

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

Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter Newsletter – September, 2002

September Meeting – Thursday, Sep. 5, 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.*

September program:

Some new mineral finds, and visits to explore some old localities

by Jack Murphy and Pete Modreski

In part as a result of Jack's project to research and document gem localities in Colorado, and in the course of preparing for the papers to be given at our "Gemstone Deposits" symposium, Jack and Pete have visited some old, and some fairly new, mineral and gem localities over the past several months. As a bit of a preview to the symposium and the Denver Show, they will share some behind-the-scenes pictures and stories that will go into greater detail than either will be able to do in their talks at the symposium, or in Jack's Saturday night (Sep. 14) talk at the Show. We'll see and hear about Colorado turquoise, peridot, "astorite", and a recent find of "carloads" (well, almost) of beryl excavated from a pegmatite near Bergen Park.

* * * * *

We hope everyone understands... that with everything going on to prepare for the Gemstone Deposits symposium as well as the Denver Gem & Mineral Show, we're doing well to have a meeting this month at all, much less get a newsletter prepared and mailed (on time??). But it's all going to take place, so we'll look forward to seeing all of you, at our meeting Sep. 5, at the symposium, and at the show! Please totally disregard any year numbers that appear on your mailing newsletter mailing letter—we're doing well to get *any kind* of label addressed and into the mail this month! FM officers & directors please note—our board meeting will begin at **6:45 p.m.**, 45 minutes before the regular FM meeting, Thursday Sep.5.

FMCC dues are \$13.00, which includes membership in national Friends of Mineralogy. If you wish to join the Chapter, payments should be sent to: FM-Colorado Chapter, P.O. Box 5276, Golden CO, 80401-5276.

* * * * *

FMCC 2002 Officers: President, Pete Modreski, 303-425-9549
Vice-President, Eunice York, 303-761-8296
Treasurer, Jim Hurlbut, 303-757-0283
Secretary, Ray Berry, 719-598-7877
Directors: Bruce Geller (2002-03), 303-237-2947
Judy Peterson (2001-02), 303-443-6888
Jack Thompson (2001-02), 719-636-2978
Past President, Bill Chirnside, 303-989-8748

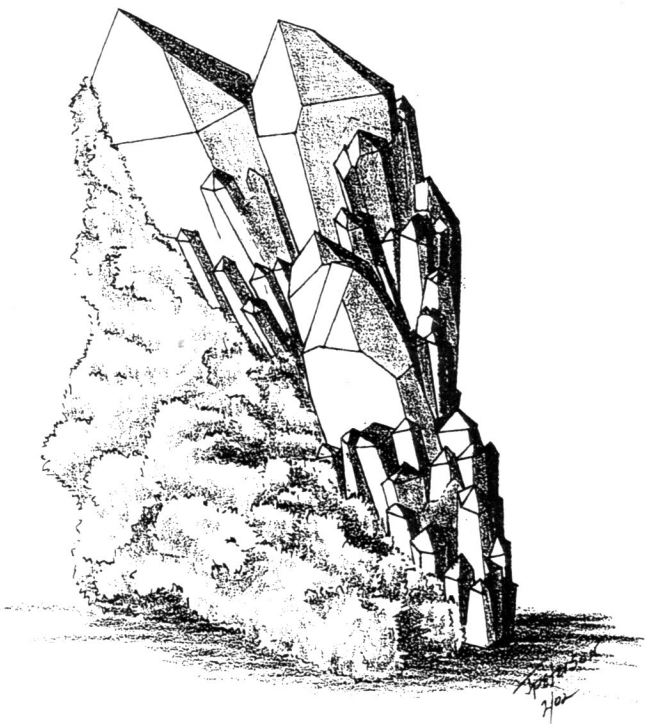
Our **Symposium on Gemstone Deposits of Colorado and the Rocky Mountain Region** will take place next weekend, Sep. 7-10. All is set for our symposium; there will be a welcoming party Friday evening at the CSM Geology Museum, some 23 talks on Saturday and Sunday morning, a Saturday evening dinner, complimentary tour of the Museum of Nature & Science on Sunday afternoon, and a reception at 5 p.m. Sunday at DMNS. If you haven't registered yet, you can still attend, though the banquet and field trips are just about filled up as this newsletter goes to press. Some 95 people are now registered for the symposium, and we expect more to sign up. You are still welcome to show up Saturday morning and register (\$30) at the door, but an advance registration will assure you of a place and a copy of the abstracts volume--we may even approach the seating capacity of Metals Hall at the Green Center, about 150. For last-minute information about the symposium, please call Pete Modreski (303-202-4766) or Tom Michalski (303-202-4852).

