# Friends of Mineralogy Pennsylvania Chapter

**Fall Symposium** 

# Pennsylvania Mining and Mineralogy

November 2 & 3, 2019

Presented at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania



Zircon from the Penn/MD Materials quarry, 1 mm. Ron Sloto photograph; see page 12.

# **Friends of Mineralogy**

#### Dedicated to the advancement of serious interest in minerals and related activities

We are collectors, professionals, and curators who share a love of mineral specimens and the desire to promote understanding and appreciation of mineralogy.

FM's objectives are to promote, support, protect and expand the collection of mineral specimens and to further the recognition of the scientific, economic and aesthetic value of minerals and collecting mineral specimens.

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

# Friends of Mineralogy - Pennsylvania Chapter

# provides:

- the benefits of membership in the national organization
- an annual Symposium in November
- field trips
- quarterly illustrated Newsletter
- an extensive WWW site with news, downloadable books, and more

Membership application forms are available on our web site

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

# **Pennsylvania Mining and Mineralogy**

Friends of Mineralogy - Pennsylvania Chapter Fall Symposium November 2 & 3, 2019

**SCHEDULE of EVENTS** Listings in **BOLD TYPE** are in LSP Building Auditorium LSP 142. Others are in 119 Hackman Building.

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#### Saturday, November 2: SYMPOSIUM

8:30 to 9:00 a.m.	Registration in 119 Hackman	
9:00 to 9:15 a.m.	Opening Remarks	
9:15 to 10:00 a.m.	Bill Stephens, PG, Stephens Environmental Amethyst Occurrences in Southeastern Pennsylvania - Classic Locales and Recent Discoveries	5
10:00 to 10:15 a.m.	FM-Pa Members: Chapter Membership Meeting	
10:00 to 10:45 a.m.	<u>also</u> BREAK- Check out the silent auction and visit the dealers.	
10:45 to 11:30 a.m.	Karenne Snow, President, Philadelphia Mineralogical Society Minerals and Their Type Localities	7
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK - lunch on your own (local map on back cover) Silent auction continues until 1:15 - Room 119 open during lunch	L
1:15 p.m.	Silent Auction ends	
1:30 to 2:15 p.m.	Peter Heaney, PhD, Penn State Making the Case for Celestine as the Pennsylvania State Mineral	8
2:15 to 3:00 p.m.	Ryan Mathur, PhD, Juniata University and Robert Jacobi (Consultant) U-Pb Dating of Calcite Veins from Rocks in Pennsylvania; Implications of these Ages	11
3:00 to 3:15 p.m.	BREAK	
3:15 to 4:00 p.m.	Ronald A. Sloto, PG, West Chester University Minerals of the Penn/MD Materials Quarry, Fulton Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania	12
4:00 to 4:10 p.m.	Field Trip Instructions	
4:10 to 4:30 p.m.	Distribution of Prof. Development Hours certificates to PGs	
4:30 to 5:00 p.m.	Chapter Board of Directors meeting	
Sunday, November 3: Daylight Saving Time Ends	FIELD TRIP to Peach Bottom, Lancaster County For Symposium Registrants Only See maps inside back cover	14
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Meet by 9:00 a.m. H&K Group Penn/MD Quarry, 303 Quarry Rd., Peach Bottom, PA 17563. The quarry is located off of US Rte. 222 just north of the Maryland state line.	

#### NOTES

## Amethyst Occurrences in Southeastern Pennsylvania -Classic Locales and Recent Discoveries

#### Bill Stephens, PG Stephens Environmental

Amethyst is one of the well-known gemstones and a birthstone (February) and it's fun to collect. Amethyst occurrences are well known in the US and include classic localities mainly in the Southeastern US that have and continue to produce World Class specimens. Noteworthy locations including Due West, Reel Farm, Diamond Hill Mine, Amherst VA and Jackson Crossroads (JXR), from which extraordinary specimens have been and continue to be found, are known to most serious collectors and museums alike. But Pennsylvania? Perhaps the notoriety of these southern sites has overshadowed less notable, but respectable finds in our state. Classic localities for amethyst in southeastern PA include Upper Providence Township, and a location recently rediscovered in Lancaster County.

