

# **FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY**

## **Pennsylvania Chapter**

# **NEWSLETTER**

VOL. 37 NO. 1

Spring 2009

## **Sale: Bill Yocom's Rock Collection**

**Saturday March 7, at 11:00 a.m.**

**25 Dean Street, West Chester, Pa. 19382**

Hi, My name is Sue Maletsky and my Dad, Bill Yocom was a local rock collector and curator of the West Chester Universities Mineral Museum when he was alive. I am selling his rock collection March 7 at my home 25 Dean Street, West Chester, starting at 11:00. Helping me are Roger Mitchell from the Media Natural History Museum, Dave Saja from The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Arnold Mogel with the Pa. Friends of Mineralogy, and Ron Sloto from the USGS and writer about French Creek minerals. They were all good friends of my father and feel you might be interested in this sale. To see digital images of some of the minerals, rocks, and fossils email David Saja at [dsaja@cmnh.org](mailto:dsaja@cmnh.org) for a 68 megabyte pdf file.

For further information contact me at (email) [saf610@verizon.net](mailto:saf610@verizon.net)  
Thanks! Sue Maletsky

## **FRIENDS of MINERALOGY PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER INC.**

### **DUES NOTICE**

Dear Member

Another year has passed FM dues are due for 2009. Seniors (over age 65) owe \$15.00 and regular membership dues are \$ 20.00. Dues are the major source of income for the chapter .Your dues support the chapter and the National FM as well. A break down of your dues is as follows \$6.00 goes to the National .PA. Chapter Insurance costs average between six and seven dollars per member .This cost is dependent on the number of members. The remainder of the Dues supports mailings and newsletters – Your support is necessary if the chapter is to continue not only financially but also physically. The Board could use your suggestions and input. We need folks to help

with planning and operation. Please make your dues payment out to

Friends of Mineralogy PA. Chapter Inc. Mail Payment to: Friends of Mineralogy Pa. Chapter Inc.  
P.O. Box 158 Friedensburg, PA.17933-0158

Thank You for your support

# President's Message

## Spring 2009



Dear Members,

As you are all pretty much aware of by now, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow back on February 2nd leaving us to get through another six weeks of winter. For many of us that means we have more time to work on our collections or get our gear ready for the first chance we have to head out into the field during a break in the weather. For the Board of Directors it means getting a jump on planning for the 2009 Fall Symposium scheduled for November 7th & 8th.

We're going back to the basics with this year's FMPA symposium. Last year's attempt with a "Field Trip Only" symposium didn't work out as well as we had hoped, so we are going back to the format that has worked best for us in the past. The event will once again be a two day affair with lectures on Saturday and a field trip on Sunday. Our theme this year is going to be Pennsylvania Mineralogy and our speaker list keeps getting bigger by the day. We already have Carter Rich, Ron Sloto, Bill Brice, Dave Glick, and Joe Dague as presenters. As of right now the field trip details are still being worked out.

Our venue for the 2009 symposium is changing as well. Dr. Stan Mertzman and the faculty and students of the Geology Department at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, PA have graciously agreed to host our gathering. Some first floor rooms in the Hackman Physical Science Laboratories and the auditorium in the Kauffman Lecture Hall have been reserved for us. Geology students will be available to give a tour of the department by symposium attendees. We have been told that this will not be a home football weekend for F&M, so parking should not be at a premium and it is only a short walk to the geology building from the nearest main lot. More details on the symposium will be released in the next few months.

Sad News—It saddens me to report that the Chapter has lost a few members in the past few weeks. In Early November we were alerted to the passing of long-time member and USGS geologist Dr. Allen V. Heyl on October 24, 2008 due to complications from pneumonia. On January 31, 2009 one of our former Directors, Neil Wintringham, passed away. Shortly after Neil's death we heard that member Harvey Cantor passed away as well. Our sympathies go out to all of their families.

FM National—I'm sure that many of you have received your newsletter from the National organization by now. If you were like me you were probably wondering where the report was for the PA Chapter (for the second newsletter in a row). The reason was, and I'm going to be honest with you, we weren't asked for one! Apparently the newsletter editor for the national organization purchased a new computer and didn't add the PA Chapter officers to her e-mail distribution list. I was upset that it happened with the previous newsletter and I was assured that it wouldn't happen again. When it happened this time around I was upset and I raised my concerns with the officers at the National organization.

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## President's Message . . . . continued

As this is being written, FM is holding it's annual Board of Directors meeting in Tucson. I have sent my comments to the Board and I have asked my representative to the meeting to voice our concerns about this issue. With any luck this will not happen again.

As always, if you have questions about anything the PA Chapter is doing or you would like to see us do please contact me or any of our Board members.

Regards,  
Doug Rambo  
President,  
F.M. PA Chapter, Inc.

