

MNCA Website www.dcmicrominerals.org

The Mineral Mite



Vol. 59 – No. 4 Washington D.C. A Journal for Micromineralogists April 2026

April 27 3:30pm Kings Park Library, Burke

Program: Snow Crystal Photomicrography

by Jeff Guerber, Vice President



MNCA's next meeting will be on Monday, April 27, 3:30-5:30 pm in the Kings Park Library large meeting room, Burke. Kathy Hrechka will describe her adventures in Snow Crystal Photomicrography. Remember, ice is a mineral too (and hopefully by the end of April, we won't be getting any more of it!) The May meeting will be Tuesday, May 19 (note day!), 3:00-5:30 at KPL.

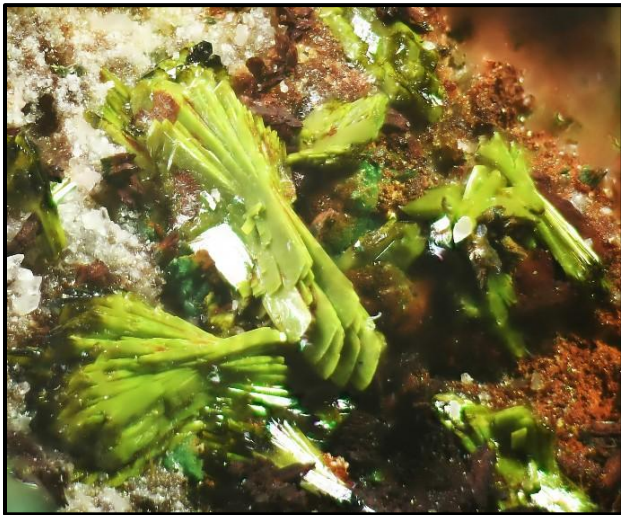
President's Message:

by David Fryauff, PhD



I was very happy to see such a good turnout for our recent March 30th MNCA meeting. We missed our scheduled meetings in January & February because of snowstorms. Thanks to all for making the trip despite the new war-inflated gasoline prices of \$4.00 per gallon (regular). Special thanks to Dr. Michael Pabst (MNCA treasurer) and Tom Tucker (Professional Geologist and past MNCA President), and his son, Chris Tucker (Mineral specimen miner) for making the drive up from the Shenandoah Valley.

Mystery Micro Mineral of the Month



Clue: Locality, Musoni Mine, Kolwezi, Mutsatsha, Lualaba, DR Congo. FOV = 7mm.

By Aloha Peter Chin, Honolulu, Hawaii. Answer p2

We achieved unanimous votes in favor of the MNCA officers for 2026 March. Thanks to David Maclean who recorded the minutes of our meeting and to David Hennessey who came forward later in the week (April 2nd, 2026) to volunteer as the new MNCA secretary.

March was the month of the annual Leidy Microscopical Society Micromineral Symposium and as a member of that Society, I was anxious to attend the meeting because the featured speakers were Juan Peruano (Peruvian Mine Engineer), and Ron A. Sloto (Honorary Professor, Curator & Director of the Geology Museum at West Chester University, Pennsylvania). I knew about both of these esteemed gentlemen but never had a chance to meet them or hear their lectures. Juan Peruano is an Honorary Lifetime member of the Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County MD (GLMSMC), and I am told that he gave many fascinating presentations about the mines and minerals of Peru to the GLMSMC group.

President's Message continued

Despite my being a member of this group for many years and serving as their Field trip Coordinator since 2014 (est.), I had never met Juan and was glad to find that he was a longtime member of the Leidy Society. I met Juan last year at the March 2025 Leidy Symposium, but I had never met Ron Sloto.....However, I was familiar with Ron's work as a geologist, mineralogist, photographer, and author from the many articles he wrote in the Newsletter of the Friends of Mineralogy Pennsylvania Chapter.

It turns out that he and I both have a great affection for the Haines-Kibblehouse Penn-Md serpentine Quarry which straddles the PA and MD state lines in Lancaster County, and which is situated beside the much older, larger, and more famous (but inaccessible) Cedar Hill Quarry. These two quarries penetrate the chromite-rich serpentine deposits of MD and PA that produced hundreds of tons of chromite that was shipped to Europe for paint and chemical production back in the early 1800s. Today they are the source of aggregate for use in roadways and are also a source of many rare, uncommon, and interesting mineral species associated with serpentine plutons.

