

MWF News

MARCH 2009 - ISSUE No. 480

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It was with sadness we learned of the passing of Norman Hanschu. Every club in the MWF had contact with Norm since 1991, when he was first elected Treasurer. Norm attended meetings and conventions faithfully, while serving, and assisted in many projects outside his obligations as Treasurer. He will be missed by all. We lost not only a dedicated officer but also a friend. Our condolences go out to his wife, Joyce, and the family. A special thanks goes to Joyce for serving as Assistant Treasurer during these difficult times.

The Spring Meeting of the MWF Executive Committee will be over by the time you receive this message via the newsletter. Now is the time to start

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

MARCH

6-8: Richmond, Indiana. Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society Show. Wayne Co. Fairgrounds, N. Salisbury Rd.; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-4; adults \$4, seniors \$3, students \$1, children \$1; door prizes, silent auctions, displays for Boy Scouts, demonstrations. CONTACT John LaMont, 14157 St. Rd. 1, Brookville, IN 47012, (765) 647-4894; e-mail: Midwestchar@peoplepc.com

13-15: Jackson, MI: Michigan Gem & Mineral Society 47th Annual Show, "Mine in '09." Jackson County Fairgrounds Fair Event Center, 200 W. Ganson St.; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, seniors \$2, students 50 cents, children free; vendors, demonstrators, beading mini classes. CONTACT James Bretes, 3022 Francis St., Jackson, MI 49203, (877) 872-8471; e-mail: crossroadspottery@sbcglobal.net ; Web site: www.geocities.com/michgemandmineralsociety/

14-15: Macomb, IL. Geodeland Earth Science Clubs, Inc. Annual Show, "Moon Rocks, Meteorites, and Metals." W.I.U. Student Union Ballroom, Murray St.; Sat. 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM, Sun. 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM; dealers, demonstrations, displays, silent auction, games for kids. CONTACT Dennis Bomke, dbomke@comcast.net

21-22: Canton, IL. Fulton County Rockhounds Annual Show. Wallace Park, S. Ave. D; Sat.-Sun., 10:00-5:00; dealers, demonstrations, geode cracking, door prizes. CONTACT Steve Holley, e-mail: ilfossil@htmail.com

21-22: Cedar Rapids, IA. Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society 46th Show. Teamsters Union Hall, 5000 J St. SW; Sat. 8:30-6, Sun. 9:30-5; adults \$2, students (12-18) 50 cents, youth groups and children under 12 free (with adults); programs, demonstrations, Pebble Pit for kids, silent auctions, displays, 20 dealers, special exhibit theme "Crystals." CONTACT Leslie Blin, 505 5th Ave., Marion, IA 52302, (319) 377-3339; e-mail: bblin@bser.com

28-29: Monroe, WI. Badger Lapidary & Geological Society Show, "Driftless Treasures of the Badger State." Monroe High School, 1600 26th St.; displays, demonstrations, dealers; Sat. 10:00-6:00, Sun. 10:00-5:00. CONTACT David Zimmerman, e-mail david@showchair.com

28-29: Lincoln, NE. Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club Show, "Gembalaya." Pershing Center, 226 Centennial Mall S.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, children under 12 free with adult; rocks, gemstones, minerals, fossils, beads, jewelry, exhibits, displays, demonstrations, programs, youth activities. CONTACT Charles Wooldridge, Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, P.O. Box 5342, Lincoln, NE 68505, (402) 416-3233; e-mail: mamamar@windstream.net ; Web site: www.lincolngemmineralclub.org

APRIL

4-5: Canton, OH. Stark County Gem & Mineral Club Show, "A 'Flintastic' Weekend." Stark County Fairgrounds, 305 Wertz Ave N.W.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6; collectors' displays, dealers, minerals, fossils, finished jewelry, lapidary arts, mineral identification, children's games, silent auction, door prizes. CONTACT Dave Behringer, 2930 Mason St. SW, Massillon, OH 44646, (330) 830-1578; e-mail: darojreg@att.net

4-5: Marion, IL. Southern Illinois Earth Science Club Show. Williamson County Pavilion, 1602 Sioux Dr.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; rocks, gems, minerals, fossils, shells, lapidary, fluorescent displays, silent auctions, door prizes. CONTACT Mike Chontofalsky, (618) 532-0455; e-mail: mchontofalsky1019@charter.net

5: Waterloo, IA. Black Hawk County Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show. Waterloo Center for the Arts, 225 Commercial St.; Sun. 12-5; free admission; demonstrations, displays, fish pond, silent auction, jewelry, vendors. CONTACT Dave Malm, (319) 266-6433

What's Happening?

