



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

BULLETIN OF FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

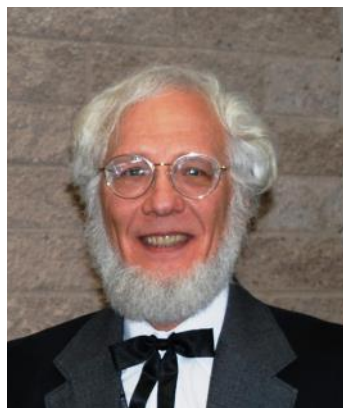
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President's Message By Mark Jacobson

FM National had two successful meetings in Tucson. The general membership meeting on Tuesday afternoon went smoothly with everyone having a chance to snack, and talk with each other in the central tent at the Hotel Tucson City Center. After a round of socializing, Chapter representatives gave their story of their year in activities. The details of these activities were in last quarter's newsletter as well as in this newsletter. The use of the space and snacks were paid for by Martin Zinn, the multi-decade FM supporter. I appreciate his long term commitment to minerals and the people who love them.

The FM business meeting is always a juggle, trying to find a day and time that is comfortable with the maximum number of people. There is still no solution, but location wise, the meeting this year was in the Country Inn and Suites by Radisson, which was an excellent facility just across the interstate from the Hotel Tucson City Center. The food was good and we sat in the round so we all faced each other. The Country Inn manager, David Pavlik, donated our full spread breakfast (eggs, bacon, sausage, potatoes, fruit...), with an extra treat of donuts, which I thanked him for in writing as well as here. I hope to use this space again next year. Unfortunately, we did not have a quorum for financial voting, but this was resolved by email voting which was completed before this newsletter. Thus symposium funds were approved for the New Mexico Mineral Symposium plus FM confirmed that each non-institutional educational display award at the Tucson and Denver shows will receive \$100 award money.

We also have four new at-large members that are appreciated for being willing to serve and provide their opinions on National's direction. With changing times, FM national will not be sponsoring a symposium at the 2019 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show. The show itself is recruiting speakers directly, so if you have a topic you would like to talk about, email Peter Megaw and volunteer a talk title and time desired but do it soon. They are usually full up by June.

The visitor booth was enthusiastically guided primarily by Jim Hutchings, Foresthill, CA who put the most hours in, with the help of Gloria Marie, Pam Birge, Gene Reynolds, Jack and Kaye Thompson, Donna and Jeff Self, and Nelson Shaffer. Although the booth was mostly occupied, visitors were few. With changing times, this too will change. This was the last year for the FM National booth at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show.

(continued on page 3)

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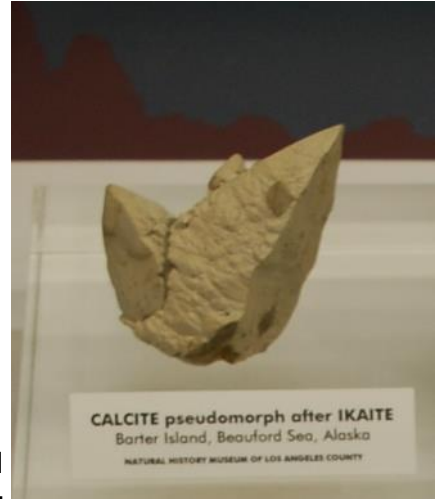
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**Deadline for the next FM Newsletter is
August 25, 2018**



At the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, Virgil Lueth coordinated his educational display judges, who remain anonymous, and announced the winners of the FM National best educational displays at the show: The institutional award went to the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County for their "Form and Function" display with biological calcite forms similar to brittle stars, environmental forms such as calcite pseudomorphs of 'glendonites', and industrial uses like zeolites in water softening. The exhibit was assembled by Alyssa R. Morgan and Aaron Celestian with help from Anthony Kampf.



The best educational display by a non-institution was awarded to Chuck Houser for calcite exhibiting three crystal forms including four twin laws and cave forms. These awards were made during the Saturday night dinner and awards event.



(continued on page 4)

In addition the best article of the year awards were also verbally announced and presented. Meanwhile the silent auction to benefit Mindat (via its association with the 501(c)3 entity, the Hudson Institute of Mineralogy) continued. See the article below.

