

SMP NEWSLETTER

The Society of Mineral Museum Professionals Newsletter

Volume 21, Number 1

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In this issue:

- SMMP Meetings
- Tucson Agenda
- President's Message
- Group Photos
- Meeting Minutes
- Upcoming Meetings
- Best Practices Project
- Grant Program
- Board Election
- SMMP Affiliations
- SMMP List Server
- SMMP Facebook
- Paying Dues

Board of Directors

President

Katherine Dunnell ('19)
Mineralogy Department
Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M5S 2C6,
Canada

Past President

Penny Williamson ('20)
School of Earth & Environ-
mental Sciences
University of Wollongong
NSW 2522, Australia

Vice President

Eloise Gaillou ('19)
Musée de Mineralogie
Ecoles des Mines de Paris
60 Boulevard St. Michel
75272 Paris, France

Secretary

vacant

Treasurer

Anna Domitrovic ('18)
6118 W. Lazy Heart Street
Tucson, AZ 85713, USA

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Tucson Meetings

Date: Thursday, February 8, 2018

Place: Crystal Ballroom (TCC)

Board meeting: 3:30 – 4:00 PM

Membership meeting: 4:00 – 5:00 PM

Program: 5:00 – 5:45 PM

Program: "Transformation of the Mineral and Gem Halls at the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH)" by *Dr. George Harlow, curator AMNH*

Meet the Mineral Museum Professionals Social

hosted by Gail & Jim Spann

Westward Look – Catalina Ballroom

Cocktails at 6:30pm; Dinner at 7:30pm

Presentation of inaugural Perot Museum of Nature & Science Award to Mark Pospisil

RSVP (required) by February 5th

to katherin@rom.on.ca AND info@spannminerals.com

TUCSON EXHIBIT: "Unfamiliar Faces; Atypical Mineral Forms"

Please contact Bill Wray (bwray@xmission.com) and the listserv (smmp@listserv.nhm.org), if you plan on participating.

TENTATIVE TUCSON AGENDA

1. Call to Order (Dunnell)
2. Introductions
3. Treasurer's Report (Domitrovic)
4. Membership Report (Domitrovic)
5. Collections/Curators Committee Report (Lueth)
6. Education Committee - Tucson 2018 & Denver 2018 exhibits (Dunnell)
7. SMMP Europe Report – Munich, Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines (Gaillou)
8. Jean DeMouthe Legacy Discussion
9. General business
10. Board of Directors Election
11. Group photograph
12. Election of officers (by Board of Directors)

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Board Members:

Raquel Alonzo-Perez ('20)
Harvard Mineralogical
Museum
24 Oxford Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
USA

Alan Hart ('18)
Gem-A
21 Ely Place
London EC1N 6TD, Eng-
land

Virgil W. Lueth ('18)
New Mexico Bureau of
Mines
801 Leroy Place
Socorro, NM 87801, USA

Mike Rumsey ('20)
Dept. of Earth Sciences
The Natural History Muse-
um
Cromwell Road
London EC1N 6TD, Eng-
land, UK

Ex Officio (non-voting):

Webmaster
Anthony R. Kampf
Natural History Museum
of Los Angeles County
900 Exposition Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90007,
USA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy new year to everyone. With a new year, a new outlook and a year of new possibilities. This past year has been a hard one with the passing of members, friends, and colleagues. While we mourn the loss, we should also remember the immense legacy of those individuals and our role to give life and disseminate the knowledge they contributed to the community. Specifically, I have been thinking about how we should honor Jean and her significant contribution to the mineral museum world. I urge all of you to brainstorm around this as it will be a topic for discussion at SMMP – Tucson.

For the AGM in Tucson, we have four positions to fill via a vote. If you are interested in getting more involved, please let us know so we can nominate you. We are always looking for keen people who want to participate. We will be voting on two board director positions, secretary, and treasurer. We will also be looking at someone to head the Education committee. If you are interested, please email me.

Eloïse has pulled in a heavy hitter in for the public lecture this year, Dr. George Harlow will speak on the new galleries at the American Museum of Natural History. Like a birth in the family, new mineral galleries are a time for celebration. I look forward to hearing more about this fabulous new gallery. Please support this exciting talk by attending and spreading the word.

We are thankful for Gail and Jim Spann for hosting the Museum gathering post-lecture on Thursday, February 8th. Please note that the venue has changed to Westward Look, Catalina Ballroom and please refer to the listserv for details. I will stress that RSVP (info@spannminerals.com) is a must and cut off to RSVP is February 5th. This year there will be a short presentation to award Dr. Mark Pospisil with the inaugural Perot Museum of Nature Science Award. Congratulations Mark!

