



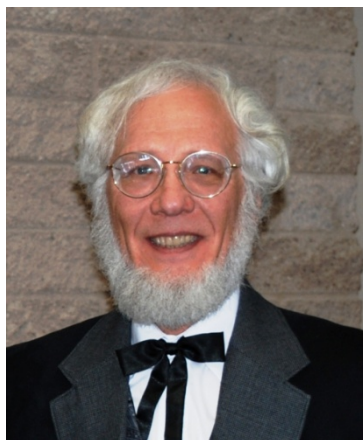
*To promote, support, protect and expand the collection of mineral specimens and to further the recognition of the scientific, economic and aesthetic value of minerals and collecting mineral specimens.*

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# FM FRIENDS of MINERALOGY



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**By Mark Jacobson**

We are now on the approach to the February 2023 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show for our general membership meeting, FM National Board meeting and the FM Mineral Symposium. All of which has required much planning by

numerous people. We will also be announcing at the Board meeting the winners of the best article of the year for the Mineralogical Record, Rocks & Minerals, Mineral News and our newcomer journal Elements. Add to this the two educational display awards that FM makes at the Tucson Show and we are quite busy.

The chapters meanwhile are in various stages of re-emerging from Covid cautiousness. The Pennsylvania and Pacific Northwest chapters have both held symposia this year and Colorado may possibly have their first symposium after Covid in the Summer 2023. The New Mexico Mineral Symposium also held its in-person symposium this past November. Next year, the Rochester Mineral Symposium will also restart its in-person meeting.

The newsletter will also have the speaker schedule for the FM-MSA-TGMS mineral symposium, the time and place for the General Membership meeting and the FM National Board meeting, which once again will be a combination physical meeting with zoom attendees. Chapter president's can either be their representative or appoint someone as to represent their chapter.

As is required, the National board needs to elect four at-large directors every year. It is from this pool of 12 at-large directors that the four executive positions must be filled according to the bylaws – These positions are President, Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasurer. The nominating committee has been active and we have one new candidate and 4 returning directors up for re-election.

(Continued on page 3)

## NATIONAL OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT:

Mark Jacobson • [markivanjacobson@gmail.com](mailto:markivanjacobson@gmail.com)

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### NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

OPEN

## NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Terms expire before the annual general meeting in February*

### TERMS EXPIRE IN 2023:

Matt McGill • [matt@irocks.com](mailto:matt@irocks.com)

Jessica Robertson • [jrobertson@geoengineers.com](mailto:jrobertson@geoengineers.com)

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Bruce W. Bridenbecker • [bwbridenbecker@gmail.com](mailto:bwbridenbecker@gmail.com)

Alex Venzke • [alex.venzke27@gmail.com](mailto:alex.venzke27@gmail.com)

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Erin Delventhal • [erindelventhal@gmail.com](mailto:erindelventhal@gmail.com)

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Markus Raschke • [markus.raschke@colorado.edu](mailto:markus.raschke@colorado.edu)

## CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES

*Chapter representatives also have a board position*

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### PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER:

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### VIRGINIA CHAPTER:

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## EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

### ROCKS & MINERALS:

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### MINDAT.ORG:

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### MINERALOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA:

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### MINERAL NEWS:

Tony Nikischer • [tony@excaliburmineral.com](mailto:tony@excaliburmineral.com)

## ONLINE RESOURCES



### WEBSITE:

[friendsofmineralogy.org](http://friendsofmineralogy.org)



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

[friendsofmineralogy.org/calendar-of-events](http://friendsofmineralogy.org/calendar-of-events)



### FACEBOOK:

Official page: @FriendsofMineralogy

Public group: Friends of Mineralogy community



### INSTAGRAM:

@friendsofmineralogy



This year we have to replace the secretary and next year the President. Please vote, I would be thrilled to see 50% of our members vote by email or snail mail.. The results of the voting for the next four at-large directors will be announced at the board, as well as voting for executive officers.

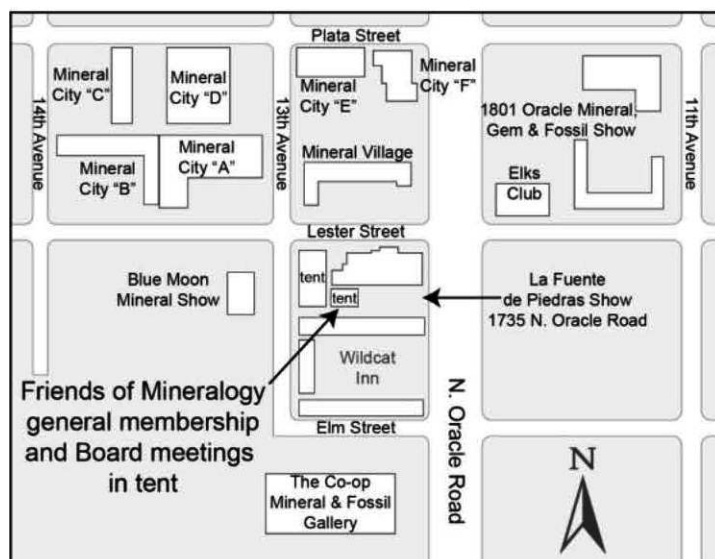
With the field data or mineral collecting season over in many parts of North America, analysis, cleaning and display activities will play a stronger focus during the colder, indoor months. I have several analysis projects in the works focusing on rare-earth metamict minerals, and my ongoing Crystal Peak project. I wish you success on your projects and perhaps we will see your presentations.

## FM Annual General Membership Meeting

The annual FM general membership meeting will have a new meeting place: The smaller tent next (directly south of the Rock Currier Collection – La Fuente Mineral Show) on the

southeast corner of W. Lester Street and N. 13th Avenue, Tucson, AZ. The meeting will be **Tuesday, February 7, 2023 from 4:00 – 6:00 P.M.**

This meeting encourages snacks, liquid refreshments (BYOB) and a chance to talk and relax with fellow members. Chapter representatives will be at the meeting to describe what their chapter has been doing and what their future plans are for their chapter. This is an opportunity to share ideas, successes and collecting stories.



## The Annual Meeting of the National FM Board of Directors

The Annual National FM Board of Directors meeting will be held on **Friday, February, 10, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Mountain Standard Time** in the southeast corner of the larger tent (directly west of the Rock Currier Collection – La Fuente Mineral Show) on the southeast corner of W. Lester Street and N. 13th Avenue, Tucson, AZ.

