

## Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter Newsletter – December 2006/January 2007

**January Meeting – Thursday, January 11, 7:30 pm**

*(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.

### **January Program:**

**Tom Michalski**  
will speak on

### **“Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Banded Agates But Were Afraid to Ask”**

Tom is Curator of the USGS Rock Core Repository in Lakewood, Colorado and a long-time FM member. He has a broad range of interests in American gemstone deposits.

We have again invited Dr. Paul Morgan, new Chairman of the Department of Earth Sciences and Curator of Geology at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, to attend our meeting.

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FMCC dues for 2007 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 2007 Officers:**

President, Richard Parsons, 303-838-8859  
Vice-President, Pete Modreski, 303-202-4766  
Treasurer, Jim Hurlbut, 303-757-0283  
Secretary, Paul Kendall, 303-470-3261, and newsletter editor  
Directors: Bill Chirnside (2007-08), 303-989-8748  
Bruce Geller (2006-07), 303-237-2947  
Larry Havens (2007-08), 303-757-6577

## Friends of Mineralogy Colorado Chapter Board for 2007

At our November 2006 meeting, members present approved the election of the 2007 Board members shown on page 1 of this newsletter. We would like to thank Jack Thompson, who is stepping down from the Board, for his numerous years in serving on the Board and contributing to the success of our organization. Larry Havens will continue to serve in 2007 as our Show Council representative.

### Program Given at the November 2, 2006, FMCC Meeting: Morganite on Mt. Antero

In our November meeting, Jeff Self and Bill Hutchinson made a presentation to our members plus numerous guests about Jeff's discovery of morganite, goshenite, and aquamarine on Mt. Antero in the summer of 2006. The most striking specimen was originally 11¾ inches long by 3 inches thick, although when discovered by Jeff it had previously, naturally split perpendicular to the longitudinal axis into several crystal sections, some pink, some white, some blue, some relatively clear, some internally cloudy, all with external corrosion. This crystal, assembled by placing sections together with a few fragments missing, may be the largest beryl crystal discovered on Mt. Antero. The only Mt. Antero morganite specimen previous to Jeff's was a much smaller single piece.

At least one other, smaller crystal that Jeff discovered has morganite, goshenite, and aquamarine and is mostly gemmy. Other minerals found in the same location are smoky quartz in crystals to 14 inches long, purple fluorite octahedrons to 4 inches tall, muscovite, and albite. Specimens have been undergoing extensive chemical and mineralogical examination. The composition of the crystal(s) does not completely match the normal composition of morganite and aquamarine.



Display of beryl, etc. found by Jeff Self on Mt. Antero in summer 2006, at FMCC November 2006 meeting. In the center of the photo are two crystal sections of beryl, each 3 inches diameter, backlit to show the pink morganite.

Photo by Paul Kendall.

### Meeting Dates for 2007

Dates for our 2007 meetings will be January 11, March 8, May 10, September 20, and November 1. The September meeting will be after the Denver Gem and Mineral Show, and the November meeting will be the first Thursday of the month.

## Thanks to 2006 FMCC Meeting Speakers

Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter has had many knowledgeable, interesting speakers make presentations at our meetings. The FMCC Board and members appreciate the following persons speaking to us in 2006 on the following subjects:

Andy Weinzapfel	January	"Treasures of Pikes Peak Backcountry: Order from Chaos"
Michael Gobla	March	"Minerals of Montana"
Pete Modreski	May	"Insights into the Insides of Pegmatites"
Terrance Yee	September	"Geological Instrumentation for Space Research"
Jeff Self, Bill Hutchinson	November	"Mineral Discoveries on Mt. Antero in 2006"

## Thanks to 2006 FMCC Authors

Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter, has a number of members who have written articles for mineralogy publications in past years. For 2006 only member Tom Rosemeyer wrote articles for *Rocks & Minerals* or *The Mineralogical Record*, and FMCC thanks him for sharing his knowledge in the following subjects:

### *Rocks & Minerals*

Tom Rosemeyer	Mar-Apr	"Susan Robinson"
Tom Rosemeyer	Jul-Aug	"News from the Keewenaw"
Tom Rosemeyer	Sep-Oct	"The Cliff-Hanger Pocket, the Amphitheater, Ouray County, Colorado"
Tom Rosemeyer	Sep-Oct	"Descloisite, Localities in the Central Portion of the Colorado Mineral Belt"