## In Memoriam – Heyl

REMEMBERING ALLEN HEYL

By JOE DAGUE

Allen V. Heyl, one of America's outstanding workers in geology throughout the last half of the 20th century, died at a hospice near his home in Evergreen, Colorado on October 24, 2008 at the age of 90 after a brief bout with pneumonia. Allen left the scientific study of geology with scores of his observations and interpretations in a multitude of articles and books. Jay L. Lininger measured the strike of Allen's life and career in a biographical tribute entitled Allen V. Heyl: Colorado's (and America's) Consummate Economic Mineralogist published in MATRIX (V9N3, pgs.128-136). For many of us who belong to the Friends of Mineralogy, Pennsylvania Chapter, however, our good warm personal memories of Allen remain his most valuable legacy.

Johnny Johnsson, PA-FOM member and mining historian, recalls the time Allen showed up on his doorstep in Finksburg, Maryland and the two enjoyed a long chat that evening on all kinds of Maryland chrome and copper mining sites. Johnny was researching the history of the mineral carrollite from the Patapsco copper mine at the time and Allen later provided verifying information surrounding the identity of the species and a first-hand account of a 1940s field trip to the locality.

He wrote letters answering questions and detailing his thoughts, as well as reviewing Johnny's draft paper, which was published in MATRIX in 1998 (V6N9, PGS 43-55). Johnny says Allen's collaborative works with Nancy Pearre have as the foundation of Johnny's ongoing research into the mining history of Maryland.

Allen's former colleague at the United States Geological Survey, Nancy Pearre Lesure, shares that "It was both a pleasure and an education to work with Allen back in the 1950s, and to help him map those old mines in Maryland and Pennsylvania. He had an amazing memory, a very sharp eye, and a keen sense of humor. He and Mickey (Allen's wife, Maxine, who died in 1993) were wonderful friends, and I enjoyed many visits with their family during those years. His was a rich and productive life." Nancy and her husband, Frank--both now retired from the USGS--reside in Frederick, Maryland.

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## In Memoriam – Heyl continued

Andrew Sicree, professional mineralogist and former board member of national FOM, says, "I had the honor of getting to know Allen over the years. We first met when I was working on my Ph.D. thesis, studying sphalerite and galena from the Upper Mississippi Valley district in Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa. Allen, of course, wrote the seminal paper on the UMV district for the U.S. Geological Survey. He'd been the Survey's leading zinc expert for years. He knew and understood just about every economic occurrence of zinc mineralization in the U.S. I met him when he came to speak at Penn State. We became friends, and I learned a lot of economic geology and mineralogy from him."

Andy continues, "After Allen retired from the Survey, I had an opportunity to spend some time with him in the field on several occasions. When I went to Denver for the Denver Mineral Show, I always tried to stay on for a day or two after the show. Allen and I would spend the days driving around the Colorado mountains." Andy especially remembers they spent two days once in Leadville exploring mine dumps. "Allen had been the USGS Leadville expert for a number of years and was familiar with every mine in the district. He had a four-wheel drive and would go charging up hills, down roads and through the brush, driving off-road with a confidence I never had. I was sure we'd end up upside in some gulch, but we never did. When we stopped at a dump, I could always rely on Allen's keen eye to pick out (and identify) some unusual mineral."

Juliet Reed, Associate Curator, The Bryn Mawr College Mineral Collections, reflects on Allen's generosity especially in donating his 1,500-specimen Pennsylvania mineral collection to Bryn Mawr College. She says the collection includes specimens Allen personally collected or acquired as gifts from the 1930s to the 1990s mainly from the classic localities in the southeastern part of the state. Juliet has created a special exhibit in the Pennsylvania cases of the College's Geology Department showing 42 specimens of mineral species new to Pennsylvania from both Allen's minerals as well as James Quickel's Pennsylvania collection.

Martin Anné, a founding member of the Pennsylvania Chapter, FOM, and compiler of the latest list of PA mineral species, recalls Allen's enthusiasm for all natural history, not just minerals. On a FOM field trip together at the Wood's chromite mine years ago, Marty says he heard Allen let out this loud whoop. Marty rushed over to Allen, expecting to see some terrific mineral specimen that Allen unearthed from the old dumps. Instead, Allen showed him a small orchid in bloom. Allen told him excitedly how this rare orchid only grew here in the serpentine barrens, and that he knew it existed, but never before found one.

The last time I visited with Allen Heyl took place in June 2004 at the Pennsylvania Mineral Symposium on the Penn State campus. Allen spoke Saturday morning at the event on the topic "PA minerals still easily collected." I followed him with a slide presentation on classic Pennsylvania minerals from the Genth Collection.

Frederich August Genth wrote the first statewide report on the mineralogy of Pennsylvania in 1875. He also served as Chief Chemist to the Second Pennsylvania Geological Survey, while at the same time teaching and operating an analytical research lab at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Some how, years after Genth's death, the then Penn State College's, School of Mineral Industries induced Genth's heirs to move his mineral collection from Penn and install it at Penn State. Despite the importance of this acquisition, I could never find any details about this academic coup in any of the paperwork connected with Genth's collection.