Our chapters remain active. The Midwest Chapter completed a one day symposium at Miami University. The presentation facilities were great, the highly skilled student speakers gave great talks, all set in a lively college town on a warm sunny day. John Rakovan and Kenneth Bladh, the Chapter president with member support, put on a nice enjoyable meeting. The Southern California Chapter had their symposium and field trip also, which the Chapter will report on. Later in the year the Pennsylvania and Northwest Chapters will have their symposia. The Colorado chapter is also planning a symposium for August, with the Mississippi Valley Chapter having a meeting during a major rock swap event south of St. Louis in June.

We now have full committees for evaluating requests for symposium funds and also our nominating committee for next year's at-large board members and new national officers. Our national website continues to improve. If you wish to add material to it, just ask. The only sad news is we lost our original website programmer from many years ago, James Etwiler, who passed away in January. He was a long term Pacific Northwest Chapter member and had frequently volunteered for the society. Bill Besse has volunteered to take his place. We are still looking for members to volunteer to add content to some of pages as well as add more information about upcoming symposia and mineral meetings.

With spring already in progress in Colorado, summer is almost here. In late April, I'm off to more symposia meetings, some hoped for field work and a planned, much needed week on Mount Antero in July for some winter camping. Hopefully it won't snow too much.

Friends of Mineralogy – Best Article for the Year 2017 Awards



For the Mineralogical Record, the best article for 2017 was given to: Günter Grundmann, Thomas P. Moore, and Wendell E. Wilson for *St. Andreasberg, Western Harz Mountains, Riedersachsen, Germany*. Vol. 48, May-June, 2017, p. 301-410. Tom Moore (left) received the award on stage at the Saturday night dinner, Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, February 2018.



For *Rocks & Minerals*, the best article for 2017 was given to: Eric Heinen De Carlo and Bryan Swoboda for *Mineral Localities in Hawaii* May/June 2017, Vol. 92, No. 3, p. 218-235. Bryan Swoboda (far left) and Eric Heinen De Carlo (center) received the award on stage at the Saturday night dinner, Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, February 2018.



For *Mineral News*, the best article for 2017 was given to: Mark Ivan Jacobson for *The Early History of the Himalaya Pegmatite Mine* (5 Parts) Vol. 33, Nos. 1-5. Peter Megaw (right) presented the award to Mark Jacobson on stage at the Saturday night dinner, Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, February 2018.



For Mineral Monograph No. 19 Diamond – The Ultimate gemstone, the best article for 2017 was given to: Dr. Bram Janse for *Geology of Diamond*, p. 11-23. Ann Fraser (left) as Bram Janse's representative received the award on stage at the Saturday night dinner, Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, February 10, 2018.

Minutes of the Friends of Mineralogy Board Meeting, 7:30 am 10-February-2018 Tucson, Arizona

The Board meeting was called to order by President Mark Jacobson at 7:40 am on Saturday, February 10, 2018.

Attendees:

Mark Jacobson, Jeff Self, Allan Young, Virgil Lueth, Don Buchanan, Ken Bladh, Linda Smith, Marie Huizing, William Besse, Gloria Staebler, and Al Liebetrau as proxy for Sue Liebetrau.

The number of attendees present was not sufficient to constitute a quorum. As such, a discussion was held on voting procedures and it was agreed that, while the members present could vote on motions brought before the Board at this meeting, these motions could not be acted upon until a majority of Board members had voted via email.

Old Business:

- 1) The need for chapters to provide their bulletins to the National FM Editor was discussed. Mark Jacobson recommended that he would like to get a copy also.
- 2) Mark Jacobson will speak with Gail Spann regarding publicity issues as she is Publicity Chairperson.
- 3) Virgil Lueth announced the winners of the FM awards for best cases and articles. Al Liebetrau asked for a list of winners of the educational cases. A discussion was held regarding the awards for institutional and non-institutional educational awards. It was stated that 501 (c)(3) regulations should provide the guidance for distinguishing between institutional and non-institutional awards. The directors present recommended that in the future the two awards be referred to as institutional and non-institutional. This was agreed to by everyone present.
- 4) The other issue was the lack of clarity in last year's (2017) minutes and approval of the cash awards for the Educational exhibits at both the Denver and Tucson gem and mineral shows. It was agreed that the Board had approved a \$200 cash award for institutions. A cash award for non-institutions was discussed. A motion was made by Linda Smith to award \$100 to non-institutional displays that won the Educational award at both the Denver and Tucson gem and Minerals Shows. This motion was seconded by Ken Bladh. Voting was to be carried out by email due to lack of a voting quorum.
- 5) Ongoing voting results on the four, 2018 at-large positions on the Board was discussed. A limited number of votes were received, and Virgil suggested that we send out a second e-mail to the members in hopes of getting better participation in the voting. Gloria Staebler agreed to email out a request to all members prior to the closure of voting on February 27.
- 6) A discussion regarding the publication of bank account information for the National FM was held. A consensus vote resulted in all members present agreeing that this information should not be published, but that any members could contact the Treasurer to obtain this information.
- 7) Treasurer Gloria Staebler reported that there was currently a total of \$\$\$\$\$\$ in the National FM treasury, almost all of which is in savings, and that we are awaiting the dues from the chapters. It was also agreed by all present that if a member wanted to know the full financial details of FM National, they would only need to make a request to the Treasurer, who would provide the details that were presented at the meeting.
- 8) Bill Besse updated the group on the National FM website and encouraged those present to send in news and information that they would like to be included on the website.
- 9) A discussion was held regarding if a 2019 Tucson Symposium would be organized. Virgil Lueth agreed to request for a volunteer to organize a possible 2019 Tucson symposium as well as to request a volunteer to coordinate the FM National show booth, and if volunteers are not found to organize the booth or a symposium, then one or both of these activities will be abandoned. This was accepted by those present, but no vote was taken..
- 10) The funding process for chapter symposiums was discussed and President Jacobson stated that he had changed the draft process somewhat from what had been prepared by Allan Young. No vote was held on the revisions. This will be handled by email.

New Business:

- 1) Allan Young summarized a proposal from Bryan Swoboda to create mineral-based podcasts to "educate the public, inform the mineral world, collect stories and be a catalyst for further discussions." He is proposing to enter into an agreement with the Friends of Mineralogy whereby his company, Blue Cap Productions, will create audio field kits for the FOM chapters to use, which would require no financial commitment from the FOM. His would ask the chapters that they use the kits to record audio copies of all their speakers at events and sit down with mineral people in their communities and record their mineral stories, "capturing this wealth of knowledge that is slowly being erased from our collective conciseness." A copy of the recorded audio recording would then be forwarded to Bryan for use and archival.

A letter from Mr. Swoboda outlining his plans was distributed to those present. This proposal will be emailed to board members by Allan Young. Al Leibetrau motioned that we accept Brian's proposal and a vote of the attendees was taken, the result being unanimous in favor. Further email votes will be needed to determine results of the vote.

- 2) A motion was made and seconded to award \$500 to the New Mexico Mineral Symposium for 2018. The vote was 10 in favor, with one abstention (by Virgil Lueth due to conflict of interest). Further emailing is vote of this is required.
- 3) President Jacobson formed a nominating committee of three (Linda Smith, Bill Besse, and Gloria Staebler) to propose a slate of new, at-large Directors for 2019. Recommendations are needed by September of 2018.
- 4) President Jacobson will contact Bob Meyer and Larry Nuelle in order to come up with a third member for the committee which will determine the distribution of funds to Symposiums. The current members are Allan Young and Don Buchanan.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:00 am.

Voting Results

March 23, 2018

Attachment to the Minutes of February 10, 2018.

Of the 19 possible voting board members, 14 voting board members exercised their option to vote.

Both motions passed by greater than 50 percent of 19 members.

Motion 1: Vote for approving a donation of \$500 to the New Mexico Mineral Symposium for 2018: From 19 possible votes, 13 approved, 1 abstention. passed .

Motion 2: Vote for approving \$100 grant directly to person or a group of people who create a non-institutional educational display at the Denver and Tucson gem and mineral shows. This is a total of \$200 per year for two displays whether by one person or a group. From 19 possible votes, 13 approved, no abstentions or negative votes. Passed.

