

Jan 25 3-5:30pm Kings Park Library, Burke

Micromineral Study

by Jeff Guerber, Vice President

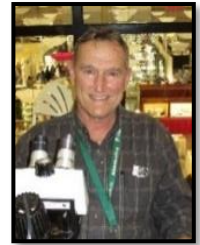
We will continue to review the collection of Barry Remer. In addition, Kathy will bring the rest of Jack Nelson's equipment for examination. We will also discuss our participation in the Montgomery County show as well as the GSA Regional Meeting in Reston, both March 17-19. Our 2023 club officer elections will be held at this meeting.



President's Message:

by David Fryauff

It is 2023, can you believe it....that we have lived so long and so well? Let us spend every moment of precious time that has been allotted to us doing good works and giving of our time and fortunes



to those--every creature--who has need. There really is so much good that can be done by those of us and there are so many that need our help. I am especially concerned for the innocent, industrious, hard-working people of Ukraine. Let us give what our hearts and our minds tell us we can afford to give.

Mystery Micro Mineral of the Month



by Aloha Pete Chin, Honolulu, Hawaii FOV 2.5mm

On a day like this, gray and rainy, I am reminded of the excitement that I used to feel at this normally cold and "down" time of the year...Does anyone else remember those weekends in the dead of winter when the doors of the James Madison University Department of Geology and Environmental Science were opened to the mineral, gem, and fossil clubs from all over the DMV, and beyond!!!! That was thanks to our dear friend and mentor, Dr. Lance Kearns, currently Emeritus Professor and Curator of the JMU Mineral Museum. Those were the days when we could bring him one of our unknowns for qualitative analysis by XRD.

I remember learning that the little beige balls on my specimen of analcime from Mont Sainte Hilaire were ankerite. Another year the sample I brought in was identified as szomolnokite, and another year my unknown was identified as coronadite.

Mystery Micro Mineral Clue

Riviéral Occitanie, France = type locality

Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.

President's Message continued

by David Fryauff

In addition to the analysis, Dr. Kearns would give us a personally guided tour of the mineral museum...a wonderful place that has grown even more impressive and beautiful (I am told, since I have not yet been to the New and Larger JMU Mineral Museum). Those important times were my formative beginnings in the hobby/passion/obsession of micromounting and micromineralogy. How fine it would be if we could still have such wonderful JMU mineralogy visits to look forward to.

Mystery Micro Mineral of the Month

by Aloha Pete Chin, Honolulu, Hawaii

Answer: **Metalodevite** crystals from the type locality, Rivieral, Le Bosc, Lodeve, Hreault, Occitanie, France
Note: Metalodevite is greenish yellow but the plates in the photo appear colorless because they are so thin.

Minutes Previous Meeting 12.28.2022

by Bob Cooke, secretary

The Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area (MNCA) met at Kings Park Library in Burke, Virginia on Wednesday, December 28, 2022. President Dave Fryauff called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM. Other members present were Jeff Guerber, Michael Pabst, Dave MacLean, and Bob Cooke. Michael reported on the status of the club's financial accounts.

Members discussed whether the club should sponsor a demonstration table at the Geological Society of America (GSA) section meeting in Reston on March 17-19, 2023. Cost to sponsor a table for non-profit organizations is \$300. Jeff is willing to man the booth part-time. Michael has some colorful materials for the display. Opinions were mixed about spending \$300. Since no one was aware of a deadline for making a commitment, further discussion was deferred to the MNCA meeting in January.

Members discussed participation in the mineral show of the Gem, Mineral and Lapidary Society of Montgomery County (GLMS-MC) on March 19 & 20 in Gaithersburg, Maryland. MNCA members agreed to host a micromount demonstration table if GLMS-MC extends an invitation. Dave Fryauff will be the point of contact.

Options for an Atlantic Micromounters Conference in 2023 were discussed. Everyone agreed with Michael's suggestion that if an auction is held, it should be in-person, not on-line. Alternative venues were suggested; Michael agreed to approach faculty members at James Madison University to assess if they might be receptive to hosting the conference. Additional discussion was deferred pending the availability of Kathy Hrechka. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Prior Program Reviewed 12.28.2022

by Bob Cooke, secretary

Bob and Jeff displayed four flats of mineral specimens which were donated to the club from Barry Remer's collection. Members reviewed the minerals and selected approximately 25 for distribution at the meeting. Remaining minerals were reserved for future meetings.