The annual meeting will be a combination of in-person as well as remotely via ZOOM. This meeting will be the **second** hybrid meeting where ALL the chapters and directors can attend. With a Tucson Mountain Standard Time zone of 9 AM, the East Coast chapters will be able to zoom in at 11 AM and the Pacific Coast chapters can call in at 8 AM;

All FM members are also invited if they wish to attend in-person. Current Directors (12 at-large Directors and 8 chapter representatives) who wish to attend remotely will be invited by email.

## The 41<sup>th</sup> FM-TGMS-MSA Tucson Mineral Symposium

Theme "Silica minerals – quartz, agate, opal, tridymite, and cristobalite and other silicates"

Saturday, February 11, 2022, Tucson Convention Center, Tucson, AZ

10:00 AM	Opening of symposium
10:00-10:05 AM	Introduction by symposium chair, <b>Mark Jacobson</b>
10:05-10:15 AM	Introduction by symposium MC, <b>Dale Gann</b>
10:15 – 10:45 AM	<b>David London</b> , Feldspars Tell the Tale of Pegmatites
10:45 - 10:55 AM	break
10:55 - 11:25 AM	<b>Brad Cross</b> , Dazzling Silica Minerals: The Agates and Geodes of Northern Chihuahua, Mexico.
11:25- 11:35 AM	break
11:35 – 12:05 AM	<b>Dale Gann</b> , Overview of the Thundereggs of North America
12:05 - 1:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 – 2:00 PM	<b>Peter Heaney</b> , The Many Colors of Agate: A Comparison of Pigmented and Iris Banding
2:00 - 2:10 PM	break
2:10 - 2:40 PM	<b>Amir C. Akhavan</b> (remote speaker, Europe), A superficial look at quartz crystal faces - reviving an old technique to determine handedness and position
2:40 - 2:50 PM	break
2:50 – 3:20 PM	<b>William Stephens</b> , New sites and crystal habits of quartz in the Herkimer area, New York
3:20 – 3:40 PM	extended break
3:40 – 4:10 PM	<b>Parker Chang</b> , Blue “cubic” Trestia (Maramures, Romania) chalcedony: pseudomorph after what?
4:10 – 4:20 PM	break
4:20 – 4:50 PM	<b>Nathan Renfro</b> , The Micro-world of Chalcedony and other Silica Gems
4:50 – 5:00 PM	break
5:00 – 5:30 PM	<b>H. Peter Knudsen</b> , Quartz twins from the PC mine, Jefferson County, Montana
5:30 PM	close of symposium

## A Day at the Alfie: the University of Arizona Alfie Norville Gem & Mineral Museum

**The Alfie Museum is hosting an all-day event to inspire and connect with our friends in the gem and mineral communities!**

**At the museum at 115 N Church Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85701 on Saturday, February 4, 2023, 9:30 AM – 9:30 PM MST**

Reservations can be made online at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-day-at-the-alfie-tickets-382283158217?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=esb>

\$65 to 165 depending on scope of visit.

Spend the day listening to expert guest speaker presentations, networking with industry professionals, and enjoying the newest exhibit installations in our galleries!

Food and beverage will be included at each portion of the day. We know you may not be able to stay all day, so you're welcome to purchase tickets for each separate event during the day or an all day pass!

### **9:30am-2:45pm Brunch at Alfie's**

#### **Presentations**

##### **10 am Wim Vertriest, Gemological Institute of America**

Mozambique Field Exposition, Mozambican Rubies: News from the Field

##### **11 am Bruce Bridges, Bridges Tavorite**

The Discovery and Faceting of The Lion of Merelani Tavorite

##### **12 pm David Smith, Faceters Paradise**

The United States Faceters Guild

##### **1 pm Les Presmyk, Chairman, Flagg Mineral Foundation**

Underground Collecting: Adventures in Arizona and Mexico

##### **2 pm Aaron Palke, Gemological Institute of America**

Sapphires from Montana: Gemology, Geology, and History

### **3-6:45 pm Afternoon Presentations**

##### **3 pm Jeff Morrison, Havey Quarry**

Mining the Havey Tourmaline Quarry, Poland, Androscoggin County, Maine

##### **4 pm Robert Weldon, Gemological Institute of America**

Rediscovering the Chivor Emerald Mine: In the Footsteps of Peter Rainier

##### **5 pm Jesse Fisher**

Fluorite from the Weardale Region, Northern England

##### **6 pm Justin Prim, Faceting Apprentice School for Gemcutting**

Early History of American Gem Cutting & Early History of Mixed Drinks

**7-10 pm Exclusive access to our Speakeasy, live Jazz Music, dinner and dancing.** The Gemological Institute of America will be hosting a seminar in our classroom during this event. Those signing up for the seminar with GIA will receive an all-day access automatically.

## Friends of Mineralogy National Board Election

The annual Friends of Mineralogy National Board election selects **four** candidates to serve a three-year term as at-large Board Directors on the National Board. Voting is conducted through popular vote by the national membership. For the election of 2023, Erin Delventhal/Linda Smith will be tabulating results and presenting results to the National Board at the annual board meeting.

By requirement of the Friends of Mineralogy National by-laws, four two-year executive Director positions when they expire<sup>2</sup>, (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) must be filled from officers of the Board of Directors during the annual meeting of the Board. Nominations from the floor are accepted. During the upcoming year (2023), the open positions that require a new candidate to be appointed are: only Secretary.

Current Board Directors who are continuing in their current executive director positions are Mark Jacobson (President, starting his last year of his current term), Erin Delventhal (Vice President, starting her last year of her term), and Bruce Bridenbecker (Treasurer, starting his last year of his term). Linda Smith due to family demands will be stepping down and a new Secretary will need to be elected.

We do not have volunteers for the secretary position. If more than one candidate for an office is presented, a written ballot shall be used. Voting to select the candidates for the Director positions is conducted by the standing 12 board directors as well as the Directors nominated by each individual chapter to represent their respective chapter.