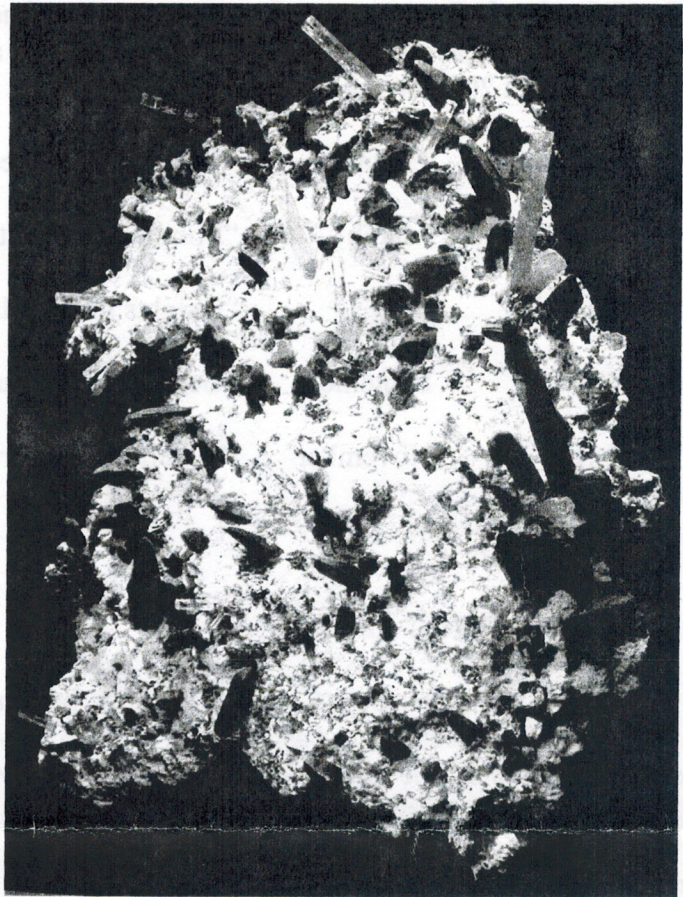
## FM 2007 Annual Members' Meeting and Social, Tucson

The meeting and social will be Tuesday, February 6 at 4:00 and 5:00, respectively, at the Cactus Room, Clarion Hotel, 102 N. Alvernon Way (1 block north of Broadway), Tucson. The annual meetings have actually attracted quite a few (historically speaking) members the past two years. The discussions with Board members have been very worthwhile, and Marty Zinn has graciously provided refreshments. I have met lots of great people. It is important for FM leadership to be there. Look forward to seeing you!

-- Bill Dameron

## Aquamarine Pocket, Denver Museum of Nature and Science

In November the Denver Museum of Nature and Science unveiled its latest mineral project, the reconstruction of Diane's Pocket, a 3 foot tall grouping of aquamarine, smoky quartz, and white quartz found on Mt. Antero in the summer of 2004. Steve Brancato found the pieces in a cavity on the southeast side of the mountain, Bryan Lees and Collector's Edge assembled the pieces into the overall pocket, and Bruce and Cody Oreck provided major funding for the total project. It is worth a trip to the DMNS to see this attraction; the black and white photo of the pocket at right is inadequate.



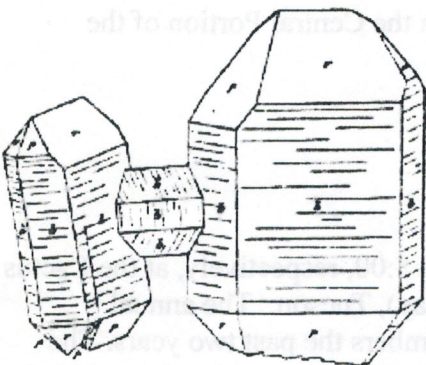
Aquamarine and smoky quartz grouping, Mt. Antero, Colorado, 3 feet tall, Denver Museum of Nature and Science specimen, photo by Paul Kendall

## If You Collect Quartz,

Then on your next field trip go find some specimens similar to the old-timers shown here.

Quarz

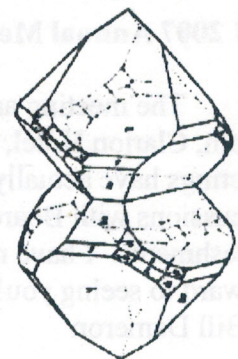
Fig. 797.



Quartz, articulated  
Popeye growth,  
Val d'Aosta, Italy, from  
*Atlas der Krystallformen*  
by Victor Goldschmidt

Quarz

Fig. 359.