During my tenure as the field trip coordinator of the GLMSMC, I organized 6 or 8 field trips to the H-K Penn-Md Quarry and collected around 19 different mineral species. Ron Sloto's articles on the minerals of this quarry were a valuable resource for me and although the quarry is now closed to clubs and collectors, it remains one of my favorite sites. Before I met him, I knew that Ron was one of the more intrepid mineral collectors when I found specimens of phoenicochroite that he had collected on the giveaway table of the first (2024) Leidy Symposium that I attended. I will always wonder how Ron found and why he gave away several beautifully crystallized specimens of phoenicochroite and hemihedrite from a very small and remote desert claim -- the Pack Rat Claim -- that measures only 80 square meters in the vast Arizona desert.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not mention the veritable mountain of giveaway minerals that formed the centerpiece of the 2026 Leidy Micromineral Symposium....thanks to memorable Leidy member and mineral collector Larry Eisenberger for these "gifts" from the earth.



Talc is the bluish green diaphanous winged xls. Tiny black dots are magnetite, coolingite is the larger, thin white & brown mineral that the talc is attached to. Calcite is the much larger & more numerous white crystals that cannot really be seen at this high level of magnification FOV = 3.0 mm. Micro from Leidy that was collected by Larry Eisenberger at the Hunting Hill quarry in Rockville, 1980-1990. Photo by David Fryauff



Juan Peruana (L) & Ron Sloto (R) 2026 Leidy Micromineral Symposium, Richboro, Pennsylvania. Photo by David Fryauff

Mystery Micro Mineral Answer

by Aloha Peter Chin, Honolulu, Hawaii
Answer: Demesmaekerite (olive green tabular crystals) and Derriksite (small dark green crystals). Musoni Mine, Kolwezi, Mutsatsha, Lualaba, DR Congo. FOV = 7mm.

Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.

Previous Meeting Minutes 3.30.2026

By David MacLean, interim Secretary

President David Fryauff called the meeting to order at 16:30. The minutes of the December 2025 meeting were approved. There were no meetings in January and February because the library was closed due to snow.



Treasurer's report: The treasurer reported on the financial assets of the club, including a couple of CDs at the bank. The treasurer Michale Pabst announced his retirement and emphasized the to elect a new treasurer.

Elections of Officers: The following people were elected or reelected as officers for 2026.

President: David Fryauff

Vice President: Jeff Guerber

Treasurer: Bob Cooke

Secretary: Vacant

Announcements: The Leidy Microscopic Society program for its recent meeting heard about Matulaite from Bachman Mine near Hellertown, PA. David Fryauff will be the presenter at the May MNCA meeting. His program will include minerals from Bachman Mine, Hellertown, PA. Jeff Guerber is working on MNCA Bylaw changes.



Legacy members George Loud and Tom Tucker were in attendance enjoying micros and the fellowship of club members. Photo by Kathy Hrechka

2026 Dues are Due

MNCA Membership Dues 2026
\$15 (single) or \$20 (family)

Club Officer Elections: Proposal for By-laws Amendment

By Jeff Guerber, MNCA Vice President

The recent delay of club officer elections due to the cancellation of the club meetings in December (due to holiday party), January (due to a snowstorm), and February (due to ANOTHER snowstorm!), and the resulting controversy, revealed an unforeseen hole in the new MNCA By-Laws that we adopted last spring: What happens if, for whatever reason, the club officer elections are not (or cannot be) held at the December meeting?

I would like to propose two simple amendments to the by-law on Elections that I hope will clarify the matter and prevent this from being an issue in the future. These are my proposed amendments that I mentioned at the March 30 meeting and discussed in the email I sent out on March 31.

The current By-Law on Elections reads as follows. This is copied from the document "MNCA By-laws Final Draft.docx" that Bob Cooke emailed on May 22, 2025, which I believe is the version that we adopted last spring. The date in that document is June 2025.

4.ELECTIONS

- a. Officers will be elected at the December club meeting and will assume office on January 1st;
- b. At the meeting following the election, all retiring officers will present their successors with the complete records of their time in office and any prior records which have been turned over to them
- c. Officers will be elected to serve for one year and may serve until a successor is elected. There is no term limit.
- d. If the position of any office becomes vacant, replacement elections will be held at the next membership meeting.

I propose the following two amendments:

1. Replace 4(a) as above, with this text:
 - a. Officers will be elected at the December club meeting and will assume office on January 1st. Should officers not be elected at the December meeting, such as due to meeting cancellation (e.g. due to weather or other reasons), lack of candidates, lack of quorum, or other reasons, the election will be held

Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.

at the next regular club meeting, or at the Board's discretion, by e-mail. If the election is held by e-mail, members will be given at least one week to submit their votes.

2. Add paragraph 4(e):

e. Election voting may be done in person, by proxy, or by e-mail. E-mail votes must be registered by the Secretary by the time of the election meeting.

Notes: I believe the authority of the outgoing officers between the nominal end of their terms on Dec. 31 and when the next officer elections are held is already covered by 4(c): "Officers...may serve until a successor is elected."