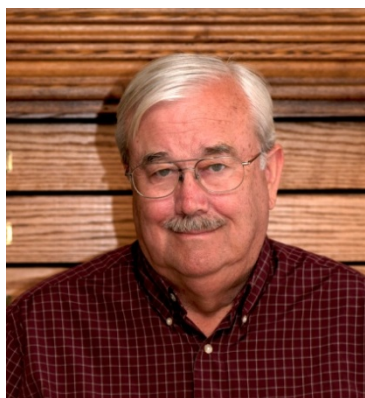
As a member of the Friends of Mineralogy, **you are encouraged to vote!** Submit your four candidate choices using one of these two methods:

- 1) Electronically by email to [friendsofmineralogy@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofmineralogy@gmail.com) where Erin Delventhal and Mark Jacobson will tabulate the votes for the FM National Elections Committee,  
**Emailed votes must be received by Tuesday, February 8, 2021.**
- 2) Hard copy by mail to Mark Jacobson, 1714 S. Clarkson St., Denver, CO 80210, **Mailed votes must be postmarked by Wednesday, February 1, 2021.**

The candidates running for the at-large Director positions this year are presented below and on the following pages.

Choose four of the five candidates. The candidates are:

- ☐ William W. Besse
- ☐ Matt McGill
- ☐ Jessica Robertson
- ☐ Andrew Eppig (AKA Andrew Rockhound)
- ☐ Jeanine N. Mielecki

**William W Besse**

He is currently a director on the Friends of Mineralogy National Board and is running for re-election. Shown below is his past and current activities.

*Education:* California State University, Los Angeles, BA in Geography, and MS in Geology

*Mineralogy Experience:* Mineral collector for over 50 years

Member of Tucson Gem and Mineral Society

Member of META (Mineral Enthusiasts of the Tucson Area)

Past President, Webmaster, and other positions in the

Mineralogical Society of Southern California

Past-President and Past-Webmaster of National FM

*Professional Experience:* Jewel Tunnel Imports, a mineral wholesale company, 22 years  
Rocks & Minerals Magazine, Associate Cartographer, over 20 years.

Hosts the general membership and FM National board meetings in Tucson

**Matt McGill**

He is currently a director on the Friends of Mineralogy National Board and is running for re-election. A collector since childhood, Matt has been involved with mineral collecting most of his life. Through the Young Mineral Collectors group, he was introduced to the wider community in 2019 and began regularly attending major shows. He is currently employed with The Arkenstone and is the author of two published articles in Rocks & Minerals. A member of the FM national board since 2020, he assisted as stand-in Secretary for the in-person 2022 FM national board meeting - the first in-person board meeting post-pandemic - and is looking forward to the opportunity to continue serving on the board for another term. Matt currently maintains a small personal mineral collection primarily focused on the Pyromorphite solid solution series.

**Jeanine N. Mielecki**

She is currently a director on the Friends of Mineralogy National Board and is running for re-election. Jeanine N. Mielecki is a mineral enthusiast, writer, editor, and entrepreneur who calls Chicago home. Jeanine began collecting at the age of four when she found a piece of chert with a crinoid fossil impression. This sparked a lifelong love of the earth sciences. Because the Midwest US is rich in fossils and geodes, her early years were spent collecting these. Along the way, Jeanine acquired lapidary skills, although she would rather be collecting in the field. Jeanine's passion crystallized into collecting fine minerals when she attended her first Tucson show in 2014.

Jeanine is currently a director of the Friends of Mineralogy National Board, a member of the Friends of Mineralogy - Midwest Chapter, and the Club Rockhound of the Year (ROY) Committee Chair for the Midwest Federation (MWF) of Geological and Mineralogical Societies.

As MWF ROY Chair, Jeanine sees that outstanding members are recognized for their dedication to excellence and continuing endeavors to further interest in the earth sciences at the club level. She also belongs to the Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society; New York Mineralogical Club, with whom she worked closely to develop a coast-to-coast network of Zoom speakers and programs for use by clubs during the pandemic; Earth Science Club of Northern Illinois; Des Plaines Valley Geological Society; and Fluorescent Mineral Society - Midwest Chapter.

She is also Public Relations Chairperson for the Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society (CRMS), Jeanine has publicized CRMS events online and in print for more than 20 years. Jeanine also founded and administers daily CRMS's educational Facebook page with 1,500+ likes. Jeanine is a past president, vice president, treasurer, silent auction and swap chair. Under her presidency, CRMS was the first club in Illinois to adopt the Future Rockhounds of America badge program developed by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies for children. Jeanine earned her B.S. Journalism from the University of Kansas.

### Jessica Robertson



She is currently a director on the Friends of Mineralogy National Board and is running for re-election. Like so many collectors, Jessica Robertson has been collecting rocks and minerals for as long as she can remember. She grew up hearing stories about mineral shows and the Friends of Mineralogy from her grandmother, Kay Robertson. The earth science bug hit hard, and she went on to obtain a B.A. in geochemistry from Whitman College and a M.S. in geology from Central Washington University, and since 2002 has worked as an environmental geologist in the Puget Sound area. She takes every opportunity to share earth science and minerals with kids in her community, and has

developed courses for local young folks like a "Geology for Storytellers and Gamers" series of classes for 4th graders to teens, explaining the real science and stories behind earth science topics they might encounter in popular games, movies, and novels. Jessica has been a member of the FM National Board since 2020 and is current President of Friends of Mineralogy Pacific Northwest Chapter. With FM National, Jessica has been active education and collecting in line with FM's primary objectives. Jessica looks forward to continuing in this role and helping to revive the group for new generations.

### Andrew Eppig (Also Known as Andrew Rockhound)



He has applied to become a director on the Friends of Mineralogy National Board and is running for election. My name is Andrew Eppig. I was the recipient of the 2022 EFMLS "Each One Teach One" award and the 2022 CPRMC/AFMS Rockhound of the Year. My 25-year career as a world-class Emmy-nominated post production audio engineer has steered my love of geology to the following examples of outreach to the community: I serve as the VP of the Keystone Treasure Hunters, the incoming 2023

President of the Central PA Rock & Mineral Club, Social Media Director for both the Friends Of Mineralogy PA chapter and the EFMLS, and produce the Dirtman Report on Youtube.

