

Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter Newsletter – April/May 2005

May Meeting – Thursday, May 12, 7:30 p.m.

(Board meeting 6:45-7:30)

Denver Museum of Nature and Science – V.I.P. Room. Enter through the single door Security/Staff entrance to the left of the main entrance. The V.I.P. room is to the left through the cafeteria area.

May program:

We will see the video

Rhodochrosite: Red Treasure of the Rockies

This video features Bryan Lees and others documenting the entire history of mining at the Sweet Home Mine, through the permanent close of operations at the end of the 2004 season. It includes the early history of the mine, how Bryan Lees formed the partnership to mine rhodochrosite there, how they learned to best locate pocket zones, descriptions of all the major pockets that were found, the reconstructions at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, etc. People who have seen the video give it excellent reviews. It is about 80 minutes long and shows historic photos, 3D computer animation, personal interviews, and lots of mining action. The video is produced by Silver Mountain Productions, <http://www.silvermp.com/>.

Anyone is invited to bring in specimens of Sweet Home minerals, and of rhodochrosite from other localities too, to put in a display case at the meeting. And anyone with a personal perspective on the operations or other aspect of the mine is welcome to tell those in attendance.

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FMCC dues for 2005 are \$13.00, which includes membership in national Friends of Mineralogy. Please send your dues payment to: FM-Colorado Chapter, P.O. Box 5276, Golden CO, 80401-5276.

FMCC 2005 Officers:

President, Pete Modreski, 303-202-4766

Vice-President, Jack Thompson, 719-636-2978

Treasurer, Jim Hurlbut, 303-757-0283

Secretary, Richard Parsons,

Directors: Bill Chirside (2005-06), 303-989-8748

Bruce Geller (2004-05), 303-237-2947

Paul Kendall (2005-06), 303-470-3261, & newsletter editor

2005 FMCC Auction

Our spring auction will be Sunday, May 15 from 1 to 3 pm. See the enclosed flier. If you can help run the auction, help setup tables at 11 am, bring snacks or drinks at noon, or help cleanup at 3 pm, please come in. Sellers and buyers should register with Jim Hurlbut, 303-757-0283.

Dues

Check your mailing label. If your membership date is marked in orange, this is the last issue you will receive unless you pay your 2004 dues promptly.

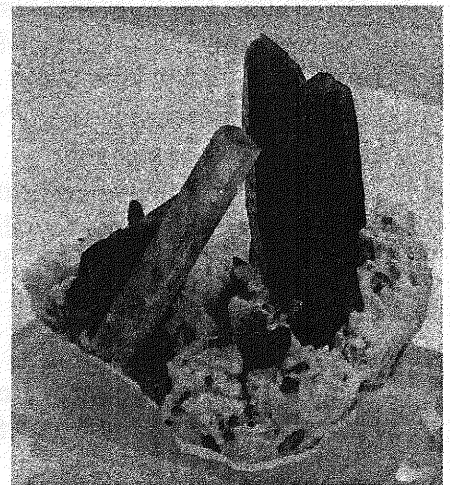
Tucson Show 2005



Jack and Kay Thompson, longtime FMCC members, stand in front of their competitive display of thumbnail mineral specimens at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, February 2005. Photo by Pete Modreski.



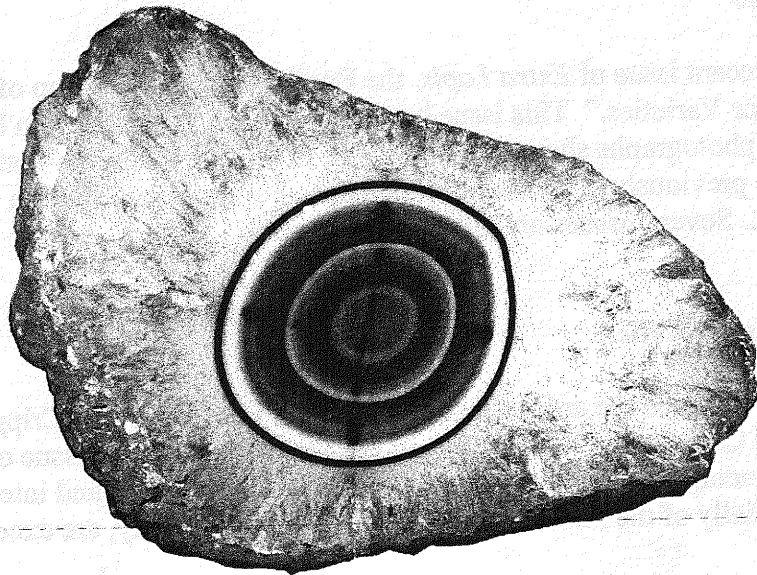
Aquamarine and smoky Quartz,
Mt. Antero, Colorado,
8 inch tall specimen, found 2004,
Tucson Gem and Mineral Show,
February 2005, Bryan Lees
specimen, photo by Pete Modreski