Courtesy of Howard Coopersmith of Great Western Diamond Company, one group from our Monday field trip (those first to register) will tour the Kelsey Lake Diamond mine; others will tour one or more other kimberlite pipes in the area. Tuesday's field trip will be a tour of the Cresson gold mine, courtesy of Dave Vardiman of AngloGold/Cripple Creek Mining. We did not succeed in getting permission to tour one of the turquoise mines at Cripple Creek, but we'll view the location of those deposits, and will spend additional time at the Cresson mine and vicinity.

Copies of our abstracts volume (some 80 pages, including several pages of color photos) will be available for \$15 after the symposium, as the supply lasts; all registrants will receive a copy. A separate field guide to the Kelsey Lake and Cresson mines has been reprinted courtesy of the Society of Economic Geologists, which led a field trip to the same two mines this spring. Registrants for the field trips will receive a copy, and others may purchase one for \$10.

FMCC gratefully acknowledges the grant of \$1200 from the Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council, which has provided \$1200 for printing of the abstracts volume for this meeting. All member clubs of the Council will receive copies of the book. We would also like to express our appreciation to FM member and graphic artist Judy Peterson, who prepared the line drawing of the quartz crystal cluster that we've used as our logo for the symposium on all our advertising and fliers. The specimen (of colorless quartz) is from Red Feather Lakes. We also express our thanks to Marty Zinn, who included an ad about the symposium in his mailing about the Colorado Mineral and Fossil Show, at no charge to FM.

The attached pages give the complete program of speakers and events that will be part of the symposium. We hope to see you there!



Gemstone Deposits of Colorado and the Rocky Mountain Region

Program

Friday, September 6

6:00 p.m. Welcoming reception, Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum

Saturday, September 7

7:30 a.m. Registration opens; Green Center, CSM campus

8:15 Opening remarks – Paul Bartos, Curator, CSM Geology Museum

Morning session I - chair, Paul Bartos, Colorado School of Mines

8:30 – 8:50 Colorado gemstone survey--a database and locality map for a museum internet program – Jack Murphy

8:55 – 9:15 Colorado rhodochrosite: the new state mineral – Bryan Lees

9:20 – 9:40 Geology and discovery of the Kelsey Lake diamond mine, Colorado – Howard Coopersmith

9:45 – 10:05 Montana sapphire deposits – Richard B. Berg

break 10:10-10:30

Morning session II - chair, Dan Kile, U.S. Geological Survey

10:30 – 10:50 Gemstones, semi-precious stones, lapidary materials, ornamental stones, and other unique minerals and rocks of Wyoming – W. Dan Hausel and Wayne M. Sutherland

10:55 – 11:15 Arthur Montgomery: the collecting years, 1933 to 1939 – Jay Lininger

11:20 – 11:40 The origin of rhyolitic spherulites at Rockhound State Park – Nelia W. Dunbar and Virginia T. McLemore

lunch break 11:45 – 1:30

Afternoon session I - chair, Pete Modreski, U.S. Geological Survey

1:30 – 1:50 Emerald mineralization in the northern Cordillera of Canada – Heather L. Neufeld, Lee A. Groat, and Daniel D. Marshall

1:55 – 2:15 Origin of the sapphire-bearing ultramafic dike at Yogo Gulch, Montana – David Baker

2:20 – 2:40 Peridot in Colorado – John Rhoads

2:45 – 3:05 Pink topaz from the Thomas Range, Juab County, Utah – Bill Chirside

break 3:10 – 3:30

- Afternoon session II - chair, Tom Michalski, U.S. Geological Survey**
 3:30 – 3:50 Mineralogy, structure, and genesis of the Del Norte plume- and moss-bearing thunder eggs – Daniel E. Kile
 3:55 – 4:15 Colorado topaz – Pete Modreski
 4:20 – 5:00 Panel discussion on the history of mineral and gem collecting on Mount Antero, Chaffee County, Colorado – Bill Chirnside (moderator), Bill Hayward, Peter McCrery, John Melby, Jim Paschis, Bob Spomer, and Andrew Taylor
- 5:30 – 7:00 Informal reception & refreshments, CSM Geology Museum
- 7:00 Banquet, CSM Student Union; Lecture and slide show:
 The 1872 diamond hoax, by W. Dan Hausel and Sandy Stahl

