



The Mineralogical Cabinet

*A Newsletter for the Friends of the
New Mexico Bureau of Geology
and Mineral Resources • Mineral Museum •*

Volume 4, No. 1, June 2019

From the Director's Desk

Greetings Friends,

These are busy times in the mineral museum! In the last month we have picked up two significant donations while busy packing and prepping for our exhibition at the Springfield, Massachusetts show. It is also the “school field trip frenzy” season so the place is hopping!

Between spring snow storms we ventured to Gallup, New Mexico, to gather up the collection of Larry Caviggia. Larry is moving up to Seattle, Washington, to live closer to his family. A lifetime collection was preserved in drawers and cases, mainly focused on locations in the Zuni Mountains and San Juan basin. Larry had a number of unique pieces that will greatly enhance our holdings, particularly peridot, pyrope, and chrome spinels from the Navajo Volcanic Field and azurite roses from the Zuni Mountians.

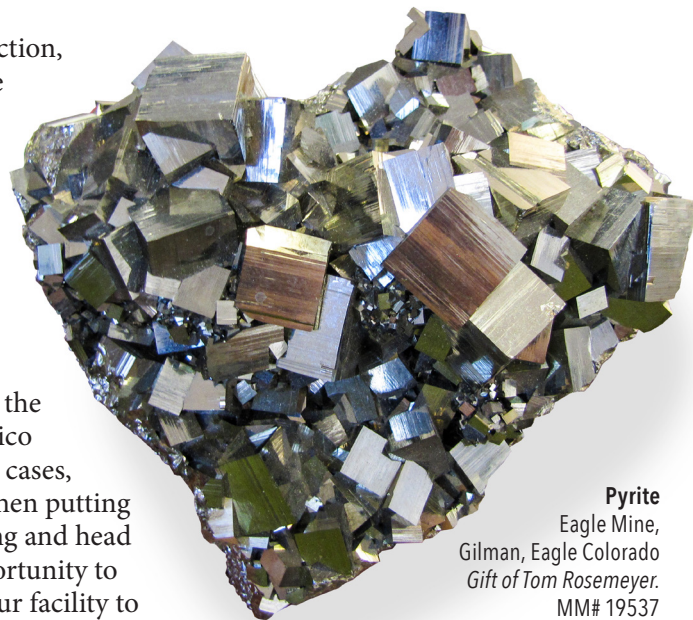
After clearing out the truck and sorting through the Caviggia collection, we moved to San Antonio, Texas, to pick up the final portion of the Betty Tlush collection. Betty had saved a number of pieces out of her and Al's collection to display in her home. She is now in a senior living center in Texas and decided it was time for the pieces to go to the museum. We will feature Betty's collection as one of the guest exhibitors prior to the next symposium. Betty is still “good old Betty,” it was truly a great pleasure to see her again.

Now we are feverishly setting up displays for the East Coast Gem, Mineral, and Fossil show that will be held on August 9–11 in Springfield, Massachusetts. We will fill 52 cases (approximately 2/3 the size of a standard “Tucson Show” case) with examples of New Mexico minerals. This involves mocking up the display in one of the actual cases, photographing it, packing it, photographing the packing job, and then putting them all back! Two weeks before the show we will repack everything and head to Springfield. It is a lot of work but we are excited to have the opportunity to share the museum with collectors on the east coast and advertise our facility to potential new visitors and friends!

In order to further advertise our fine museum to more potential friends, I agreed to speak at the Pacific Northwest Symposium in Kelso, Washington, on the weekend of October 19–20. The theme is “Specimens from Mines of the West” and I'll be highlighting both Chino and Magdalena. This year the museum is showing from coast to coast!

The lighting initiative has recently reached our target budget. A couple of significant donations put it over the top. We plan installing additional lighting in our smaller display cases sometime after our return from Springfield, if all goes well!

I thank all of our friends out there who have helped make our facility the great museum it has become. We have more plans and hope you have some ideas for us so we can continue to build our museum and collections into one of the finest in the world.



Pyrite
Eagle Mine,
Gilman, Eagle Colorado
Gift of Tom Rosemeyer.
MM# 19537

—Dr. V
virgil.lueth@nmt.edu

Curator's Corner

Howdy friends!

Spring is in the air here in Socorro, and the museum visitor count is ramping up! We've hosted several K-12 scavenger hunts and scheduled group tours. The time between the chaos allows us to focus on our projects for 2019, including additional lighting in our 22 smaller display cases and organizing 52 displays for the East Coast Gem & Mineral Show.

If you haven't had a chance to drool over some of our new acquisitions, make sure you grab a tissue. The following photo gallery highlights a few of the many pieces we've catalogued since the last newsletter.