Four New Board Members

March 2, 2018

I am pleased to announce after counting and having the votes of the 72 ballots submitted, confirmed, that our new board members are

Brice W. Bridenbecker
Alexander Schauss
Chris Whitney-Smith
Jolyon Ralph.

Best Regards,
Linda Smith

Revision of Symposium Funding Process

Ken Bladh made a motion to approve the revised *Timeline and Procedure for Funding Activities* as printed in the email attachment sent to us by Mark Jacobson on March 14, 2018. This motion was seconded by Don Buchanan on March 15, 2018. Revisions to the motion are allowed during the email discussion period. A call for a vote will be made by the President on May 1, 2018. Thirty days will be allowed for email board voting with the close of voting by June 1, 2018.

“Breakfast with Minerals” Blue Cap Productions Proposal February 10, 2018

BlueCap Productions is starting a new initiative to create a mineral-based series of podcasts entitled “Breakfast with Minerals.” The purpose of these podcasts will be to educate the public and inform the mineral community about minerals, collect mining and collecting stories and be a catalyst for further discussions. This initiative was communicated to Allan Young, who discussed this at the National Board Meeting in February 2018. The proposal as described below was only slightly modified from the original by Mark Jacobson.

“ The following is a brief description of our [BlueCap productions] idea:

...the basic idea is a recording of a round-table of mineral people all talking about different subjects, related to the mineral world, while having a meal together.

What we hope to accomplish with this series is to record a bunch of different ideas, topics and discussions throughout the mineral world and share these recordings with the rest of the mineral world. Some of the panels will address specific topics while others may just be a get-together to collectively gather stories about a particular topic.

By posting these recordings online, we hope to spark additional conversations among people in the mineral world and maybe even be the motivation for some beneficial changes in our business.

By mutual agreement, this will be a three-part partnership with the recording and post-production of the show handled by BlueCap Productions, the dining room space and meals will be provided by Dave Waisman/Fine Mineral Show and the shows themselves will be moderated by our Show Hosts Jim and Gail Spann.

All episodes will be recorded on-location at the Fine Mineral Shows in Tucson (aka Westward Look Show) and the Fine Mineral Show in Denver. For now, these recordings will solely be audio recordings with a maximum of six guests along with our Show Hosts Jim and Gail. Each of the eight participants will have their own microphone so that any listener will be able to clearly hear all comments made by each participant. [*Participants are by invitation only.*]

If interest in this series builds, we may eventually make the HUGE leap to film the entire event but, for now, we want to start small to ensure we can build our audience.

For this 2018 Tucson year, we were able to record two different sessions with the following people:

Session 1

Jim Spann - Private Collector

Gail Spann - Private Collector, Volunteer, Perot Museum

Dave Waisman - Organizer of Fine Mineral Show Tucson and Denver

Jamie Newman - Curator, American Museum, New York

Bryan Lees - President, Collector's Edge, USA

Steve Nealy - Private Collector, Elmwood Calcites

John Rakovan - Contributing Writer, Rocks & Minerals Magazine

Session 2

- Jim Spann - Private Collector
- Gail Spann - Private Collector, Volunteer, Perot Museum
- Ian Bruce - President, Crystal Classics, UK
- John Cornish - Field Collector & #1 presenter to kids
- Christopher Keilmann - Organizer of Munich Show
- Jolyon Ralph - Founder, MinDat.org
- Peter Lyckberg - Private Collector

These recordings will be edited a bit and then offered to the public as a podcast. However, this is only the start. What I envision is a new mineral-based podcast radio channel that has many different programs - one of which would be Breakfast With Minerals.

BlueCap Productions, as an expansion on the concept of "Breakfast with Minerals" podcasts.

To address FMs need to record our collective history, BlueCap Productions suggested entering into an agreement with the Friends of Mineralogy whereby BlueCap Productions will create audio field kits for the FOM to use. I would require no financial commitment from the FOM. Instead I would turn to the mineral-collecting community to create a fund whereby BlueCap Productions can purchase 7-8 field kits and provide them to all the FOM chapters.