The Dirtman Report specializes in presenting simplified geology effectively to the non-rockhound, which has led me to working with amazing professionals and geological celebrities, running the Mohawk Valley Mineral Mining Herkimer Diamond mine while filming live viral videos and guiding diggers from geologists to public figures like "The Crystal Collector", and re-writing Pennsylvania's lost history of the Manor Furnace. I also volunteer, teaching gold panning to over a hundred kids a year, helping with many club events and field trips, and hoping to continue to serve, as your next board member!

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## Submissions for the Friends of Mineralogy Newsletter

FM chapter officers and members and affiliated organizations are encouraged to submit quarterly summaries of their activities for inclusion in this newsletter. News of symposia announcements, call for papers, registration information, or lecture programs are also desired for communicating in the newsletter. Short mineralogical articles on localities, specimen photographs, mineral discovered or new mineral books are also desired. Please submit items for inclusion in word format (preferred doc or docx), pdf or jpg formats to the following email address: [fmnewslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:fmnewslettereditor@gmail.com). Please provide before March 15<sup>th</sup> 2023 for the next newsletter.



Milky quartz, Ouray County, Colorado. Dan and Dianne Kile collection. Displayed at 2022 Denver Gem and Mineral Show®. Specimen exceeds one foot in diameter. Mark Jacobson photo.

## News from the Colorado Chapter, Vice-President Dan Zellner

The Colorado chapter of Friends of Mineralogy is still active! We have had some great talks this last year including Evan Jones presenting on "The Minerals of Milpillas", Nathan Robey presenting on "Spectroscopy as Applied to Mineral Identification", and Dan Zellner presenting on "The Evaporite Minerals of Searles Lake, San Bernardino, California". We are now officially back to meeting in person regularly at Berthoud Hall, at the Colorado School of Mines. Our goal for 2023 is to resume our regular meeting schedule of six meetings per year and to hold a summer field trip. We will be holding elections this December and cordially invite anyone interested in minerals to attend our meetings and get involved.

## FM-New Jersey Chapter: Highlights from 2022 by David Shapiro

### Presentation of Commemorative Plaque

The Friends of Mineralogy NJ Chapter (FM-NJ), along with the North Jersey Mineralogical Society (NoJMS), recently had a Club highlight on one of the recent Field Trip outings. On Saturday, Oct 29, the Clubs presented Eric Stahl of National Limestone Quarries, with a commemorative plaque of appreciation. For easily over 10 years, Eric and the folks at NLQ have allowed our clubs to visit and collect at the Middleburg and Mt. Pleasant Mills Quarries. Eric has also periodically communicated to us when local blasting has revealed coveted mineralization including Celestine, Strontianite, Wavellite, Calcite and other associated minerals. Additionally, he has had his son and other Staff assist us with mechanical devices and equipment to break up huge limestone boulders.

A routine service that Eric offers, which has come to be expected over time, is his unique briefing prior to each start of the dig day. He stresses the importance of quarry safety through delivering his unique message which segues into a Sermon of sorts, reflecting his Christian background.

Our clubs have always made an effort to share or compensate Eric with some unique minerals of our own, and this is always appreciated. The presentation of this plaque is simply a more formalized way to show our appreciation for Eric and the NLQ Staff allowing us to enjoy visits to their quarries year after year.



David Shapiro presenting Eric Stahl with the plaque. Steve Wien photo.



To the left: The plaque that was presented to Eric Stahl.

### **FM-NJ Elections - Conducted at November Meeting, Nov 8, 2022**

Ryan Klockner = **Club President.**

Groundhog Dave Shapiro = **1st Vice Pres.**

Sherry Moore = **2nd Vice Pres.**

Ken Jasko = (continued) **Treasurer position.**

Julia Chien = **Secretary.**

KC Dalby = FM-NJ **Board of Directors - Director position.**

### **Area 52 Field Trip Report:**

Location: Area 52 Claim, Palatine Bridge, NY

Date: Sat Sept. 24

Clubs in attendance: FM-NJ, NoJMS

Attendees: HOSTS Shane and Sherry Moore, Groundhog Dave, Ryan "Klock Man" Klockner, Paul "Mr Reveille" Radziewicz, Suz and Jarrath Shaw, Dawn Hill, Dan Blanco, Kenny and Ofe Napolitano, John Salvi, Tommy Greene, and John and Steve Schwind.

We had another excellent time out collecting at the Area 52 site, courtesy of Shane and Sherry Moore's hospitality. The day started out chilly but the sun was strong and it warmed up by mid-day. A recent rain provided some washing out of mud from the rocks and boulders in the tailings piles, and we were introduced to some normally "off-limits" areas to dig. Ofe Napolitano found some excellent 1 1/2" - 2" Herks of varying quality, some adjoined. Ryan "Klock Man" Klockner unearthed some nice mid-sized pieces from his area near a seam, which he did not stray from all day. Paul "Mr Reveille" Radziewicz found a few pieces nearly the size of the one great piece he found last time out in June. Everyone else found smaller to mid-sized pieces of varying quality, completeness and shape. Shane Moore found an exceptional "Snowman" triple-stacked Herkimer in their digging area towards the back. Lunch was again great, with cold cuts and sandwich fixins, and cookies, chios and other snacks to go along. Overall, another fun, great outing.

In the evening, Ryan K managed to capture an exceptional fly-by of the Space X probe, which was similarly captured by several News stations. I advised him to consider looking into advertising Geology365 on the side of a space shuttle.

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### **Hewitt Gem Mine Field Trip Report:**

Location: Hewitt Gem Mine, Haddam CT

Date: Sun. Oct 2

Clubs in attend: FM-NJ, NoJMS

Attendees: HOST Tony Apilla, Groundhog Dave Shapiro, Steve "Pickles" Wien with Grace, Jess and Laura Jacobson, Rich Drake, Mark Sloan

Despite some gloomy weather, we had another great collecting trip to Hewitt this past Sunday. Numerous Beryls of different varieties and sizes were found; in particular, both Steve "Pickles" and Grace Wien found pegmatite rocks with numerous Aqua and greenish small Beryls. Groundhog Dave found what would have been a large really nice aqua beryl embedded in a flat large rock; however he used horrible judgment in attempting to trim the rock, and the Beryl shattered into several pieces. Mark Sloan found an outstanding Microlite specimen, the largest observed there in recent times according to Tony Apilla and Eric. Jess Jacobson and Mark Sloan found some nice deep reddish clusters of Chlorophane Fluorite, which is thermoluminescent. Various other minerals found include various Apatites, Lepidolite, Schernikite, Quartz and other micas in abundance, Schorl Tourmaline, Spessartine Garnet, and others.