MNCA Gold panner, Jack Nelson's club donation

List created by Joe Nelson for MNCA

- *Olympus QZT-745 stereo microscope w/ 10x oculars, trans/reel stand, pr. 20x oculars
- *Edmund Scientific Co. camera to microscope adapter
- *2 - Tensor Halogen Table Lamps (one needs repl. bulb)
- *UVP Model UVG-4 Cordless Mineral light UV light
- *UVP handheld Black light
- *Titan Tool Supply FOILB 150 Fiberoptic illuminator
- *Titan Tool Supply FOI-1 Bifurcated bundle
- *Swiss mm dial gauge
- *Box of 81 mounted samples in 1.5" plastic display boxes
- *Box of mounted micro crystals
- *Box misc. supplies - plastic bags, labels, etc.
- *Box of 15 different mineral samples sent to Dad from Graham Lee - Australia
- *Large box samples w/ handmade list from Sugar Grove West Virginia
- *Various rock samples
- *Box of photos - collecting trips, conferences, gold panning trips etc.
- *Misc. correspondence and articles
- bag of rough opals

Cobaltomenite, Schneebergite, Julienite, and Cobalamin

by Michael Pabst PhD, Treasurer

Just a few more cobalt secondary minerals, some with comparisons of the nickel analogs.



Cobaltomenite vs. Ahlfeldite.

Cobaltomenite is cobalt selenite $\text{CoSeO}_3 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$, and its nickel analog is Ahlfeldite $\text{NiSeO}_3 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$, which I described in my May 2022 article in *Mineral Mite*. Cobaltomenite is monoclinic $2/m$ – prismatic, $\beta = 98.6^\circ$. It was named as the cobalt analog of the copper selenite Chalcocomenite, $\text{CuSeO}_3 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$. From the Greek χαλκος = "copper," and μήνη (for σελήνη) = "moon". (The element selenium is named after the moon.) Cobaltomenite forms a series with nickel mineral Ahlfeldite, $\text{NiSeO}_3 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$. Ahlfeldite, like Cobaltomenite, is monoclinic $2/m$ – prismatic, with $\beta = 99.08^\circ$. A minor amount of cobalt usually makes Ahlfeldite pink, although some specimens are green from pure nickel.

Unfortunately, even at the highest magnification of my stereomicroscope, the Cobaltomenite in my specimen appears as clusters of minute crystals, with no apparent regular shape. However, Mindat offers us a photo by Elmar Lackner of beautiful Cobaltomenite crystals: <https://www.mindat.org/photo-1129937.html>.



Cobaltomenite, Parco Mines, Yellow Cat Mesa, Grand County, Utah. FOV 4 mm. Photo by Michael Pabst, using stereomicroscope, stacking 26 images.

Schneebergite vs. Nickelschneebergite.

Schneebergite is a mineral containing both cobalt and bismuth $\text{BiCo}_2(\text{AsO}_4)_2(\text{OH}) \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$, and Nickelschneebergite is the same except with Ni^{2+} dominant $\text{BiNi}_2(\text{AsO}_4)_2(\text{OH}) \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$. From photos in Mindat, which are all from the Roter Berg Mine in Saxony, Germany, the two are visually indistinguishable. There is a mention of "greenish" for the nickel mineral, but I cannot see it in the photos. These two minerals are members of the Tsumcorite Group. Many specimens may contain both cobalt and nickel. Stephan Wolfsried offers us a good photo on Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/photo-841622.html>. Here is my specimen:



Schneebergite on Quartz. Roter Berg Mine, Schneeberg, Erzgebirge, Saxony, Germany. FOV 1 mm. Photo by Michael Pabst, using stereomicroscope, stacking 10 images.

Julienite. Julienite is sodium cobalt thiocyanate $\text{Na}_2\text{Co}(\text{SCN})_4 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$. (Aka: sodium tetrakisothiocyanatocobaltate (II) octahydrate.) A rare mineral from Shinkolobwe, DR Congo. Because Julienite contains a carbon atom, it can be considered an organic mineral. Julienite forms deep blue crystals. My specimen lives in a sealed vial and I photographed it through the glass because it's water-soluble. The specimen is a bundle of deep blue rods, capped by a small cluster of pink crystals of unknown identity, with the pink color probably due to cobalt. Julienite is monoclinic $2/m$ – prismatic, with $\beta = 91.64^\circ$. Julienite was named after a French geologist, Henri Julien, who died in the Congo in 1920.



