

MWF News

December 2007 — Issue #467

www.amfed.org/mwf

Official Publication of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies
Member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

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The President's Message

Greetings from the President.....hey that's "me".

This month I would like to address the issue of PLANNING for the FUTURE and how we keep our organizations growing!

FIRST is the issue of what you want to do in your local club as a member. Here are some questions you can ask yourself.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO in your club?

- What types of field trips would you like to go on?
- What would you like to see added to the rock swap/rock show?
- What would you like to gain from club meetings?
- What types of programs would interest you?
- What type of speakers would interest you?
- What type of demonstrations would interest you?
- What so you like about this organization (local club)?

Please take a moment and answer the questions. You'll be very surprised to see what directions that your membership will take in the area of membership involvement and growth!!!

NOW some questions for ME and the Midwest Federation!

- What can I do for you as President?
- What do you like about the Midwest Federation?
- What can the Midwest Federation do for you as a member?
- What can the Midwest Federation do for your organization?

I'll be waiting to hear from YOU. E-mail me at the address above or call — I'll return your call and we can talk about these questions!

REALLY.....I am very interested in hearing your answers!

So, I ask you -- **HOW DO WE KEEP OUR CLUBS ALIVE?**

ANSWER: We ask our membership some questions and then LISTEN to their answers.

COMMUNICATION and INVOLVEMENT ARE KEYS TO OUR SUCCESS!

Here are a few things that we should be doing in our clubs. L@@K them over to see if they would work for your organization.

DO YOU HAVE THE FOLLOWING:

- Printed agendas for each membership meeting for all to follow;
- A club directory of members for each family;
- A club newsletter;
- A youth group (future rockhounds);
- Demonstration night set up like an open house for the public to attend (GREAT for adding new members to you group!);
- A calendar of events for the year of programs, field trips, speakers, demonstrations, and other events;
- A club informational flyer at your local chamber office;
- A club website?

If you don't have a website, TELL EVERYONE ABOUT the MWF's website (www.amfed.org/mwf).

Please be sure that the MWF's newsletter is being shared at the club meetings with members.

In closing for this month....I would like to extend my wishes to everyone during the upcoming holiday seasons.

Keep looking down.....you'll find something!

-Pam Hecht, MWF President

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

!!NOW!! is the time for nominating someone for the **2008 MWF Honorary Scholarship Award**. The winner is the person or persons who will select the two (2) students to receive AFMS Scholarship grants. All clubs are eligible to submit nominations. Previous, non-winning, nominations can be revised and resubmitted. Candidates may be from your club, another club, or the professional world, such as a university or college professor.

Qualifications of candidates, nominating procedures, and winner selection procedures are outlined in the Green pages of the MWF Official Directory. Nominations should be mailed to Rose Blue, Chairman, 2008 Board of Selectors, 16155 Shurmer Rd, Strongsville, OH 44136, to reach her by January 15, 2008.

Remember, you are the one to honor someone for work well done. Don't hope that someone else will do the job.

— Rose Blue, MWF 1st VP



December 2007 Shows & Such

Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club Sales Show, Faribo West Mall, 200 Western, Faribault, MN, Sat., **12/8** and Sun., **12/9**. Contact Martha Miss, 8445 Grange Blvd, Cottage Grove, MN 55016, (651) 459-0343

Glacial Drifters Geologic Society's 3rd Annual Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show, Sheboygan Falls Municipal Building, 375 Buffalo St., Sheboygan Falls, WI, Sat., **12/8**, 10:00 – 5:00, Sun., **12/9**, 10:00 — 4:00, contact Kevin at 920-980-6413, earthprospect@verizon.net.

2008 Shows & Such

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Inc, Annual Indoor Swap, Bethany Park Shelter House, Cotner & Vine Sts, LINCOLN, NE, Sat., **1/26**, 1:00-5:00, Contact Pat Akins, Jr, 5017 NW 6th St, Lincoln, NE 68521, (402) 477-1322

Geodeland Earth Science Clubs, Inc, 28th Annual Show, WIU Student Union, Murray St, Macomb, IL, Sat., **3/8**, 10:00-6:00, Sun., **3/9**, 10:00-5:00, Contact: Steve Holley, 30795 N Norris Blacktop, Farmington, IL 61531, (309) 647-8864, ifossil@hotmail.com

Chicago Rocks & Mineral Society, Annual Silent Auction! Salvation Army, 4056 N. Pulaski Avenue, Chicago, IL. That is 2 blocks east on Irving after exiting the Kennedy at Irving Park Road, Sat., **3/8**. Open to the public, no admission fee. The first tables close at 5:45 P.M., with viewing beginning at 5:30 P.M. The auction is expected to last until approximately 10 P.M.

Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society, Annual Show, Teamsters Union Hall, 500 J St SW, Cedar Rapids, IA, Sat., **3/15**, 8:30-6:00, Sun., **3/16**, 9:30-5:00, Contact: Marv Houg, 1820 30th St Dr SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403, (319) 364-2868, m_houg@yahoo.com



REMEMBER:

Notify the MWF of your show's dates to get them on the Website and in the "MWF News"

There is a form on page 3 to use.

**MWF DIRECTORY & WEBSITE
CALENDAR OF EVENTS LISTING INFORMATION
PRINT OR TYPE**

CLUB NAME _____

#1 TYPE EVENT _____

DATE, DAYS, TIMES _____

FACILITY _____

ADDRESS _____

PUBLIC INFORMATION CONTACT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

CLUB NAME _____

#2 TYPE EVENT _____

DATE, DAYS, TIMES _____

FACILITY _____

ADDRESS _____

PUBLIC INFORMATION CONTACT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

Mail Completed Form(s) To: John Blue, Directory Chairman
16155 Shurmer Rd
Strongsville, OH, 44136

Or e-mail requested info to jblue@n2net.net

**!!!! DEADLINE FOR NEXT DIRECTORY JANUARY 15TH !!!!
SECOND YEAR INFO SUGGESTED FOR JAN, FEB, MAR**



Merit Awards

The AFMS All American Club Award Contest is for clubs who put together a notebook of the club's activities according to requirements set up by the AFMS All American Club Award Committee.

Participating in this contest is an excellent means of recording and documenting the activities of your club for the year. Ideally each club participating will have a committee working on this project throughout the year. It can be an overwhelming job for one person, or if left to do at the end of the year.

It is very important that each section have the documentation to show what was done by the club or members to warrant the points. Letters, flyers, newspaper articles, or pictures are some of the things that make excellent documentation. You do not have to include the originals, copies will suffice. Only documentation from 2007 should be included in the book.

There were changes made this year from suggestions of participants, committee members, and judges. Please make sure you have the proper set of requirements before making up your book. These requirements, as well as the score sheet, were included in the November issue of the AFMS newsletter. They are also to be available on the AFMS website for clubs to download.

Clubs participating must have their notebooks/scrapbooks to me by March 15, 2008.

MWF Merit Awards
J.C. Moore
2535 N IL 97
Cuba, IL 61427

—J.C. Moore, MWF Secretary

You Asked For It ...

As you may recall, I began this series of articles in June of 07. It is intended to respond to various requests from our members clubs.

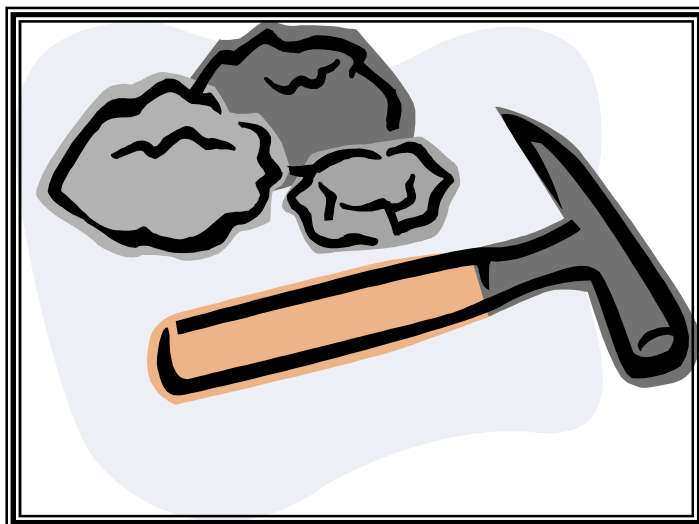
One of the requests that came in dealt with the need for a good, legally sufficient generic release form that could be used by clubs for access to quarries. While it is best to use the release form that the quarry may have, if they do not have one you may consider the following.