On a person level, a huge thank you to all those who have helped me transition into the president's role this last year. There have been some pitfalls, and I appreciate the support of the executive, past president and all those who have reached out to help. I am excited at the level of engagement of this group, and it is my hope we can continue to expand our membership and outreach to more mineral museum professionals.

I look forward to seeing you all in Tucson.

Very best, Katherine

Recent Group Photos

(go to www.smmp.net/photos.htm for all group photos.)



Tucson 2017



Denver 2017

MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE STE. MARIE-AUX-MINES (June 2017)
www.smmp.net/min17j.pdf

MINUTES OF THE DENVER MEETING (September 2017)
pending

MINUTES OF THE MUNICH MEETING (October 2017)
www.smmp.net/min17o.pdf

OTHER MEETING OF INTEREST

XXII Meeting of the International Mineralogical Association

13-17 August 2018 - Melbourne, Australia

Website: www.ima2018.com

BEST PRACTICES PROJECT

"Best practices" documents are posted on the SMMP website:

[BEST PRACTICES REPORT NO. 1: Research Sampling of Collections](#)

[BEST PRACTICES REPORT NO. 2: Moving Specimens](#)

We are actively looking for more volunteers to author other best practice documents.

SMMP RESEARCH STUDY GRANTS

Awards are to support curatorial research and methodologies that address one or more of the Society of Mineral Museum Professionals (SMMP) mission statement goals: 1) foster recognition of mineral science collections as essential scientific, educational and cultural resources, 2) promote support for growth, maintenance and use of collections and exhibits and, 3) advance museum practice through cooperation in the development, review and dissemination of information. Amounts vary up to a maximum of \$1000 per grant. Grant awards determined by SMMP Board of Directors. Grant applications and more details are posted on our website: www.smmp.net/support-SMMP.htm

Grant proposals are due: August 1, 2018

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

Four board member terms will be expiring this year. Please be prepared to nominate candidates and vote. Board members whose terms expire this year are:

Jean DeMouthe (Secretary, deceased)

Anna Domitrovic (Treasurer)

Alan Hart (Director)

Virgil Lueth (Director)

Term expiration dates of the other board members are provided in parentheses in the sidebar above.

SMMP AFFILIATIONS

American Geological Institute (AGI)

Natural Science Collections Alliance (NSCA)

Although the Society of Mineral Museum Professionals maintains no official ties with the Commission on Museums (CM) of the International Mineralogical Association (IMA), the Commission resolved at its December, 2000, meeting in Melbourne, Australia, to support SMMP's efforts in uniting mineral museum professionals worldwide.

SMMP LIST SERVER

You are encouraged to interact with your fellow SMMP members via our list server:

smmp@listserv.nhm.org

Please remember that when you reply to an email sent via our list server, you will be replying to the sender, although you have the option of copying the membership.

Tony Kampf processes additions to and deletions from the list server. That way we limit the list to our membership and if a member decides that they want to be dropped from the list, Tony will know whether to send them the SMMP Newsletter by snail mail. Note that you are only able to send via the list server from your email address that is on the list server. This should be the same one that is used in our on-line roster.

SMMP FACEBOOK PAGE

You are encouraged to interact and post on our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/TheSMMP/

Post relevant and interesting news and events, post pictures and share content. Eloïse and Katherine are administrators of the page, monitor content and answer inquiries. Facebook is more public facing and an opportunity to show people the work we do as well to connect with other museum professionals. More confidential content should be streamed through the listserv.

PAYING DUES

SMMP dues are \$10.00 U.S., payable to Anna Domitrovic, treasurer, 6118 W. Lazy Heart Street, Tucson, AZ 85713. Any directory changes or additions should be sent to Tony Kampf. In Europe, dues can be remitted to Eloïse Gaillou (eloise.gaillou@mines-paristech.fr) Musée de Minéralogie MINES ParisTech, 60 Boulevard St. Michel, 75272 Paris.

To make paying your dues easier (especially for non-US members), a PayPal account has been established and installed on our website. You can use your credit card or your own personal PayPal account. Just go to our [Dues webpage](#).

Note that you can check your dues payment status on the [SMMP on-line roster](#). The year shown in the last column indicates the last year for which you have paid. If you are delinquent, please remit your dues payment as soon as possible.

Remember to renew your membership. If you are planning to pay dues at the Tucson meeting, help Anna by giving her a business card with your dues payment. Do it beforehand and save time at the meeting!