Julienite, Shamitumba, Shinkolobwe, Kambove District, DR Congo. FOV 3 mm. Photo by Michael Pabst, using stereomicroscope, stacking 8 images.

Here is a link to another specimen of Julienite, photographed by Brent Thorne:

<https://www.mindat.org/photo-486936.html>.

(Here is the link to my specimen:

<https://www.mindat.org/photo-1046974.html>.)

There is more about Henri Julien here:

<https://www.mindat.org/article.php/1853/Julienite+-+Henri+Julien>.

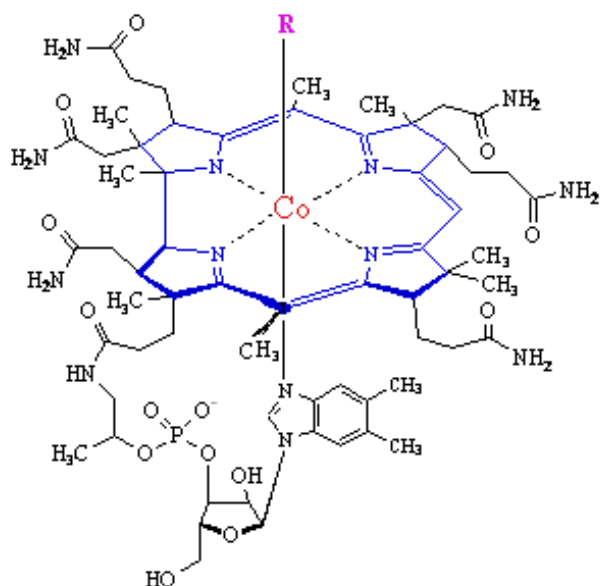
Cobalamin. Cobalamin, aka vitamin B₁₂, is pushing the definition of “mineral”, but with all the new organic molecules being recognized by the IMA, I don’t think that I am too far out of line. Cobalamin is a co-enzyme, or a “tool”, that some enzymes use to perform chemical reactions that are essential for life, but that would be difficult without the help of a cobalt atom. Cobalamin forms beautiful red crystals (photo below). Cobalamin is one of the most elegant molecules in biochemistry. It is a molecule that holds onto an atom of cobalt, and it uses the transition element character of cobalt to form a direct cobalt-to-carbon bond. This allows cobalamin to transfer methyl or adenosyl groups. For example, Cobalamin transfers a methyl group to form the essential amino acid methionine. Without methionine a cell cannot make proteins. Without Cobalamin, you could not live. It’s a vitamin, so humans cannot make it. Some bacteria know how to make Cobalamin, and we steal it from them. Why don’t we make it for ourselves? Because it involves a pathway with 26 enzymes, which take a lot of energy to make and operate. We

only need a tiny amount, so we “borrow” it. The bacteria in the stomachs of ruminants produce Cobalamin, and we get it from eating animals or drinking their milk. Fish and shellfish also have symbiotic bacteria that produce Cobalamin. Cobalamin is neither made by nor used by plants, so vegetarians and especially vegans need to take Cobalamin supplements. Deficiency of Cobalamin can cause irreversible nerve damage, in addition to many reversible problems like anemia.

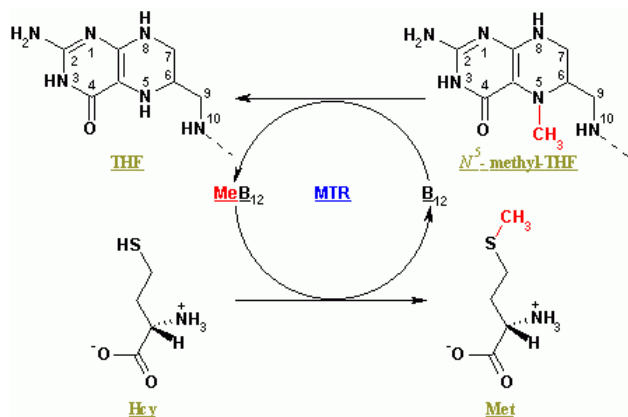


Crystals of cyanocobalamin (Vitamin B₁₂). Photo by Stefan Eberhard taken in 1999. Magnification 16x, using polarized light to have a dark background. In cyanocobalamin, the R group is cyanide (CN), and this is a relatively stable molecule that can be added to vitamin tablets.

