's unique role in the Colorado mineral community.

The Chapter has seldom done field trips in recent years except for trips in conjunction with the symposia. This has, in part, been because there are many opportunities to participate in field trips sponsored by other Colorado clubs.

There was, however, considerable support for conducting two-day educational field trips or "field symposia" guided by individuals having a high level of expertise on the localities visited.

There was also strong support for continuing to sponsor periodic symposia such as those the Chapter has previously sponsored, centered around the themes of the Denver shows in years when the show theme was of particular interest to advanced mineral collectors. The next opportunity for such a seminar will be in 2008, when the show theme is expected to be "Minerals of Leadville, Colorado."

In September, the Board will present this preliminary outline at the membership meeting, solicit member input, and begin developing action plans to carry out the resulting vision.

In the meantime, the Denver Gem and Mineral Show is on the horizon, with FM Chapter members heavily involved in all levels of the planning and carrying out of this major



**Colorado  
Chapter  
Celebrates 30<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary**

show. The Chapter also adds its unique contribution to the show—a club booth where members help visitors identify minerals they have brought in.

## Pennsylvania Chapter submitted by Doug Rambo

The PA Chapter is preparing for their 2006 Symposium on Mines and Minerals to be held on Nov. 4 & 5 at the Delaware County Institute of Science in Media, PA. We are currently lining up a field trip (or trips) for Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> and will hold the symposium on Sunday November 5. Our presenters will be Johnny Johnsson of Finksburg, MD and Michael Skebo of Brighton, Ontario. Johnny is going to talk about the "Tyson Years" at the Elizabeth Copper Mine of Vermont. Mike will give two

presentations: the first on collecting at the Lengenbach Quarry, Binntal Valley, Switzerland; and the second will be a collector's tour of Italian mineral localities. We will have a voice auction of mineral specimens, mining memorabilia, books, jewelry and fossils to help support the chapter's Memorial Grant Fund. Contact Doug Rambo [drambo417@comcast.net](mailto:drambo417@comcast.net) for further details.

The Chapter would like to recognize Marge Matula for her long-time service to the

organization as Membership Chairperson. Marge recently stepped down after 30 years in the post. Cathy Mogel will succeed Marge as Membership Chair.

At this year's annual meeting of the Geological Society of America in Philadelphia, PA (Oct 22–25) the Mineralogical Society of America is sponsoring a special Topical Session entitled "Minerals, Melts, Fluids, and the Evolution of Mountain Belts: A Tribute to Dr. Maria Luisa Crawford." Dr. Crawford, along with her husband Bill,

and many of her students and colleagues, has investigated the mineralogy, metamorphism, and structural deformation associated with the rocks of the Piedmont Province of the Mid-Atlantic states as well as other exotic locales. FM members are encourage you to attend this tribute session for Dr. Crawford if you are in the area during the GSA annual meeting. More details can be found at the following link: [gsa.confex.com/gsa/2006AM/finalprogram/session\\_17950](http://gsa.confex.com/gsa/2006AM/finalprogram/session_17950).



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## Collecting the Silver Coin Mine *by Wes & Deb Gannaway*



Since Wes retired last fall we are able to go places without worrying about schedules and work. We took advantage of this new freedom to hit some spots in Nevada this summer, basing out of Winnemucca. We thought some of these accessible localities might be of interest to FM members.

Our first collecting site was at an old favorite; the Silver Coin Mine. This was a silver mine located in the Iron Point district in Humboldt County, Nevada (and visited by the Pacific NW Chapter of FM a couple of years ago). The mine is situated about one mile north of I-80 at the Iron Point interchange, about 2 miles west of Valmy and about 3 miles east of Golconda Summit. This mine is famous for the variety of phosphate minerals found in the dump and inside the main adit. Approximately 90 different mineral species have been found at the Silver Coin. Collecting is primarily inside the main adit (you can't miss it as it is almost large enough to drive a truck into). About 30 feet after entering the tunnel there is a low shelf on the right. This is the main site. Break out large chunks of rock and take them out to the open, then break them down to find the seams and pockets. Another source of nice pocket producing material is the large pile of rocks just to the left of the adit. The pocket-bearing rock is an altered shale similar to the locality at Willard, Nevada but much more productive with many more species. Common minerals are calcite, aragonite, carbonate-fluorapatite, dolomite, hemimorphite, jarosite, perhamite, variscite, wavellite, and turquoise. Rarer minerals include cechite, aurichalcite, brochantite, creedite, heyite, kidwellite, leucophosphite, morinite, paratacamite, spangolite, stolzite, strengite, chlorargyrite, lipscombite, and meurigite. Check out Mindat.org for a complete mineral list.