#### **High St., Franklin / Phil Crabb Property Field Trip Report:**

Location: High St. property, Franklin, NJ

Date: Sat Oct 15

Clubs in attend: FM-NJ, NoJMS, FOMS and FMM (Franklin Mineral Museum) invited

Attendees: HOST "Franklin" Phil Crabb, John Postas, Groundhog Dave, Steve "Pickles" Wien with Gracie; Ralph Bonard, Stephanie "Rock Queen" Koles, Ryan "Klock Man" Klockner, Suz, Jarrath and Nate Shaw; Will Pazik with John and James; "Lermanator" Dave Lerman, Pete DeKleine with wife and daughter; John Salvi, Dianne Soccio and Steve Jones; Eva Hughes, Steve Kuitems, Lauren Anderson.

We once again had a terrific afternoon into evening dig at the High St. property. We were introduced to a new large pile of material recently moved from nearby Rutherford Ave. Virtually everyone on hand took to the sizable pile immediately, and surveying around the pile perimeter. A few Hardystonite and Clinohedrite specimens were found around the periphery; however, digging in and down to the Franklin rocks was quickly what everyone took to. Steve "Pickles" Wien found a few small Hardy / Clino pieces early on, and not long after, Ryan Klockner followed suit. John Postas turned up one as well without having to dig too far down. Suz and Jarrath Shaw found a pair of nice Sussexites from their pile locations. A few folks found greenish glass slag remnants from the nearby Furnace. Some phosphorescent and green - daylight reactive Willemite pieces were found here and there. A few neat Franklinite slickenside specimens were found as well. Some folks myself included, found the now familiar dull yellow - fluorescing Calcite. Some unconfirmed fluorescent Fluorite was also found in the pile.

#### **National Limestone Quarries / Jim Van Fleet BBQ Cookout / Garage Collecting Field Trip Report:**

**Location:** Middleburg and Mt Pleasant Mills Quarries, Middleburg PA and Mt. Pleasant Mills PA respectively; and the Van Fleet residence, Mifflinburg, PA

**Date:** Sat Oct 29

**Clubs in attend:** FM-NJ, NoJMS, FM-Pa, PESA, DMS, Nittany PA Club

**Attendees:** "Host Extraordinaire" Jim Van Fleet and Libby; Groundhog Dave, Steve "Pickles" Wien with Gracie; Joe Erard and Nina Kiliszek; "Great" Dane Transue, Mike "the Pie Man" Dunton, Dan "the Photog" and Linda Sackerman; Mikey Wright and Lynn Sian; Rolf Schudel Jr., Jason Marchildon, Dawn

Hill, Mark Sloan, Tim "Hitchhiker" and Mark Hollister; Travis Steigerwalt, Artur and Kasia Kowalski; Tommy Greene, Avery Federico, Bill and Kristine Fischer; Ava Mroz and Andrew Paparelli; Twyla, Ed, Bryson and Bowdyn Shaffer; John Van Wagenen; Eric Brosius, Brian Schwab, and others (multi-Club)

We finally had our long awaited return to National Limestone Quarries, twice canceled earlier in the year due to inclement weather. As always in the past, the 2 NLQ quarries did not disappoint. We kicked off the trip with a highlight following Eric Stahl's briefing, which was the Club presentation to Eric of a crystal plaque on behalf of NoJMS and FM-NJ, commemorating many years of Eric's hospitality and professionalism to the NJ Clubs in letting us visit. It was a great occasion and a long overdue acknowledgement of a great man, and it was received with a standing ovation.

Collecting was excellent at both quarries, starting with Middleburg and with Eric's advice of recent shots that had not yet been cleared up. A number of folks including Steve "Pickles" Wien and the Hollisters and Rolf Schudel Jr., found nice medium sized Calcite crystals of varying shapes in vugs and cavities; some up to 1/2 inch or larger. Folks including John Van Wagenen, Steve Wien, Avery Federico and others, also found nice Fluorite crystal pieces in veins, some larger than others, and in a few cases, tiny (several mm) distinct cubes. Flowstone was also found in small to medium sized pieces, by some members in attend. "Great" Dane and a few others pointed out some interesting Chert and Flint - like pieces that were amongst the boulder piles.

At Mt Pleasant Mills Quarry, the collecting was also excellent. Folks including Steve "Pickles" and Gracie Wien and Travis Steigerwalt, Mikey Wright and Lynn Sian, Bill and Kristine Fischer and others, found similarly medium to larger sized Calcite crystals on the back upper level; and Strontianite masses and crystals were also found there. Strontianite was much more prevalent up there than down below, where it was more present in past visits. Joey Erard and Nina Kiliszek, and Steve and Gracie Wien, all were seen carting large football sized rocks with cavities and vugs with good sized and shapely Calcite crystals and noteworthy Strontianite balls and masses. A number of folks who visited the Wavellite pits, came away with some nice specimens with decent coverage and quality, and for the first time diggers of this, it was terrific collecting !

"Host Extraordinaire" Jim Van Fleet's post-Trip Cookout and Garage Collecting, was outstanding as always. Jim and Libby had cooked up and prepared for us, Burgers and Dogs, Kielbasa, Veggie patties, Split Pea soup, the famous Van Fleet homemade Chili, Baked beans, Potato salad, Deviled AND Pickled Eggs; Chips n Salsa, and plenty of fixins. The Dessert round included various Pies and pastries, brownies, cupcakes and other goodies. Jim offered tours of his collection throughout the night, which never fails to impress! A number of folks in attend enjoyed the garage collecting and came away with assorted fluorescents and Non-fluorescents.

