New Mexico Mineral Museum moves to new quarters

The New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources is pleased to announce the opening of the new Mineral Museum facility housed in the recently renovated Workman Addition on the campus of New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology in Socorro. The public is invited to visit and enjoy the new displays during expanded museum hours: 8 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday and 10 am to 3 pm on weekends. Special visits can be arranged by contacting the museum director, Dr. Virgil W. Lueth, Mineralogist/Economic Geologist, at (505) 835-5140, email: vwlueth@nmt.edu, or fax: (505) 835-6333. The museum is closed on official state holidays.

The museum continues to specialize in New Mexico minerals. Eight specific displays feature famous mineral-producing mining districts in the state. These displays include minerals and mining artifacts from the Organ Mountains, Fierro-Hanover, Santa Rita and Tyrone, Hansonburg (Bingham), Magdalena (Kelly), Old and New Placers, northern New Mexico pegmatite deposits; and uranium deposits of New Mexico. A new systematic mineral display is in preparation. The ultraviolet mineral exhibit is also maintained. Minerals from other localities around the state are also featured along with beautiful minerals from around the world.

A new education/demonstration facility is in preparation. “Hands-on” exhibits and educational materials will be emphasized in this new room next to the museum. Mineral products, fossils, and rocks will also be featured. New preparation laboratories and a high-security storage room are also part of the new facility.

The Seventeenth Annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium is scheduled for November 9 and 10, 1996. The meeting will be held in Macey Center on the campus of New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. The symposium will consist of a day and a half of formal presentations concerning mineralogy of New Mexico and surrounding regions. A banquet, program, and symposium-benefit auction will be held Saturday night. A silent auction, sponsored by the Albuquerque Gem and Mineral Club, Los Alamos Geological Society, New Mexico Geological Society, and Chaparral Rockhounds. To receive more information about the symposium, contact Lynn Heizler at (505) 835-5166 or at the email address or fax number listed above.

—Virgil W. Lueth
Mineralogist/Economic Geologist