



# FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

## Pennsylvania Chapter

### NEWSLETTER

Vol. 19, No. 1, Spring, 1991

Page 1

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm happy to report that the 1991 Fall Symposium plans are coming together, thanks to the outstanding efforts of chairman Art Dorne and the committee members. By their August 10th meeting, things will be pretty much in place. Additional information will be forthcoming, so stay tuned and keep November 8, 9, and 10 open for the Symposium. Mark it on your calendar today!

We have sent out a "Call for Papers" welcoming talks from collectors and professionals, and have increased the area covered to "Mid-Atlantic," in hopes this move will expand and add value to our Symposium. If anyone would like to help at this event, contact Art Dorne (215-783-5935) or myself. We'll need help on Saturday, the 9th of November, for sure.

Bill Yocom just called in with the date of the F.M.-Chester County Rockhounds "Swap and Sell," July 27, at Coopersmith Park, West Chester. It's a "Rain or Shine" event, with tables and picknicking facilities under roof in the pavilion, in a tree-shaded setting. All collectors, their families, and friends are invited to join in this summer get-together.

Yes, someone hasn't paid their dues! Well, my friend, it's time. If dues are not paid in full by June 1, no more Newsletter, and your name will be removed from the membership rolls. Well, I guess, the President had better pay his! If you really don't want to be a member, please let us know. It makes our job a little easier, and will save the Chapter money. (Right. Marge and Juliet?).

Have a safe summer.

Arnold Mogel  
(717)-366-8871

#### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

**Dues:** Please send in your 1990/1991 dues (\$7.00 or \$5.00 for members over 62 or students) (cut-off date, June 1) to Marge and Vince Matula, 10231 Honeysuckle Drive, Walnutport, PA 18088. Thank you.

**Address Changes:** Pete Modreski, U.S. Geological Survey, M.S. 905, Box 25046, Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225-0046; Mary Perry, 76 W. Laurel St., Bethlehem, Pa. 18018.

**New Member:** John C. Ebner, Jr., P.O. Drawer J, Manasquan, NJ 08736-0640.

**Editor:** Juliet C. Reed, 336 Rockland Rd., Wayne, PA 19087.

#### M.S.P. CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations and best wishes to the Mineralogical Society of Pennsylvania on their 40th anniversary. Members will celebrate with three days of collecting over Memorial Day, with Virginia and Washington, D.C. collecting groups and the venerable Philadelphia Mineralogical Society. A 40th Anniversary banquet, open to all friends of the Society, will be held on June 22, after the Quarryville "Swap and Sell" (see Regional Events, p. 2).

The Society, which includes members from many other groups, offers spring, summer and fall field trips, described in a monthly "Keystone Newsletter," and winter lectures, as well as an annual show and a swap and sell event. M.S.P. has also sponsored several publications.

### REGIONAL EVENTS

**June 1:** Pennsylvania Earth Sciences Association's "Macungie Mineralmania," 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Macungie Memorial Park. Indoor facilities; table rental \$6.00. Contact: Bill Lorah (215) 767-4577.

**June 22:** Mineralogical Society of Pennsylvania "Swap and Sell," Solanco Fairgrounds, Quarryville, Pa. (Rt 372/472). Table/chair rental \$5.00, or bring your own. Outside, no electricity. Bring your own food. First come, first serve, no reservations. Fee: one good specimen for the M.S.P. schoolcase. Information: Ernestine Whiting (215) 544-7838.

**June 22:** M.S.P. 40th Annual Banquet, Fulton Steamboat Inn, corner of Route 30 and 896, at 4 p.m. \$14.00 per person includes stuffed chicken breast dinner and gratuity. Afterwards, Sid Hofstetter will speak on dinosaur collecting at Egg Mountain, Montana. There will be an opportunity to discuss this famous locality with Mr. Hofstetter, an instructor at the field camp, before dinner. Send checks payable to M.S.P. by June 1 to Mildred Heinrich (215) 644-0379.

**July 27:** F.M., Pa. Chapter, and Chester County Rockhounds' Swap and Sell, " at Coopersmith Park, north off West Chester Pike, Rt. 3, just south of Rt. 202. Under cover in the pavilion, rain or shine, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tables available. Bring your lunch (grills available) and a covered dish to share with friends in a shaded park setting. Information: Bill Yocom (215) 696-2575 or Arnold Mogel (717)-366-8871.

**August 14-18:** 5th Annual "Lost Dutchman Gemboree," Strasburg, Inn, Rt. 896, three miles south of U.S. 30. Retail, wholesale, tailgating, field trips. Information: Gemboree, 217 Nevin St., Lancaster, PA 17603 (717) 392-6825).

**September 14-15:** Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club Show, Zembo Mosque, Harrisburg, Pa.

**October 19-20:** Mineralogical Society of Pennsylvania "Earth Treasures Gem and Mineral Show," Solanco Fairgrounds, Quarryville, Pa.

### PENNSYLVANIA AMETHYST FIND

Thanks to Steve Chamblerrain, Chapter member, for permission to include this newsworthy item from the "What's New in Minerals" section (by George Robinson and Vandall King) of the publication of the 18th Annual Rochester Mineralogical Symposium, of which he is Co-Chairman, with Vandall King.

**"Pennsylvania.** There was a very exciting, albeit brief, find of amethyst made last summer at the Rhone-Poulenc Rorer construction site near Collegeville, Montgomery Co., The discovery was originally made by a V.P.I. student doing soil sampling in the area and the news was relayed to Pennsylvania collector Bryon Brookmyer (502 N. 40th St., Harrisburg, PA 17111) through Bob Downs and Susan Eriksson of V.P.I. The occurrence, which is now under buildings and parking lots, consisted of hydrothermal quartz veins cutting a Triassic sandstone member of the Passaic formation. Bryon reports that collecting was fun but frantic. Amethyst crystals were recovered in all sizes up to 30 cm and in varying degrees of clarity. Some of the crystals show scepters, and many are more prismatic than those from most other eastern U.S. localities."

(Editor's Note: Bryon exhibited a case from this find at the Symposium; several museums also exhibited amethysts, including other fine Pa. specimens, to match the theme of National Museum of Natural History Curator John White's talk on amethysts of the Eastern U.S.)