### **Sterling Hill Mining Museum - afternoon to Night Dig - Field Trip Report:**

**Location:** Sterling Hill Mining Museum, Ogdensburg, NJ

**Date:** Sat Sat Nov 5

**Clubs in attend:** FM-NJ, NoJMS

**Field Trip Leaders:** Ron "ChiselBuster" Schulz and Ryan "Klock Man" Klockner

**Attendees:** Ron "ChiselBuster" Schulz, Ryan "Klock Man" Klockner, Alaine "Lainie" Kamin, Dave

"Lermanator" Lerman, Dawn Hill, Linda Lovstad, Gary Quam, Will Pazik with sons; Suzanne, Jarrath and

Nate Shaw; Avery Federico, John Salvi, Andrew Silver, Sam Camacho, John Montgomery with friend, and others

We had another excellent outing recently, at the Sterling Hill Mining Museum, for an afternoon to Night dig. Members were permitted to collect on the Mine Run Dump and Worldwide / Franklin Piles, for the going poundage fee rate. A number of notable finds were had by several members. Ryan "Klock Man" Klockner found a nice LW FL Zincite specimen, along with several multi-colored LW and SW FL Sphalerites. Other specimens found by various members included yellow and blue FL Calcites, various Willemmites and Calcites, Hydrozincite, and some minor Barite, among others.

This collecting trip was originally scheduled with the understanding that the back Pits areas would be open for collecting; however a very recent decision by the Sterling Hill Board and Management for safety purposes, resulted in those areas being off limits. Nonetheless, attending Members still managed to find a variety of neat and interesting fluorescent specimens.

SPECIAL THANKS to NoJMS' Ron Schulz for assisting with weighing of folks' buckets and assisting folks with paying the poundage fees. Also for Ryan Klockner for stepping in as So - Field Trip Leader in the Groundhog's absence.

### **FM-PA Chapter Annual 2022 Report of Bill Stephens, PG; Chapter President, EFMLS President, FM-PA Webmaster and EFMLS Region 4 VP**

I trust everyone has had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and I wish all a happy and safe holiday season as we close out 2022. FM-PA has had a very busy and productive year, and as we look forward to 2023, I expect we will continue to grow our membership and expand our activities and influence with our new relationships, membership in EFMLS and our new social media director Andrew Eppig on our new Facebook page. I have included herein below the Annual Report for 2022 which summarizes our activities for the year. Please visit our new Facebook page (search criteria below) and join up, feel free to submit posts for review and inclusion on the site including field trip pics, and also articles and the like for the webpage and newsletter. Our Symposium and field trip were a huge success with 20 field trip attendees and 46 symposium attendees both in person and remote. Next year we may have a new venue, reaching a little outside our normal range. Be sure to put the Tucson National Symposium on your calendar and log in free. Happy Holidays and I look forward to seeing everyone again soon.

The Board of Directors met via Zoom approximately every month from April to the October. Several meetings included guests from the leadership of neighboring FM chapters and representatives of major corporations in the aggregates industry. Discussions with our quarry guests included ways we could assist the quarries with issues that arise and with public outreach.

Less than 2 weeks prior to the November 12-13 Symposium, following a motion by President Bill Stephens, the Board of Directors of FM-PA voted unanimously to join the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc. This decision was implemented in part for FM-PA to take advantage of the benefits offered by the EFMLS (newly restructured and

reinvigorated by efforts of 1st VP and now President Bill Stephens, and others on that Board), as well as connections through EFMLS, but also as an opportunity to expand our outreach to a larger community of mineral enthusiasts and stakeholders. So far so Good. FM-PA now has a profile and map pin with a link to our website on the EFMLS website and we can post articles, events, and links to other important activities/information on the EFMLS website. The EFMLS has approximately 87 clubs with nearly 7,000 members from Palm Beach to northern Maine, and their website is professionally maintained and public facing.

FM-PA has been able to start a new Facebook page and began pushing content out on the page as well as our website after joining EFMLS. FM-PA shares our new social media manager with EFMLS, Andrew “Dirt man” Eppig, and he brings expertise to both organizations that benefit our collective membership. Check out our new Facebook page online. It is linked from our web site and the EFMLS web site, or search in Facebook on Friends of Mineralogy and it should pop right up. To find the correct EFMLS events page (with recent posts), search for EFMLS Mineral Shows and Events.

Our Chapter members have participated in many field trips, many at the invitation of other clubs, through Field Trip Chair Ross Elliott:

2/12 Wilmington Blue Rock (DMS)  
2/20 C&D Canal (DMS)  
2/26 Brandywine Springs sillimanite, garnets (DMS)  
3/12 Beltzville PA Mahantango Formation (DVPS)  
4/02 Spring Run cauliflower chert, Boiling Springs goethite (PESA)  
4/16 Odessa DE petrified wood (Calvert Marine Museum)  
4/23 Quarryville amethyst, etc. (FM-PA, DMS)  
6/11 New Hampshire (NoJMS, FM-NJ)  
6/12 Plainview MA Manganese mine (NoJMS, FM-NJ)  
9/24 H&K Birdsboro (Berks)  
9/24 Dillwyn VA kyanite (GMS of Lynchburg VA)  
10/02 Haddam CT Hewitt Gem Mine (NoJMS, FM-NJ)  
10/29 H&K Penn/MD (DVPS)  
10/29 Middleburg, Mt Pleasant Mills (NoJMS, FM-NJ)  
11/13 Mt Pleasant Mills (our Symposium trip)

President Bill Stephens, with assistance from Ryan Klockner (FM-NJ, Geology 365), conducted a machine dig at the now famous wavellite locality at the National Limestone Quarry at Mount Pleasant Mills, Snyder County, PA during mid-March through the first week in April 2022. The location had become inaccessible by vehicle and following some machine excavation and backfilling with 5 feet of rubble, the wavellite had become inaccessible to clubs. The overburden was completely removed, and the pit was excavated to a depth of 12 feet or more and extended eastward approximately 20 feet. Hundreds of specimens were recovered, and

some geologic knowledge was acquired. Bill flew the entire quarry with his drone and collected survey quality strike and dip data on inaccessible structures/bedding as well as features in the pit using a robotic total station. Bill published an article on the EFMLS website and provided a poster with the drone based orthoimagery and instructional photographs to the quarry owner and presented that at the first club dig. The clubs have had great success according to quarry owner Eric Stahl and club leadership. Research is ongoing.

President Bill Stephens held two Open Houses (a third is planned for December 18th) in Maryland to get people together and to raise some funds for his trip(s) to the FM-National Symposium in Tucson. He traveled there in February and gave a presentation on Pyromorphite from the world-famous Phoenixville District lead mines, Chester County, Pennsylvania. He plans to attend the FM-National 2023 Symposium and present a paper on New Mines and Quartz Crystal Habits in the Herkimer Area, New York. Bill completed high accuracy drone mapping of the private "Area 52" mine in Canajoharie and has begun mapping the Mohawk Valley Mineral Mining property in Sprakers New York. As part of that process, Bill has obtained extensive photographic and video documentation of pocket reveals as well as survey accuracy structural/stratigraphic data on the pocket bearing layers at both mines.