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17-19: Decatur, IL. Central Illinois Gem & Mineral Club 57th Annual Mineral Gem & Jewelry Show. Macon County Fair Grounds 3700 N Westlawn Ave, Decatur IL; Fri. 11:00-6:00, Sat. 9:00-6:00, Sun. 10:00-4:00; Admission \$5.00 for all three days, seniors \$2.00, kids under 15 free; gemstones, fossils, jewelry & beads, minerals & findings, kids corner with the "Running Water Sluice," dealers, demonstrators and displays, IL DNR Oil & Gas Trailer; Sat. & Sun. Grand Door Prize entries all three days and hourly door prizes on Sat. & Sun. CONTACT Tony Kapta (309) 830-6516; e-mail: tkapta@comcast.net

17-19: Roseville, MI. Mt. Clemens Gem & Lapidary Society Show, "Crystal Reflections." Roseville Recreation Center, 18185 Sycamore; Fri. 9-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 11-4; adults \$3, students \$1, children under 12, police, firemen, and active military with proper ID free; lectures, more than 40 display cases, lapidary demonstrations, Tin Can Auction, raffle, kids' grab bags, ID table, activities; CONTACT Ron Rolfe, 42729 Fortner Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48313, (586) 726-1578; e-mail: ymrolfe@comcast.net Web site: www.orgsites.com/mi/michigan-club/index.html

18-19: Des Plaines, IL. Des Plaines Valley Geology Club 44th Annual Show. Des Plaines

Park District Leisure Center, 2222 Birch St. (just west of River Rd. off Touhy); Sat. 9:30-5; Sun. 10-4; adults \$3, seniors \$2, students with school ID \$1, children under 12 free with adult; kids' room, live demonstrations, educational exhibits, door prizes, raffles, silent auction. CONTACT Lois Zima, (847) 298-4653; e-mail: Jaynine9@aol.com Web site: www.desplainesgeologyclub.org

18-19: Eau Claire, WI. Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society 46th Annual Show. Eau Claire County Expo Center, Lorch Ave.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; silent auction, minerals, fossils, crystals, gems, rocks, artifacts, jewelry, demonstrations. CONTACT Mike Schoenfuss, (715) 456-0664.

25: St. Joseph, MI. Blossomland Gem & Mineral Society "Swap n Sell." St. Joseph/Lincoln Senior Center, 3271 Lincoln Ave.; swap spaces and some tables available. CONTACT 269-983-4900. e-mail: blossomlandgemandmineral@yahoo.com

25-26: Troy, OH. Brukner Center Gem & Mineral Club 26th Annual Show. Miami County Fairgrounds, Duke Lundgard Bldg., County Rd. 25A; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; admission \$1; dealers, gems, specimens, jewelry, rough, demonstrations, displays, silent auction, raffle, children's activities. CONTACT Donna Kuszpa, (937) 435-8297, or Tom Dilsworth, (937) 602-1929.

President's Message

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start preparing for a trip to Ohio for the Federation's Annual Convention and Show in Berea, OH, on May 16 & 17. The weather is usually nice at that time of year, and what a way to start off the new rockhounding season.

See you in May in Ohio.

Rose Blue
MWF President

IN MEMORIAL . . .

Remembering Norm

by Kitty Starbuck

The MWF recently lost a beloved member, our Treasurer Norm Hanschu, from diabetic complications and pancreatic cancer. He had served in this capacity since 1991.

Norm was a dedicated member of St. Michael Lutheran Church in Canton, MI. Since he only lived a block or so from the church, he and Crystal, the family dog, would take their nightly walk and go over and check the building. Norm would never say a word, but Crystal would often write notes telling the congregation they had to do a better job of "turning off the lights and locking the doors!"

With the same dedication, Norm served as a member of the Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society of Southgate, MI, for many, many years. He was also the "spark plug and ram rod" for establishing the "Eddy Center Geology Art Fair," when the state was threatening to close this educational facility near Jackson, MI. Norm's favorite parts of the lapidary hobby were making cabs, fossils, minerals, and demonstrating sphere-making at many rock shows, sometimes with two machines.

Norm served in the Air Force as a radar operator at Pacific Beach, WA. He learned skills that he later would use in the Creative Photo Department of Ford Motor Company for 37 years.

Norm held the Silver Beaver Award, the highest honor volunteers receive from the Boy Scouts of America. He was a Boy Scout leader for 45 years, and in all those years of camping out, he always washed and scalded the dishes with boiling water. Norm claimed he "never had one sick kid." He was a member at large in the Detroit Area BSA Council. He also received the District Award of Merit and was a member of the Order of the Arrow, the National Honor Society of the BSA.

Norm leaves behind his wife, Joyce, his two sons, David Hanschu and Charles (Nancy) Hanschu, a brother, Richard (Lura) Hanschu, and four grandchildren, Joseph, Amelia, Elijah, and Alisa.

We have travelled from coast to coast and from north to south with Norm, Joyce, and Crystal, and now Phoenix. We have taken many rock hounding trips and explored many collecting sites. No matter what we did or where we went, at the end of the day, Norm would say, "That's our adventure for today!"

Norm is now off on a "new adventure." He will be sorely missed.



ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR . . .

by Fran Gutkowski, MWF Chair

Larry And Becky Kemp 2008 Rockhounds Of The Year

Larry has used his computer and technological knowledge to enhance our club's presence in our community. He captured our last two shows in digital form. He created our club's first ever You Tube show advertisement for our 2008 show and provided innovative fund-raising ideas.