The commitment I would ask of all FOM chapters is that upon receipt of said field kit, they use this field kit to record **audio copies of all their speakers at all their events**. In addition, I would ask that FOM actively sit down with different mineral people in their communities and record their mineral stories [oral mineral collecting histories] - capturing this wealth of knowledge that is slowly being erased from our collective conciseness.

At the end of each recording, each audio file would be emailed, or sent electronically, to BlueCap Productions and we would edit and convert each file to be used as a podcast for the community. This would become another program under our podcast initiative called, "Talking with the Friends of Mineralogy" (or another similar name).

I hope this is what you're looking for in order to prepare you for your meeting on Saturday. Good luck and please keep me updated. -Bryan

Bryan Swoboda, President, BlueCap Productions, (310) 749-8896.



Acanthite from Linqiu,
Shanxi Province, China.
Photo courtesy of Dakota Matrix



Acanthite from Cobalt-Gowganda dist., Ontario,
Canada. Photo courtesy
of Dakota Matrix

Free Offer from Blue Cap Productions

April 2018 Complimentary Digital HD (downloadable) files on "What's hot" at three world famous mineral shows – Tucson, Munich and Ste. Marie.

Bryan Swoboda of Blue Cap Productions is offering to the first 100 Friends of Mineralogy members digital HD complimentary copies of the "What's Hot In Tucson," "What's Hot In Ste. Marie" and "What's Hot In Munich" all from the 2017 year.

If a member goes to the following URLs, they can obtain their own copy by the following method. First create your own free account on Vimeo. Then you'll need to add each program to their Shopping Cart. Before they check out, there will be a link titled, "APPLY PROMO CODE" - click on that link and use the promo code: FOM2017

What's Hot In Tucson
<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/whit17>

What's Hot In Ste. Marie
<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/whis17>

What's Hot In Munich
<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/whim17>

This code is good for 100 copies of each of the titles.

Try it out for yourselves and let me know if you have any problems.
All the best, Bryan Swoboda, President, BlueCap Productions Hawaii, LLC
7192 Kalaniana'ole Hwy, Suite #A143A-103, Honolulu, HI 96825
USA, bryan@bluecapproductions.com, (310) 749-8896

From Your Editor

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

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

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

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



COLORADO CHAPTER UPDATE

Your Report could be here!



Haidingerite from Svornost mine, Jáchy-
mov, Erzgebirge, Bohemia,
Czech Republic
Photo courtesy of Dakota Matrix



MIDWEST CHAPTER UPDATE

Your Report could be here!



NEW JERSEY CHAPTER UPDATE

Your Report could be here!



Kaersutite from Nickenicher Sattel,
Eifel Mountains, Germany
Photo courtesy of Dakota Matrix



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY CHAPTER UPDATE

In 2017, we donated \$500 to The American Fluorite Museum in Rosiclare, Illinois; they are undergoing renovation. The museum is receiving donations from other individuals and organizations as well. Renovations include replacing all the broken windows in the hoist house and cleaning out debris and refurbishing the interior of the hoist house. The interior of the mining and mineral museum (the old office building) was recently painted and the leaky roof was repaired. The work also includes installation of a new water line for the museum's restroom as the old water line is busted. Additionally, brush and overgrowths of vegetation were cleared from around the wash house and secondary headframe. Recently, a sinkhole developed in the outdoor display area and a large piece of machinery disappeared down the hole. The machine is to be recovered and the sinkhole mitigated by a fill of cement.

We held our first meeting of the year in March at the Kansas City show (put on by The Association of Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City, Inc.) which is held at the Kansas City Expo Center near the airport. We also had an exhibit of southern Illinois fluorite district minerals in the show.

In June, we had our second meeting of the year at the rock swap annually held at Missouri Mines State Historic Site in Park Hills. This swap attracts scores of vendors and admission to the museum is free during this event.

Our third meeting of the year was held in August at the show in St. Louis at the Machinist's Hall on St. Charles Rock Road. This show is sponsored by the Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs, Inc. For this show, we displayed a case with the theme of our favorite mineral specimens.

In September, we had our annual field trip and fourth and final meeting of the year in the Crystal Peak area of Colorado. We had the opportunity to collect on some private claims. Unfortunately, only four members could attend because of circumstances affecting other members.

