

Most items in the many collections were gifts to the Smithsonian. These include the Hope Diamond (which Jeff outlined the convoluted history of), a necklace of diamonds and emeralds from the Maharaja of India, an emerald (75.5 c) from Columbia, an aquamarine (1,000 c), etc., etc., etc.



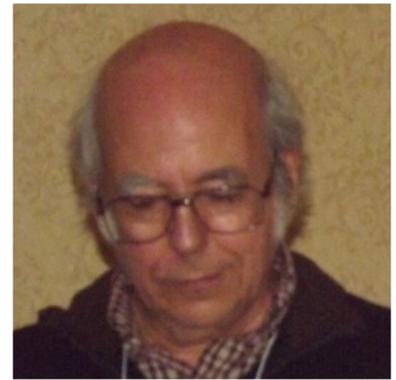
And a lovely cathedral from Brazil. Note the 2 different colors of the fluorescing calcite.



Classic Mineral Localities of SE Pennsylvania

by Tom Moore

Tom gave us a county by county tour of the minerals of SE Pennsylvania, including the geology of the area and the history of many of the mines. This was great for those of us who have not had the privilege of traveling to the east coast. [My apologies for the crookedness of the pictures. I came in late and had lost my prime photo location. My apologies to Tom.]



The Keystone Trappe Rock quarry, Cornog, in 1950



Figure 330. Keystone Trappe Rock (Cornog) quarry, Wallace Township, in 1950. Courtesy of the Chester County Historical Society, West Chester, Pa.



Lancaster County

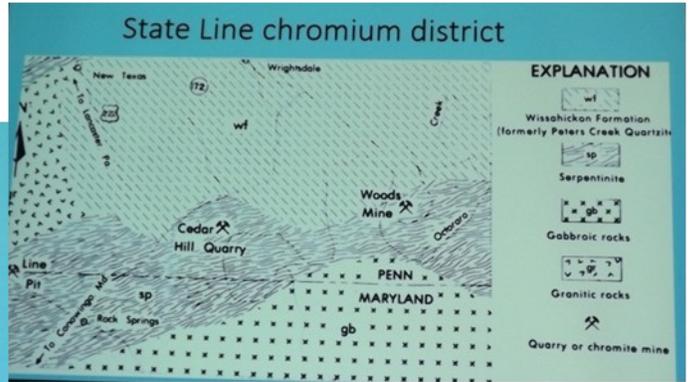
1. Wood's chrome mine
2. Cedar Hill quarry
3. Gap Nickel mine
4. Binkley & Ober quarry
5. Showalter quarry
6. Fruitville Pike