Quartz, double pseudocubic,  
Neuhaus b. Waldenburg,  
Schlesien, (Austria? Germany?),  
from *Atlas der Krystallformen*  
by Victor Goldschmidt

### **It's Dues Time Again**

Membership in FMCC and National FM is still only \$13 in 2007. Payment can be sent to the address on page 1 or given to our Treasurer or any Board member.

### **Matchless Mine Donated to Museum**

As reported in a recent *Rocks and Minerals*, The National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum, in Leadville, Colorado, has acquired the famous Matchless mine through a donation. The mine is located not far from the museum and is adjacent to the Robert E. Lee mine, which the museum also owns. The mine has been operated as a museum and tourist attraction since 1953. Under the Museum's ownership, the Matchless was open on a more regular daily basis this past summer, and its facilities were expanded to make it more attractive to visitors. It is exciting that Horace Tabor's fabulously rich Matchless mine will be preserved for future generations!

### **2007 Annual Friends of Mineralogy Symposium, Tucson**

Held in conjunction with the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, the symposium theme will be "**Gems and Minerals from Down Under**". It will be Saturday, February 10, Tucson Convention Center, Tucson AZ and is sponsored by Friends of Mineralogy, the Mineralogical Society of America, and the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society.

### **FM Board of Directors 2007 Annual Meeting & Breakfast, Tucson**

This will be Friday February 9, 7:30 am Inn Suites, Tucson. All Board members and Chapter Presidents (or their representatives), who are ex-officio voting Directors, should make every effort to attend. We need you at this important session. As you know, most of our business is conducted at the annual meeting in Tucson. As usual, the meeting this year will be the Breakfast meeting Friday morning. And the breakfast is pretty good! Chapter representatives are vital. If the president can't come please notify the National FM officers who will be representing your chapter. Send the info to: Bill Dameron ([baritebill@aol.com](mailto:baritebill@aol.com)) Virgil Lueth ([vwlueth@nmt.edu](mailto:vwlueth@nmt.edu)) Gloria Staebler ([gastaebler@aol.com](mailto:gastaebler@aol.com)) and Regina Aumente ([raumente@aol.com](mailto:raumente@aol.com)) Thanks  
-- Bill Dameron

### **Symposium Abstracts Booklet for Sale**

Abstracts from all of the talks given at the September 2005 Agate Symposium have been bound together and are available for sale for \$20 postpaid. The booklet is 144 pages, and the cover plus 4 other pages are in color. These may be ordered by sending a check to Friends of Mineralogy – Colorado Chapter, P.O. Box 5276, Golden, CO 80401-5276, or they may be purchased at our regular member meetings.

FMCC January meeting is Thursday, January 11, 2007, 7:30 pm, Denver Museum of Nature and Science. **Tom Michalski** will speak on "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Banded Agates but Were Afraid to Ask."

**Coming Events 2007:**

- Jan 11 FMCC meeting, DMNS
- Jan 12-14 Denver Area Mineral Dealers Mineral, Fossil, Gem, and Jewelry Show, Holiday Inn Denver West, 14707 W. Colfax Ave., Lakewood, CO
- Jan 27-Feb 10 Arizona Mineral and Fossil Show, 5 locations, Tucson, AZ
- Feb 6 Annual FM Member Meeting and Social, Clarion Hotel, 102 N Alvernon Way, Tucson, start 4pm
- Feb 8-11 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, Convention Ctr., theme: Australia - Minerals from Down Under
- Feb 9 Annual FM Board of Directors Meeting and Breakfast, Inn Suites Hotel, Tucson, start 7:30 am
- Feb 10 Friends of Mineralogy Symposium, Tucson Convention Center: Gems and Minerals from Down Under
- Feb 23-25 Denver Gem and Mineral Guild Show, JeffCo Fairgrounds, 15200 W 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Golden, CO
- Mar 8 FMCC meeting, DMNS
- Mar 23-25 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Ft. Collins Rockhounds Gem & Mineral Show, Lincoln Center, 419 W Magnolia St.
- Apr 12 Flatirons Mineral Club Silent Auction, Senior Center, 909 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder, CO
- May 5 Colorado Mineral Society Annual Auction
- May 10 FMCC meeting, DMNS
- Sep 20 FMCC meeting, DMNS. This is after the Denver Show.
- Nov 1 FMCC meeting, DMNS. This is the first Thursday in November

**Friends of Mineralogy—Colorado Chapter**  
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