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Chemical diagram of Cobalamin, showing the cobalt atom in red (Co), a **corrin** ring in blue that holds the cobalt atom in place, and the cobalt-carbon bond to a methyl or other group (R) in purple. Cobalt is in the form of Co^{3+} , with coordination to four nitrogens of the **corrin** ring and to one nitrogen of 5,6-dimethylbenzimidazole (the bit below the ring), and one bond to carbon (R). In cells, R can be methyl or adenosyl, or in vitamin pills it is cyanide. (Corrin resembles porphyrin in heme, which uses an iron atom to carry oxygen in the blood.)



Reaction catalyzed by Methionine Synthase using Cobalamin as co-enzyme. Methionine synthase (MTR) grabs a methyl group (red $-\text{CH}_3$) from N^5 -methyl-tetrahydrofolate (N^5 -methyl-THF) (another vitamin), using Cobalamin to hold the methyl group (MeB_{12}). The enzyme then adds the methyl group to homocysteine (Hcy) to produce methionine (Met).

(Methionine Synthase is just one of the enzymes that require cobalamin.)

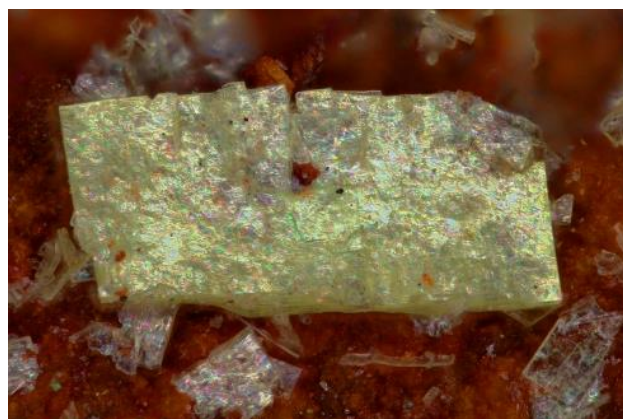
This discussion of Cobalamin is nostalgic for me because I enjoyed research in biochemistry.

Next time, we return to classical mineralogy to look at the ores of cobalt, mainly cobalt arsenides and sulfides.

Pete Chin's Mystery Micro extra pics

by Aloha Pete Chin, Honolulu, Hawaii

Here are two photos from a MM of Metalodevite crystals from the type locality, Riviéral, Le Bosc, Lodève, Hérault, Occitanie, France.



Metalodevite FOV 1mm



Metalodevite FOV 1mm

Note: Metalodevite is greenish yellow but the plates in the photo appear colorless because they are so thin.

Friends of Mineralogy Virginia

by Ken Rock, MSDC Editor

Friends of Mineralogy Virginia (FMVA) Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and expanding the study of mineralogy and the hobby of mineral collecting. Its mission is to **promote and preserve Virginia mineral and mining heritage while expanding the knowledge of minerals more broadly through community programs and industry partnerships.**

Many of us have talked with or seen representatives from FMVA at local gem and mineral shows or have picked up one of their brochures or information sheets. I was fortunate to meet with Tom Hale and two other team members recently at the Northern Virginia Mineral Club's Gem & Mineral show at George Mason University. **I learned that FMVA is a service organization that strives to serve as the "connective tissue" between the public and the state's mining sector, academic institutions, and political offices.**

FMVA's parent organization, Friends of Mineralogy, was founded in 1970 with the goal of bridging the communications gap between amateur mineral collectors and professional mineralogists, mineral dealers, and mining companies. The Virginia chapter was founded by a team of mineral collectors, curators, geologists, and mineralogists interested in promoting the Commonwealth's mineral resources. FMVA provides an impressive array of programs and resources including:

- 1) A [Teacher Manual](#), "Mineralogy & Geology of Virginia." A great resource for teachers wanting to learn more about the most important rocks and minerals in the state.
- 2) [Virginia Mineral Directory](#). This 2022 Virginia Mineral Directory is a one-stop document for all things related to Virginia rockhounding and geoscience!
- 3) [FMVA YouTube Series](#). FMVA hosts monthly speakers on the last Thursday of each month. Speakers come from all around the globe and are leading experts in mineralogy and geology topics.
- 4) [Mindat.org](#). Mindat.org is the world's largest open database of minerals, rocks, meteorites, and the localities they come from.

5) [Macrostrat](#). A platform for geological data exploration, integration, and analysis. This geologic map database includes over 225 maps from data providers around the world.