Sunday, September 8

- Morning session I - chair, Paul Bartos**
 8:30 – 8:50 Gem-quality red beryl from Utah – Jim Shigley
 8:55 – 9:15 The Zapot pegmatite, Mineral County, Nevada – Art Soregaroli
 9:20 – 9:40 Yogo sapphires from the Vortex mine, Montana: bringing Mother Nature to market the old fashioned way – Leigh W. Freeman
 9:45 – 10:05 Gemstone geology of South Park and vicinity, Colorado – James R. Piper, Lindsey V. Maness, Jr., and Douglas C. Peters

break 10:10-10:30

Morning session II - chair, Jack Murphy, Denver Museum of Nature and Science

- 10:30 – 10:50 Rare gems from the U.S. Rocky Mountain region – Mike Gray
 10:55 – 11:15 Colorado amethyst – Tom Michalski
 11:20 – 11:40 Colorado turquoise deposits – Pete Modreski and Jack Murphy
 11:45 – 12:05 Feldspar of the sun--the Oregon sunstone – David Wilson
 12:10 – 12:30 Petrology of kimberlites from Colorado and from some related occurrences – Dan Kile
- 2:00 – 5:00 Open visit to Denver Museum of Nature & Science
- 5:00 – 7:00 Reception, Denver Museum of Nature & Science, entrance to Mineral Hall

Monday, September 9

- 8:00 a.m. Field trip to the State Line diamond-bearing kimberlite district, Larimer County, Colorado

Tuesday, September 10

- 8:00 a.m. Field trip to the Cresson gold mine & vicinity, Cripple Creek, Colorado

DENVER GEM AND MINERAL SHOW MINI REPORT AUGUST 6, 2002

The 2002 Denver Gem and Mineral Show is now only a month away! The show will be better than ever this year so hope you are making plans to attend and to volunteer in some way. Remember the theme for this year's show is "Gemstones of Colorado", which should pique everyone's interest. The displays will be exceptional. Some of these are the "Boot of Cortez", a 389.4 troy ounce gold nugget; Colorado turquoise; beryls from the Erongo Mountains and Mt. White, Colorado; and a special display by Collector's Edge of specimens spanning the operation of the Sweet Home Mine.

Your help is still needed! If you have not volunteered yet, please do so! Contact your club representative or someone on the Show Committee and volunteer. It is fun and entitles you to free admission to the show. You will not want to miss being a part of this year's show! In addition, there will be a Sunday morning breakfast for all the workers and club members who volunteer. The cost is \$1 to generate a head count. Buy your ticket when you sign in and receive your volunteer ribbon.

At your next meeting, talk about the show among the members, encourage them to attend and to volunteer. Tell all your friends about the show. Distribute flyers and the small posters. The show only comes once a year so let's enjoy it to the max!!
Respectfully submitted, Judy Knoshaug, Secretary pro tem

Your help is also needed at...

(1) You may receive this newsletter too late to respond to this call, but your help is needed at the Denver Council booth at the Taste of Colorado over Labor Day weekend. There are two shifts each day from Friday through Monday. They are from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Two people per shift are needed. It is a fun activity meeting people, talking to kids about rocks, giving away free rocks to kids, and talking about the show. The booth is in a tent, which provides protection from the sun and rain. If you can help, please call Regina Aumente at 303-978-9926. We are counting on club members to cover these shifts and help with this promotion of the show. Thank you.

(2) At the Denver Gem and Mineral Show, we can use your help at two places: FM's Mineral Identification Booth, and the Kid's Room. If you would like to help identify rocks and minerals that people bring to the show, please contact Bill Chirside at 303-989-8748, or Pete Modreski at 303-202-4766 or 303-425-9549. For the Kid's Room, we can use people who like to talk with children about rocks and minerals, and who can help guide them to see and touch some of the "hands-on" rock, mineral, and fossil specimens we will have in that room. Please call Pete if you can help here.

Also at the Denver Show,

There will be an **FM Social** with light refreshments, 11:00 a.m. Saturday morning, in one of the hospitality rooms at the show. Please look for us there, and remind any visiting FM members from outside Colorado to attend. This will be a chance to visit with our out-of-state friends as well as chapter members. And of course, we hope you'll plan to attend the **Saturday Night Special** evening of refreshments, music, awards, silent auction to benefit Rocks and Minerals Magazine, and Jack Murphy's talk on Colorado Gemstones. On the following page, we've attached a complete schedule of all the special talks that will be given at the show.

* * * * *

We are sad to report the death of Bill Basbagill, who died of a heart attack July 20 while attending the AFMS convention in Port Townsend, Washington. Bill was a longtime member of FM and other local clubs, was active in the Federation, and was a tireless volunteer for *Rocks&Minerals* magazine.

FM September meeting is Thursday, Sep. 5, 7:30 pm, Denver Museum of Nature & Science
"Some new mineral finds", by Jack Murphy & Pete Modreski

Coming Events: 2002

- Sep. 5 Sep. FM meeting, DMNS
- Sep. 7-10 Symposium on Gemstone Deposits of the Rocky Mountain Region
- Sep. 11-15 Colorado Mineral and Fossil Show (Holiday Inn-Denver North)
- Sep. 13-15 Denver Gem and Mineral Show: theme, *Gemstones of Colorado*
- Nov. 9-10 New Mexico Mineral Symposium, Socorro NM
- Nov. 14 November FM meeting, DMNS

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

