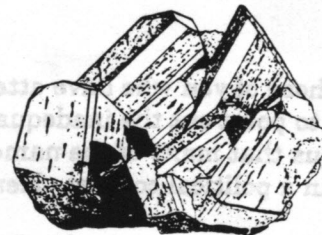


FM friends of
mineralogy
colorado chapter



**Friends of Mineralogy - Colorado Chapter
Newsletter No. 8, December, 1993**

**January Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, 1993
Denver Museum of Natural History
VIP Room of the Cafeteria
(enter through employees entrance on the north)**

**Program: Dudley Blauwet of Mountain Minerals, Louisville,
Colorado will talk on "Collecting in Pakistan"**

The results of the election at the November meeting:

President.....James F. Hurlbut
Vice President.....Raymond Berry
Secretary.....Robin Wright
Treasurer.....Caroline Gray
Board Member (2yr).....Ed Raines
Board Member (1yr).....Dave Weller
Board Member (1yr).....Edward W. Grey

Please welcome your new Officers for 1994.

**A joint board meeting of both the 1993 and 1994 board members is
being held at the home of James F. Hurlbut at 6:30 PM on Thursday
January 6. A buffet and refreshments will be served.**

**The Treasurer requests that you pay your 1994 dues of \$13.00 as
soon as possible as we have to file a report of our membership
with National FM at the end of January.**

**Attached are two articles from the "Bowen-Lite" the Rhode Island
Mineral Hunters Newsletter. I think you will find this
information interesting for all collectors and authors.**

**Jean-Marc Montel of the University Blaise Pascal who I met at the
Rare Earth Conference in London has written requesting samples of
Monzanite from pegmatites 300 Ma old, for some research he is
doing. He wants a piece large enough to get many samples 100um
in size. If anyone is interested in sending him a sample please
contact me for his address. Jim Hurlbut**

Mineral Locality Names - Be It Ever So Jumbled

by Garry Glenn

For those of you who have attempted to commit your mineral specimen catalogue to a computer database, I do not need to point out the inadequacy of many of the locality names. As soon as you try to cross-reference them, it is obvious that many of the names actually refer to the same place or that it is simply impossible to locate the place within a political context. Here are some suggestions of things that you can do.

1. - Adopt some standardized reference for locality names. Mine is based on the Mineralogical Record 14 year index with additions of my own as needed. This provides me with a standardized format and spelling (god - the possible spellings of some foreign localities are endless).
2. - Adopt a standardized format such as: Mine name, nearest city or town, political division such as county, state, province, etc., and country.
3. - Encourage foreign correspondents to always print or type labels and to spell out all words in full (no abbreviations), and then have the courtesy to do the same for them.
4. - Make a list of all localities in your collection from one country and mail it to a correspondent in that country with the request to correct it as much as possible. I have recently done this with both my Italian and French minerals with good results.
5. - Exchange small maps and mineralogical information with correspondents (not just specimens) whenever possible. Much of this information is totally unobtainable otherwise.
6. - Learn a foreign language.

From MICRONEWS, September 1993, Muriel & Eric Wood, Editors.

SOME THOUGHTS ON LOCALITY INFORMATION

Shelley Monaghan

As collections cataloguer at Harvard University's Mineralogical and Geological Museums, I can understand and empathize with Mr. Glenn's comments listed above. In addition, I would like to include a few comments and suggestions.

The Museums' collections are certainly much larger and probably contain much older material than is usually found in the average, private collection. Obviously, therefore, some of the locality location problems that I have to address would not apply to the individual collector. For example, many collections came to Harvard mid-nineteenth century from central Europe, where political boundaries were very different from those today, notwithstanding the recent breakups and reunifications of several European countries. Many of these collections were assembled by Germanic speaking collectors; thus the original labels are written in the German word for a particular locality, such as Siebenbergen, which is the region of Transylvania, in Romania, or such as Fassathal, Tyrol, which is actually Val di Fassa in Trentino Alto-Adige, Italy. Because we wish to retain the historic locality reference, the locality is always cross-referenced to the modern. Thus a catalog listing (computer or otherwise) would have the historic reference in parentheses¹ with the modern locality following it. Thus:

(Bilin, Bohemia) Břilina, Stredocesky, Czech Republic

¹Brackets [] are reserved for attributed localities.

While many of you will never have to search for some of the truly obscure localities, the recent breakup of Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, the U.S.S. R., and the reunification of Germany might affect your locality listings. In the U.S. A. there are many old locality references, such as Red Cloud Mine in Schulz, now Tiger, Pinal County, Arizona. It is not uncommon to find many Franklin and Sterling Hill specimens listed as "Franklin Furnace" While I often use the Mineralogical Record's index for suggestions regarding specific mineral localities, there are other resources that can also help the exasperated locality tracker.