The form on page five (5) was adapted from the one used by the Illinois Association of Aggregate Producers for their teacher workshops. Once I received their form, I modified it for our purposes. And then I sent it back to their executive director who is an attorney for his blessing and he found it sufficient. This release form includes new language dealing with possible drug and alcohol use. I hope you find this of value.

If you want a copy of just the release form, e-mail me at jrwashburn2@msn.com

Next month I will address the subject of how to improve our relationship with quarry owners/operators to help us with access.

— John Washburn, Chair
Long Range Planning





(Club Name)

Field Trip

GENERAL RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS WAIVER

Including Use of Alcohol and Illegal Drugs

The _____ (Club Name) _____ of _____ (Location) _____ is holding a club field trip to _____ (Name of Quarry) _____ on _____ (Date) _____.

The undersigned will be fully advised as to the possible dangers and hazards of this field trip, and will be instructed in the general safety procedures for collecting and moving about in a quarry. The rules specific to this quarry will be emphasized.

The undersigned, _____ (please print name), assumes any and all risks involved in connection with this field trip and thereby releases and holds harmless the club, members of the Field Trip Committee, quarry owner(s), and any quarry operators from any and all claims, losses and damages (including attorney's fees and any costs involved because of said claims), on account of injury, death or property damage, or inconvenience or loss of money due to delay that may arise by participating in any of the above-mentioned field trip activities.

I further understand that the use of alcohol or drugs would impair my judgment and coordination, and I will therefore release and hold harmless the club, members of the Field Trip Committee, quarry owner(s), and any quarry operators involved with the field trip, from any claims arising from the use of either.

Finally, I understand that I am responsible for my own medical and liability insurance.

Signature of Participant

Date

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

Michele Yamanaka, MWF Junior Activities Chairman

UPDATE ON THE AFMS

FUTURE ROCKHOUND OF AMERICA BADGE PROGRAM

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Future Rockhound of America Merit Badge Program is expanding. I have written in the past about this program as a great resource for leaders of Junior clubs. Now it is even better.

To review:

- 1) The Future Rockhound of America (FRA) Badge Program is the work of Jim Brace-Thompson, who has put in many long hours to develop it. Any club with juniors that wants to participate in the free merit badge FRA program should contact Jim directly at 805-659-3577 or jbraceth@roadrunner.com. While I am the Junior Activities Chairman for the Midwest Federation, I am not in charge of the FRA program. I cannot enroll anyone in it. Please contact Jim directly.
- 2) There were eight (8) badges/patches with activities for each in the original program: Rocks and Minerals, Fossils, Lapidary Arts, Collecting, Showmanship, Field Trips, Communications, and Leadership.
- 3) The Merit Badge Manual is available on line at <http://www.amfed.org/fra/meritbadge.htm>.

WHAT'S NEW?

There are now six (6) new badges in the program:

Stone Tools and Art

Gemstone Lore and Legend

Rocking on the Computer

Earth Processes

Gold Panning and Prospecting

Earth in Space.

Each of these badges has five (5) to seven (7) possible activities to choose from in order to complete the three (3) required for the patch/badge.

With the wonderful work of Jim Brace-Thompson, there is no longer a reason for any Junior leader to say, "I don't know what to do." I encourage all Junior leaders in clubs to take advantage of the resources in the FRA Merit Badge Program.

- Michele Yamanaka

Juniors: in Jan-Feb, 2008, there is this opportunity — MT CLEMENS, MI, 3rd Annual Rock & Mineral Workshop, Mt Clemens Gem & Lapidary Society, Classes to assist students grades 3-6 in Science Olympiad Competition, Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 40217 Spitz Dr, Sterling Hts, MI 48313, (586) 264-5576 —Ellen R. Dettwiler, MWF Editor

2008 MIDWEST FEDERATION DUES & INSURANCE
STATE _____

CLUB NAME _____

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

2008 CLUB DUES
MEMBERSHIP AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2007

NUMBER OF ADULT CLUB MEMBERS ____ X \$2.00 = \$ ____.

NUMBER OF JUNIOR CLUB MEMBERS ____ X \$.50 = \$ ____.

2008 CLUB INSURANCE

TOTAL NUMBER OF ADULTS AND JUNIORS ____ X \$3.25 = \$ ____.