Antigorite

9.8 cm

State Line chromium district

Carnegie specimen;
Debra Wilson photo

Copper

4 cm

Cornwall mine

John Betts Minerals
specimen and photo

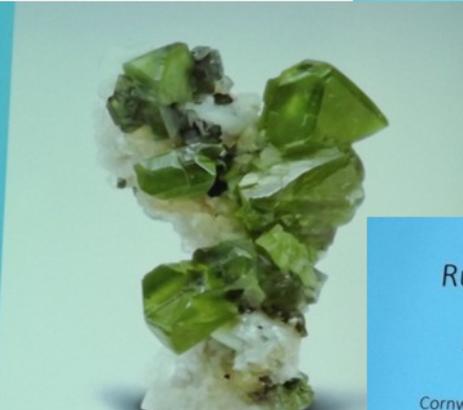


Sphalerite

2.75 cm

Lincoln quarry,
Thomasville

Tom Moore
specimen;
Christi Cramer
photo



Ruizite

1 cm

Cornwall mine

Collected on dumps
by Skip Colflesh

John White photo



Zaratite

8.8 cm

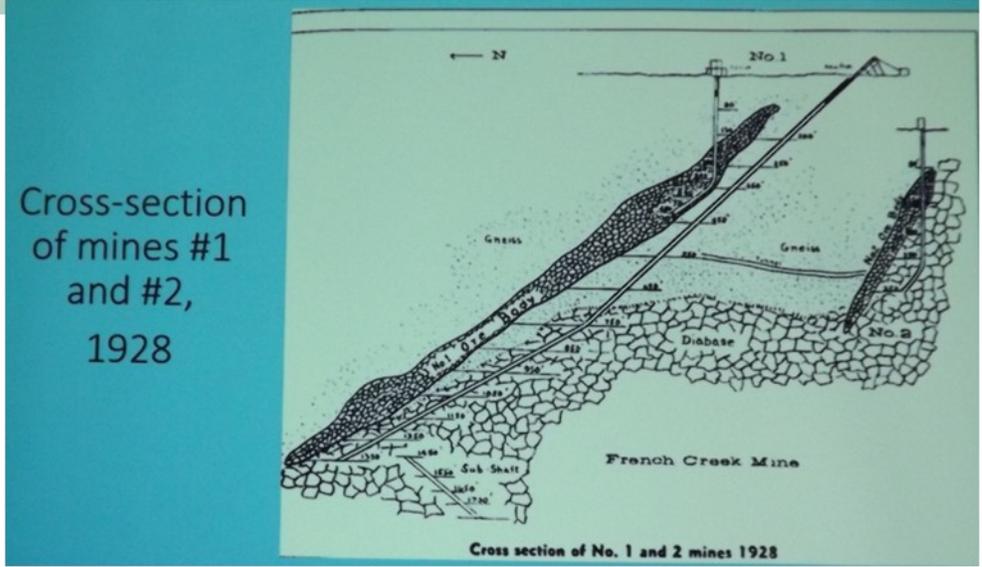
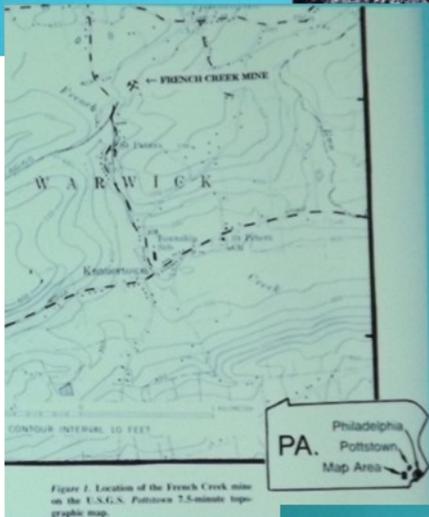
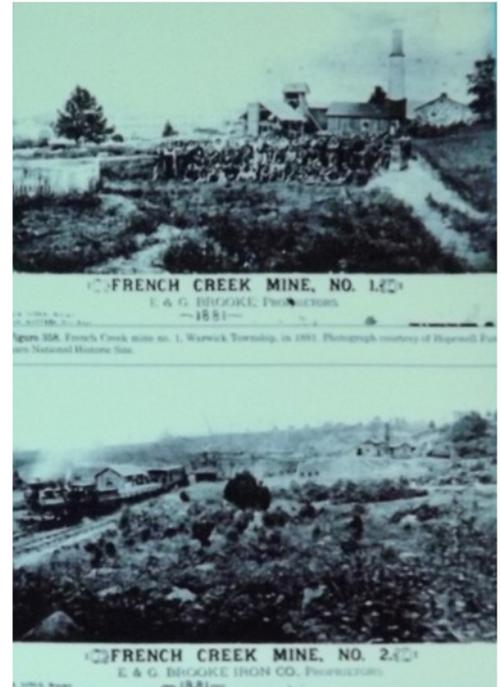
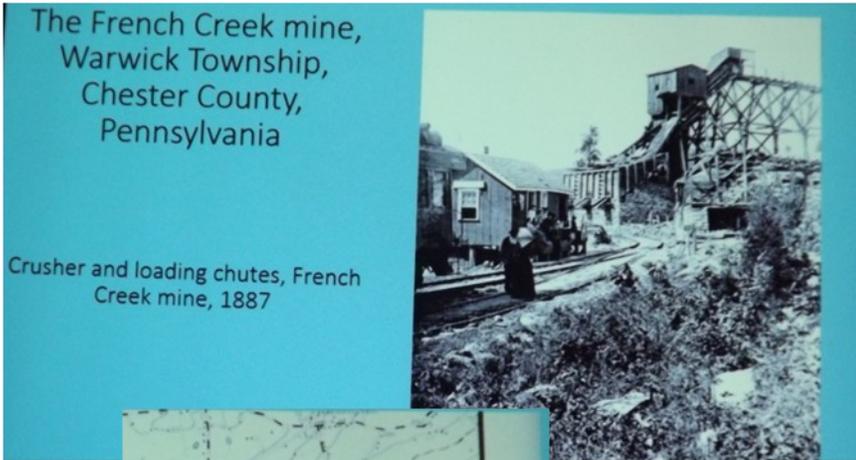
Wood's chrome mine