6) [Rockd](#). Instant access to more than 155 geologic maps.

7) [Rockhounding 101 Course](#). An introductory class provided to the public to help beginners learn more about the hobby and explore their own collecting interests. The class hosts five virtual sessions and twofieldtrips.

8) [Virginia Rockhounding](#). A community Facebook group with over 11,000 citizens across the Commonwealth who share a passion for learning about Virginia's natural resources.

In addition to all these activities, FMVA works closely with industry and teachers' associations to get educators into quarries to learn about mining and the aggregate industry. In 2022, FMVA published its first book on NOVA trap rock quarries. This is the first colored book on Virginia's mineral resources and hopes to be the first in a lineup of new books across each province.

To learn more about FMVA and the great variety of programs and resources it offers, check out the website: www.friendsofmineralogyvirginia.org. If you have questions or would like to connect in person, you can contact FMVA: phone 540-529-4506 friendsofmineogy.viginia@gmail.com



Cindy Schmidlein, MSDC Vice President & Thomas Hale, President, The Virginia Mineral Project. Photo by Ken Rock. Article reprinted with permission by Ken Rock, editor for the Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia Dec 2022 issue

Micromineral News from Australia

Speaker: Peter Megaw, "Santa Eulalia Mexico"
January 19 @ 1pm ET (verify time)

by Kathy Hrechka

Steve Sorrell resides in Melbourne, Australia and hosts various geology persons of interest at their 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.



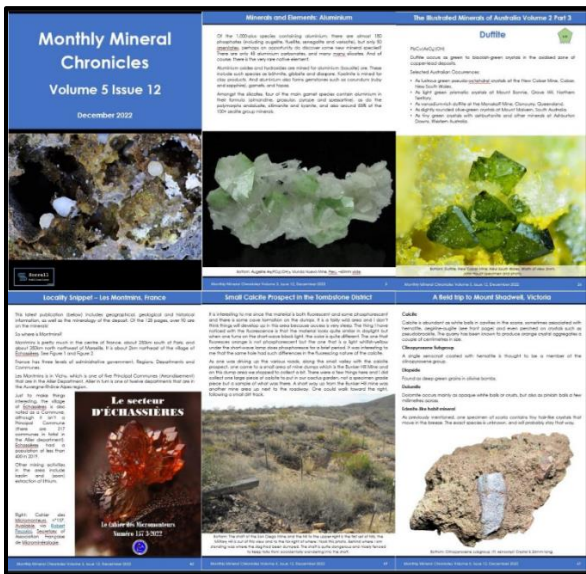
Register for this and other future Zoom sessions here: <https://crocoite.com/index.php/2021/07/the-micromount-club-zoom-sessions/>

steve@sorrellpublications.com

MNCA Editor's note: thanks to Steve, we have been connecting with new mineral friends around the world for the past three years. I have learned that he is a master photomicrographer, as well author of mineral books and a talented artist.

The Micromount Club Facebook group presentations are available through the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwdOHcjmducFKcDw8d2qgAoEEEB0M7vht>



Screenshot of Steve's website newsletters, K. Hrechka

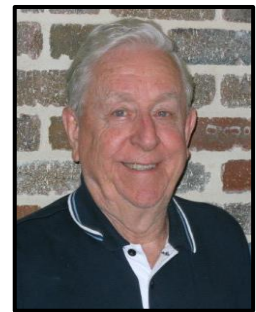
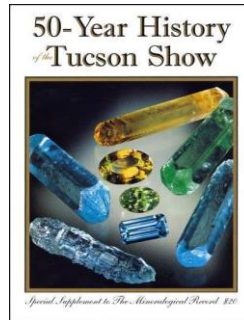
Mineral Talks Live - Jan 4 @ 1pm ET

Speaker: Bob Jones, Carnegie Award 1992

"Robert (Bob) William Jones was born on Sept 1, 1926, Bridgeport, CT. After a BS in science education and an MS in Science, and a few different jobs, Bob taught Science for 32 years, and is Senior Consulting Editor of Rock and Gems.

