



Friends of Mineralogy-Colorado Chapter  
 P.O. Box 5276  
 Golden, CO 80401-5276

## Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter Newsletter – April/May 2006

**May Meeting – Thursday, May 11, 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:

**Pete Modreski, US Geological Survey  
 will speak on  
 “Insights into the Insides of Pegmatites”**

Pete’s talk and slide show will be about what pegmatites are, some of the characteristics of the different kinds of pegmatites, and some insight into how they and the minerals in them form. It will include a photo tour of pegmatites around the world, starting in Colorado.

Pete originally gave this talk in January to the Mineralogical Society of Southern California.

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FMCC dues for 2006 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 2006 Officers:**

- President, Richard Parsons, 303-838-8859
- Vice-President, Jack Thompson, 719-636-2978
- Treasurer, Jim Hurlbut, 303-757-0283
- Secretary, Paul Kendall, 303-470-3261, and newsletter editor
- Directors: Bill Chirside (2005-06), 303-989-8748
- Bruce Geller (2006-07), 303-237-2947
- Pete Modreski (2006-07), 303-202-4766

## It's Dues Time Again

Membership in Friends of Mineralogy – Colorado Chapter and National FM is still only \$13. **Dues for 2006 are due on January 1, 2006.** Persons may be dropped from the mailing list after the May newsletter if dues are not paid by the May meeting. Payment can be sent to the address on page 1 or given to our Treasurer or any Board member.

## 2006 FMCC Auction

The Colorado Chapter of the Friends of Mineralogy will hold its annual silent auction on May 20th at the Clements Community Center located at 1580 Yarrow (near Colfax and Wadsworth) in Lakewood, Colorado, from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. This auction features reasonably priced minerals, faceted stones, books, and mining paraphernalia to the general public. There will be a special verbal auction at 2:00 P.M. of museum quality specimens donated by special dealers. As reminders: 1. Bidding increment remains 25-cents, 2. We always need extra help on auction day, especially cashiers or readers, 3. Please sign up May 11 to **bring finger foods, verbal auction donations, and to volunteer on the 20<sup>th</sup>.**

A special invitation is extended to non-FM members to participate in this auction as buyers and/or sellers. All sellers are requested to pre-register by phoning Jim Hurlbut (303-757-0283). All interested sellers and buyers are invited to phone Bruce Geller at 303-237-2947 for further details.

The average sales price for the 193 items auctioned last year was \$5.50. Seventeen different sellers successfully sold items in the two-hour period. That means the materials selling from our tables can't be beat! **There is virtually no limit on the amount of materials that any seller can set out at our auction.** Set up time for dealers is roughly noon. Dealers, completely fill out your bid slips and try to make your opening bids reasonable, or you'll take home most of what you're trying to sell.

Bidding will start at 1:00 P.M. Tables will be closed randomly, beginning with two tables at 1:40 P.M.; then roughly two tables at a time every 10 minutes thereafter. Our small verbal auction of quality materials will commence at about 2:00 P.M. We hope this is our best auction ever! - - Bruce Geller

## Email Addresses

Pete Modreski, [pmodreski@usgs.gov](mailto:pmodreski@usgs.gov), would appreciate members sending him their email address. He currently emails a number of people about upcoming mineralogy and geology events. Your email address will put you on that list and will make FMCC's member list information more complete.

## Proposed FMCC Bylaws Changes

During the March meeting, Richard Parsons mentioned that the FMCC Board of Directors is drafting proposed changes to our club bylaws. The Board hopes to have those changes ready to mail to members in the next several months. Members will have approximately a month to review those proposed changes, and to vote on them by mail-in postcard or at the subsequent member meeting. The Board believes these bylaw changes are necessary to allow our club to conduct business efficiently.

## Vivianite Follow-up

In our January meeting, members voted to purchase a Leadville vivianite for \$1,000 and give it to the CSM Geology Museum. That specimen from the Hopemore Mine has been purchased and is on display, and actually has been for quite a while, in one of the display cases titled "Leadville."

## **Garden of the Gods Mineral Exhibit**

At the Garden of the Gods visitor center in Colorado Springs, Bryan Lees has assembled a display of high quality mineral specimens. Pete Modreski says this exhibit is excellent.

## **Dr. Frederick H. Pough, 1906 – 2006**

On April 7 of this year, Dr. Fred Pough died. He was one of the giants of our hobby and profession. Do you still have your original copy of AFGTRAM?