Voting by proxy or e-mail is already permitted for other votes by Section 2 (Meetings) paragraph d: "Members may vote in person, by proxy or by e-mail." This amendment makes it clear that that applies also to officer elections and that emailed votes must be received prior to the election meeting.

Previous Program Reviewed 3.30.2026

By Kathy Hrechka

David Fryauff, Michael Pabst, and Kathy Hrechka shared their experiences of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show which was held this past February. Each presenter shared their highlights in slide programs. David Fryauff shared memories of traveling with his wife on an extensive road trip by car, east to the west coast and beyond. Car maintenance in Tucson afforded him more time for the great Tucson show. Kathy Hrechka spent her time at the convention center at the lectures and studying amazing exhibits. Michael Pabst found some interesting minerals, which are detailed in the following article. Enjoy some screen shots of their programs.



Michael Pabst & Kathy Hrechka admiring a micro-mineral show case. Photo by Karen Pabst.



Brian Swoboda, Blue Cap Productions "Mineral Talks Live" shows Kathy the "David Wilber tribute exhibit". Selfie by Brian Swoboda



Kathy's favorite exhibit "The History of Minerals in Pigments" assembled by young mineral collectors. Photo by Kathy Hrechka

Acquisitions from the 2026 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show

By Michael Pabst PhD

I have been collecting minerals for about 70 years. Unfortunately, I remember prices from long ago. The dollar has lost 90% of its value over that time, due to inflation. In the 1970's I have, on a rare occasion, spent \$350 on an especially nice specimen of a rare micro mineral. Nowadays, I cannot bring myself to spend the equivalent amount of money \$3500, even though I know it's the same amount adjusted for inflation. So now I go to Tucson to see the magnificent mineral exhibits, greet the amazing cactuses of the Sonoran Desert, and eat real Mexican and Southwestern food. And maybe pick up a cheap souvenir rock or two for a friend or relative.

However, this February in Tucson, I was happy to find three nice specimens to add to my collection.

Tucson 2026 continued

I showed photos of these three at our last meeting, but our editor Kathy Hrechka suggested that these photos should also be recorded in the Mineral Mite.

The first specimen is Veszelyite, a rare copper phosphate. A new source of Veszelyite has been found in China. These Chinese specimens have been available for several years, but the prices have been too high for the quality, in my opinion. However, this year, supply seems to have caught up with demand, so I was able to get this specimen for \$120. The entire specimen is 36 mm in the longest dimension. It has several areas showing these complex crystals groups of Veszelyite with contrasting lighter minerals, making for nice views.



Veszelyite. Laochang, Gejiu City, Honghe, Yunnan, China. FOV 14 mm. Specimen and photo by Michael Pabst, using macro + Raynox lenses, stacking 45 images.

The second specimen is Borcarite, a calcium magnesium borate and carbonate. I was unfamiliar with this mineral, but I was attracted by the beautiful greenish-blue color. A dealer from Mexico had about a hundred specimens for various sizes and prices, so I was able to select a nice specimen for \$80.

Michael's conclusion: So, for me, the trip to Tucson this year was a great success. I might go again next year.



Borcarite. Charcas, San Luis Potosi, Mexico. FOV 13 mm. Specimen and photo by Michael Pabst, using macro + Raynox lenses, stacking 44 images.

The third specimen is a Calcite on Fluorite that cost only \$15. But I liked the aesthetics. (To see the Calcite crystals upright in the photo, I had to do a lot of image stacking, making the photo a little blurry.)



Calcite (colorless) and Fluorite (brown). Mich coal mine, Oskaloosa, Mahaska County, Iowa. FOV 24 mm. Specimen and photo by Michael Pabst, using macro + Raynox lenses, stacking 61 images.

Caledonite

By Michael Pabst PhD

Caledonite is one of my favorite minerals because of its color, which I might describe as an intense aqua, and because of its beautifully formed crystals, and because it is found in some of my favorite localities. So, over the years, I have acquired some nice specimens that I always wanted to photograph.

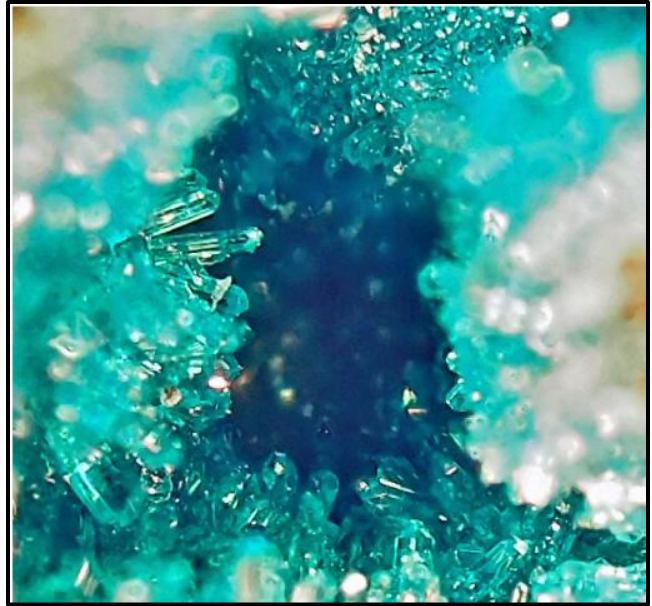


But let's start with one specimen that got away:



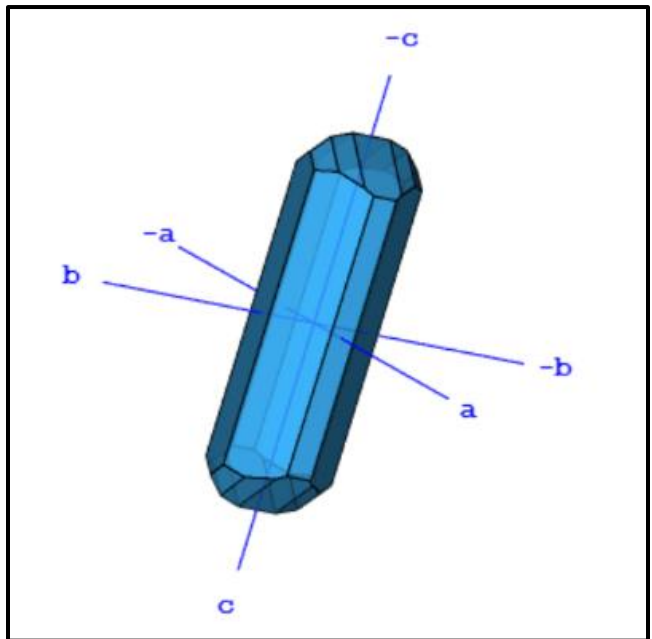
Caledonite. Tonopah Belmont Mine, Maricopa County, Arizona. FOV 2 mm. Photo by Michael Pabst, using stereo microscope. Specimen from the Atlantic Micromounters Conference Auction 2018.

Caledonite is a lead copper sulfate carbonate $Pb_5Cu_2(SO_4)_3(CO_3)(OH)_6$. Caledonite was named after its type locality in Scotland, which was known historically as Caledonia. Here is a Caledonite from Scotland:



Caledonite. Whytes Cleuch, Wanlockhead, Dumfries, Scotland, UK. FOV 2 mm. Specimen (#853) and photo by Michael Pabst, using macro + Raynox lenses, stacking 17 images.

Here is a crystal drawing of Caledonite, taken from Mindat:

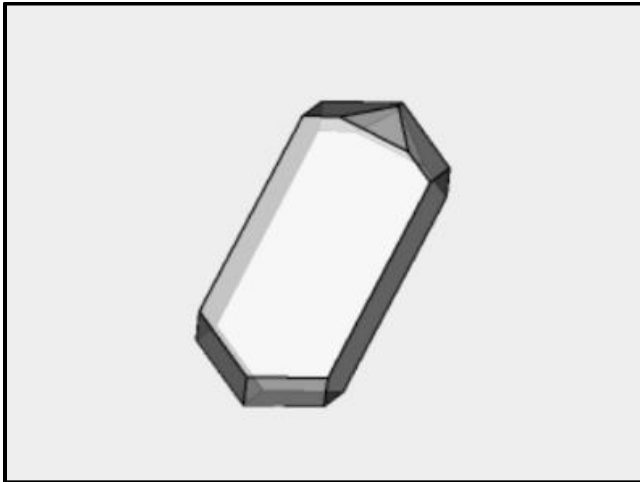


V.M. Goldschmidt, *Atlas der Krystallformen*, 1913-1923 ('Caledonit').

<https://www.mindat.org/min-865.html>

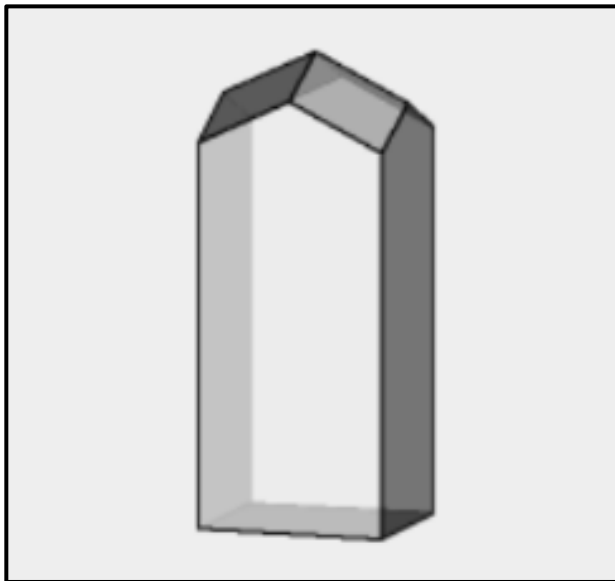
Caledonite continued

Caledonite is orthorhombic $mm2$ – pyramidal. Here are two crystal drawings of Caledonite that show a lack of symmetry along the C-axis. First a subtle example, followed by an obvious example:



Caledonite. Orthorhombic $mm2$ – pyramidal. Figure from Mineral Atlas (<https://www.mineralienatlas.de>).

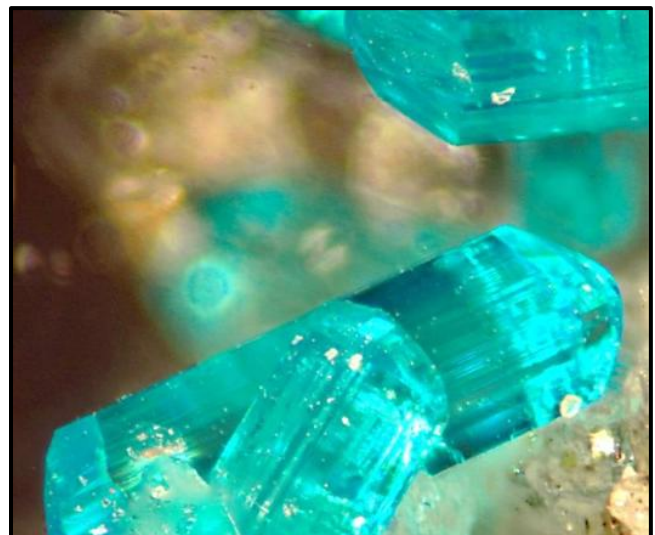
Crystal No. C032af by Ulrich Baumgärtl



Caledonite. Orthorhombic $mm2$ – pyramidal. Figure from Mineral Atlas (<https://www.mineralienatlas.de>). Crystal No. C032ae by Ulrich Baumgärtl.

The two examples of crystal drawings of Caledonite given in Mindat are a bit misleading because they appear to be symmetrical along the C-axis. That is, the “top” and “bottom” of the crystal appear to be the same (mirror images) in the two examples given. Some real crystals of Caledonite might show this apparent symmetry. However, the true symmetry, determined by study of many crystals and by X-ray diffraction shows that Caledonite is less symmetric. In some Caledonite crystals the “tops” and “bottoms” are clearly different (see photos below).

Two of my specimens come from a locality that shows my favorite color of Caledonite, the Mammoth-Saint Anthony Mine, Tiger, Mammoth Mining District, Pinal County, Arizona, USA. The Mammoth Mine crystals are large enough to show a green color. In tiny crystals, Caledonite appears to be sky blue, but with larger crystals, the green tint becomes more evident. This transition from blue to green as the crystals get larger reminds me of the copper silicate Dioptase. Dioptase has a more intense color, compared with Caledonite, but micromounters know that tiny crystals of Dioptase look blue, whereas larger crystals like thumbnails appear green. However, even big Dioptase crystals are not truly green compared with a true green mineral like the copper halide Antlerite, for example. Getting the color right in a photograph is another challenge.



Caledonite. Mammoth-St. Anthony Mine, Tiger, Pinal County, AZ. FOV 1.2 mm. Specimen (#15) and photo by Michael Pabst, using stereo microscope, stacking 25 images. Main crystal showing asymmetry along the C-axis (left to right in this photo).

Caledonite continued



Caledonite. Mammoth-St. Anthony Mine, Tiger, Pinal County, AZ. FOV 0.8 mm. Specimen (#15) and photo by Michael Pabst, using stereo microscope, stacking 8 images. Tiny crystal showing blue-green color and asymmetry along the C-axis (top to bottom in this photo).



Caledonite (green) and Diaboleite or Linarite (blue). Mammoth-St. Anthony Mine, Tiger, Pinal County, AZ. FOV 1 mm. Specimen (#15) and photo by Michael Pabst, using stereo microscope, stacking 9 images. Diaboleite is tetragonal, $Pb_2CuCl_2(OH)_4$. Linarite is monoclinic $\beta = 102.66^\circ$, $PbCu(SO_4)(OH)_2$.