Our 2018 activities began in March of this year when we met at the Kansas City show and displayed a case of phosphate minerals. Our next meeting will be at the rock swap at Missouri Mines State Historic Site. During this meeting we hope to decide on a field trip site, discuss service projects, and plan our case for the August show in St. Louis.

Laurence M. Nuelle, Chapter President



Devilline from Jean Baptiste mine, Laurion district, Attika, Greece
Photo courtesy of Dakota Matrix



NEW JERSEY CHAPTER UPDATE

Your Report could be here!



PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER UPDATE

Greetings, mineral lovers!

While I love field collecting and exploring in the warmer, dryer months, I also enjoy my minerals this time of year. Unpacking all those specimens that have been wrapped since I picked them up in a mine dump or show, cracking the rocks down to micro-size and looking for unusual, or even spectacular crystals under the microscope... The photos I submitted for this newsletter are from material that I obtained from the free tables at the NW Micro-Mineral Study Group. The bright orange realgar crystal really got my attention, even though it is only 400 microns!

I hope your mineral explorations have been as enjoyable as mine this winter!

Jim Etzwiler

As I start writing this article, I am saddened to learn that Jim Etzwiler has died. Jim was President of PNWFM for several years, our first webmaster and a constant helping hand at symposiums and TGMS every year. Jim, we will miss you!

The PNWFM Newsletter Archive is now online

When we modernized the web site, some content didn't immediately make the jump, including the archive of old newsletters. I'm happy to report that they are now all online, back to 1989.

pnwfm.org/newsletter-archive/

Symposium – October 19-21, 2018

"Minerals of California"

I have already been hearing a lot of buzz about this year's theme! Whether it's gold, tourmaline, benitoite or the rare, colorful micro-tellurates from Otto Mountain, who doesn't have a favorite California mineral? John Lindell has been busy planning the show and organizing volunteers and Allan Young is rounding up speakers and we expect to be able to announce the full program in a month or so. John has come up with some interesting ideas for ways to be more welcoming to people new to mineralogy, so there may be a few changes coming, but rest assured that nothing will interfere with the core of our symposium you've all become accustomed to.

There are a few things to be thinking about now:

Can you put together a display?

Do you have any California minerals to enter in our self-collected contest? (We WILL have a contest this year!)

How can you encourage more people to attend the symposium? (Stay tuned for details on this in the next newsletter, but we may host a free event on Friday evening for new people.)

Seattle Mineral Market 2018 – Date Change!

Organized by Bart Cannon, the Seattle Mineral Market is in its eleventh year. The Mineral Market was originally conceived as a simple opportunity for local collectors to trade and sell, but grew rapidly into much more. In addition to a couple of dozen non-commercial collectors, you will find a number of mineral dealers from the region and even a few from farther afield – all focused on minerals!

PNWFM will hold our semi-annual business meeting on Saturday afternoon. The time will be announced in an email prior to the event.

Note that this show dates have changed from the usual weekend!

May 26-27, 2018: 10 am – 6 pm

Lake City Community Center

12531 - 28th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125

Earlier this year, word was out that the show would only be Saturday this year, but just today, we have word that it will indeed be extended to Sunday, May 27, to make it the usual 2-day show.

For more information, visit their web site: www.seattlesmineralmarket.com or Facebook event page: www.facebook.com/events/1342461345822938/

Member Participation: Even more ways to get involved!

Write an article or send in a few photos for the newsletter. Going to a Tucson? Send us a trip report!

Find a weird fuzzy green mineral you'd like to share? Send us a photo whether you can positively identify it or not; I think mysteries are as fun as scholarly certainty. Thanks to Wes Gannaway, Beth Heesacker, Karen Hinderman, Chuck Hobart, Al Liebetrau, Bob Meyer, Don Newsome, Lanny Ream, Alexander Schauss, and myself for providing newsletter content so far this year.

Buy and sell, meet and socialize with other collectors at the Seattle Mineral Market: **May 26-27, 2018** at Lake City Community Center, 12531 - 28th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125. See seattlesmineralmarket.com for details.

