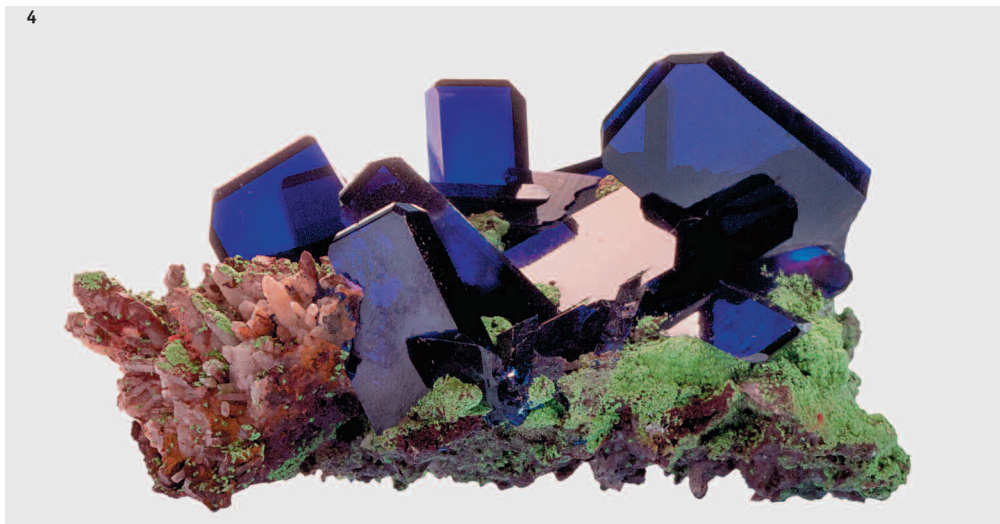


1. Cuprian **adamite**. 6.4 cm tall.

2. **Wulfenite** on **Dolomite**.
6.4 cm tall.

3. **Smithsonite**.
11.4 cm wide.



4. Azurite on Bayldonite. 7.6 cm wide.



5. Smithsonite. 10 cm wide.

Specimens: Tsumeb, Namibia

**Specimens and photo:
Stuart Wilensky**

6. Diopase on Calcite. 5.7 cm wide.

7. Cerussite on Malachite. 5 cm wide.



CONGRATULATIONS WITH JUBILEE: Galina F. Anastasenko

Galina Fedorovna Anastasenko, Candidate of Geological-Mineralogical Sciences and Associate Professor of the Department of Mineralogy of Geology Department of the St.-Petersburg State University, had her jubilee on August 23.

Anastasenko was born in Leningrad. Her childhood and teenage years fell to hard period of blockade of Leningrad during Second World War and post-war times. In 1955, she graduated with honour from the Department of Mineralogy, Geological Faculty, Leningrad State University and started to work at the Arctic Scientific-Research Institute (NIIGA). During nine years, Galina Fedorovna studied mineralogy and petrography of flood basalts in the northwest of the Siberian Platform, being initially a head of the pan sampling laboratory of the large expedition and then a geologist of the geological mapping party. In 1965, she became a post-graduate student at the Department of Mineralogy of the Leningrad State University. In 1970, she successfully completed her Candidate of Science (Ph.D) thesis. The results of this research formed the basis of the classic monograph on Boron in the Flood Basalts of the Northwest of the Siberian Platform (1978).

In 1969, Anastasenko became a junior scientist of the Scientific-Research Institute for Earth's Crust at the Leningrad State University, and, since then, she was mainly active in the museum work. Due to many years of Galina Fedorovna's work, the Mineralogical Museum was completely reorganized according to the systematic classification of AA Kukharensko. She con-

ducts constant replenishment of the museum collections and organized close connections with many Russian and worldwide museums. She actively participated in organization of six international symposia, dedicated to the fundamental problems of mineralogy, museum and history of sciences. In addition, Galina Fedorovna energetically supported museum's participation in the international mineralogical exhibitions in Krakow (1988), Warsaw (1989), Prague (1990), Marburg (1993), and Hamburg (annually since 1990).

Results of research by Galina Fedorovna on history of one of the oldest mineralogical museums in Russia have been published during many years in the numerous articles and three monographs.

Galina Fedorovna is a mineralogist of high and wide qualification, knowing very well special methods of mineralogical studies. She actively participates in the pedagogical work of the Department of Mineralogy, leading the annual and diploma works of the students, as well as Bachelor and Master dissertations.

Galina Fedorovna is highly respected by her colleagues, students and many other people for her competence, human-kind, gentle attitude to people and readiness to help.

We congratulate Galina Fedorovna with her jubilee and wish her great health, prosperity and future scientific successes.

Vladimir G. Krivovichev



Galina F. Anastasenko (*center*)
with colleagues (*left to right*): Vladimir G. Krivovichev,
Mikhail N. Murashko, Anatoliy A. Zolotarev,
Aleksei I. Brusnitsyn.
Photo: Elena N. Perova, 2011.

A GREAT DONATION TO THE VERNADSKY MUSEUM: The Sergey M. Mironov Mineral Collection

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For everyone interested in minerals, whether collectors, museum staff or mineralogists, the autumn of 2011 will be long remembered. And the reason for that, an event not ordinary, and at the same time in keeping with the best traditions of Russian, and the world's intellectual elite. Sergey Mikhajlovich Mironov, an outstanding politician of modern Russia, a member of parliament, the leader of a political party "*Spravedlivaya Rossiya*" ("Fair Russia"), has presented his collection of minerals and stone-cutting artifacts to the Vernadsky State Geological Museum RAS.

Sergey Mironov's vigorous and multidimensional activities as a public politician leaves him few opportunities for doing other things, however, for collecting minerals he managed to always find time. The first specimens with which his collecting began he found in his early childhood, and since then it was constantly replenished. The geological knowledge that he received in the St.-Petersburg Mining Institute and many years of work in geological industry have helped Sergey Mikhajlovich to generate a deep understanding of minerals, their scientific and aesthetic value. The specimens collected during expeditions make an essential part of the collection which now totals more than 1,500 samples.

As with any private assembly, Mironov's mineralogical collection reflects predilections and preferences of the author, its adherence to aesthetics, the beauty of natural mineralogical formations in all of their variety — clusters, crystals, geodes, etc. It is possible to endlessly admire the masterpieces of Nature, the amazing imagination by perfection of forms and lines, revealed in this collection. No, pyrite is not at all a precious stone, but how brightly sparkle the faces of its cubic crystals, comprising a beautiful cluster! Experts, certainly, know where this specimen is from; its place of origin is in Spain. Or look at the large intergrowth of two tourmaline crystals from Malkhan Ridge in the Transbaikal region of Eastern Siberia. But, perhaps, size is not so important as unusual color and an aesthetics — it is difficult to tear away one's eyes from this specimen. The collection is full of true masterpieces, and their geography is worldwide. Some are huge, more than a meter in diameter, slices of agate and amethyst geodes from Brazil, pseudo-stalactites of malachite from Zaire, quartz "icicles" from Poona (India), "big-eyed" agate from China, a cluster of aquamarine crystals from Pakistan, a remarkable specimen of native silver from Mexico and many others. Most of the best specimens Sergey M. Mironov acquired from expeditions — jasper from the Ural Mountains, a Liezegang rings in flint from Mongolia, *etc.* Each specimen in the collection is worthy of attention. In many respects it is influenced also by the

Sergey Mikhajlovich Mironov at the ceremony for the donation of his collection to the Vernadsky State Geological Museum. Photo: Michael B. Leybov, 2011.