I cannot be sure about Diaboleite in the preceding photo, but the next photo clearly shows blue cubic Boleite with Caledonite. Boleite is a lead silver copper chloride $KPb_{26}Ag_9Cu_{24}(OH)_{48}Cl_{162}$. Second Caledonite specimen #1220 from Tiger:



Caledonite (green prism) and Boleite (blue cube). Mammoth-St. Anthony Mine, Tiger, Pinal County, AZ. FOV 1 mm. Specimen (#1220) and photo by Michael Pabst, using stereo microscope, stacking 16 images.

Continued next page.

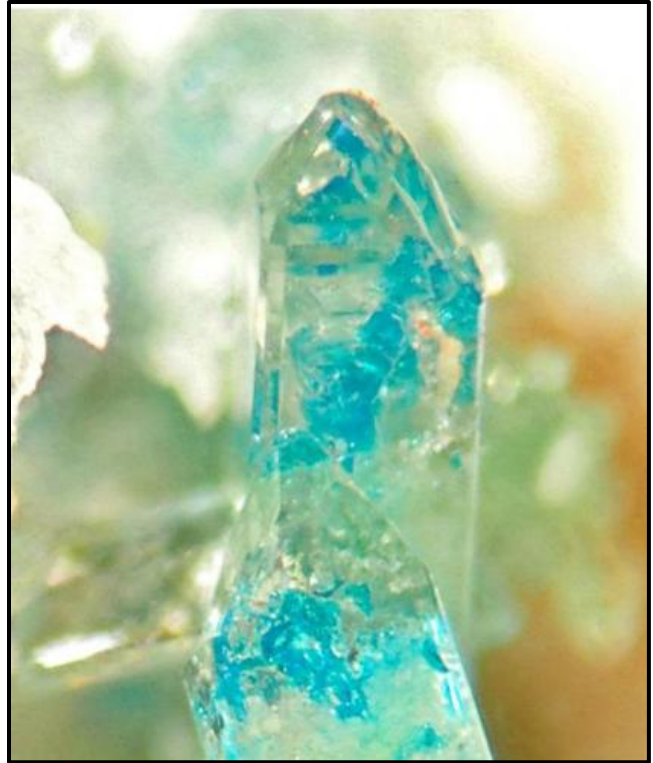
Caledonite continued

Third Caledonite specimen #1226 from Tiger:



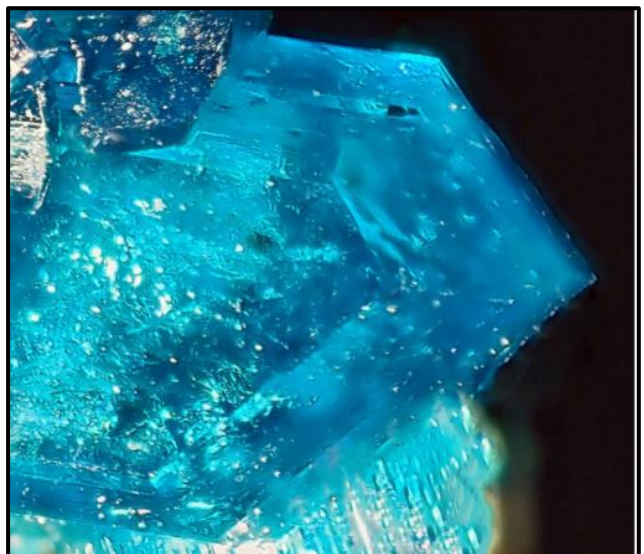
Caledonite. Mammoth-St. Anthony Mine, Tiger, Pinal County, AZ. FOV 2 mm. Specimen (#1226) and photo by Michael Pabst, using macro + Raynox lenses, stacking 65 images.

The next specimen from the Mammoth Mine is Caledonite embedded in Phosgenite, a tetragonal lead carbonate chloride $Pb_2CO_3Cl_2$.



Caledonite inclusions in Phosgenite. Mammoth-St. Anthony Mine, Tiger, Pinal County, AZ. FOV 1 mm. Specimen (#944) and photo by Michael Pabst, using stereo microscope, stacking 3 images.

Specimen from Chance Mine:



Caledonite. Chance Mine, Casa Diablo Mountain, Chidago Mining District, Benton Range, Mono County, CA. FOV 2 mm. Specimen (#389) and photo by Michael Pabst, using macro + Raynox lenses, stacking 86 images.

Caledonite continued



Caledonite from Reward Mine, photographed by Yaiba Sakaguchi: <https://www.mindat.org/photo-740259.html> creative commons license. Crystal is 4 mm tall.

Also see: <https://www.mindat.org/photo-447004.html> FOV 1.2 mm. Here are a few more Caledonite photos that I admire:

Blue Bell Mine, by Marko Burkhardt:
<https://www.mindat.org/photo-392786.html>

French slag, by P. Le Roch:
<https://www.mindat.org/photo-234190.html>

Mammoth St. Anthony Mine, by Carsten Slotta:
<https://www.mindat.org/photo-955308.html>

Grand Reef, by Bucket of Holes:
<https://www.mindat.org/photo-1210718.html>
I hope you enjoyed this overview of Caledonite. Next article is about Veszelyite, a rare copper phosphate, a nice example of which I bought at a recent Tucson show.