TOTAL DUES AND INSURANCE \$ ____.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MIDWEST FEDERATION
DUES AND INSURANCE ARE DUE JANUARY 15, 2008

CLUB TREASURER

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE () _____ E-MAIL _____@_____

OVER

2008 CLUB INFORMATION FOR DIRECTORY & MAILING

PLEASE PRINT

PRESIDENT _____ E-MAIL _____ @ _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SECRETARY _____ E-MAIL _____ @ _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

LIAISON _____ E-MAIL _____ @ _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PROGRAM _____ E-MAIL _____ @ _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CLUB BULLETIN NAME _____

EDITOR _____ E-MAIL _____ @ _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CLUB MEETING PLACE _____ DAY & TIME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CLUB E-MAIL _____ @ _____ HOME PAGE _____

SEND MWF DIRECTORY AND MAIL TO

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

THE MWF NEWSLETTER WILL BE SENT TO THE EDITOR AND TREASURER
PLUS (CHECK ONE MORE) PRESIDENT __ SECRETARY __ OTHER _____

MAIL DUES & INSURANCE TO:

NORMAN W. HANSCHU 6607 STURBRIDGE LANE CANTON MI. 48187
(734) 455-8596 OR (734) 634-6355 E-MAIL NWHANSCHU@PRODIGY.NET



Tips for the New President

Are you a new club president or considering becoming one? Are you worried about how to run a meeting, or handle a motion? Does the mention of Robert's Rules give you qualms? Don't worry - you are not alone.

There is help to be had.

Last June there was an article in the Midwest Federation Newsletter by John Washburn, giving an agenda for running a meeting. Find a copy, in print or on the web, and follow his suggestions. They do work; just remember to take the agenda to every meeting.

As far as motions go, a motion is a way of getting a group (like your mineral and lapidary club) to agree to do something. This means that what they are to agree on must be stated explicitly. For an example, if John Doe and Mary Roe, longtime members of your club, have died over the summer, you want to memorialize them. A club member, during the "New Business" part of your meeting, says "I move that the club contribute \$50 to the AFMS Scholarship Fund in memory of John and Mary." Another member says "That's a good idea. I second the motion." (Please note: the motion is not just to "do something". It states what is to be done.) The president says "The motion is to give \$50 to the AFMS Scholarship Fund. Is there any discussion?" Someone asks the treasurer whether there is enough money to do this; he or she says that there is. Someone else asks whether a different organization would be a more appropriate recipient; others reply that since John taught faceting at the club workshop, and Mary was a retired teacher, scholarships are a good thing to support. When discussion winds down, the president repeats the motion, says "all in favor say aye", then "all opposed say nay", and finally "the motion carries".

If a motion is long (more than 10 words is a good rule of thumb) it should be written down BEFORE it is made, so that the motion says ex-

actly what the mover wants. If it is written down, and entered into the minutes (all motions should be in the minutes), there can be no question later as to what was to be done.

If someone questions whether there are enough people at the meeting to make a decision, CHECK YOUR BYLAWS for what constitutes a quorum for your particular club. A quorum is how many (either a specific minimum number, or a percent of the club membership) it takes to hold a meeting and do anything. Both the president and the secretary should carry a copy of the club bylaws to each meeting, just as insurance against needing them.

One other item that comes up is "calling the question", which basically means "let's stop talking and take a vote." If someone, after much debate on a motion, says "I call the question", it is a MOTION to stop discussion. It does NOT stop it; it asks for a vote as to whether to stop it. The president says "The question has been called. If you vote 'aye' we will stop debate and vote on the main motion. If you vote 'nay' we will continue debating", and then takes the vote on stopping discussion. If it passes, he/she then takes a vote on the main motion.

Finally, Robert's Rules (the most recent revision) can be found in paperback in most larger bookstores or on the web. Basically it tells you far more than you need to know about running a meeting.

If you have a question about parliamentary procedure, contact the MWF parliamentarian (currently Anne Cook, abcook6@juno.com, or 216/381-9003), just as you would refer a question on minerals (that no one in the club can answer) to the mineralogy chair. Federation chairmen can give answers or else tell you where to find an answer. Use your available resources.

— Anne Cook, MWF Parliamentarian



Fossils collected on a recent Field Trip sponsored by the Wisconsin Geological Society and led by Lloyd Brown.