Fluorite on Quartz

Panasqueira Mines, Castelo Branco District, Portugal
Gift of Joan Massagué. MM# 19475



Grossular
Sierra de Cruces,
Coahuila, Mexico
Gift of
Roger C. & Terri Maynard.
MM# 19517



Fluorite
Llamas Quarry, Caravia District, Asturias, Spain
Gift of Joan Massagué. MM# 19476

New Acquisitions



Fluorapophyllite, "Disco Ball Pocket"
Rahuri, Maharashtra, India
Gift of Joan Massagué. MM# 19458

Aragonite "Snail"
Sierra Mojada,
Coahuila, Mexico
*Gift of
Roger C. & Terri Maynard.
MM# 19516*



**Tetrahedrite coated
with chalcopyrite**
Herodsfoot Mine,
Liskeard Mining District,
Cornwall, United Kingdom
MM# 19534



New Acquisitions

Aragonite
Diamond Mound, Eddy Co., New Mexico
Gift of Roger C. & Terri Maynard. MM# 19524



**Galena and
Sphalerite**
Black Cloud Mine,
Iowa Gulch,
Lake Co., Colorado
*Gift of
Tom Rosemeyer.
MM# 19532*



Gem & Mineral Show Photo Gallery

The theme for the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show this year was “Wulfenite is Loved,” so we decided to take the grand Glove Mine wulfenite to Tucson! We also helped in arranging a nice Stephenson-Bennett display, which was the idea of Ed Huskinson.



Tucson 2019: We decided to take the large Glove Mine Wulfenite for a car ride. It surely was on every Arizona collector's radar!

Tucson 2019: Erin Delventhal gives away Pennsylvanian shark coprolites to kids during the Tucson show school day.



Tucson 2019: Who let these guys in?! Virgil and Chris Cowan posing in front of the Stephenson-Bennett Wulfenite display.



Tucson 2019: Pat Haynes taking a moment to work on his inter-species mojo with Oliver at the Collector's Stope.

The Albuquerque Gem & Mineral Club celebrated their 50th annual “Treasures of the Earth” show, as well as the 75th anniversary of the club. We decided to bring diverse and colorful worldwide acquisitions and Bob Eveleth wowed the crowd with his mining artifacts display.



Albuquerque 2019: Worldwide acquisitions display at the 50th annual Treasures of the Earth show in Albuquerque.



Albuquerque 2019: New Mexico mining artifacts display including stock certificates, commemorative spoons, carbide lamps and more! This work of art was constructed by Mineral Museum Associate Curator Bob Eveleth.

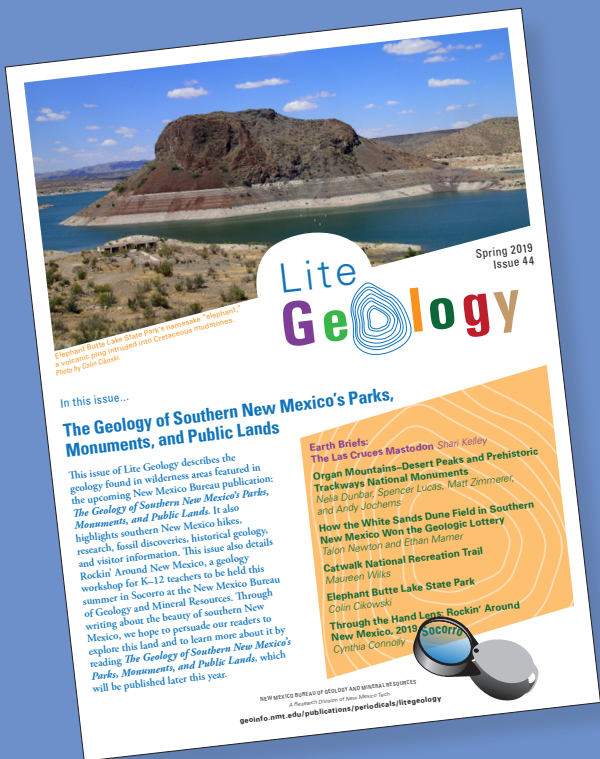
Albuquerque 2019: Kelly Luster and the NMBGMR Publications booth look fantastic!



K-12 Outreach News

Science Olympiad 2019

The top 25 middle and high schools that placed in regional Science Olympiad competitions battled it out at the state Science Olympiad event, which was held on the campus of New Mexico Tech on Saturday, February 23rd. Many testing events took place, ranging from thermodynamics to writing, water quality, astronomy, and herpetology. With big help from the Bureau Outreach Manager, Cynthia, the Fossils event went smoothly. Each team spent 3 minutes at a station answering multiple questions about a specific sample. Geologic time, modes of preservation, taxonomic classification, and dating techniques made up just a small portion of this difficult test. The students did a great job and maintained positive attitudes despite the chaos of multiple testing events and complex exams!