Alec Brenner, Mclean, VA to Cal Tech, Harvard to Yale & MNCA-AMC 2022

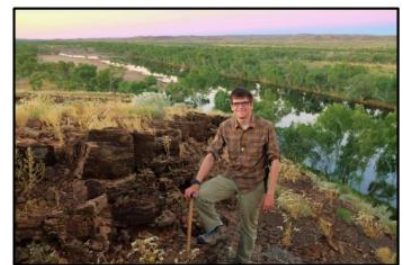
By Kathy Hrechka, Editor & Webmaster, submitted by Erich Grundel, NY Legacy member MNCA

We have known Alec Brenner of Mclean, VA from his youth, as he was a member of our local geology clubs. In junior high, he reached out to geology club members to study rocks and minerals. Alec attended Thomas Jefferson High School, where his interests matured to geoscience research. He attended Cal Tech University, Harvard, and is now a postdoc at Yale. While at Harvard, MNCA hosted him on Zoom as an AMC speaker in 2022, along with Dr. Robert Hazen. Alec spoke on his research on volcanic rocks in Western Australia that retained 3.2-billion-year-old magnetizations.

On March 19, 2026, Alec is credited as the lead author of Tectonic shift: Earth was already moving 3.5 billion years ago, published in Science News.

“A new study from Harvard geoscientists offers the clearest answer yet. Published March 19 in *Science*, the research provides the oldest direct evidence of plate movement, dating back 3.5 billion years. The findings show that early plate motion, even if different from today's system, played a role in shaping the young planet.

There has been a huge range of ages suggested for timing, said lead author Alec Brenner, PhD '24, who conducted research in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences (EPS) in Harvard University Kenneth C. Griffin Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. With this study, we're able to say three and a half billion years ago, we can see plates moving around on the Earth surface. "We took a really big gamble," said Brenner, now a postdoc at Yale. "Demagnetizing thousands of cores takes years. And boy, did it pay off! These results were beyond our wildest dreams." Photo Alec Brenner Western Australia



<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2026/03/260321012636.htm>

Australian Micromount Club on Zoom

Micromount Club Zoom Host: Steve Sorrell resides in Melbourne, Australia and hosts various geology persons of interest at his micromount meeting each month on Zoom. You can sign up for Steve's programs, while enjoying friendly faces within our geology community around the globe.



Micromount Club Meeting 2026-Apr. Wednesday 15th April at 6am. **“The Phosphates of Folgosinho, Portugal”** presented by **Henk Smeets**.

Micromount Club Meeting 2026-May. Wednesday 20th May at 6am. **“Minerals Beginning with A”** presented by **Martin Stolworthy**.

Micromount Club Meeting 2026-Jun. Wednesday 17th June at 6am. **Tentative. “Uranium Minerals in the Northern Territory”** presented by **Peter Hall**.

Micromount Club Meeting 2026-Jul. Wednesday 15th July at 6am. Topic to be advised.

Micromount Club Meeting 2026-Aug. Wednesday 19th August at 6am. Topic to be advised.

Micromount Club Meeting 2026-Sep. Wednesday 16th September at 6am. Topic to be advised.

No Micromount Club Meeting in October.

Micromount Club Meeting 2026-Nov. Wednesday 18th November at 6am. **Tentative. “Tolbachik”** presented by **Inna Lykova**.

Micromount Club Meeting 2026-Dec. Wednesday 16th December at 6am. Topic to be advised.

<https://crocoite.com/the-micromount-club-zoom-sessions/>

Note: Programs are Australia Time Zone Sign up via link above and calculate your local time zone before meeting date.

Save the Date

Desautels Micromount Symposium

The Baltimore Mineral Society
is pleased to announce the

70th Annual

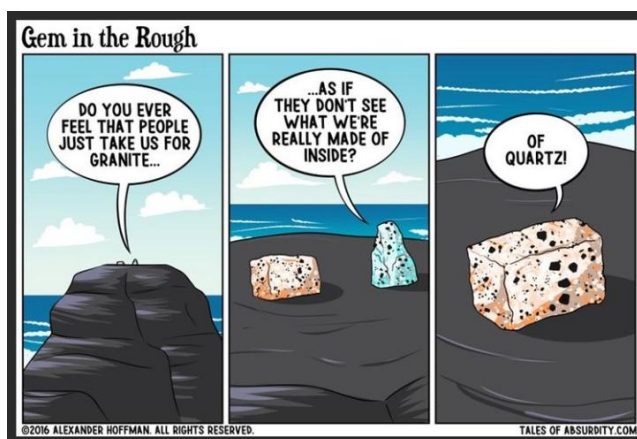
Paul Desautels Memorial Micromount Symposium

October 2-4, 2026

At |
Natural History Society of Maryland
6908 Belair Road, Baltimore, MD 21206

Micromounters Hall of Fame Induction
Mineral Talks, Silent and Voice Auctions
Sales, Giveaway Tables, Trading

Details to be Announced: Mseeds@fandm.edu



Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.