Ex Jefferis collection
Carnegie specimen;
Debra Wilson photo



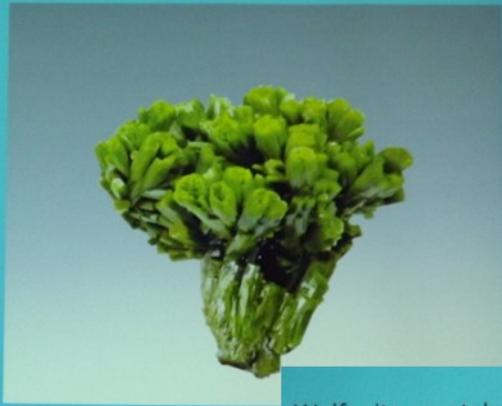
The Phoenixville and French Creek Localities, Chester County, Pennsylvania by Tom Moore

Tom continued to take us on a tour of Pennsylvania. This time it was to the far southeast corner of the state. He gave us the history and a taste of the minerals found there.



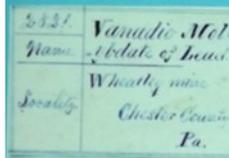
Pyromorphite,
2 cm,
Wheatley
mine

Tom Moore specimen;
Christi Cramer photo.



Wulfenite, crystals
to 1.5 mm,
Wheatley mine

Ex William Jefferis
collection
Carnegie specimen;
Debra Wilson photo.



Anglesite,
5-cm crystal in
galena,
Wheatley mine

Ex Charles
Wheatley collection

Carnegie specimen;
Debra Wilson
photo.



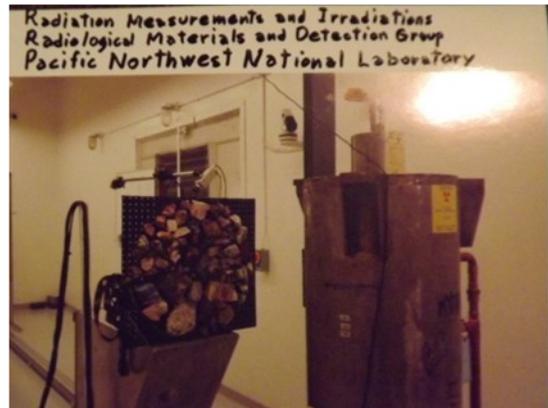
Cerussite,
crystals to 1.2
cm with
malachite,
Phoenixville
district

Carnegie specimen;
Debra Wilson
photo.



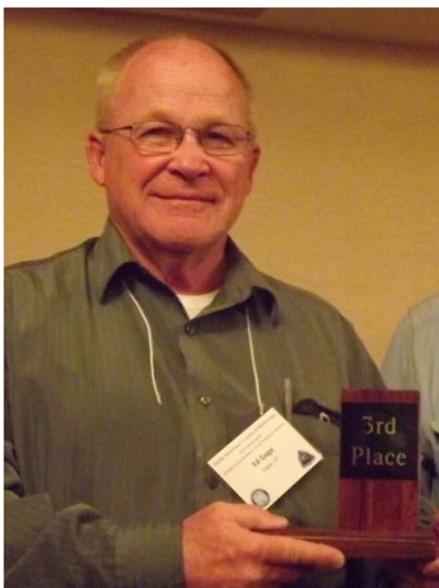
FMS Meeting

This meeting included an experiment by the FMS group on the effects of gamma radiation on fluorescent minerals. In 1974 an experiment at Cal Tech found that exposing minerals to gamma radiation and then freezing them preserved the phosphorescence for quite some time. The minerals then could be warmed up and the after-glow could be seen. The FMS took some minerals to the Pacific NW National Laboratory in Richland, WA where they were exposed to Cobalt 60 and then stored in dry ice at -119 degrees F.