Becky serves as our Education Chairman, being a liaison with the 4-H program and scouts and puts together education kits for teaching school children. She prepares, "at the drop of a hat," a table at Science Central to advertise our club and show to teachers. She has volunteered to help whenever there has been need, doing jobs that others have declined or avoided. She has been a faithful and dependable worker in the club, even assisting at the Fluorescence Room and running the Kid's Games area at our show when she was ill.

Larry and Becky have taught their children to be servants of others and demonstrate it well by their own lives. They are great role models as parents and as Rockhounds. The Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society is proud to award the honor of "2008 Rockhounds of the Year" to Larry and Becky Kemp.

-submitted on behalf of the Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society by Michele Yamanaka, Editor

2009 MWF SCHOLARSHIP HONOREE

by Judith Washburn, MWF 1st Vice President

Dr. Raymond R. Anderson



The Scholarship Honoree selected by the MWF Jury of Awards for 2009 is Dr. Raymond R. Anderson. Dr. Anderson is a Senior Research Geologist in the Ground-water and Stratigraphic Study Section of the

Iowa Department of Natural Resources: Iowa Geological & Water Survey. Dr. Anderson is also an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Iowa, Department of Geoscience.

Dr. Anderson was nominated by the Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society, Cedar Rapids, IA. Their nomination letter stated that Ray has interacted with their club since at least the 1980s and has been an outstanding supporter of their activities. They go on to explain as follows:

Ray's service to us and the broad community around us is demonstrated, in part, by his many presentations. Whenever we have asked Ray for a program, he has been most gracious in accepting, often offering more than we ask; for instance, when we asked for a program on meteorites for our 2008 show, he offered three different programs and presented a total of five times over the show's two-day run. His programs at our shows are open to the approximately 3,000 people who attend each year and are always packed. Ray's presentations are not only informative but also exciting and at a level the general public can easily understand. Ray's presentations on geologic topics extend beyond Iowa City-Cedar Rapids to many parts of the state and involve ages from elementary students to teachers to seniors. In the past five years alone, Ray has provided programs or displays for the following other club, public or educational venues:

Annual Rock Show, Fort Dodge

Ames Rock and Mineral Club annual banquet
 Linn County Conservation Board Sunday Lecture Series
 Linn County Conservation Board meetings
 Iowa Geology for Teachers classes, Cedar Falls
 Geological Society of Iowa (GSI) field trips, open to the public
 A Watershed Awareness River Expedition (AWARE), an annual weeklong volunteer river cleanup in which hundreds of volunteers spend from a day to a week cleaning up a selected river and its watershed. The week involves hands-on experiences and educational opportunities.
 Iowa Communications Network (ICN) students from elementary to secondary age in distant parts of the state
 Basic Materials Corporation's open houses in a quarry owned by the corporation; each open house is attended by a couple thousand people
 Weekend Institute for Gifted Students, Iowa City
 Oaknoll Assisted Living Center, Iowa City
 Master Conservationist Program, a volunteer program providing information necessary to make informed decisions about natural resources, Johnson County & Linn County
 Iowa State Fair, Des Moines
 Creative Retirement Program for senior citizens, Marshalltown
 Jefferson High School Career Day, Cedar Rapids
 University of Northern Iowa Sue Dinosaur Exhibition, Cedar Falls
 Korean Teachers visiting the University of Iowa Department of Science Education, Iowa City
 Iowa Children's Museum (walkabout series), Iowa City
 Masonic Temple meeting, Clinton

Scholarship Honoree

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Kent State Park, Oxford
Summer science classes for kids, Sioux
City

Dr. Anderson is a life-log resident of Iowa. He was born in Cedar Rapids on August 20, 1947, and moved to Iowa City to attend the University of Iowa following graduation from high school in 1965. He started working for the Iowa Geological Survey as a draftsman in his senior year as an undergraduate student in 1970, and has worked for the Survey continuously since then, as a remote sensing analyst and a geologist. He served as a Section Supervisor from 1978 through 2003, stepping down from that position to continue geologic work when a departmental reorganization threatened to increase his supervisory duties.

Dr. Anderson completed his BS, MS, and PhD degrees, all in geology, at the University of Iowa while working full time for the Survey.

We look forward to meeting Dr. Anderson at our Annual Awards Banquet in Ohio, in May.



POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

by Rose Blue, President

New Silent Auction Chair

Bob Powers, of the Summit Lapidary Club, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, has graciously accepted a three year appointment as Chairman of the Silent Auction. Bob and his wife, Pat, are both active in the club that holds large (20+ dealers) shows in April and October each year. A silent auction is part of both shows. Please welcome Bob to the Executive Committee and heed his calls for donations.

My thanks go to Steve Hecht and JC Moore for stepping up and conducting the auction in Lincoln, NE, last year.

MINERALOGY NEWS ...

Millerite, Violarite, and Polydymitby Part I

by David F. Hess, MWF Mineralogy Assistant

Millerite, because of its common occurrence in elegant, radiating hair-like sprays, has always been a favorite mineral of collectors, especially in the eastern and mid-western United States and Germany, where fine occurrences abound. The closely related minerals, violarite and polydymite, because of their particular interest to Midwest Federation collectors and common association with (and alteration from) Millerite, are also considered in this article.