President Bill Stephens took on two missions at the 2022 FM-National annual meeting in February 2022 1) Determine how many state boards of geology accept or have FM listed as a pre-approved continuing education provider for Professional Geologists, and (2) together with Ryan Klockner of Geology 365, develop a speaker database software application that would allow speakers to complete a profile and catalogue of presentations that would be searchable by prospective club officers for in person or zoom programs. Bill is pleased to report that the state boards of geology that have pre-approved education providers lists or otherwise have continuing education requirements for professional geologists, have preapproved or would otherwise accept CEUs from FM and its chapters. FM-PA is pre-approved and has been offering, but until this year had not been advertising this benefit of membership. We provide 5 CEUs certificates to PGs attending our symposium and recommend National advertise for their symposium as well. We noted additional symposium attendance by PGs this year, and most attended the field trip as well.

Ryan Klockner (anticipated next President of FM-NJ) has completed coding for the Speaker database as part of Geology 365 and it is ready for beta testing. We are calling for volunteers. Beta testing is expected to be well under way with President Bill Stephens' catalogue as "guinea pig" by the time of the National Symposium.

Treasurer Ron Sloto published a paper in Mineralogical Record (v. 53, Sept-Oct 2022) on Phosphate Minerals from Lime Ridge, Snyder County, Pennsylvania. The timing of publication of this article fit nicely with our symposium as it was the featured presentation and the location for our successful field trip. His book on The Mines and Minerals of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, was also published and he covered some key localities in his symposium presentation. Ron has

also been keeping the web site up to date. Membership numbers have increased this year with 13 new members in 2022, we now have 74 members, including 2 that joined at the symposium. Several members are licensed Professional Geologists.

Our annual Symposium had five presentations on Saturday and a field trip on Sunday. We had 32 in-person and 14 logged in via zoom. The following presentations were offered:

- **William Kochanov**, PG (PA Geological Survey, Retired) Reconnaissance of Mineral Collecting Sites in Southeastern Pennsylvania.
- **Ronald A. Sloto**, West Chester University, Classic Mineral Localities of Bucks County, PA
- **Stephen R. Lindberg**, U. of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, Geology of the New Paris Limestone Quarry, Napier Township, Bedford County, Pennsylvania.
- **C. Lee McIlvaine, IV**, PG, Consulting Geologist, Journey to Greenland, Ilímaussaq Alkaline Complex, Kujalleq, South-west Greenland.
- **Bill Stephens**, PG, Stephens Environmental, EFMLS President, Geology & Mineralogy of the Mount Pleasant Mills Quarry and the Now Famous Wavellite Occurrence.

Our members received great positive feedback on the Symposium.

### **Friends of Mineralogy - Southern California Chapter - News** **Dr. Don Buchanan, President; SCFM Chapter**

We survived the pandemic, conducting three successful symposiums since the pandemic lock downs. The first symposium of three symposia was held last fall 2021 with field trips on Oct 16-17th into the Cady Mountains. Thirty seven active club members and two mineralogy toddlers visited 6 abandoned mines on the perimeters of the Cady Mountain Wilderness Study Area in the Mojave Trails National Monument. We collected a nice selection of over a dozen minerals from celestite to chalcedony. A highlight of the weekend was exploring lava tubes and collecting delicate fumarole crystals on Pisgah Crater south of the Cady Mountains before camping overnight with campfire comradery.

The Searchlight Mining District in southern Nevada and its mining history was our second symposia, held on the March 26th, 2022 weekend after a 2-year delay due to Nevada's governor canceling access to all state facilities in March 2020. Field trip participants successfully found smoky quartz and other miarolitic pegmatite minerals including albite and microcline crystals in the Newberry Mountains just west of Lake Mead in southern Nevada during two days of field trips after the morning symposium. Steve Scott, past president of the Great Basin & Nevada Chapter, was our primary speaker and tour guide for the weekend. Jane Bunker-Overy, founder of the Searchlight Museum, gave an enriching extemporaneous presentation to our symposium of nearly 40 participants for over an hour Saturday morning there in the Searchlight Community Center on the history of the mining district. Mineralogist Bob Housley and Marek Chorazewicz created a fantastic silent auction for our members to expand their personal mineral collections while the Searchlight Museum tour co-located in the community center gave us a documented history of the mining district.

The Copper Mountain Community College in Joshua Tree, California hosted our third symposia, the fall 2022 symposium, on October 22nd weekend. Howard Brown, retired Omya geologist for 25 years, gave us a mining history and geology background on the Omya Amboy Quarry that morning before having two active Omya geologists, both graduates of California State University San Bernardino geology programs, tour the working pharmaceutical grade marble quarry all afternoon. Our collecting ensued after the geologists gave us onsite educational lectures of mining operations and OSHA safety briefings. We were able to collect coarse grain calcite marble, dolomite marble, wollastonite, yellow green serpentine, epidote, chlorite, garnet in massive skarn, yellow allunite and fluorescent chalcedony among some other metamorphic minerals found in the severely folded beds intruded by diabase sills. This was the first time for our chapter to be able to access this quarry in the Mojave Desert setting.

Professor Emeritus Bruce Bridenbecker, retired geologist at Copper Mountain Community College for over 25 years, gave us a second presentation on the Dish Hill Volcanic Complex, an ultra-mafic basaltic lava eruption that is well documented in published literature. Marek Chorazewicz, one of our Board members, then gave a detailed presentation on Micro Minerals of the Dish Hill Basalt to us in the morning before our silent auction and travels to the quarry first, then to the volcanic complex. Camping overnight on the ultramafic volcanic exposure was a delight. Collecting started early as the sun rose in the sky, and we traveled home before noon with a nice collection of olivine filled volcanic bombs and other rare ultramafic crystals.

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Classic Minerals of Virginia as displayed at a Virginia Gem and Mineral Show to promote Virginia minerals. Thomas Hale photo.