All of the amethyst and in general clear and smoky quartz occurrences most commonly are associated with Piedmont schists and gneisses containing fractures in which quartz crystals have crystallized, presumably from Silica-rich low temperature hydrothermal fluids. Habit, host rock types, vein type and complexity vary considerably, and many show signs of active tectonism and/or episodic growth and dissolution features.

A few things these southeastern sites all have in common is that they are far away, and if open to the public not only is it pricey but digging is typically limited to the spoils from mining, unless you are invited to a very expensive machine dig. If only we had a place closer to home.

The Lancaster County site rediscovered by Tom Pankratz of the Delaware Mineralogical Society has been fun and productive, but mostly surface collecting until last fall when the top of a weathered in-place vein was discovered. Crystals vary in size and color but tend to be stubby with pitted surfaces, and vary from clear to nearly opaque smoky purple in color. According to Tom Pankratz, the dark crystals respond favorably to heat treatment, and he has faceted one gem so far. So, sit back and enjoy the slides and video!

#### **Biography**

Bill Stephens is a licensed professional geologist and owner of Stephens Environmental Consulting, Inc. Mr. Stephens holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science, both in Geology, from the University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Stephens has owned and operated a private environmental consulting and civil design firm for over 20 years. Mr. Stephens has been collecting since the age of 12, and is a member of the FoM-PA Chapter Board of Directors.

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## **Minerals and Their Type Localities**

#### Karenne Snow, BA President, Philadelphia Mineralogical Society

'Mineralogy as science' followed 'minerals as collectibles' in this historical overview of the progress toward a modern study of minerals, leading to the formation of the International Mineralogical Association in 1958.

The mission of the IMA is to manage the naming of minerals, oversee mineral classification, stress the importance of preserving mineral collections and make mineral descriptions and scientific data available in a systematic way.

Mineralogy is the study of the formation, properties and uses of minerals. Minerals are defined as naturally occurring, inorganic building block of rocks, characterized by particular chemical composition and definite crystal structure. At the time of this writing, there are 5208 minerals in the IMA database.

A type locality of a mineral, then, is the site from which the original material came for the formal definition of the mineral species. Type specimens, the reference sample by which the mineral is defined, is required to be deposited in a professionally curated museum.

The Mineralogical Database (mindat.org) lists the valid mineral species found in each state and the type minerals for each state. For example, Pennsylvania has 379 valid species of which 11 are type minerals. The discovery, naming, and localities of these minerals is of interest to the mineral collector who specializes in type locality species.

A photo survey of mineral type specimens held at the Academy of Natural Sciences and photos plus specimens of the type specimens found in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York completes the program.

#### Making the Case for Celestine as the Pennsylvania State Mineral

#### Peter J. Heaney, PhD Department of Geosciences Pennsylvania State University

Since the 1990s, efforts to promote the mineral celestine  $(SrSO_4)$  as Pennsylvania's State Mineral have resulted in at least three bills introduced in the state capital, but none have successfully cleared the hurdles for confirmation. At the urging of the Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club, Rep. Tina Pickett spearheaded House Bill (HB) 278 in 2017, but it never received even a committee vote. A competitive attempt in 2017 to name quartz as Pennsylvania State Mineral was offered as Senate Bill 610 by Sen. Tom Killion, but it too never came up for a vote. In the summer of 2019, Rep. Pickett added the celestine proposal as an amendment to HB 1282, which advocates for the selection of amethyst as State Gem.

I became involved in this process in 2012 at the behest of Royce Black, who at the time was a sixth grade student at Commonwealth Connections Academy. Royce announced that he was "on a journey to get celestine named as the Pennsylvania State Mineral," and wondered whether I would assist him with "the 'lobbying' step." That ultimately led to a hearing before a legislative subcommittee and a continuing push to discover both the historical and geological background of Pennsylvania's celestine deposits. In April 2019, I met with Dr. Klaus Thalheim, curator of mineralogy in the Senckenberg Natural History Collections of Dresden, to explore the archives regarding Andreas Gotthelf Schütz, the German natural philosopher who discovered celestine in ~1790 near Bellwood, PA and who returned with samples that were analyzed by the premier chemist of the age, Martin Klaproth. With the assistance of Drs. RT Schmitt and A. Massanek, Dr. Thalheim has located the original samples in the natural history museums of Dresden, Berlin, and Freiberg (Figs. 1 and 2). For this talk, I will describe what we have learned about the early identification of celestine, and I will contend that this historical context merits celestine's designation as State Mineral.

