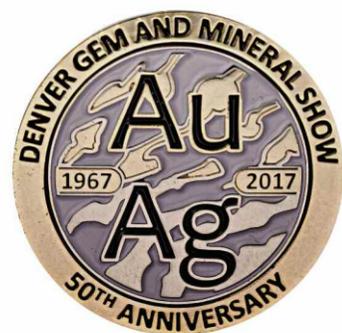


NOTES FROM THE 50th "GOLDEN" SHOW

Michael B. Leybov
Mineralogical Almanac,
m_leybov@mail.ru



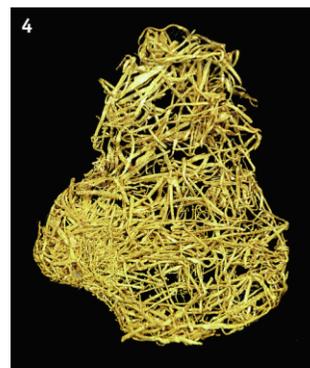
1. 50th-Anniversary badge of Denver Mineral Show.

Photo: Michael B. Leybov

2-4. Gold from expositions at the Main Show:

2. Ram's Horn Wire **Gold** from Groundhog Mine, Eagle Co., CO, USA. Specimen: Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

3-4. **Gold** from Breckenridge District, Summit Co., CO, USA. Specimen: The Mineralogical & Geological Museum at Harvard University.



Autumn Denver Show takes one of the first places in the world. Expositions are simultaneously displayed in tens of hotels and exhibition halls and also in the tents in the surrounding area. It's rather difficult to examine all treasures presented on the stands of these expositions even briefly. However, you can see much new and interesting and you also have an opportunity to see your good friends. We reproduce below the short report on our journey around the amazing world of stones.

Colorado Mineral and Fossil Fall Show which is located in Crown Plaza Hotel now, for many years has been headed by Martin Zinn, since this year it is managed by Sandra Gonzales. She was full of optimism and hope for future while we were talking. Large areas were used for mineral show, in addition to hotel apartments the expositions took place in the huge hall, occupied with dealers. Among the famous dealers who tried to take a chance on the new place we met our old friends: Arif and Aisha Jan of *Rocksaholics* (the USA), The Vasconcelos & *Multigemas* from Brasil, Zeb Gul (*Zeb Minerals*, Germany), Wolfgang Wendel (*Wendel Minerals*, Germany), John E. Garsow and *Collector's Edge* (the USA), Sami Makki and Muhammad Fasihuddin Makki (*Matrix India*). The dealers from Russia such as *Russian Minerals*, *Ainite-PM*, *Disten*, *Rare Minerals* from Russia and others, traditionally worked with Martin Zinn, accommodated in the hotel apartments there. Perhaps, Martin Zinn patronizes this show. He even honored it to perform as an ordinary dealer. In opinion of many participants the show was successful.

As for minerals China has prevailed, wonderful druses of fluorite and calcite, high class specimens of scheelite of jewelry quality, world known quartz druses with grown spessartine crystals. New marvelous specimens of zeolites from emptiness in volcano species of India can be seen at the company "*Matrix India*". One of such rare samples of scolecite was presented by them to the Fersman Mineralogical Museum.

5. Lesley Sebol, Show Chair of Denver Greater Gem and Mineral Show.
6. Sami and Muhammad Makki (Makki, Matrix India Ltd.) are donating specimen to the Fersman Mineralogical Museum. Dmitry Belakovskiy, museum curator, is accepting the gift.
7. Lowell Carhart, organizer of the Mineral, Fossil, Gem, Jewelry Show.
8. Sandra Gonzales, organizer of the Colorado Mineral and Fossil Fall Show.
9. Dave and Kathy Weisman, organizers of the Fine Mineral Show.



Mineral, Fossil, Gem, Jewelry Show. This show project within Denver Show is expanded by Lowell Carhart on huge area of two exhibitions: in Coliseum and indoor stadium National Western, located near. In addition, rows of tents are set up in neighborhood. In spite of impressive scale of this project Lowell Carhart intended to expand it more. Among dealers Rob Lavinsky (*Arkenstone*) took an honored place. It was so honored that his photo of the specimen of two crystals of aquamarine (it was in the exposition) became an emblem of this show and was displayed on all advertising stands and even on dealers' badges. We met there good friends Mariella Rossi with her son Luka (*Moonstone from South Africa*), Monica Kitt (*Arkenstone*), Pu Tsu (*Uncarved Block*), and Stephen Schuchman (*carnelian.com*).

Fine Mineral Show has been held in "*Marriot Denver West*" the fourth time. "High end" dealers from all the world gathered there, among them such stars of mineralogical business as Dona & Wayne Leicht (*Kristalle*), Bryan Lees (*Collector's Edge*), Daniel Trinchillo (*Fine Minerals International*), Stephanie & Robert Snyder (*Stonetrust*), pervasive Rob Lavinsky (*Ankerstone*), Marcus Budil, Rob Sielecki (*Ausrox*), Bryan Cosnar (*Mineral Classic*) and others. In the foyer the stands of "*Mineralogical Record*" (the USA), "*Mineralogical Almanac*" (Russia) and also German editor Rainer Bode with new volumes "*Exclusive Agates*" and "*Namibia II*" were located.

The show brochure said "*Our mission is to support the hobby in any positive way we can and to create more collectors of fine mineral specimens*". Undoubtedly, beauty, rarity and perfection of specimens, presented at this show, fully conform the stated objectives of show organizers.

As usual, the last three days the attention of mineral lovers was focused on **Denver Gem & Mineral Show** which is annually organized by Greater Denver Area Gem & Mineral Council. The main feature of this show was holding of thematic exhibitions. On the year of the Fiftieth anniversary of Show the main topics were gold and silver. Museums and private collectors provided plenty of them for exposure. Denver Museum of Nature & Science presented a small, but very interesting collection of gold from Colorado locality. The stand of the University of Wollongong, Australia, in which replicas of the largest golden nuggets have been collected, looked especially impressive. Among silver exposition the booths of Rudolf Scott attracted attention to its high quality and richness. The most interesting of them was probably the collection of silver minerals, including silver nuggets, shown on Jim and Gail Spann. 112 high class specimens, presented the most important world localities, rare and the rarest species of minerals on single stand was a real gift to collectors. Gail and Jim Spann kindly allowed us to publish the part of this exposition with photos of Tom Spann. The *Mineralogical Almanac* team expresses its gratitude to Gail and Jim Spann for sponsoring of colored illustrations print in this part of the magazine.