Aquamarine and smoky Quartz,
Mt. Antero, Colorado,
4¾ inch tall specimen, found 2004,
Tucson Gem and Mineral Show,
February 2005, Bryan Lees
specimen, photo by Pete Modreski

Aquamarine Article

The May/June 2005, issue of *Rocks and Minerals* has a two-page article titled "A Spectacular New Aquamarine Find on Mount Antero, Chaffee County, Colorado" by Bryan Lees. Further information about the aquamarines pictured above is given in that excellent write-up.

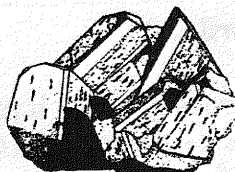


***Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter;
Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum; and USGS
will cosponsor a mineralogical symposium on
Agate and Cryptocrystalline Quartz
Sat.-Sun., September 10-11, 2005
(the weekend before the Denver Gem & Mineral Show)
Green Center, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO
2 days of lecture presentations, Saturday evening banquet,
reception and tours of CSM Geology Museum
field trips to Colorado mineral localities, Mon. & Tues., Sep. 12-13
registration fee \$40; banquet \$25***

If interested in attending and receiving further information about the symposium, please send your name, address, and phone number and/or email address to: pmodreski@usgs.gov, or to Friends of Mineralogy, P.O. Box 5276, Golden CO 80401-5276

If you would like to offer to present a paper on some aspect of cryptocrystalline quartz and related topics (agate, chalcedony, jasper, chert, opal, geodes, thunder eggs, etc.), please contact: Pete Modreski, USGS, Denver CO, pmodreski@usgs.gov, 303-202-4766

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M** friends of
mineralogy
colorado chapter



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P.O. Box 5276
Golden, CO 80401-5276

Recent Beryl Issue

The most recent issue of *Extra Lapis*, the English language version of *Lapis* magazine, is titled "Beryl and Its Color Varieties." This issue has 112 pages and 23 articles on beryl. One of the many high quality color photographs shows the best of the new aquamarine-on-matrix specimens collected in July 2004, that are previously in this newsletter issue. For more information about *Extra Lapis*, go to www.lapisint.com. Several issues are published per year.

Recent Cripple Creek Article

If you have not seen the article "Famous Mineral Localities: The Cripple Creek Mining District, Colorado," by Carl Carnein and Paul Bartos, in the March-April 2005, issue of *The Mineralogical Record*, we recommend that you review a copy. The text is thorough and interesting, and the photographs, especially of the mineral specimens of increasing rarity, are excellent.

Geology Curator Position, Denver Museum of Nature and Science

The Denver Museum of Nature and Science is to begin soliciting applications for the position of Curator of Geology. Funding is now available to hire a person for this job as a full-time position.

Call for Volunteers for FM Mineral ID Booth, Denver Gem and Mineral Show

Each year our FM Colorado Chapter runs the mineral identification booth at the Denver Gem and Mineral Show in September. If you are willing to help for a couple of hours one or more days of the show September 16-18, please contact Pete Modreski at 303-202-4766 (office), 303-425-9549 (home), or at his email pmodreski@usgs.gov. Please remember, you don't have to be a mineralogical expert to help at our Mineral I.D. booth, which is FMCC's main contribution to helping put on the DGMS. Many of the items brought to this booth are common rocks and minerals brought in by beginning collectors, and a general familiarity with rocks and minerals will help answer most questions. If a real "expert" is needed for a special, unusual specimen, it's always easy to call or find someone.

Call for Volunteers for Kids' Corner, Denver Show

Again this year there will be a Kids' Corner room for hands-on rock and mineral activities at the Denver Show. If you are available to help for a few hours on one or more days of the show September 16-18, please contact Pete Modreski at the numbers shown above. Anyone with general knowledge about rocks and minerals, and who enjoys talking with kids, will do fine in helping at the Kids' Corner.

Denver Gem and Mineral Show Mini Report April 2005

The Denver Gem and Mineral Show is an amazing event. It just keeps getting better and better every year. Don't forget the dates for this year's show – September 16-18, 2005. And don't forget that Quartz and Cryptocrystalline Quartz are the show's featured minerals this year. If you don't know what Cryptocrystalline Quartz is, you will find out at the show.

