

## TUCSON MINERALSHOW-2008: EXHIBIT THEME – MINERALS OF THE USA

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It was 54<sup>th</sup> Tucson Gem and Mineral Show this year. Fifty four years ago it was started by a few enthusiasts mineral collectors. At present the Show is a huge commercial enterprise with several billion income in which thousands of dealers and 100 000 visitors (customers) are involved annually.

Tucson Mineral Show-2008 involved 28 shows, many of them very extensive and carrying primarily gem or jewelry material but where also interesting specimens could be hiding or interesting inclusions could be found in gem rough material. Two full weeks were dedicated for them.

This is long enough to be able to see several of the most important shows, have time to meet good friends and see new finds, wonderful exhibits, listen to lectures. It includes seeing some of the best specimens hidden in dealers rooms or under the table, in the bathroom, in a car trunk.....

Tucson Main Show 2008





Peter Lyckberg and David Wilber studying two Volodarsk gem heliodor crystals for David Wilbers film *What is hot in Tucson 2008*

Arizona Mineral Show at the Inn Suites, the center of good mineral specimens



Brazilianite specimens for sale at rough gem dealer, Brasil Gem Company



Discussion "*Perspectives of the Woman Collector*" at the Westward Look Resort



Top collectors Jack Halpern and Carolyn Manchester

Authors of *American Mineral Treasures* of signing books