Physical properties of millerite include a metallic luster and brass-yellow color, but because of incipient alteration, bronze-yellow and silvery-gray colors are common. The crystals are in the hexagonal (rhombohedral) system, but because of the common acicular development, the hexagonal nature is rarely apparent, except by X-ray diffraction. Common habits are radiating hairs; finely columnar masses; intergrown mats; and tufted crusts. Cleavage is fair, rhombohedral in two directions. Hardness is 3 to 3 1/2. Specific gravity ranges from 5.3-5.6. Millerite is brittle and has an uneven, splintery fracture. Streak, as is common in metallic sulfides, is green-black.

Millerite is nickel sulfide (NiS) and is dissolved by HNO₃ and aqua regia. With dimethylglyoxime in HNO₃, the nickel presents a pink solution. Minor Co, Fe and Cu may be present in the crystal structure.

Violarite and polydymite present a series from (Fe,Ni)₃S₄ to Ni₃S₄ respectively. Violarite occurs in grains, veinlets, and hairs and has perfect cubic cleavage. It has a violet-gray color. Polydymite occurs as small, twinned octahedral crystals (isometric crystal system) but more commonly as gray to black hairs and unusual, curved strands with branches. They are enriched sulfides in the linnaeite group (a cobalt-iron sulfide) and can be tested for chemically in the same way as millerite.

Millerite, violarite and polydymite are relatively low temperature minerals, thus can occur

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Millerite

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in sedimentary or else late-stage hydrothermal environments where they follow, in sequence, higher temperature nickel, iron, or copper minerals. The characteristic environments for millerite are cavities or geodes in limestone, dolomite, and other carbonate rocks; late stage sulfides in gabbro (dark, coarse-grained rocks) and intrusive copper-nickel deposits; more rarely, late stage sulfides in veins; in some serpentinites and serpentinized marbles; and in ankeritic-sideritic veins in sandstone-coal deposits. Violarite and polydymite are known in the first three types of environments.

Associated minerals can include calcite, dolomite, ankerite, barite, pyrite, marcasite, pyrrhotite, pentlandite, chalcopyrite, sphalerite, galena, hematite, nickeline (formerly niccolite), breithauptite, quartz, grossular garnet, uvarovite garnet, and others. Alterations of millerite are common, usually emerald green or yellow-green in color and include morenosite, retgersite, and honessite (hydrated nickel sulfates); zaratite (nickel carbonate) and pecoraite (garnierite – a nickel silicate) as well as the aforementioned sulfides, violarite and polydymite. Millerite can be confused with acicular rutile and tourmaline, but these minerals have completely different associations, and with capillary pyrite or marcasite, but these specimens usually have a square or rectangular cross-section when carefully examined.

The eastern part of Canada and the United States have several excellent millerite occurrences, most notably in Quebec, Ontario, New York, and Pennsylvania. The Quebec occurrences are associated with serpentinite and include the Planet Mine near Sherbrooke, Quebec, where millerite is found as silver sprays on grossular garnet. A similar situation is in Orford Township, where millerite is associated with emerald uvarovite (chrome) garnet and chrome diopside. Small amounts of millerite occur at Poudrette Quarry, Mont St. Hilaire, Quebec, among the more than 300 mineral species known from there. Very famous is the millerite occurrence in the gabbroic lopolith intrusive at Sudbury, Ontario, where it is known as brass to silvery columnar masses and crusts, later than pyrrhotite, pentlandite, chalcopyrite, nickeline, and breithauptite and is an

ore of nickel there, especially in the Froid, Vermilion, and Strathcona Mines. Violarite also occurs as violet-gray grains and veinlets at Froid Mine, Sudbury. Polydymite is known at Sudbury in the Vermilion, Crean Hill, and Worthington Mines. The Temigami, Kell, and Sicoe Mines in the Nipissing District have occurrences of millerite. Millerite is associated at Temagami with pyrite, chalcopyrite, and gersdorffite in a diorite sill contact with rhyolite. The other two mines are silver deposits with calcite veins containing the millerite.

Millerite is also known in radiating, silvery hairs at the Kern-Addison Mine, Timmons, Ontario. An old occurrence in black, hematitic iron ores is known at Sterling Mine, Antwerp, St. Lawrence County, New York, where the best specimens were found as brassy-yellow to silvery sprays of millerite hairs with brown to reddish ankerite crystals in cavities in brilliant, specular rosettes of black hematite crystals. Small amounts of brassy-yellow, acicular crystals are found in small cavities within the Buckwheat dolomite of the Franklin Limestone at Franklin, New Jersey, where more than 300 minerals also occur. Another famous location is at Gap Nickel Mine, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Millerite occurs as velvety coatings with a radiated, fibrous structure on pyrrhotite and pentlandite. It is rare on the dumps today because of the ease of weathering and specimens are highly prized by Pennsylvania collectors. Violarite also occurs as violet-gray grains and veinlets in the hornblende gabbro associated with pyrrhotite, pentlandite, chalcopyrite, and, rarely, blue vivianite. A more obscure occurrence was at Nanticoke, Pennsylvania, (Anthracite Coal Basin) where twisted, acicular millerite crystals were found in quartz veins cutting the sandstones and coal beds.