#### **Biography**

Peter Heaney has been a professor of mineral sciences at Penn State University since 1998. He received his Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins in 1989. In 2008 he served as President of the Mineralogical Society of America (MSA), and for the past four years he has helped organize the celebration of MSA's centennial in 2019.



Fig. 1 - Sample of fibrous Celestine from the Martin Heinrich Klaproth collection purchased by the Berlin Museum of Natural History in 1817. (Courtesy of Ralf Thomas Schmitt, BMNH).

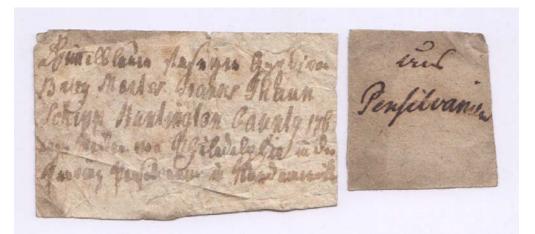


Fig. 2 - Label accompanying celestine from "Baley Moutains" in "Franks Township", likely penned by Andreas Gotthelf Schütz. (Courtesy of Ralf Thomas Schmitt, BMNH).

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## U-Pb dating of calcite veins from rocks in PA; implications of these ages

Ryan Mathur, PhD Juniata College and Robert Jacobi, PhD Consultant

The timing of fluid flow through fractured rocks has significant implications for the overall geologic history of an area. To constrain timing of fluid flow through fractured rocks in PA, we present U-Pb dates from calcite veins at various locations. A bulk of the work has centered on age dates within the Marcellus to provide insight to fluid migration and potentially natural gas generation within northern Western Virginia and western Pennsylvania. Preliminary results show that there are at least 3 ages of calcite deposition that could be related to natural gas generation and migration at about 370, 320 and 215MA. The range ages support several different hypotheses about fluid and potentially natural gas migration. A significantly younger set of Cenozoic (28-35MA) were discovered in similar ages rocks and could be related to lower crustal/mantle dynamics or impact induced fluid flow. These data permit clearer timing relationships to important aspects of the geological history of Pennsylvania.

# Minerals of the Penn/MD Materials Quarry, Fulton Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

#### Ronald A. Sloto, P.G. West Chester University

The Penn/MD Materials quarry is located on the Mason-Dixon Line in Fulton Township, near Peach Bottom, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. In 2019, the quarry expanded across the Pennsylvania state line into Maryland. The quarry, owned and operated by the H&K Group, produces aggregate from ultramafic rocks of the Baltimore Mafic Complex, known locally as the State Line Serpentinite District. This complex of ultramafic and associated gabbroic rocks is believed to be a remnant from the roots of an island arc complex formed at about 490 to 510 million years ago above a southeast-dipping subduction zone. This zone incorporated detritus from the margin of the Laurentian continent and nearby microcontinents, as well as ultramafic oceanic material from the floor of the Iapetus.

The Penn/MD Materials quarry is one of two active serpentinite quarries in Pennsylvania and the only one open to mineral collectors. The author is developing a list of mineral species occurring at the quarry. Minerals are identified and confirmed using an environmental scanning electron microscope integrated with an X-ray energy dispersive spectrometer (SEM/EDS) and/or a powder X-ray diffractometer (XRD) at the West Chester University Center for Microanalysis and Imaging, Research and Training. Mineral species identified to date include albite, antigorite, brucite, chromite, clinochlore, desautelsite, dolomite, magnesite, hydromagnesite, magnesioferrite-magnetite series, monazite-Ce, nakauriite, nickeloan pyroaurite, pyroaurite, quartz, serpentine subgroup, talc, and zircon.