There is a good reason why the show gets better every year. It is because of all the wonderful volunteers who help put on the show – especially the ones who give of their time, energy and creativity by belonging to the Show Committee. There are a total of about 45 members of the Show Committee, but there is a consistent turnover so new persons are always needed and welcomed. Long-time Publicity Chair, Regina Aumente, has made it known she may be leaving the Denver area. So there is an urgent need for someone to replace her. Surely there must be someone out there in one of the clubs who has an interest in and talent for publicity matters. Perhaps someone whose occupation involves such publicity matters. Please volunteer and join the Show Committee now so Regina can introduce you to the show. You will not be alone; Aaron Rever and Marsha Smith are Publicity Assistants. And everyone on the committee will welcome you.

The show is the premier event in the Denver area for our hobby. We are very lucky to have the show so club members can enjoy their mineral, fossil, and lapidary interest to the utmost. But the show could not go on without willing volunteers. So please, please, please, volunteer to benefit the show and yourself. You will be glad you did. Thank you.
Respectfully submitted, Judy Knoshaug, Secretary

Feedback and Contributions for the Newsletter

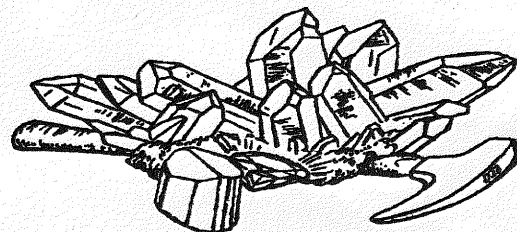
Your editor solicits feedback and contributions to this newsletter. Contributions might take the form of a collecting story, or a photo taken at a recent show, or an article dealing with the science of mineralogy, or another aspect of mineral collecting. If you have something for us, please contact Paul Kendall at bealsio@aol.com or 303-470-3261.

41st Annual

Pikes Peak Gem & Mineral Show

June 17th – 19th, 2005

Fri, Sat, & Sun 10am–5pm



Pikes Peak,
A Rockhounds Paradise

Sponsored by the Colorado Springs
Mineralogical Society

Featuring: Colorado Gems, Minerals & Fossils
Five days of field trips after the show

The Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies Show with exhibits from around the Rocky Mountain West.

The Rocky Mountain Micromineral Symposium – sponsored by The Friends of Mineralogy, The Denver Museum of Nature and Science and CSMS

With presentations, trading and giveaways

Location: Phil Long Expo Center
1515 Auto Mall Loop, Colorado Springs
Plenty of free parking

****For more information: (719) 632-9686**
Email us at csmsshow@cs.com
Visit us at our website at csms.us

FMCC May meeting is Thursday, May 12, 2005, 7:30 pm, Denver Museum of Nature & Science.
We will see the video *Rhodochrosite: Red Treasure of the Rockies*.

Coming Events 2005:

- May 7 Colorado Mineral Society Auction, Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, 920 Kipling, Lakewood
- May 7-8 Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Show, Two Rivers Convention Center, Grand Junction, CO
- May 12 Friends of Mineralogy meeting, DMNS
- May 13 Denver Gem & Mineral Guild Meeting and Auction, Geology Building, CSM, 7:30pm
- May 15 FMCC Silent Auction, Glendale Community Center. See inside this newsletter for details.
- Jun 17-19 Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society/RMFMS Show, Phil Long Exposition Center, Colo Spgs
- Jun 18-19 Micro Mineralogy Symposium in conjunction with the above Colo. Springs Min. Society Show
- Jul 3 Colorado State Mining Competition, Creede, Colorado, 719-658-2370
- Jul 4 Days of '92 Mining Competition, Creede, Colorado, 719-658-2370
- Aug 5-7 Rock and Mineral Show, Underground Museum, Creede, CO, 719-658-2376
- Aug 11-14 Contin-tail Mineral Show, Rodeo Grounds, Buena Vista, CO
- Sep 8 Friends of Mineralogy meeting, DMNS
- Sep 10-11 Mineral Symposium: "Agate and Other Cryptocrystalline Quartz," Green Center, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO; evening banquet Sep 10
- Sep 12-13 Field trips in conjunction with the above Sep 10-11 Mineral Symposium
- Sep 14 Open House, Geology Museum, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO
- Sep 14-18 Colorado Mineral and Fossil Show, Holiday Inn Denver Central, I-70 and I-25
- Sep 16-18 Denver Gem and Mineral Show, Denver Merchandise Mart
- Nov 3 Friends of Mineralogy meeting, DMNS

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