The central United States and Canada have numerous millerite and polydymite occurrences in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Manitoba. Except for Manitoba and Minnesota, most of these are in limestones and dolomites of Devonian and Mississippian age. At the Wallace Stone Pit, Bayport, Michigan (Devonian age), growths of millerite mats on chalcopyrite are

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Millerite

Continued from Pg. 7 -

characteristic. The location at Estabrook Park, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was extant until 1940, and here, millerite occurs in cavities in Devonian-age dolomites. Brass-yellow to silvery millerite sprays to 7.5 cm. are present in vugs associated with clear calcite scalenohedrons and rhombohedrons and locally, sphalerite, pyrite, and marcasite (also famous in cockscomb crystals from this locality). The large specimen in the F. John Barlow Collection comes from there, and his account of how he obtained the specimen is very entertaining. Emerald-green zaratite is a rare alteration.

Southern Indiana has many millerite locations in geodes and cavities within the Borden Formation and Harrodsburg Limestone, usually as small to moderate size silvery- gray, hair-like sprays. Associates include calcite in Highway 37 road cuts five miles north of Bloomington, Indiana, and yellow barite, quartz, calcite, and dolomite in Highway 37 cuts near Harrodsburg, Indiana. Erd and Greenberg (1960) found a clear calcite crystal at Bloomington Crushed Stone Company Quarry with inclusions of millerite, low-temperature pyrrhotite, marcasite, barite, pyrite, and smythite (another iron sulfide) in the one crystal. Geodes in the Carwood Formation in Jackson County, Indiana, contain millerite. An unusual occurrence of millerite as woven mats in the hollows of crinoid stems is noted in Montgomery County, Indiana, in the Borden Formation. Some millerite is also associated with asphalt and chert in the Levias Member of the Mississippian-age St. Guinevieve Limestone in Lawrence County, Indiana.

A famous location in Kentucky is a roadcut at Halls Gap where quartz geodes contain balls of curved millerite hairs, some altering to yellow-green hydrated nickel sulfates and associated with minute pyrites. The formation is the Wildie Member of the Borden Formation. The Bautsch Lead-Zinc Mine near Galena, Illinois, has small amounts of millerite associated. In eastern Illinois at Hoopston and Cheneyville, similar chalcedony and quartz geodes with ball-like mats of bronze-colored millerite needles filling the geodes were found in the 1950s and 1960s. Some of these needles spear tiny pyrite pyritohedrons. West central Illinois has a plethora of localities in the

Keokuk Limestone of Mississippian Age – almost every quarry in that formation has yielded some millerite or polydymite. Notable locations include Gray's (Miller's) Quarry in Hamilton, Illinois. Here brassy-colored needles rarely fill chalcedony geodes in the upper Keokuk Limestone. Farther down stratigraphically, silvery millerite needles penetrate calcite crystals and some calcite crystals are black with hair-like polydymite inclusions. Some crystals contain curved strands with branches.

At O'Neal's Quarry near Plymouth, Illinois, bronze-colored mats of millerite occur in the upper Keokuk, some associated with large calcite crystals and up to 7.5 cm. across. Farther down, small sunbursts of polydymite emanate from chalcopyrite crystals incorporated in clear calcite crystals. The writer has found needles of millerite associated with sphalerite and drusy quartz at Biggsville Quarry, also in the Keokuk Formation. Fountain Green Quarry, between Carthage and Macomb, Illinois, has yielded long clusters of silvery millerite needles penetrating clear calcite crystals. The Abingdon Stone Company Quarry yielded polydymite. At this location, Dr. Duane Moore, formerly with Knox College, and his students first identified this mineral in Illinois. Cavities with millerite in the Keokuk Formation have also been located in the vicinity of Keokuk, Iowa. These may be on either calcite or quartz and form acicular whiskers or matted aggregates up to 6 cm. long.

A different occurrence in cavities within the brown dolomite of the Coralville Formation (Devonian age) in what was Martin-Marietta Quarry on the west side of Coralville, Iowa, is to be noted – hairs of millerite associated with smoky barites (a recent excellent find of these barites was made at Linwood Tunnel, Buffalo, Iowa). The nearby Conklin Quarry to the north of I-80 at Coralville, on the west side of the Iowa River, is noted for very fine golden calcite scalenohedrons and some crystals have groups of hairs of millerite up to 4 cm. long projecting from the surface of the crystals. Finally, the Ollie Quarry, two miles west of Ollie, Keokuk County, Iowa, has brassy-yellow tufted masses and brushes of millerite filling cavities in chert and drusy quartz.