American Federation of
Mineralogical Societies

(AFMS)
www.amfed.org

Please read the AFMS bulletin attached in original monthly email to MNCA members.

2026 Purpose of the AFMS: To promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary, and related subjects, and to sponsor and provide ways to coordinate the work and efforts of all interested persons and groups; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and thereby to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship.



Celebrating over 50 years!
The Rock & Gem magazine is recognized as the
official magazine of the AFMS.
Free archived downloads

[Rock & Gem Magazine Archive : Free
Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet
Archive](#)



Eastern Federation of
Mineralogical and Lapidary
Societies

(EFMLS)
<https://efmls.org>

**Communication and Involvement
Are the Keys to Our Success!**

Please read the EFMLS bulletin attached in original monthly email to MNCA members.

April 2026 Geology Club Meetings

**1: Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia
MSDC Meeting 7:30pm on Zoom
www.mineralogicalsocietyofdc.org**

**6: Northern Virginia Mineral Club - NVMC
6:30pm Dunn Loring VFD 2148 Gallows Rd. Dunn
Loring, VA, 22027
www.novamineralclub.org**

**13: The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of
Montgomery County, Maryland – GLMSMC
Meeting 7:30 pm www.glmsmc.com**

**?: The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of
Washington, DC – GLMS-DC meeting 7 p.m.
Chevy Chase Community Center, 5601 Connecticut
Ave; Washington, DC. www.glmsdc.org**

**15: Baltimore Mineral Society BMS meeting
www.baltimoremineralsociety.org**

**27: Micromineralogists of the National Capital
Area, Inc. MNCA. 3:30-5:30pm Kings Park Library,
Burke VA
www.dcmicrominerals.org**

Micromount Symposium

**October 2-4, 2026
70th Annual Paul Desautels Memorial Micro-
mount Symposium at the Natural History So-
ciety of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland**

Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.



Geo Word of the Day and its definition

All terms and definitions come from the [Glossary of Geology, 5th Edition Revised](#).

GeoWord of the Day is brought to you by:
EnviroTech! envirotechonline.com.

volborthite (vol'-borth-ite) A dark olive-green, green, or yellowish-green monoclinic mineral: $Cu_3V_2O_7(OH)_2 \cdot 2H_2O$. It may contain some calcium and barium, and it represents an occasional ore of vanadium. Syn: *uzbekite*.

About the American Geosciences Institute

The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) was founded in 1948, under a directive of the National Academy of Sciences, as a network of associations representing geoscientists with a diverse array of skills and knowledge of our planet. The Institute provides information services to geoscientists, serves as a voice of shared interests in our profession, plays a major role in strengthening geoscience education, and strives to increase public awareness of the vital role the geosciences play in society's prosperity, use of resources, resilience to natural hazards, and the health of the planet.

AGI is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to serving the geoscience community and addressing the needs of society. AGI headquarters are in Alexandria, Virginia.

[Explore more](#) about how AGI serves the geoscience community.

Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area
www.dcmicrominerals.org

We are meeting at Kings Park Library in Burke, VA
3-5:30pm (forth Monday to Wednesday)

MNCA Purpose: To promote, educate and encourage interest in geology, mineralogy, and related sciences.

President: David Fryauff
Vice President: Jeff Guerber
Secretary: open
Treasurer: Bob Cooke
Editor/Historian: Kathy Hrechka
Website: Kathy Hrechka
AMC Conference: open

The society is a member of:

- * Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) www.efmls.org
- * American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) www.amfed.org affiliation

Dues: MNCA Membership Dues 2026
\$15 (single) or \$20 (family)

Editor's Note: By Kathy Hrechka
Send your articles and photos to your editor.
Club Article Deadline is the 1st of each month.
***The Mineral Mite* will be emailed by the 5th.**
No newsletter July/August

Inducted into Editor's Hall of Fame – 2018
EFMLS Trophy 2021 Small bulletins



Newsletter inputs:

- * David Fryauff
- * Jeff Guerber
- * Michael Pabst
- * Kathy Hrechka
- * David MacLean
- * Peter Chin
- * Mike Seeds
- * Erich Grundel