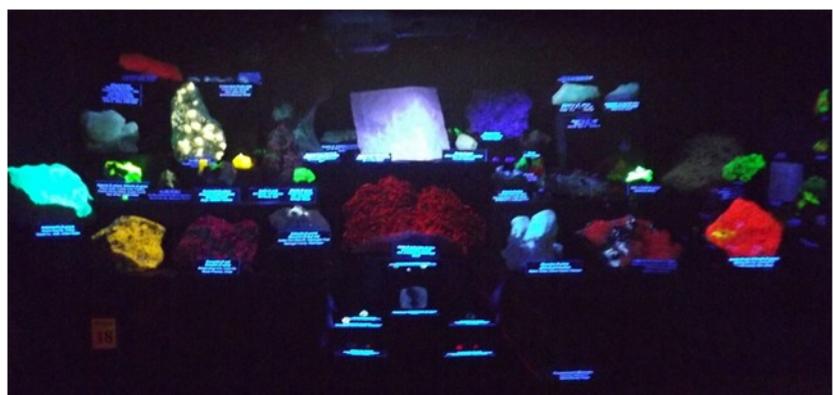


At the meeting the specimens were removed from the dry ice and warmed using heat guns. After blowing a circuit breaker due to trying to use 3 heat guns at the same time they cut back to just using one. There seemed to be some glow seen on some specimens but it was very faint.

Trophies for the fluorescent displays were announced. Placement was decided by votes from the visitors. **Third place** was a tie between Mark Erwin (case #17) and Ed Gage (case #18). A coin was tossed and Ed won the toss.



Ed Gage and his case in natural light and UV light



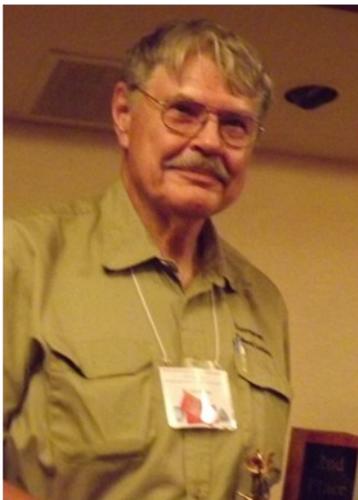
Irwin's case tied for third but lost the coin toss.



Mark Erwin's case in natural light and UV light



Second place was Al Liebetrau (case #8).



Al Liebetrau and his case in natural light and UV light

First place was a runaway vote for Jennifer Moore's train case (case #24) featuring trains of fluorescent minerals moving between short and long wave areas in her case.



Don Newsome presenting the award



Jennifer Moore's case in UV light and natural light



Don Newsome then showed an antique uv lamp that also exhibits its thermotriboluminescence. Mercury is trapped in a quartz bulb. After warming up and then turning the lamp off, tilting the bulb shows a bright arc as the mercury flows over the quartz as the mercury is vaporized from the friction. I could not get a picture of the arc.



The lamp



The lamp when lit

A door prize was given out to the person who traveled the farthest (from Boston, Massachusetts), numbers were drawn for the more valuable door prizes and then grab bags were up for "grabs". Most contained labeled fluorescent minerals but a couple had nice gift certificates from well known mineral photographers to be used for photographing your specimens for you. Everyone went home with lots of materials.

PNWFM Meeting

Headed up by our President, Bruce Kelley, Sunday got off to a great start. Many thanks were given to the volunteers, exhibitors, dealers and participants.

The NE specimen contest winner was announced: Douglas Merson for a Thomsonite – CA, Datolite, Phrenite from Upper New Street Quarry, Passaic Co., NJ. Best Fluorescent Specimen went to Al Liebetrau for a Halite from Inowrack Mine, Poland. The winners of the mineral id contest were: Master, Robert Meyer and Expert, Randy Gage.



The regular approval of minutes and the Treasurer's report followed. In old business it was noted that the new wireless microphone system that the club purchased worked out well throughout the whole symposium.

We need some volunteers to take on the creation of the registration packet including stuffing the envelopes. There was also discussion about how to get more participation in the mineral id contest and in bringing displays for the cases and their brand new liners. Also please note that the cases entered do not have to fit within the theme of the show. Some problems with the setup of the Paypal account did not allow its use this year. We hope to have it ready by next year.



Under new business the theme for 2016 will be Butte and other copper minerals. And for 2017 the theme will be Morocco. The actual titles for these shows will be announced later.