*Dear Friends of Mineralogy,*

As 2022 comes to an end, the team at FMVA would like to wish everyone at Friends of Mineralogy a happy holiday season. During 2022, the team at FMVA was hard at work developing and implementing many of our first-time activities. FMVA remains committed to open communication with other FM chapters who would like to implement similar projects in their state and consult with our team to work out logistics. Our biggest accomplishment for the year was the release of our **first book publication on the Northern Virginia Trap Rock Quarries**. This is the first colored publication on our state's mineral resources outside of magazine articles in over thirty years! We hosted a July launch and since then, we have estimated 900 books out in the wild. FMVA just recently did a third printing to hold us over for 2023. **Our partners at the aggregate association and the quarries involved in the book also donated \$10,000 to give 500 free to classrooms and additional funds to support FMVA projects.**

On top of the book launch, we worked with our industry partners to get around **150 teachers into quarries** for training, and assisted industry with giving out over **600 rock kits** during the Virginia Association of Science Teachers PDI conference and other events throughout the year. FMVA developed a **new teachers manual** earlier in the year which was also provided to these teachers. Besides our book release, FMVA was most proud of our **Rockhounding 101 class** which remains one of the best programs in our arsenal. 35 students participated in the course this year, with an alumni group and strong relationship with FMVA after the course. The community forum we host has also grown massively, with over **11,200 members** in 2022.

Next year will be very different for our team. Thomas, the president of FMVA, was accepted to a PhD program at the University of Delaware working on critical mineral development in the arctic circle and other mineral projects. Despite his absence physically, FMVA will operate just like it did during COVID. There will be many new faces though, as our team grows and solidifies its volunteer base. Our **new Vice-President, Brandi Moore, and secretary, Katy Johnson**, will be key players in 2023, along with our normal board team: Thomas Girton (treasurer), Alex Speer, Andy Dietz, Alex Venzke, and Jim Doran.



## 2022 FMVA Outreach in Numbers



11,200 Community  
Members on Virginia  
Rockhounding



\$12,500  
Donations



900 Books out  
in the world!



Interacted with 3,000  
people across various  
shows



Over 600 Rock Kits  
to Teachers



YouTube  
34,100K Views  
361,100min Watch Time



35 Rockhounding 101  
Students



400 Virginia Geology  
Maps Given out!



1 Display Case Donated  
to a Local School



150 Teachers in  
Quarries



~60 people on average  
per speaker series

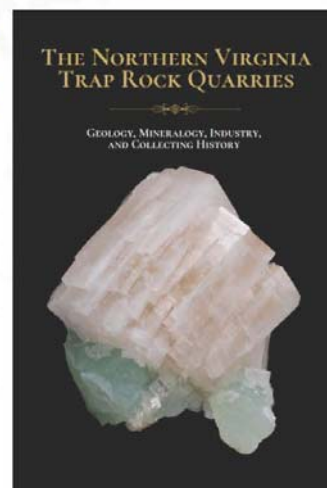


4 New Affiliate  
Organizations

## A New Era for Virginia Mineral Publications...

Since the early development of FMVA, going back to the Virginia Mineral Project, our team had the goal of breathing fresh air into publications about Virginia's mineral resources. The NOVA book covers all of the trap rock quarries in Northern Virginia which are essential to many of today's infrastructure and growth demands in the region. FMVA developed a publication that was not only useful for collectors interested in specimen information and photos, but also for teachers looking for Virginia resources to teach the next generation of geologists and mineralogists! **Email us for a copy at: [fmvapublications@gmail.com](mailto:fmvapublications@gmail.com)**

FMVA is happy to announce that the success of our first book and the community support afterwards has already secured the work for the second book!! FMVA will now have an official publications committee and series which will produce new articles and books for the coming years. Over the course of 2023 and 2024, FMVA will work on developing our second book on the Mineral Resources of the Virginia Piedmont (working title). This next book will cover one of the most prolific geologic provinces in the state, with world-renown quarries like the Morefield and Rutherford Mines. This will be a much larger book with tons of high-quality images supported by donations and photographed by our team member Connor Williams. Our team is excited to share new stories and bring new awareness to the incredible minerals found in Virginia! Join our publications team if you would like to contribute to this cause!



## A Sneak Peak of 2023

As we wrap up 2022, our team is already thinking about plans for 2023. FMVA is working on securing a table for the **2023 East Coast Show** for Friends of Mineralogy, hosted by our chapter. We recognized that this venue would be the perfect space for east coast chapters to engage and even other chapters who have leadership attending the show. Our team will be attending and we encourage other chapters who will be coming to reach out, even if there is just a representative. Our team will be hosting a dinner for the chapters one night during the show, which will provide us a space to engage and discuss opportunities for engagement and just talk minerals! A few other important updates from our chapter for 2023:

- FMVA will begin printing the **Virginia Geology Maps** for the state. Expect our team to have printing services next year for critical documents useful for K-12 educators and the public.
- 2023 will be the first year of data collection and collaboration for our next book, **Mineral Resources of the Virginia Piedmont**. More photography sessions, new contributors, and much more engagement is to be expected. News coming early January. Sneak peak photo to the right. --->
- **Newsletters will now switch to every three months.** This will help create more time for article submissions and will allow new hands to slowly takeover the reports while Thomas is away. **Community briefs will stay constant every two weeks** or so as preferred by our affiliates, so we will always be in constant communication.



## A Call to Action!

Over the course of 2023, we will be collecting data, specimen photographs, stories, etc. for our next book publication. If you happen to have specimens or know of collections from Virginia's famous Amelia pegmatites, Virginia amethyst, or odd localities in the Piedmont, please reach out to our team via [fmvapublications@gmail.com](mailto:fmvapublications@gmail.com). We would like to work with more collectors for our next book and have you share your knowledge on our state! Reach out with any questions.



**HAPPY HOLIDAY'S FROM OUR  
CHAPTER TO YOURS!**



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Brandi Moore, *Vice President*  
Tom Girton, *Treasurer*  
Katy Johnson, *Secretary*  
Alex Speer, *Academic Relations*  
Alex Venzke, *Collector Relations*  
August Dietz, *Board Member*  
Jim Doran, *Board Member*

## 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](http://www.MineralogicalRecord.com).

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If you are interested in earth, planetary, industrial, or biologic minerals or mineral-like materials, you may want to learn about the Mineralogical Society of America.

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