March 1982

Colorado Chapter

Friends of Mineralogy



So many great things have happened since the last newsletter that it's really fun puting this one out (well almost).

First of all I'm happy to announce that 3 people have volunteered to organize the Friends of Mineralogy Mineral Symposium for this fall.

Tom Michalski will have the responsibility of organizing the symposium. For those of you who

don't know Tom, he's a geologist with the U.S.Geological Survey and will make an excellant chairman for the mineral symposium committee. Dan Kile and Cym Cooper have volunteered to assist Tom organizing the meeting and providing an interface between the symposium committee, the show committee and the FM board of directors. Now is the time to start giving Tom suggestions and/or requests for papers you would like to hear. It would also be helpful if you could suggest a suitable person to present the paper. The symposium committee will be attending the May FM board meeting so feel free to get in touch with any of us with your suggestions before that time.

We had a really great presentation at the last meeting on pre-electric underground mine lighting by Henry Pohs. I am enclosing a copy of a short article from Coal Age magazine about Henry Pohs collection of mine lighting devices. Along with an excellant slide presentation, he brought many fine examples of old lamps and candle holders. I, for one, coveted a candle holder that had a brass handle that doubled as a waterproof match case. In addition I brought along my Koehler safety lamp and was instructed on how to get it operating. The thing that impressed me the most is how poor underground lighting was prior to the portable electric battery pack Wheat-type mine lamp. I also came to realize that there is an awful'lot of overlap in the different types of mine lighting. Because of cost and avaiability many old types of lamps were still in use after better methods became available. All in all it was a very informative evening.

Now is the time for all good members to get their dues in to Pete Modreski either at the meeting or by mailing them to him at 8075 W. Fremont, Littleton, CO. 80123. Dues are \$10.00 for the year. Pete will take care of the distribution of chapter and national dues.

The March meeting is going to be a fun time. The subject of the meeting is: What's New in Minerals. To me, one of the best parts of each meeting is the opportunity to get together with friends and talk about new finds, purchases, things we saw we'd like to own, trades, museum displays we've seen, a chance to show off things we've acquired, etc. Well, this meeting will focus on the recent Tucson show which many club members attended. Everyone who has attended a mineral show recently is invited to bring specimens they purchased/traded/or ? and photographs of specimens and people they saw. A glass showcase will be provided at the meeting to protect your specimens. In addition a slide projector and screen will be provided for viewing slides. I've called a few of the people who attended Tucson just to make sure enough people had taken photographs etc. to have a good meeting. Some of the things they told me about are enough to make your mouth water: superb pyromorphites, purple adamites, american axinites that compete with the French, interesting news on specimen prices, Tsumeb scorodites, Breckenridge sponge gold specimen prices (egads!!), Sonoran Desert Museum update, hear the inside story on how specimens are apparently being held back on two recent discoveries, a report on the FM national meeting, etc. In addition to the What's New portion of the meeting, we will take a vote on some mineral specimens as possible candidates for a Colorado Chapter Friends of Mineralogy Logo. If you have a specimen you would like to include, please bring along a picture -- preferably a color slide. The only thing we ask is that the specimen is one that is on display is some museum. It is not our purpose to create a "collectors item" out of a club member's specimen. We may also want to consider etchings from stock certificates etc., such as appears on the top of this newsletter, as possible candidates for a logo. Etchings have the advantage that we don't have to find someone to draw them -- they are all set to copy.

Board meeting in Jack's office 6 P.M. Wed. March 3,1982. Club meeting 7:30 P.M. Thur. March 11, 1982.