## **Denver Gem and Mineral Show Mini Report March, 2006**

The Denver Gem and Mineral Show is now less than six months away and the planning is progressing well. The show poster and the small poster are both finished. Your club representative should bring them to your club meeting so members can see them. The show poster showcases the beautiful gem minerals that come from South America. The small poster is to be used for advertising the show and features four lovely specimens - elbaite with quartz, silver, quartz with siderite, and morganite.

The volunteer sign up sheets should be circulating among your members this month. Please be sure to sign up to help at the show. Everyone's help is needed to have a successful show. If you have never volunteered before, read over the different job descriptions. There is sure to be one that would suite you. Talk to others who volunteer and they will help you find your niche. It's fun and easy. You will meet new people and gain a greater appreciation for the show.

The Show Committee is also looking for new club members to join us. New members bring in innovative ideas and fresh energy. If you enjoy the show, consider joining the committee. There is a spot for you. In particular, there is a need for publicity people. Advertising the show is a very important job. It is how we reach out to the public and try to interest new people in this fascinating hobby. If you have a talent in promotions or advertising, we need you! Check to see who else in your club belongs to the Show Committee. Talk to them about their experience and maybe tag along to the next meeting. Meetings are at 7:30 pm the first Tuesday of each month except December, February, and July at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. -- Respectfully submitted, Judy Knoshaug, Secretary

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

Every year FM Colorado Chapter runs the mineral identification booth at the Denver Gem and Mineral Show. If you are willing to help for a couple of hours one or more days of the show September 15-17, 2006, please contact Richard Parsons at 303-838-8859 or email [richard.parsons@att.net](mailto:richard.parsons@att.net). You don't have to be a mineralogist to help at our booth, which is FMCC's main contribution to helping put on the DGMS. Many items brought to the booth are common rocks and minerals from beginning collectors, and a general familiarity with rocks and minerals will help answer most questions. If an "expert" is needed for an unusual specimen, it's easy to call someone.

## **Call for Volunteers for Kids' Corner, Denver Gem and Mineral Show**

There will again be a Kids' Corner room for hands-on rock and mineral activities at the Denver Show. If you can help for a few hours on one or more days of the show September 15-17, please contact Pete Modreski at 303-202-4766 (office) or [pmodreski@usgs.gov](mailto:pmodreski@usgs.gov). Anyone with general knowledge about rocks and minerals, and who enjoys talking with kids, will do fine in helping at the Kids' Corner.

## **Discussion on Possible FMCC Website**

At the March Board meeting, there was discussion of a previously furnished cost estimate for an outside person to set up and maintain a website for FMCC. However, the board agreed that the cost of doing that would not bring in enough new members to be justified.

FMCC May meeting is Thursday, May 11, 2006, 7:30 pm, Denver Museum of Nature & Science.  
**Pete Modreski** will present "Insights into the Insides of Pegmatites."

**Coming Events 2006:**

- May 6 Colorado Mineral Society Auction, Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, 920 Kipling St., Lakewood
- May 11 Friends of Mineralogy meeting, DMNS
- May 13-14 Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club Show, Two Rivers Convention Center, 1<sup>st</sup> and Main
- May 20 FMCC Auction, Clements Community Center, 1580 Yarrow St., near Colfax and Wadsworth
- Jun 8-11 RMFMS Show, Stillwater, OK
- June 16-18 Pikes Peak Gem and Mineral Show, Phil Long Exposition Center, Colorado Springs
- Jul 3 Colorado State Mining Championship, Creede, CO 719-658-2370
- Jul 4 Days of '92 Mining Competition, Creede, CO 719-658-2370
- Aug 4-6 Creede Rock and Mineral Show, Underground Museum, Creede, CO 719-658-2376
- Aug 10-13 Contin-Tail Mineral Show, Rodeo Grounds, Buena Vista, CO
- Aug 16-20 AMFMS Show, Nashville, TN
- Aug 18-20 Lake George Gem and Mineral Show, Lake George, CO
- Sep 15-17 39<sup>th</sup> annual Denver Gem and Mineral Show, Denver Merchandise Mart, 58<sup>th</sup> Ave. and I-25
- Sep 21 Friends of Mineralogy meeting, DMNS. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in September.
- Nov 2 Friends of Mineralogy meeting, DMNS. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in November.

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