

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY Pennsylvania Chapter NEWSLETTER

VOL. 40 No. 4

WINTER 2012

Members assist in publication of new mineral from New Jersey

Doug and George Rambo and John Ebner were involved in work supporting the publication of a new mineral, ferrolaueite. Doug reports that he contributed a map to the article, and the authors analyzed material from the George and Doug Rambo micromount collection as well as photographing specimens. The article begins with an interesting "short history" explaining events between final approval of ferrolaueite by IMA in 1988 and the 2012 publication of the article written in 1989-1990. It appears in the current issue of the Australian Journal of Mineralogy, with the following abstract:

Segeler, Curt G., Moore, P.B., Dyar, M. D., Leans, F. and J.A. Ferraiolo (2012): Ferrolaueite, a new mineral from Monmouth County, New Jersey, USA. *Australian Journal of Mineralogy*, 16(2), 69-76.

ABSTRACT

Ferrolaueite, $\text{Fe}^{2+}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4\text{Fe}^{3+}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(\text{OH})_2(\text{PO}_4)_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$, is a new mineral structurally related to laueite. It occurs as a minor constituent with ferrostrunzite, beraunite, cacozenite and glauconite in marl banks along My Creek near New Egypt, Monmouth County, New Jersey.

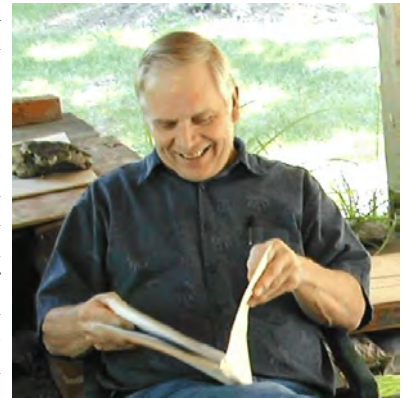
Crystals are up to 200 μm in length, are light brown to orange-brown, have a hardness of 3, good cleavage on {100} and {010}, and its density is 2.515 g/cm^3 . The optical characters are: $\alpha = 1.610$ (1), $\beta = 1.665$ (1), $\gamma = 1.692$ (1) and $2V = 68^\circ$; pleochroism: X = brown, Y = yellow and Z = light brown. The unit cell parameters are: $a = 5.34$ (8), $b = 10.63$ (8), $c = 7.21$ (8) \AA , $\alpha = 107.35$, $\beta = 111.26$ and $\gamma = 71.27^\circ$. The five strongest X-ray lines [d in \AA , (I/I₀), (hkl)] are: 6.56, (10) (001), 3.28 (10)(002), 9.87(9)(010), 4.96 (8)(020), 3.97 (6)(-110). Crystal forms are b{010}, M{1-10}, c{001}, a{100} and m{110}.

The mineral name and data were approved by the IMA Commission on New Minerals and Mineral Names (CNMNMN) [now the Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification (CNMNC)] prior to publication (IMA 87-046a). Ferrolaueite is the Fe^{2+} - analogue of laueite, $\text{Mn}^{2+}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4\text{Fe}^{3+}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(\text{OH})_2(\text{PO}_4)_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

Issue 16(2) is not yet listed on the Journal's web site at <http://www.mineral.org.au/pubs/ajm.html>. Additional data and a photograph of a triclinic crystal are available on Mindat.org, <http://www.mindat.org/min-6939.html> -Editor

President's Message

Ah! The Symposium for 2012 has come and gone. Two field trips were conducted, as well, this November - one to Dyer's Quarry in Berks County, and the following weekend to AG Kurtz, just south of Denver PA. Over all, the Symposium and both field trips were well-attended. We had 45 altogether (members and non-members) for



Saturday's Symposium. The field trip boasted close to another 20 members for each of the trips. I really would like to see more members attending our events. I am hoping to again have a field trip to Cornwall in 2013, along with at least two other quarry visits.

Please pay your dues for 2013, if you've not already done so: \$15 for Seniors age 62 and older - Regular membership \$20 - Students \$15. Check should be made out to:

Friends of Mineralogy Pennsylvania Chapter
and mailed to:

P.O. Box 158
Friedensburg Pa. 17933

Please check out the website for both updated info and information on the Chapter's activities at <http://www.raslot.com/FM/>. Ron Sloto continues to update information on the Chapter regularly and there's a great section on Digital books for PA Mineralogy. If you missed a newsletter, Ron also has several listed for your review.