#### **Biography**

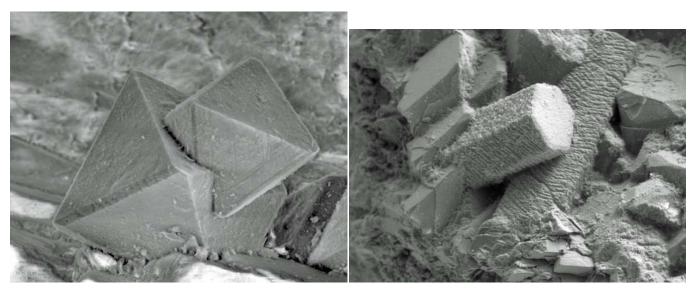
Ron Sloto is on the research faculty of West Chester University, and he is the curator for the mineral collection at the University. He conducts research on the chemical composition of minerals of southeastern Pennsylvania. Ron Sloto retired from the U.S. Geological Survey in January 2015 after a 41-year career that included publication of over 80 reports, journal articles, and abstracts. The HYSEP hydrograph-separation computer program he developed is in worldwide use. Ron has been a mineral collector since the age of 5 and also has a keen interest in history. He has published books on the mining history and mineralogy of Chester County ("The Mines and Minerals of Chester County, Pennsylvania"), Berks County ("The Mines and Minerals of Berks County, Pennsylvania"), and Montgomery County ("The Mines and Minerals of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania"). He is a frequent contributor to the Friends of Mineralogy Pennsylvania Chapter and National newsletters.





Zircon from the Penn/MD Materials quarry, 1 mm. Nickeloan pyroaurite on hydromagnesite from the

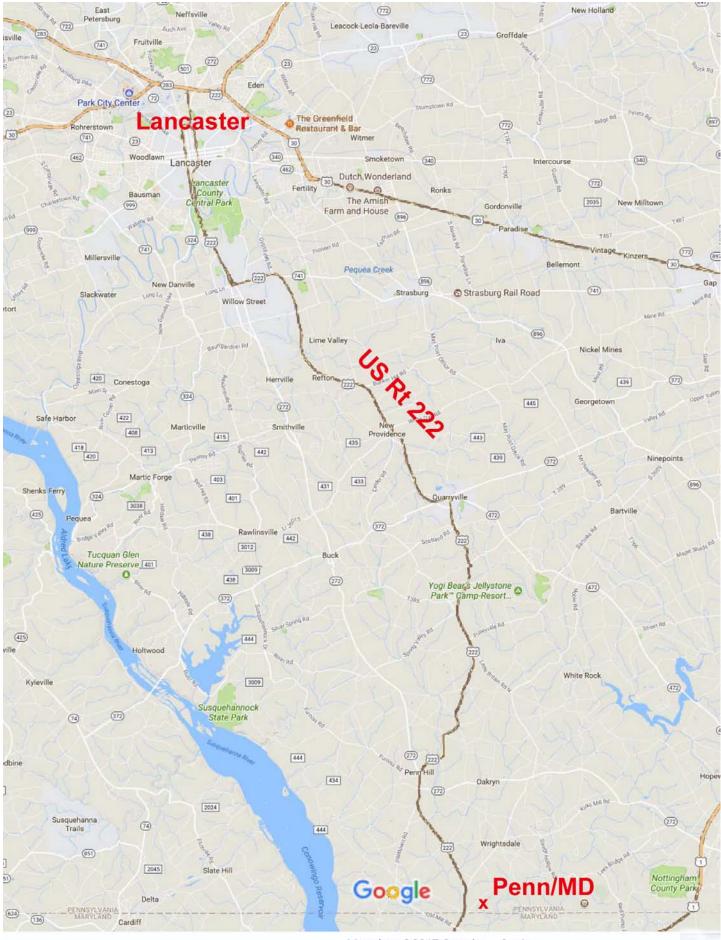
Penn/MD Materials quarry, magnified.



Scanning electron microscope image of magnesioferrite-magnetite series crystals from the Penn/MD Materials quarry.