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Millerite

Continued from Pg. 8 -

Missouri has yielded millerite locations in the St. Louis Limestone of Mississippian age near St. Louis. North of St. Louis, the writer, collecting with George Dick, found criss-crossing, flat, bronze crystals of millerite on gray chert in the Choteau-Sedalia Limestone in a quarry near Troy, Missouri, in July, 1965. Small amounts of millerite are known from the Amax-Buick Mine, Bixby, Missouri, and the Sweetwater Mine, Viburnum, Missouri, both more famous for the fine galena, calcite, and pyrite from these mines. Another millerite occurrence is near Durham, Lewis County, Missouri. In Benton County, Arkansas, Sterling et al. (1962) reported millerite and violarite in calcite veins. Millerite also is known at Rabbitfoot Mine, Benton, Saline County, Arkansas. The Minnesota location is very different, in the Precambrian iron formations of Dunka Pit, Ely-Hoyt Lakes Area, St. Louis County, Minnesota. The Ropes Gold Mine, Ishpeming, Michigan, has small amounts of millerite associated with the pyrite and gold in Precambrian-age serpentinite. Finally, radiating hairs of silvery millerite have been collected near Tompson, Manitoba.

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- Voynick, Stephen M., 1997. *New Mexico Rockhounding*. Missoula, MT: Mountain Press Publishing Company. 308 pp.

www.mindat.org/min-2711.html-43k

[NOTE: Millerite, Violarite, and Polydymitby Part II will appear in next month's issue.]



Remember

- Donations to the Endowment Fund can be sent to:

Alan Hukill, Treasurer
15785 Park Lane Rd.
East Lansing, MI 48823

- Donations to the Scholarship Fund can be sent to:

Marge Collins, Chair
3017 Niles-Buchanan Rd.
Buchanan, MI 49107

HINTS AND TIPS FOR CLUBS ...

Christmas Gift Delivered

by John Washburn, Illinois State Director

I suggested in the January issue, that those clubs that could afford to reimburse the MWF Endowment Fund for its' payment of the AFMS dues increase, do so.

Well, my club, the Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society of Springfield, IL, has done just that, and I again suggest that those clubs that can, do the same. This will help us to maintain the funds for other endeavors - like reimbursing the clubs for getting their juniors enrolled in the "Diamond Dan Mini Miner's Monthly" publications.

Programs in a Can

by John Washburn, Illinois State Director

Looking for a club program? Looking for something other than a MWF Library program? Then check out the list of videos and DVDs on the Nova, National Geographic, Jewelry, and History Channel Web sites. You should have seen the program when it aired before you order to be sure it fits your needs.

The History Channel has several programs that were produced for the series called "Modern Marvels." But the only one that I can recommend at this time is "Diamond Mining." It is excellent.

The cost of buying one of these canned programs is usually more than the postage cost for a MWF library program, but it can get repeated use. My club shows it for a meeting, uses it at the show, and rents it to other clubs. In no time, our cost is recovered!

FROM THE AFMS

Quick Tips for Editors

by Linda Jaeger, AFMS Bulletin Editors' Advisory

**Editor + Templates
= Streamlined**

Did that make you feel slimmer and trimmer already? I really meant that using templates for your newsletter could reduce your work as an editor. When you use a template you no longer have to retype the same information or recreate the same page for things like your officers list, committee chairmen, club information, headers, etc.

Dennis Chapman, editor for the Tooele Gem & Mineral Society, uses a **free** desktop publishing software called "Page Plus SE" to create templates for use with his club bulletin. Dennis has put together some short video tutorials demonstrating how this software works, and these are viewable by going to: showmedo.com/videos/?author=3583.

He has created 12 short, narrated videos covering: introduction to Page Plus SE, building templates for your newsletter, starting your newsletter, text flow, text wrap, finishing your newsletter, creating a club phonebook cover, creating a club phonebook template, finishing your club phonebook, and inserting a calendar in your newsletter. All of these can be done within the Page Plus SE software.

Here is how you can check this out:

- 1- go to the web address above and click on the Amateur Desktop Publishing hotlink
- 2- click on Introduction to Page Plus SE
- 3- click in the middle of the video screen
- 4- click on the arrow at the bottom left corner of the video screen to start the video (make sure your computer volume is loud enough to hear!)
- 5- when the video is over, click the "close" hot link on the top right of the video screen or use your escape key
- 6- to view the next video, click on the box labeled 2 at the bottom, under the video screen
- 7- click in the middle of the video screen
- 8- click on the arrow at the bottom left corner of the video screen to start the video, etc.

You can view as many of the 12 video clips as you like, as many times as you like, in any order you like. When you run your cursor over the numbered boxes underneath the video screen, a

Quick Tips for Editors

Continued from Pg. 10 -

description of what is on that video appears. If you like what this software does, you can get the free download by going to www.freerifsoftware.com.

Thanks to Dennis Chapman for sharing his knowledge with us!

If you have a question (or suggestion) about editing, or writing, or the bulletin contest, or something related, send it to me by email: ljgralg@aol.com or at my home address: 3515 E. 88th St., Tulsa, OK 74137. If I cannot find an answer to your question, we'll publish the question and ask the readers for their answers.

- Taken from the *AFMS Newsletter*, February 2009.