ROCK & GEM AND THE AFMS

by Carolyn Weinberger, reprinted from the November, 2007 issue of the AFMS Newsletter:

With the recent changes made to *Lapidary Journal* from the format we've known for years, rockhounds are left with only one true outlet for listing their club or club show – *Rock & Gem Magazine*. Our own International Relations Chair Bob Jones serves as the Sr. Consulting Editor for the magazine and its pages are filled with collecting and "how to" information, club show listings etc. We still have *Rocks & Minerals* and *Mineralogical Record* magazines for the more technical mineral oriented collectors, but R & G not only deals with minerals, but lapidary and fossils as well. Articles are written in an easy to understand manner that almost everyone can understand. They also have a section for kids - the future of our hobby!

Are you aware that you can have your club show listed in *Rock & Gem*? The magazine has a 3 month "lead" time, so you'll need to notify them far enough in advance, but all you need to do is send the show information to:

Rock & Gem Show Dates

290 Maple Ct, Suite 232

Ventura, CA 93003

<editor@rockngem.com>

or fill out the electronic form on the *Rock & Gem* website

<www.rockngem.com/showdates.asp>.

Do you also know that *Rock & Gem* maintains a listing of clubs and that your club can be included at no charge? Mail to Rock & Gem Club Listing at the same address as above or e-mail it to <editor@rockngem.com>.



MWF DIRECTORY and WEBSITE

- New Officers????
- New Meeting Place????
- Club Show Dates????

AT ANY TIME YOU CAN SUBMIT the above to the following:

Webmaster:

Cindy Root d-root@sbcglobal.net
(616) 457-8209

Directory Chair:

John Blue jblue@n2net.net
(440) 238-4412

-Pam Hecht, President



A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum hosts the Midwest Federation Annual Meeting

The A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum was honored to host the federation's annual meeting.

The meeting was linked with the Copper Country Mineral Retreat, a mineral collecting event organized and also hosted by the museum. This provided federation registrants the opportunity to take part in the myriad of retreat activities including 23 collecting field trips, special events focused on datolite, and more. Those of you who missed out on the retreat are encouraged to visit

www.museum.mtu.edu

on March 1, 2008, when registration will open for the 2008 retreat.

The museum opened its doors for federation registrants on Friday evening so they would have an opportunity to see a great mineral collection.

On Saturday afternoon the museum arranged a federation only collecting trip to the Central Mine. Proceeds from a benefit silent auction held at federation banquet on Saturday night will support the museum, thanks to those who donated and purchased!

The Keweenaw Peninsula is a special place to have held a meeting of mineralogical societies, for those who love and appreciate minerals. This peninsula is the location of a dormant world class mining district and holds one of the best mineral museums of North America, the A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum.

The support of the museum by the federation and its members is greatly appreciated.

—Dr. Theodore J. Bornhorst

Director, A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum

Barite Occurrences Outside the United States

By David Hess

One important occurrence for the United States was inadvertently omitted in our last article on barite, and that is the locality south of Norman, OK, for the red barite sand roses. These roughly spherical aggregates of tabular barite crystals are filled with red sand. The usual explanation is that abundant red sand was incorporated during crystallization of the barite. Similar occurrences of sand gypsum are known at Salt Plains, OK and in Mexico, and of sand calcite in South Dakota and Colorado.

Many fine occurrences of barite are known outside the United States in both North and South America and especially in Mexico. Many are also known in Europe and Asia, with occurrences in England, Germany, Romania, and China perhaps of greatest note.

Canada has a number of localities, with perhaps the best known in the Madoc area of Ontario, where pale blue, yellow, and white barite are all known. The Bailey Mine in the vicinity of Moira Lake has white barite interbanded with honey yellow, pale green and red massive to crystalline fluorite, but is also noted for its well-developed pale blue tabular barite crystals. Tetrahedrite, chalcopyrite, chalcocite, quartz, and calcite are also associated. In the early days of mining here, actual stalactites and stalagmites of barite and fluorite were uncovered in an underground cavern. Barite, in colorless to white domatic crystals up to 2.5 cm. was associated with calcite and brilliant fluorite crystals up to 12 cm. in diameter at the nearby Keen Mine. Probably best known is the Perry Mine, north of Moira Lake, where green fluorite and honey-yellow fluorite is interbanded with calcite and barite. Notable are the large, tabular, yellow

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(Barite continued from page 11)

low barite crystals and the octahedral green fluorite crystals here. Some of the barite is famous for micromount rings of the sulfosalt mineral boulangérite. Celestite, calcite, and pyrite are also associated, the celestite as fibrous veins and small blue crystals. Barite is also found at the Delnite Mine, Deloro Twp. This area is more famous for the arsenopyrite crystals.