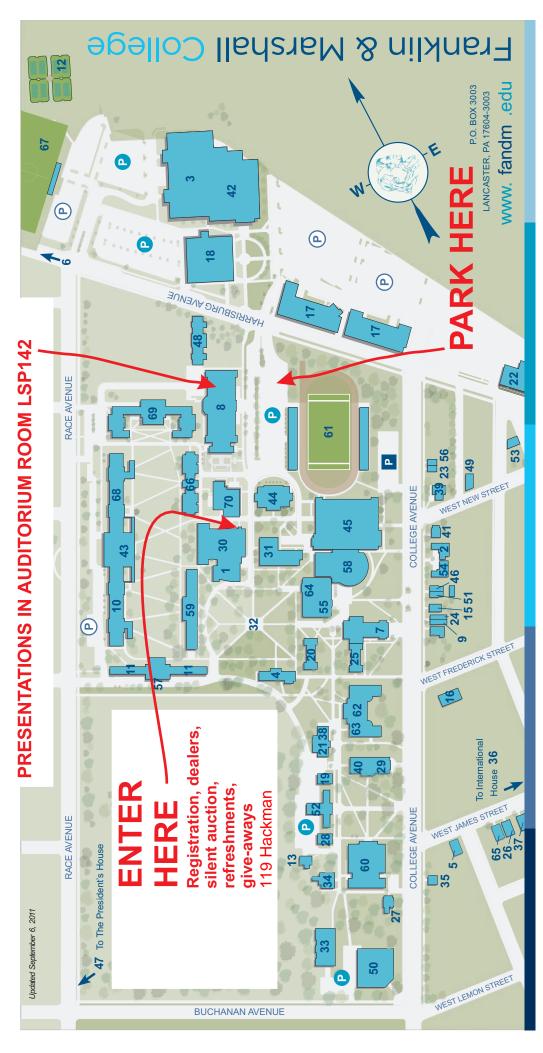
Scanning electron microscope image of dolomite crystals from the Penn/MD Materials quarry.

Photographs on this page by Ron Sloto.



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Auditorium in Kaufman Hall Lisa Bonchek Adams

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- Admission, Wohlsen House 637 College Avenue
- Center, 929 Harrisburg Avenue Alumni Sports & Fitness ŝ
  - Appel Infirmary 4
    - see Multicultural Affairs Asian Cultural Center,
      - Arts House, ŝ
- 602 West James Street Baker Campus, ശ
- 1300 block of Harrisburg Pike
- Ann & Richard Barshinger Center for Musical Arts in Hensel Hal
- Life Sciences & Philosophy Ann & Richard Barshinger Building

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Black Cultural Center, 615 College Avenue റ

- Brooks College House Brooks Tennis Center 7
  - Buchanan House <u></u>
    - Business Office, 4
- 644-646 Race Avenue Career Services, 5
- Centennial Conference Office, 619 College Avenue 9
- HEDS Consortium, Frederick Street entrance of Lancaster
- College Guest House, Theological Seminary
- see Huegel Alumni House Annex College Row 7
  - College Square ∞
- Counseling Center, see Appel Infirmary Diagnothian Hall 19 Diagnothiar 20 Dietz Hall

Bookstore, see Distler House Bonchek College House

Distler House/Campus

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Bookstore

- 415 Harrisburg Avenue 22 Facilities Services,
- 23 Faculty, Emeriti Faculty & Foreign Language Tutor
- Offices, 711 College Avenue Financial Aid.
  - 617 College Avenue 24
- Franklin-Meyran Hall 25 Franklin-Meyrar 26 French House,
- 548 West James Street
- 27 Gerthart House
  28 Goethean Hall
  29 Green Room Theatre
  30 Hackman Physical Sciences
- Patricia E. Harris Center for Laboratories 31
- Business, Government & Public Policy
- 32 Hartman Green33 Dr. Leon Herman Arts Center

- Huegel Alumni House Annex, College Guest House Huegel Alumni House 34 35
  - 36 International House, 445 College Avenue
- 446-448 West James Street
- 37 James Street Apartments,
  - 534 West James Street
    - 38 Jazzman's Cafe & Bakery

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Office of Student Academic

Affairs, 623 College Avenue

Steinman College Center

Stahr Auditorium

62 64 65

The President's House

47 48

Multicultural Affairs, 625 College Avenue

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508 North School Lane

New College House

49 New Street Studio

North Museum

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Stager Hall

550–52 West James Street 66 Thomas Residence Hall

Sustainability House,

Writers House, see Philadelphia

Alumni Writers House

Wohlsen Center for the

Philadelphia Alumni Writers

Other Room Theatre

Old Main

23 2 55 20

House, 633 College Avenue POGIL, 713 College Avenue

Phillips Museum of Art

Carolyn W. & Robert S.

69 Weis College House 70 Carolyn W. & Robert

Sustainable Environment

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Meyran Hall, see Franklin-Meyran Hall

Shadek-Fackenthal Library Schnader Residence Hall

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- Arts Center