I want to thank those members who helped with the Symposium this year. It made the day go smoother. It made the symposium really a pleasure for me, and I hope for those who attended the events of November 3rd & 4th. I also need to say thanks to those who donated the many quality specimens and items to the silent auction, as well as the bidders who bid for them.

That's about it from here -

Enjoy the Holidays - Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year - see you on the Spring Field trip!

Arnold Mogel, President FM PA. Chapter

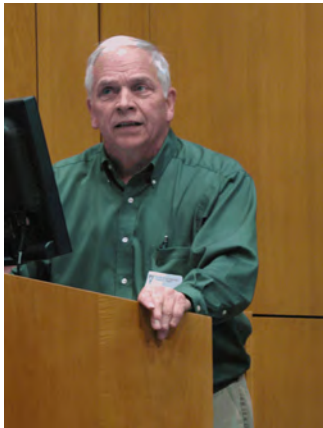
2012 Symposium: Selected Topics on Pennsylvania Mineralogy and Geology



Friends of Mineralogy - Pennsylvania Chapter members and guests convened at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster on Saturday, November 3, 2012, for the annual Symposium.

Dr. Stan Mertzman, our host and Department Head of Earth and Environment at F & M, welcomed those attending and gave a brief orientation.

Chapter President Arnold Mogel began the symposium and announced some schedule updates. The authors scheduled to make a presentation on Cornwall Mines were unable to attend. The schedule was rearranged with extra time for lunch and visits to the silent auctions, mineral dealers and displays down the hall.



Ron Sloto presented a wide-ranging talk on The Marcellus and Utica Gas Plays in Pennsylvania, covering the history of gas drilling in the Appalachians, gas and non-gas liquid reserves, and the horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing which are the key to the current production of "tight" gas reserves in the Marcellus shale and deeper Utica formations.

Dr. Lee Ann Srogi of West Chester University spoke on The Morgantown Sheet: Tectonics, mineralogy, and geology of a rock resource. This early Jurassic intrusive in a failed rift valley includes the diabase at Dyer Quarry, our field trip site. Collectible minerals there and elsewhere in the area were noted.



Bill Kochanov's topic was Occurrence of tosudite and associated sulfide minerals in the Anthracite Fields of Pennsylvania. The blue clay mineral is found in quartz-pebble conglomerate, and in fractures in sandstone along with quartz crystals; it is primarily hydrothermal but possibly also diagenetic. It may also be found with sphalerite in quartz veins.



Dr. Howell Bosbyshell of West Chester University spoke on The age of detrital zircon from the Wissahickon Schist and Gneiss, southeast Pennsylvania and Northern Delaware: Implications for regional tectonic history. He included updates on nomenclature of parts of the Wissahickon and related formations.



*Photos by D. Glick
except as noted.*

Arnold Mogel displayed part of a “Cornwall Reference Collection,” assembled by Mining Engineer Milt Leet and Professor Art Montgomery while the Cornwall Mine was still active.

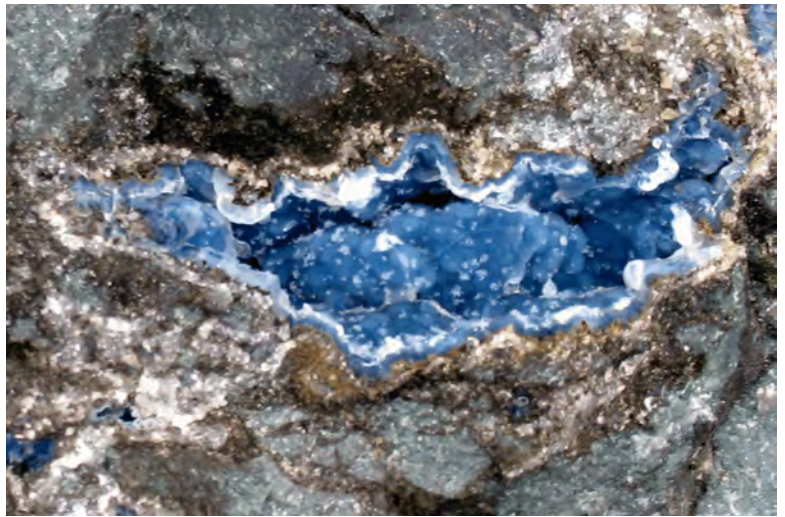
On Sunday, participants met at the Dyer Quarry, Birdsboro, Pa., a well-known collecting locality now owned by James J. Anderson Construction Company, Inc. Calcite, chabazite, riebeckite, and opal were among the minerals found.