Further west in Ontario, near Thunder Bay, some barite is associated with the amethyst veins. One of the best known is the Enterprise Mine northeast of Pearl where radiating orange-red blades of barite are associated with amethyst, smoky quartz, galena cubes, and chalcopyrite. Large veins are also known on the Jarvis, McKellars, and Pic Islands in Lake Superior. In the Silver Mountain area, the Beaver Junior Mine yields colorless, well-formed crystals of barite up to 4 cm. in association with white, crystalline barite, argentite nuggets, and clear quartz crystals. In Quebec, there are not many localities, but one northeast of Chelsea has produced white barite with galena, sphalerite, pyrite, chalcopyrite, fluorite, calcite and dolomite. This is the Foley Mine, which was mined by the Montreal Point Company in the earlier 1900s. Small amounts also occur near Buckingham, Quebec. In Nova Scotia, in Colchester Co., at the Londonderry Mines, white, massive barite and white barite blades are found. The most famous location for barite in western Canada is Rock Candy Mine and nearby mines at Grand Forks, British Columbia, where gray to yellow crystals of tabular barite are associated with the better-known green fluorite octahedrons common here.

Mexico has a plethora of barite locations. Most are associated as gangue in the ore deposits, but a few are of sedimentary origin or occur along faults in contact metamorphic occurrences. In the state of Chihuahua, well-formed crystals up to 5

cm. are common at the Santa Rita and El Carmen Mines, Municipio de Camargo. Famous at Naica Mine, Municipio de Saucillo, are white, green-brown, and gray crystals up to 6 cm. along the Naica Fault, associated with calcite, wollastonite, anhydrite, and andradite. At the Ojuela and El Burro Mines, Mapimi, Durango, white, golden-brown, and blue crystals to 5 cm. are notable. Associates include mimetite, wulfenite, aurichalcite, goethite, calcite, plattnerite, murdockite, fluorite, and hydrozincite. In the state of Guerrero, near Municipio de Taxco, blue to white crystals of barite to 6 cm. are associated with quartz, pyrite and marcasite. The state of Michoucan at the El Carmen Mine (near Municipio de Angaugueo) produces clear, white, and blue crystals up to 5 cm. with pyrite, marcasite, sphalerite, quartz and calcite. At Municipio de Villa Pesqueria, in Sonora, a major barite mine produces tan to white masses and crystals of barite. Possibly the most unusual barite occurrence in Mexico is in the state of Zacatecas, Nieves District, at the Santa Rita Mine (not to be confused with the one in Chihuahua) where white, mottled with black, simple blocky pinacoids up to 8-10 cm occur, often in jackstraw piles. The black mottling is caused by inclusions of the sulfosalt mineral jamesonite. It is also associated are pyrite and stibnite. A fine specimen is pictured on page 347 in the book, the F. John Barlow Collection

South America has a number of barite occurrences, most notably in Brazil and Peru. Brazil has several occurrences in the state of Minas Gerais. The best are at the Morro Velho Mine, Nova Lima, where clear tabular crystals are found. At Araxa, large, tabular, clear crystals also occur in attractive, interbladed masses. Morro Velho is perhaps more famous for the large pyrrhotite and siderite crystals seen from there. Greenish-gray, bladed barite roses up to 5 cm. are known from the state of

(Continued on page 13)

(Barite continued from page 12)

Paraiba near Joao Pessoa. Barite is mostly associated with ore veins in the high Andes of Peru. In recent years, aggregates of beautiful clear to white blades up to 3 cm at least, and perched on sphalerite, wurtzite, and modified octahedral crystals of pyrite have come from the Huanzula Mine, Huanaco, Peru. Many other occurrences of white, pinkish, and clear blades of barite occur in other mines of the region.

Europe, especially England, Germany, Czechoslovakia, and Romania, has many locations for fine specimens of barite. Again, most of these are associated with ore veins and ore deposits, and cavities and replacement deposits in sedimentary rocks.