It's Tax Form Time Again

by Mike Wines, CFMS Tax Advisor

Internal Revenue Service Form 990

Societies that are required to file Form 990 or 990EZ should be aware of material changes to the forms. Most of our societies have gross receipts less than \$25,000, so are only required to file Form 990N. There are no material changes to this form.

The new forms (990 and 990EZ) apply to both societies with a 2008 calendar year and organizations with fiscal years beginning at some time during 2008. For example, a fiscal year society whose year ends May 31, will file the revised form for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2009.

I would recommend societies required to file the revised forms access the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov, then access the exempt organization section to locate the **revised** forms and the **revised** instructions for filing.

Form 990N

Those societies who are not required to file either Form 990 or 990EZ, and whose gross receipts are below \$5,000 must continue to file Form 990N electronically. If your club operates on a calendar year, then you must file by May

15th. If your club runs on a fiscal year, you must file by 4 months and 15 days after the end of your fiscal year. Visit the IRS Web site www.irs.gov for more information.

- Taken from the *AFMS Newsletter*, February, 1009.

Commemorative Stamp Committee News

by Wendell C. Mohr, AFMS Commemorative Stamp Chair

Usually the majority of the following year's stamps are finalized in November by the United States Postal Service. This year, as of this writing, the USPS has only announced the 2009 commemorative stamp program subjects through mid-February. Gemstone stamps are not among the issues revealed at this point.

Sooooo..... We need to go on the premise that we must continue to advocate our proposal. Who are we talking about? All of you who are reading this article, as well as the many folks that you can influence to write to the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee, the body who makes the recommendations for stamps to the Postmaster General. If you are associated with one of the regional Federations, take up the challenge to get the message out to your member clubs. Publicize the project in your newsletters. If you are a key officer in any club in any Federation, please help get the message out to your club members to make repeated requests to the USPS. (Persistence pays, so make repeated requests). To whom should you make the pitch?

The Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
Stamp Development, United States Postal Service
1735 North Lynn St, Room 5013
Arlington, VA 22209-6432

See www.amfed.org/stamps.htm, recently revised, for helpful material to use for publicity.

Many thanks go to the new AFMS President, Joy Bourne, for her continued endorsement of the "Gemstones on Stamps" project.

- Adapted from the *AFMS Newsletter*, February, 2009.

FOCUS ON JUNIORS ...

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

Michele Yamanaka, MWF Junior Activities Chairman

The following is a very simplified view of metamorphic rocks. Samples of the original rock before and after metamorphosis will help further understanding. A hands-on activity might be to provide two slices of white and rye bread (representing two kinds of rocks) to each junior. Have them stack the slices in alternating colors and then press down hard on the bread stack with their hands. The resulting squished bread patty should show how pressure makes the two kinds of rocks become one new rock.

METAMORPHIC ROCKS

Metamorphic means “changed.” Metamorphic rocks are sedimentary, igneous, or even other metamorphic rocks that get changed. They are changed by pressure and high temperatures.

Where does the pressure and heat come from?

1. Push your hands together very hard. Feel the heat? Rocks buried deep inside the ground get a lot of pressure and heat.
2. Rub your hands together. Feel the heat? When pieces of the earth’s crust (tectonic plates) slide or bump each other to make mountains and earthquakes, heat is created.
3. Magma (hot melted minerals) pushes into holes in hard rock. The melted chemicals mix with the chemicals in the hard rock minerals and make new minerals and new rocks where the hot melted rock and hard rock meet.

Because of the heat and pressure, the rocks BAKE. It is not hot enough to make them melt. Melted rock would be igneous. The baked rocks form crystals or, if they already have crystals, they form larger crystals. If the pressure is greatest from one direction, the crystals all lay the same direction and make layers of crystal. It looks striped. Metamorphic rocks often look squished or folded.



Metamorphic rocks in which the crystals form layers are called “foliated.” They break or cleave along lines parallel to the minerals in the rock, making “sheets.” Metamorphic rocks in which the crystals just get bigger are called “non-foliated.” They don’t break along lines.

Remember that rocks are made of minerals. The minerals in the same rock can change (metamorphose) into different rocks depending on how much pressure and heat are put on them.

Junior Activities

Continued from Pg. 12 -

Foliated

Original Rock	Very low pressure and temperature	Low to medium	Medium to high	Very high
Shale (mud, clay, mica)	Slate	Phyllite	Schist	Gneiss
Granite (quartz, mica, feldspar)				Gneiss



Non-foliated

Original Rock	Metamorphic rock
Sandstone (quartz grains)	Quartzite
Limestone (calcite or dolomite)	Marble
Bituminous coal	Anthracite coal

Here are some other metamorphic rocks: Granulite, Greenschist, Amphibolite, Serpentine, Metaconglomerate, Hornfels.

Because the minerals in the rocks form crystals, we often find the individual crystals in the parent rock, *e.g.*, garnet and mica grow in the metamorphic rock "schist." Certain minerals only form in certain kinds of rocks. Learning which minerals form in which rocks help us identify unknown minerals.



Reminder . . .