Lite Geology · 2019 · Spring Issue

Elephant Butte is featured on the cover of the last issue. Do you see the elephant?

This publication is specifically written for educators and the general public. This particular edition is a sneak peek at the upcoming Southern Parks book, scheduled to be published later this year, as a counterpart to the successful “Geology of Northern New Mexico’s Parks, Monuments, and Public Lands.”

Past and present issues (all of which can be downloaded as pdfs) are available on the Lite Geology website. For more information on this publication, please visit: geoinfo.nmt.edu/publications/periodicals/litegeology/home.cfm

Publications Store News

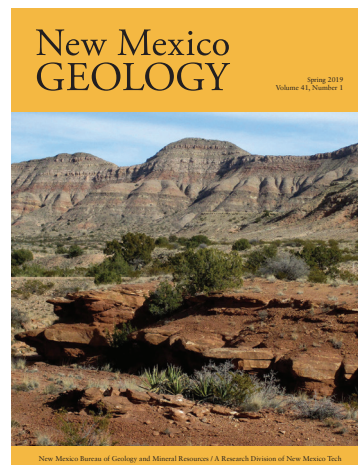
Kelly Luster, our new Publications Store Manager, joined the team in November 2018. She has hit the ground running in the bookstore, managing seven NMT students, filling orders, and investigating new items to sell in the bookstore! Here are some new items that are coming soon!



Kelly busy at work while I admire the new geology tea infuser and water bottles!

backside of water bottle

New Mexico Geology NEW issue of our geoscience e-journal



Volume 41, Number 1.

The Cretaceous System in central Sierra County, New Mexico
Spencer G. Lucas,
W. John Nelson, Karl Krainer,
and Scott D. Elrick

Gallery of Geology:
The trace fossil *Ophiomorpha*
from the Upper Cretaceous
Trinidad Sandstone,
northeastern New Mexico
Spencer G. Lucas

geoinfo.nmt.edu/publications/periodicals/nmg/home.cfm

Update to the Art in Public Places Program at the Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources

Joseph Bellacera was chosen from a pool of four artists for a large installation in the NMBG atrium, through the Arts in Public Places program. His colorful works are composed of multiple materials (paint, resins, concrete, etc.) and focused on the interaction of space, light, and patterns. His plan is to create two large pieces that will be placed on the walls over the Publications Store and Museum that will reflect multiple facets of New Mexico geology. Joseph plans to use landscape photos, maps, 3D models, and even patterns from minerals and fossils to create a stunning visual experience for Bureau visitors. To view more of his works, please visit his website at www.josephbellacera.com.

2019 Museum Calendar

Aug. 31–Sept. 2 Grant Co. Rolling Stones Gem & Mineral Show, Silver City, NM

Sept. 13–15 Denver Gem & Mineral Show

Oct. 18–20 FM Pacific Northwest Show

Nov. 9–10 40th Annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium

“A Friendly Reminder”

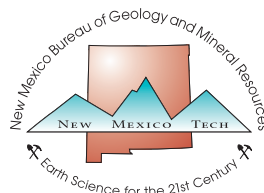
Annual dues for the Friends of the Museum expire on the weekend of the Mineral Symposium.

You can pay dues on site or remit payment to:

NMT—Mineral Museum Gift Fund and send it to:

NMBGMR Mineral Museum
Friends of the Mineral Museum
801 Leroy Place
Socorro, NM 87801

You can also use a credit card if you contact:
Kelly Luster or Elena Taylor
Publications sales, (575) 835-5490



Facebook

I try to post weekly updates, photos, and what's happening at the museum on our social media site:

www.facebook.com/NMBGmineralmuseum

The New Mexico Bureau of Geology also has a facebook page! Check it out:

www.facebook.com/NMBGMR

40th ANNUAL NEW MEXICO MINERAL SYMPOSIUM

November 9 & 10, 2019
Macey Center
New Mexico
Institute of Mining
and Technology
Socorro, New Mexico

Sponsors
Albuquerque Gem and Mineral Club
Chaparral Rockhounds
Los Alamos Geological Society
New Mexico Geological Society Foundation
Friends of Mineralogy
City of Socorro
Grant County Rolling Stones
Friends of Mineralogy—Colorado Chapter

Mineral photos by Jeff Scovil

We thank you for your support!

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