Plan to attend our 2018 symposium:

October 19-21 2018 **Minerals of California**

Washington Pass Cleanup: August 10-12, 2018

Submit high-quality photos of Northwest minerals to add to the cycling background of our web site.

"Like" our official Facebook page: facebook.com/PNWFM

Visit the Rice NW Museum of Rocks and Minerals in Hillsboro, OR. PNWFM members get free admission and store discounts. ricenorthwestmuseum.org

Send me ideas for how PNWFM can better serve you and the mineral collecting community.

Until next time,

-- Bruce Kelley, President, PNWFM



**PENNSYLVANIA
CHAPTER
UPDATE**

Your Report could be here!





SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER UPDATE

FM February 6, 2018 General Membership Meeting Report

Southern California Friends of Mineralogy (SCFM) Chapter hosted two successful symposiums in 2017 with associated weekend field trip mineral collecting, and have plans for this spring and fall 2018 in the works.

Our first Lane Mountains symposium in March supported 45 participants. The two days of field trips were a resounding success thanks to Howard Brown, a recently retired mining geologist and new board member who served as our guest speaker and field trip guide that weekend taking us to Lane Mountains north of Barstow, CA. Our June SCFM newsletter was shared in the July 2017 FM Bulletin for all to learn of this educational program seeing photo evidence of our field trips and the long list of minerals collected by members.

Our second symposium was to the Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Museum in southern California's lithium pegmatite region of San Diego County in October. Sixty members and guests gathered in the historical museum to learn of the pegmatite emplacement by plate tectonic origins and receive a colorful power point presentation by the Ocean View and Pala Chief Mine owner, which will be shared in the upcoming FM Bulletin. Mine personnel toured 40 some members and guests through the historical Pala Chief Mine underground tunnels with hardhats on Saturday afternoon before full-fledged collecting on the Pala Chief Mountain mining sites on Sunday. Members and guests worked diligently there at the Ocean View screening tables both days collecting gem quality tourmalines, kunsites, morganites, and other gem minerals known for this Pala Chief Mountain mining area.

Our Spring symposium plans call for educational presentations at Palm Desert campus Cal State San Bernardino before Saturday afternoon field trip down through Coachella Valley visiting Salton Sea mud volcanoes and camping in Yuha Basin for collecting florescent Calcite, sandstone concretions within an ancient seabed of oyster, scallop and barnacle fossils. The primary field collecting will be on Sunday at the historical Bluebird Kyanite Mine sites with old weathered ore bins for photo opportunities. Historical buffs may visit the nearby Tumco Townsite left over from the oldest gold mine site in the Cargo Muchacho Mountains as we close out this spring weekend field trip. Mindat.org identifies the 20+ minerals to be found in association with kyanite at this location.

Dr. Don Buchanan
President, Southern California Friends of Mineralogy Chapter



Decrespignyite-(y) from Paratoo
Cu mine, Mt Lofty Ranges,
South Australia, Australia
Photo courtesy of Dakota Matrix



NATIONAL MEMBERS “AT-LARGE”

Your Report could be here! Would someone like to speak up for the “at-large” members? Needs, wants, comments?

Objectives of Friends of Mineralogy

The Friends of Mineralogy (FM) is a national organization with local chapters and is open to membership by all. FM's objective is 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.

FM seeks to accomplish this in several ways:

FM promotes and supports its regional chapters in order to further regular interaction among mineral collectors, collecting trips, symposia and other projects at the local or regional level.

FM, nationally and through its local chapters, supports increased outreach and education on the beauty and importance to humankind of minerals, the scientific value of minerals and mineralogical research, and the rewards of collecting and maintaining a mineral collection.

FM sponsors comprehensive reference articles and publications on mineral localities in the United States and Canada, with an emphasis on providing information of value to mineral collectors on a state or provincial basis.

FM works actively with educational institutions, museums and others to preserve collections accessible to the general public.

FM actively cooperates and has affiliations with other mineralogical organizations and publications.

FM supports policies and agreements designed to preserve access to mineral specimen collecting localities or mining areas in order to assure the preservation of natural wonders.

Approved at Directors Meeting February 2001

FM AFFILIATES



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

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


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