England is known for some of the finest and most interesting barite crystals and associations, especially in the Cumberland area, including Cumbria, Derbyshire, Westmoreland, Northumberland, and Yorkshire. Some occurrences are also known in Cornwall. The finest crystals have come from Alston Moor, near Frizington, England. These crystals are dominated by prisms and domes, are generally relatively elongated and thin, and may measure up to 20 cm (8 inches) in length. They are clear to very light gray or blue, and preferential prism faces may be coated with thin layers of red hematite. At nearby Cleator Moor, the barite is associated with calcite crystals and kidney ore hematite. Hagg's Mine, at Alston Moor, produces white to tan cockscomb crystals of barite. The Haile Moor Mine, Egremont, has bladed pink to white crystals associated with calcite crystals and hematite. Almost equally fine crystals dominated by pinacoids and domes, generally quite clear, have come from the Dufton Lead Mines in Westmoreland, and from Silverband Mine near Knoch in Westmoreland. A compound crystal from the latter location in my collection measures almost 12 cm. (5 inches). Settling-

stones Mine at Fourstones, produces small, cream-white crystals covering associated witherite, which is barium carbonate. At Branham, near Wetherby, West Yorkshire, England, radial acicular crystals associated with tan calcite crystals are characteristic. Strontian barite occurs near Clifton, Bristol England. Both masses and blades of barite are associated with ore minerals at a few locations in Cornwall, but do not generally approach the quality of the Cumberland area specimens.

In Germany, fine bladed and tabular crystals have been found at some of the classic ore districts including Freiberg and Marienberg, Saxony; Meggs, Westphalia, where large masses of barite are known; Sieber, Claustal; and Lauterberg, Harz. Barite crystals and masses occur in the Tyrol of Austria near Kitzbuhel and Werfen, near Salzburg. The famous ore districts of Felsobanya and Kapnik in Romania, have produced nice blades of barite. Felsobanya is more famous for the beautiful jackstraw specimens of stibnite and Kapnik for aesthetic ore-gangue specimens with sphalerite, chalcopyrite, calcite, rhodochrosite, and other minerals. Mies and Schemnitz, Czechoslovakia, have yielded similar barite specimens. Some barite occurs near Puy-de-Dome, France, in mines near the famous volcanic domes, where 18th century French geologists such as Guettard and Demarest first equated ancient volcanism with modern volcanism. Large masses and deposits of barite are known in the provinces of Castile and Andalusia in Spain.

Fewer locations are well-known in Africa and Asia. In Morocco, at Khenifra, Toussant, and Mibladen, white bladed barite, somewhat similar to that from Missouri in the U. S., is associated with cerussite, anglesite, galena, vanadinite, and other lead minerals. It is sometimes stained pink by hematite like some of the Missouri and English bar-

(Continued on page 14)

(CBarite continued from page 13)

ites. Barite is associated with hematite in N. E. Namaqualand, in Africa, somewhat reminiscent of some occurrences in England. At Gwelo, in southern Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia), barite is found. Tsumeb has produced some fine crystals, but is better known for a wealth of other minerals.

A few locations are noted for Asia. Plumbian (lead-rich) barite is known from hot springs at Hokato, Taiwan, and near Shikukuro, Japan. Some fine barite crystals are coming out of some of the nonferrous metal-mining and fluorite-mining dis-

tricts in China, but locations are not always accurate or detailed. Many of these crystals are well-formed, blocky or tabular, pinacoidal crystals, generally clear to white, but of more varied color in some districts. One major occurrence is at Leiping, most famous for the superb clear to reddish butterfly and "V" twins of calcite which rival those from some occurrences in England.

I have attempted to give here a general resume of barite locations elsewhere in the world, but if you have other favorite locations not mentioned here, I would appreciate your writing or calling me!