Under discussion was the need for a field trip coordinator and concerns for safety while up at Washington Pass. We also need a college outreach coordinator. Free admission to the Rice Museum was mentioned as a benefit of membership in the PNWFM and we are hoping to get a discount somewhere for mineral analysis which would also be of benefit to the members.

Symposium restructuring to assist our room dealers, separating the banquet as an add-on, breaking the bond between the oral auction and the banquet and a more structured social time did not get full time for discussion. They will be on the agenda at the Seattle Mineral Market meeting.

Election results were announced. Bruce Kelley is again our President, Secretary is Karen Hinderman, Treasurer is Jim Etzwiler. Thank you to them for volunteering for these positions.

Minerals and Mines of Franklin and Sterling Hill, NJ

by Richard Bostwick

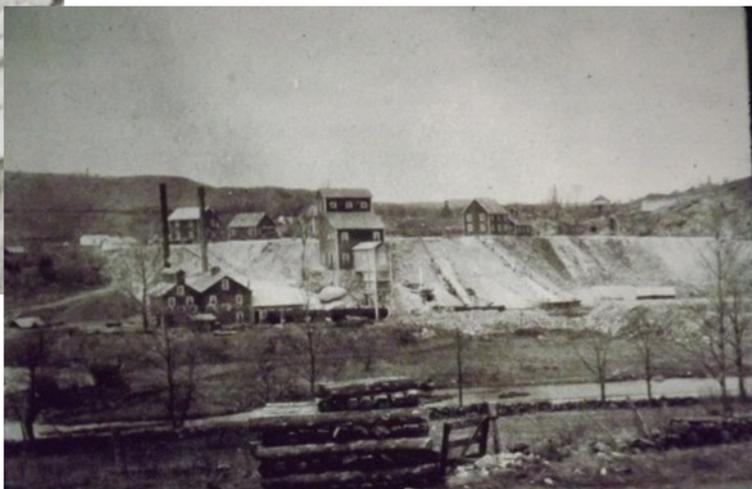
Richard gave a rousing talk on these very important mines and kept us laughing with his anecdotes. He worked as a miner at Sterling Hill so had a special insight into its workings. He helped found the Thomas S. Warren Museum of Fluorescence at Sterling Hill and Bostwickite is named after him.

Mining has been done in this area for at least 400 years. Collecting of the minerals as specimens dates from the 1930's-40's. It is considered one of the most important mineral deposits in the world. There have been found 367 different species and, for 73, this is the type locality. The 3 main minerals are Franklinite, Willemite and Zincite.



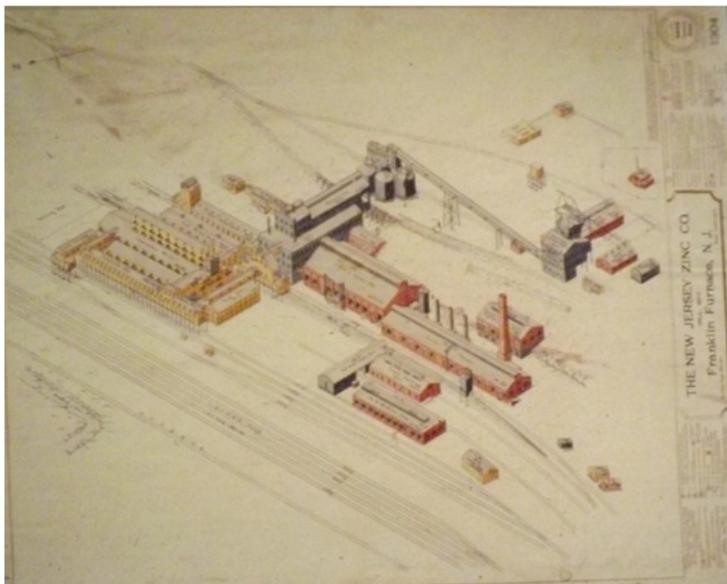
Buckwheat Open Pit,
Franklin Mine, 1860s

The crusher at the Buckwheat pit, 1890-1900, and the beginnings of the dump





The pit today



Planner's drawing of the
NJ Zinc Co. mill



The mill in the plan
in 1950. It was shut
down in 1954.