Chabazite and calcite, 35 mm across.
Ed Echler photo and specimen.



The group gathers before entering Dyer Quarry.

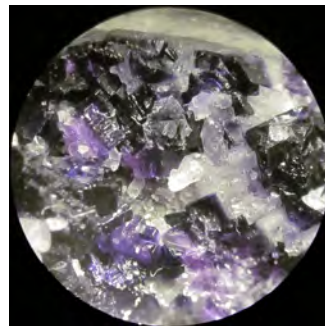


Brilliant blue opal at Dyer, still wet a few minutes after being exposed by cracking a boulder. Approximately life size, 4 inches (100 mm) across.

**AG Kurtz Quarry Field Trip
November 10, 2102**

A week after the symposium, FM-Pa members met at the A.G. Kurtz Quarry near Denver, Pa., now owned by Martin Limestone. The company is testing a new program of hosting collecting groups; our visit was made possible by two employees who volunteered to spend the morning with the group in the quarry.

Delaware Mineralogical Society’s web site has a review by Bob Asreen of the quarry and its minerals: <http://www.delminsociety.net/kurtz.htm>



Fluorite crystals from A.G. Kurtz Quarry, each approx. 1.5mm across.
Ed Echler photo and specimen.



180-degree panorama in A.G. Kurtz Quarry, Denver, PA.

D. Glick photos and digital editing.

From the Editor

David Glick

Materials related to Pennsylvania mineralogy, collecting or collectors are invited for this newsletter: articles, long or short; announcements from FM-PA committees; photographs of specimens, field localities, collections, etc.; reports about books or articles published about PA minerals or by PA authors, or actual book reviews; or other items within the mineralogy and mineral collecting areas of interest. Photographs should be of good resolution (1000 pixels across) without much JPEG compression, so that they will look good in print. We are producing four issues each year; **your material is needed** to make sure they have some substance. If you know people who have interesting material, please encourage them to submit it.

Please provide materials for the next issue by March 10, 2013. Feel free to contact me at xidg@verizon.net, or 814-237-1094 days and evenings (especially Thurs-Sat.) . Thank you!

DONATIONS WELCOMED

The FM-PA Chapter is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; donations are gratefully accepted and may be deducted from your federal income tax. Donations of any size help to offset the general operating costs of the Society, helping to keep dues low.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 12, 2013: Old Time Rock Swap. Denver Recreation Center, Spruce & 9th, Denver PA. Trade only, no sales, no cash exchanged, no admission charge. Table rental \$5 or bring your own. Sat. only, 9-4. Contact Dennis Buffenmeyer at buff1@ptd.net 717-336-3356.

Jan. 26, 2013: Rutgers Geology Museum Open House, Scott Hall (Room 123 & others), 43 College Ave., New Brunswick, NJ 08901. Four lectures, mineral sale, mineral ID, make & take stations for kids (all ages), hands-on activity stations for kids (ages 8 and up). Free. See schedule & details at <http://geologymuseum.rutgers.edu/news.shtml>

March 2-3, 2013: Earth Science Gem & Mineral Show by the Delaware Mineralogical Society. Delaware Technical & Community College, Newark, DE.

March 9-10, 2013: North Jersey Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show, by North Jersey Mineralogical Society. Pope John II Center, 775 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ. 10am-5pm. Door prizes, Refreshments, Free Specimens for all kids, All indoors, Free parking. www.nojms.webs.com

March 23-24, 2013: Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club, Inc, Show. Athens Twp. Vol. Fire Hall, 211 Herrick Ave., Sayre, PA. www.chehannarocks.com

May 4-5, 2013: Annual Treasures of the Earth Show and Sale, by Mineralogical Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Oblates of St. Joseph, 1880 Hwy 315 Pittston, Pa 18640

May 18-19, 2013: World of Gems and Minerals, by Berks Mineralogical Society. Leesport Farmers Market Banquet Hall, Rte 61 Leesport, Pa.

FM on the WWW

Please explore the FM-PA web site at
www.rasloto.com/FM/

National News

National FM newsletters, links to other chapters, and much more can be found on their web site:
www.friendsofmineralogy.org

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