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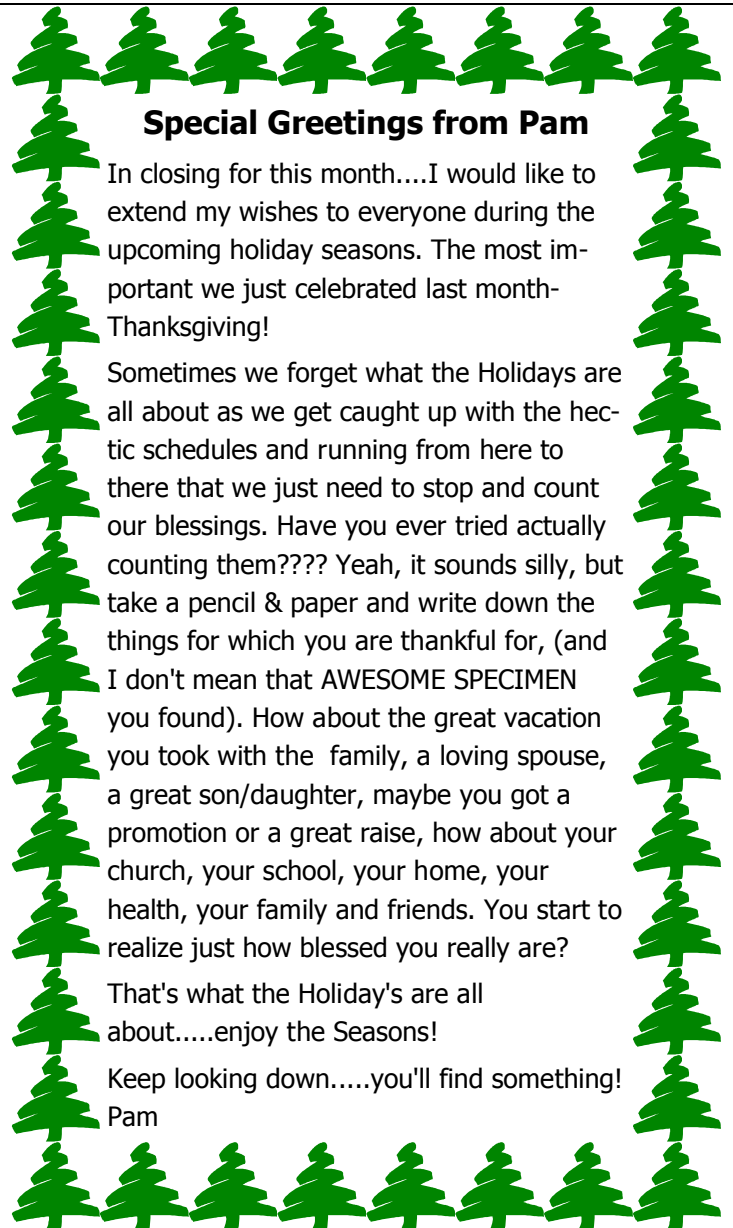
Midwest Federation 2008 Meeting and Show

Our show and meeting is scheduled for the third week in June, 2008. The **Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club** is hosting us in conjunction with their 50th Annual Show in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The Villager Motel that was selected to be the host hotel for the 2008 Midwest Federation and Show, June 20-22, 2008, at Lincoln, Nebraska, has announced that it is ceasing to provide services for conventions, luncheons, and banquets. We have started searching for a new host motel that will provide similar rates and catering services to those shown on the 2008 convention registration forms. We are sorry for any inconvenience to show attendants and registrants.



➤ Roger K. Pabian, 2008 Show Chairman



Special Greetings from Pam

In closing for this month....I would like to extend my wishes to everyone during the upcoming holiday seasons. The most important we just celebrated last month- Thanksgiving!

Sometimes we forget what the Holidays are all about as we get caught up with the hectic schedules and running from here to there that we just need to stop and count our blessings. Have you ever tried actually counting them???? Yeah, it sounds silly, but take a pencil & paper and write down the things for which you are thankful for, (and I don't mean that AWESOME SPECIMEN you found). How about the great vacation you took with the family, a loving spouse, a great son/daughter, maybe you got a promotion or a great raise, how about your church, your school, your home, your health, your family and friends. You start to realize just how blessed you really are?

That's what the Holiday's are all about.....enjoy the Seasons!

Keep looking down.....you'll find something!
Pam

REMINDER!

Midwest Federation Executive Committee Meeting

Please mark your calendars for the Spring MWF Executive Committee Meeting on Saturday, March 15th, at the Weis Earth Science Museum in Wisconsin.

Watch the website for more information.

--Pam Hecht, President

FROM THE EDITOR

The deadline for the January issue is the first Monday of December, December 3rd.

See Ellen’s address in the return address field below for mailing in articles.

For e-mailing articles send to this address:
erd@msn.com

You may send in MS Word, Word Perfect, or just in rich text format (RTF) from any editing program. Attach your article or just type it into your e-mail message.

Articles may be reprinted, just ask me for the text and what format you need.

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