Don't forget to:

Subscribe to: Mini Minerals Monthly

Send payment (\$19.95) to:

Diamond Dan Publications
P.O. Box 143
Manchester, NY 14504

Then send your information to Kitty Starbuck for reimbursement. It works like this: If you have **paid your dues on time**, clubs that have fewer

than 10 juniors, will be reimbursed for **one half (1/2)** the subscription cost. Clubs that have 10 or more juniors will be reimbursed for the **full** subscription cost.

The program will be coordinated by Kitty Starbuck and will be reviewed at the end of 2009.

If you have any questions, please contact Kitty at greenstone@iserv.net or by phone: cell phone 1-231-740-5512, regular phone 1-269-649-1991. You can drop her a line at: 7636 East V Avenue, Vicksburg, MI 49097-9307.

Sign Up Now!

**MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES
COUNCIL MEETING
Saturday, May 16, 2009**

The Midwest Federation's 69th Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the MWF 2009 Show and Convention, May 15-17, at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, Bagley Rd, Berea, Ohio. The Delegates' Meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Select, 15471 Royalton Rd., Strongsville, Ohio.

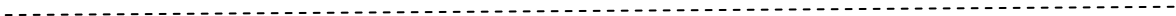
The MWF Council Meeting will convene on Saturday, May 16th, at 9:30 a.m., with delegate registrations beginning at 8:30 a.m. The delegate appointed by your club or society will represent your interests, and may bring up pertinent discussions and proposals. However, in order to expedite matters, if your society intends to have its delegate present any special motion at the meeting, please notify the Midwest President, Rose Blue, and the Secretary, Donna Moore, as to the nature of the subject so that it may be placed on the agenda. This should be done at least one month prior to the meeting.

Each club is entitled to one vote. An alternate may vote in the absence of the delegate. Guests are invited but will not be able to vote.

**Please fill out the form and return it to the
CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN
Tony Kapta
1483 E Wood St, Decatur IL 62521
217-233-1164, e-mail cigmc@comcast.net**

(NOT to the show registration committee) BEFORE April 18, 2009.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PROMPTNESS



**MIDWEST FEDERATION DELEGATE REGISTRATION FORM
PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE TO AVOID ERRORS**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT _____

Name of your club on this line

OF _____

City and State on this line

HAS APPOINTED THE FOLLOWING DELEGATE TO THE 69TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MIDWEST FEDERATION:

DELEGATE _____

ADDRESS _____

ALTERNATE _____

ADDRESS _____

DATE SIGNED _____ CLUB PRESIDENT _____

Annual Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies' Convention & Show



in conjunction with
The Parma Lapidary Club

SHOW HOURS:

Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 17, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

CONVENTION ACTIVITIES:

Midwest Federation Officers' meetings: Friday, May 15
State Directors: 1 - 2 p.m.; Executive Committee: 2 - 4 p.m

Midwest Federation Council Meeting: Saturday, May 16
Delegates: 9:30 a.m.

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS:

Holiday Inn Select, 15471 Royalton Rd., Strongsville, Ohio
Phone: 440-238-8800; Fax 440-238-0273

Check the Web site for Registration Information

www.amfed.org/mwf

ATTEND & EXHIBIT

Rose Blue, MWF President

Our annual convention and show are fast approaching. Now is the time to plan to attend and to prepare an exhibit to show others what keeps you in this hobby, be it fossils, lapidary, jewelry, and/or minerals. An educational display is always well received by the public. Your display can be entered in competition or as a non-competitive display, as you prefer.

There will be people available to help you improve your displays so that you might enjoy competing the next time. I personally started competing to learn if what I thought were my best

specimens, really were. To my surprise, some of my more expensive specimens were not my best.

Displays always improve a show. The public enjoys seeing what others have done, whether it's items collected or made by the exhibitor. These displays are often the reason new members become interested in the various aspects of the hobby and in your organization. It's never too soon or too late to start.

TRY IT!

Submission of News and Articles

Please note that all input for a given issue of the Newsletter is due to the **Secretary** no later than the first day of the previous month. This means that the due date for the **APRIL Issue** will be **March 1st**. Material submitted after March 1st may be delayed until the May Issue.

Material may be e-mailed to Donna Moore at damoore@winco.net or submitted via the U. S. Mail. Acceptable e-mail formats include: MS Word (.DOC), Adobe (.PDF), rich text format (.RTF), or plain text (.TXT). If e-mailing an article, it may be included within the body of the e-mail message or sent as an attachment.

Address Changes or Corrections

Please submit any address changes or corrections to the **MWF Secretary, Donna Moore**. See page 1 for her contact information.

Wanted: An Editor

The Midwest Federation is **STILL** looking for a newsletter editor. We can promise to fill up your empty, spare hours with the creative task of putting together a newsletter that will reach hundreds of members across the Midwest. It's a **great challenge** and would be a **tremendous help** to the Federation!

Qualifications include: a sense of dedication, a desire to help the Federation, modest computer skills, and a willingness to be a team player. Knowing a little bit about putting together a newsletter would be helpful.

If you think you might be interested, please contact:

Rose Blue, MWF President

16155 Shurmer Road
Strongsville, OH 44136
(440) 238-4412
jblue@n2net.net

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