Bob is an MSA Milestone Life Member, [MSA](#) President 1964, generous donor, volunteer and oldest founding member of the Flagg Mineral Foundation. He is a world-renowned collector, lecturer, host and author. He authored Nature's Hidden Rainbows Fluorescent Minerals of Franklin, NJ 1964, The Collector's Book of Fluorescent Minerals 1983-, Twenty-Fifth- and Fifth-Year History of the Tucson Show, The Frugal Collector, Volume 1 2011 and over 1800 articles in The Mineralogical Record, Rocks and Minerals, Rock & Gem, Lapidary Journal, Monde et Mineraux and Arizona Highways. Bob is co-host for BlueCap Productions DVD series of "What's Hot" filmed at premier gem and mineral shows in Tucson, Arizona and Munich, Germany.

Bob is a recipient of the Carnegie Mineralogical Award (1992) and honoree of the mineral specie Bobjonesite; he is also recipient of the Flagg Mineral Foundation 2012 A. L. Flagg Lifetime Achievement Award and Mineralogical Society of Arizona 2014 Hall of Fame Inductee. Bob was part of the first Tucson Show in 1960 and a Member of the Show Committee for over 40 years, holding the title of Show Chairman 50th Anniversary TGMS Show. "



Register in advance for this webinar:

<http://go.mineraltalkslive.com/register>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link joining the webinar.

Bryan Swoboda, Blue Cap Productions, Honolulu, HI
info@mineraltalkslive.com

Mineralogical Society of Southern California 56th Annual Pacific Micro Mineral Conference Jan 27-28, 2023

submitted by Quintin Wight

Location: The Fallbrook Mineral Museum
123 W. Alvarado St., Fallbrook, CA

FRIDAY, January 27

3:00-6:00 PM: On-site Registration, greeting friends, setting up scopes, \$1 sales table opens

6:00-7:00 PM: Dinner (on your own) Several cafes and a great Mexican restaurant are within a few blocks of the museum

7:00-8:00 PM: Evening talk by Robert Housley "The 16 New Te Minerals Species of Otto Mountain"

8:00-9:00 PM: Contributed Talks and Mineral Photos

SATURDAY, January 28

8:00-9:00 AM: Doors open, on-site Registration, filling give-away and sales tables

10:00 AM: Welcome, Special Announcements and Morning speaker introduction

10:15-11:30 AM: Morning Presentation by Paul Adams "Three high temperature calc-silicate skarns in Southern California"

Noon – Lunch (on your own)

1:30 PM: VERBAL AUCTION donated specimens

3:00 PM: SILENT AUCTION of donated specimens, mineralogical books/magazines, maps, etc.

3:15-4:30 PM: Afternoon Presentation by Dan Evanich "Recent Collecting in the Majuba Hill Mine"

4:30-6:00 PM: Microscope time, scouting the give-away and sales tables

6:00-7:00: Dinner (on your own)

7:00 PM: Contributed talks and Mineral Photos

SUNDAY Field Trip, January 29

People planning on participating in the field trip should probably plan to stay in Barstow, rather than Fallbrook on Saturday night. We will meet Sunday morning at 9 am at a central location in Barstow and either collect at a nearby mine, continue to Otto Mountain, or continue farther to the Singer Mine at Goodsprings NV.

Registration \$20: Al Wilkins, PMC Chair
23202 Via Celeste Coto de Caza, CA 92679-3919
\$20. checks payable to MSSC

Questions: contact rhousley@its.caltech.edu.

**47th Annual Micromount Symposium
hosted by Leidy Micromount Society
March 10-11, 2023**

Friday March 10, 2023, noon to 6pm

Saturday, March 11th, 2023, 9am to 6pm

**Location: Advent Lutheran Church,
45 Worthington Mill Rd, Richboro, PA 18954**

Friday speaker - Brittany A. Cymes, Ph.D.

TOPIC: Microscopy of Solar Wind Particles Trapped in Lunar Surface Minerals.

Biography: Dr. Brittany Cymes is a postdoctoral researcher at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory where her principal focus is analyzing newly released Apollo 17 samples with electron microscopy and microanalytical approaches. These special lunar samples, first placed into frozen curation in 1972, are revealing new information to scientists thanks to advances in technology over the past fifty years. Dr. Cymes received her doctorate in geology from Miami University and her research interests revolve around mineral alteration processes and surface chemistry in different environments. She specializes in using electron microscopy to study planetary materials to better understand processes taking place across the Solar System and beyond

Saturday speaker - Robert A. Carlton, Ph.D.