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## In Memoriam – Heyl continued

When the symposium broke for lunch, Jay Lininger and I rounded up Allen and headed downtown for something to eat. On our stroll to the restaurant, Allen--a virtual walking encyclopedia of mineralogy--revealed the story how Penn State got Genth's minerals. Allen said he came to Penn State College in 1937, studying under the renowned economic geologist Dr. Arthur P. Honess. He remembered that Honess convinced Genth's daughter to donate the collection to Penn State. When it arrived at the School of Mineral Industries--Allen thought around 1941--Honess kept it under lock and key, but entrusted Allen to prepare and organize this priceless scientific heritage. Sadly, having personally examining that great collection, I surmise that in the six plus decades under Penn State's custody the only care it ever received likely came from Allen.

Andy Sicree summed up quite well what many of us feel about Allen, "He was a great guy and a great geologist, always willing to teach, always willing to be a friend. He will be missed. Requiescat in Pace."

*Allen Heyl's passing was also noted in the national magazine for professional geologists, the Geological Society of America's members bulletin, **GSA Today**, v. 19, no. 2, p. 31*

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## In Memoriam – Wintringham

Neil Andrews Wintringham  
AGE: 86 BRIDGEWATER

(from the Courier News)

Neil Andrews Wintringham, 86, died on Jan. 31, 2009. Neil was born in Glen Ridge, NJ on May 29, 1922, to the late Mary Cornelius and Andrews C. Wintringham. He was formerly of Glen Ridge and Mountainside before moving to Bridgewater over 30 years ago. He was a science teacher at Scotch Plains High School and was an Adjunct Professor of Earth Science Education at Kean and Rutgers Universities. He authored and edited numerous publications including Handbook for a Week with Maine Minerals. Neil received the NJSTA "Distinguished Service New Jersey Earth Science Education Presidential Award," and was honored as "Outstanding Earth Science Teacher," by the National Association of Geoscience Teachers. He was an Elected Honored Member of the Leidy Microscopical Society; Director of the Pennsylvania Chapter, Friends of Mineralogy; member of the Mineralogical Society of America, and the Maine Geological Survey, a Legion of Honor Member, Society of Mining Engineers. Neil graduated from Cornell University with an A.B. in Chemistry and an M.S. in Geology. He had a distinguished career as a chemist, beloved teacher, and nationally recognized mineralogist and author. Surviving are his children, Nina, Karen, and Drew M. Wintringham, Jill W. Kennedy and Lisa Kutchaver; Grandchildren Andrew, Christopher, Jonathan and Alexander Wintringham, Rebecca Dougherty, and Katie and David Kutchaver and one great-grandson, Christian Wintringham.

Funeral Services will be 10am Thursday at Bruce C. Van Arsdale Funeral Home, 111 N. Gaston Somerville 908-725-3111. Interment will follow at Nine Partners Cemetery in Millbrook, NY Visitation will be 2-4pm & 7-9pm Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions can be made to VNA of Somerset Hills, 200 Mount Airy Road, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920. To send condolences to the family, visit, [www.brucecvanarsdalefuneralhome.com](http://www.brucecvanarsdalefuneralhome.com)

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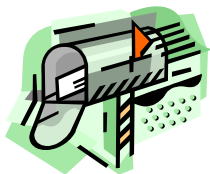
**FROM THE EDITOR:**

Submission of Articles: If you have an article that you would like to be printed in this newsletter, or an idea for an article or information to be included, please send it either via e-mail or post to Dr. David Saja at dsaja@cmnh.org, or 1 Wade Oval Drive, Cleveland, Ohio 44106.

Submission deadlines:

Spring Issue—March 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Summer Issue—June 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Fall Issue—September 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Winter Issue—December 15<sup>th</sup>

Submission Format: Please send text files as either “rtf” (rich text format) or “txt” plain text. Pictures should be either “png” (portable network graphics) or “jpeg” or “jpg” (joint photographs experts group).



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Thank you, your editor David Saja

## Friends of Mineralogy Pennsylvania Chapter Directory of Officers

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President	Doug Rambo	Division of Water Resources, Delaware DNR drambo417@comcast.net	(302) 543-6982
Vice President	Arnold Mogel	Pioche@Verizon.net	(570) 739-4034
Secretary	James D Stauffer	Jimimi82@Comcast.net	(717) 569-2982
Treasurer	John Ebner Jr.	JCEbnerJr@optonline.net	(732) 681-3451

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

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Symposium Chair	Fred Stohl	flstohl@yahoo.com	(732) 341-3553
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WEB Manager	} Dr. David Saja	Curator, Cleveland Museum of Natural History dsaja@cmnh.org	(216) 231-4600 x3229
Newsletter Editor			
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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

George Rambo	Geo.Rambo@comcast.net	(302) 798-4163
Susanna MacInnis	sumacndeb@aol.com	(610) 432-9252

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