Topic: Mineral Analysis for the Micro-Mineral Collector

Biography: Dr. Robert Carlton worked for nearly 40 years in the research and development of fiberglass insulation, orthopedics, and pharmaceuticals. His specialty is solidstate analysis with a particular interest in microscopy. Robert retired from fulltime employment in early 2016. He is now teaching microscopy and consulting on solid-state analysis. He is also applying his analytical experience to minerals as an avocation. Robert is President of the Philadelphia Society for Microscopy and a member of the Leidy Microscopy Society. Robert's education is in chemistry with a Ph.D. from Lehigh University. He has taken numerous courses at McCrone Research Institute on microscopy from Skip Palenik and Walter McCrone. Robert worked for pharmaceutical companies Rhone-Poulenc Rorer (Aventis, Sanofi), Elan (NanoCrystal), and GlaxoSmithKline in microscopy and solid-state analysis for 24 years. He published a book on Pharmaceutical Microscopy in 2011 with Springer

Table space (for two days): \$25.00 & \$40.00 (full table, 6ft) Visitor's Fee (no table): \$5. Fri & \$10. Sat Registrations (includes lunch) Make checks payable: Don McAlarnen, 916 Senator Rd, East Norriton, PA 19403 (610) 584-1364

Questions: Email: donmcalarnen@outlook.com

Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.



American Federation of
Mineralogical Societies

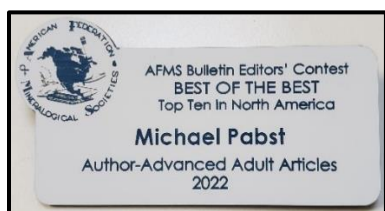
(AFMS)
www.amfed.org

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

2023 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.

Congratulations Michael Pabst!

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Bulletin Editors Advisory Committee Awarded Michael Pabst 9th Place for his article "Cumengeite and Pseudoboleite" which was published in The Mineral Mite 2021. Michael was honored on October 17, 2022, in New Orleans, Louisiana, the location for the AFMS/SCFMS Convention. Michael received a certificate as well as a new name tag.



Celebrating 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.

Local Geology Club Meetings:

January 2023

**4: Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia
MSDC 7:30 Zoom**
www.mineralogicalsocietyofdc.org

**16: 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**
www.glmisd.org

18: Baltimore Mineral Society BMS meeting
www.baltimoremineralsociety.org

23: Northern VA Mineral Club NVMC
www.novamineralclub.org

25: Micromineralogists of the NCA, Inc. MNCA
3-5:30pm Kings Park Library, Burke
www.dcmicrominerals.org



Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, Inc.

Barry Remer Caring Thoughts update

by Sue Marcus, VP NVMC

Long-time NVMC members know Barry Remer. Barry served as NVMC pres., has been a dealer at our shows, and helped us use the Nature Center for a cheap price, because he worked there.

Barry's had a couple of significant TIAs this summer. He is recovering slowly in a care facility in Falls Church. He needs to work on strengthening muscles to safely stand and walk. He would enjoy visitors. He has physical therapy, so you may want to check if you visit him, to avoid those times.

Unfortunately, he does not have a phone or a computer. You may call the facility and ask to speak with him. If you have time to send him a card or stop by, or speak with him on the phone, that would be appreciated.

Warmly, Sue

Reachable number for Barry--ask to speak with him:
571-378-0295

**Potomac Place
3236 Locker Street
Falls Church, VA 22042**

Barry Remer update Jan 3, 2023

by Kathy Hrechka

Thanks to Sue, Dave MacLean and I visited Barry this morning. He was proud that Rick Reiber brought him a lighted mini-Christmas tree. I brought Barry 3 geology magazines, which the staff could read to him and other residents. We learned that Barry is now bedridden, and happy to converse with us. We so love Barry and remain his family within our geology community. Please visit him or send a card to brighten his day.

Sincerely, Kathy



Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area

www.dcmicrominerals.org

We are temporarily meeting at Kings Park Library in Burke, 3-5:30pm (forth Wednesdays) until we locate a permanent meeting place.

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

President: David Fryauff

Vice President: Jeff Guerber

Secretary: Bob Cooke

Treasurer: Michael Pabst

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 2023

\$15 (single) or \$20 (family) donations

MNCA - Michael Pabst, Treasurer

270 Rachel Drive

Penn Laird, VA 22846

Editor's Note: By Kathy Hrechka

Send your articles and photos to your editor.

Club Article Deadline is 1st of each month.

***The Mineral Mite* will be emailed by 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
- * Bob Cooke
- * Kathy Hrechka
- * Pete Chin
- * Quintin Wight
- * Sue Marcus

