



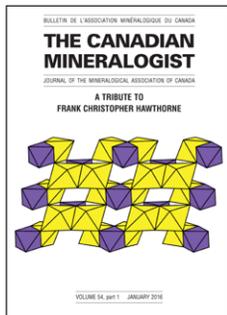
# Mineralogical Association of Canada

[www.mineralogicalassociation.ca](http://www.mineralogicalassociation.ca)

## THE CANADIAN MINERALOGIST

### RECENTLY RELEASED THEMATIC ISSUES

*A Tribute to Frank Christopher Hawthorne*  
(volume 54, part 1, January 2016)



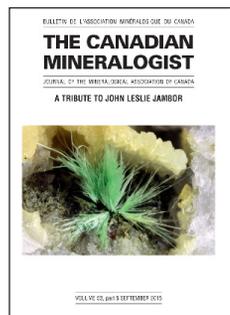
The latest thematic issue of *The Canadian Mineralogist* is in honour of Prof. Frank C. Hawthorne (University of Manitoba, Canada) and his extraordinary contributions to mineralogy and crystallography. The issue is appropriately huge – 372 pages – and includes sixteen articles on a variety of topics as diverse as Frank's own career.

The cover shows the crystal structure of frankhawthorneite,  $\text{Cu}_2\text{Te}^{6+}\text{O}_4(\text{OH})_2$ . The preface describes Frank's accomplishments and impact. His early interest in amphiboles is well

represented by articles concerning the crystal chemistry of synthetic amphiboles, partitioning of chlorine into ferro-pargasite, synthetic potassic-ferro-richterite, and magnesio-hastingsite. His work on the crystal chemistry of rock-forming minerals is represented by papers on Cs-bearing beryl and fibrous tourmaline. A lengthy article revising and expanding the structure hierarchy of natural and synthetic hexavalent uranium compounds constitutes a major contribution to the field of structure hierarchies, where Frank was an early leader, developing hierarchies for several other classes of minerals. Frank's work interpreting the topological aspects of crystal structures is honoured by two papers on the titanium-silicate (TS) block minerals. Of course, the fundamental work of describing and revising the structures of new minerals is also represented by five articles. In recognition of the broad impact of Frank's work, the issue also includes papers on the evolution of structural complexity in boron minerals and surface precipitates and adsorption complexes in remediated soils.

These articles constitute a worthy tribute to Frank's accomplishments and impact, and we hope that our readers enjoy the "Frank Hawthorne Issue".

*A Tribute to John Leslie Jambor*  
(volume 53, part 5, September 2015)



The September 2015 issue is a thematic one, dedicated to John Leslie Jambor (1936–2008), second editor of *The Canadian Mineralogist*. The issue is a fitting tribute, as it contains thirteen articles on themes central to John's interests during his career. In the first contribution, Luca Bindi (University of Florence, Italy) and his team re-establish the validity of jamborite as a mineral species. They show that jamborite contains sulfate groups, a finding that is very fitting, as John maintained a fondness for sulfates ever since he defined gunningite, a sulfate of zinc. Jamborite was the first of 34

new species that John proposed to the International Mineralogical Association (IMA) during his career. There are additional articles on minerals and mineral structures, including ore minerals, always a focus in John's work. The article on owyheeite recalls John's membership in what might be called "the sulfosalt club". John carried out the early characterization of ore assemblages in the Strange Lake peralkaline granite in Québec-Labrador (Canada) and his findings are reviewed in this issue. The issue also contains an article on an anomalous distribution of Cr in clinopyroxene from Mont Royal (Montréal, Québec,

Canada) and another on interstratified nickeliferous lizardite – clinocllore. Finally, there are three articles on the theme of mineralogy applied to mine wastes, which held so much of John's attention late in his career.

### UPCOMING ISSUES

- A thematic issue to accompany the 12<sup>th</sup> International Platinum Symposium (March 2016)
- A pegmatites-themed issue, based on presentations made at the PEGS 2015 conference, Ksiaz, Poland (July 2016)

Check the complete list of articles that are coming up in future issues at [http://www.mineralogicalassociation.ca/doc/Upcoming\\_Issues.pdf](http://www.mineralogicalassociation.ca/doc/Upcoming_Issues.pdf).

### THE 2017 PINCH MEDAL AWARDED TO DR. PETER TARASSOFF



The 2017 Pinch Medal has been awarded to Dr. Peter Tarassoff who was born in Montréal, Canada, in 1934. He holds a bachelor degree in metallurgical engineering from McGill University (Canada) and a doctorate in chemical metallurgy from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) (USA).

He first became interested in minerals at the age of 10 and took an introductory course in geology at the young age of 12. His interest was encouraged by his parents, teachers, and a Boy Scout leader. He soon discovered the mineral collection at the Redpath Museum at McGill University which further developed his interest and knowledge in systematic mineralogy. It is at this time that Peter began to amass what is now a large, systematic collection with an emphasis on minerals from alkaline rocks. As an undergraduate student in 1953, Peter had the opportunity to work for the Geological Survey of Canada in the Yukon Territory which resulted in a mineralogical term paper and a dynamite-box of mineral specimens. Peter was further introduced to the New England pegmatites by members of the Boston Mineral Club while he was a graduate student at MIT.

Peter's professional career was in research and development in Canada's mining and metallurgical industry. He worked as a research engineer with the Québec Iron and Titanium Corporation (Sorel, Québec), for two years, and spent the rest of his career with the Noranda Research Centre, of Noranda Inc., a major Canadian mining and natural resource company. At the time of his retirement in 1991, he was Vice President and Chief Scientist.

Peter explored and collected at some of Canada's most important localities. In 1962, he discovered the Saint-Amable alkaline sill (Demix-Varennes quarry, Québec, Canada), first visited the now world-famous site of Mont Saint-Hilaire (MSH) (Québec, Canada) in 1963 and has been collecting there continuously until the present day. After his retirement, Peter turned his energies towards mineralogy and ornithology.

Peter has made it his life-long goal to document the geology and mineralogy of Mont Saint-Hilaire: committing the last 50 years of his life to this endeavour, longer than that of any known collector. Of the >400 mineral species found at MSH, Peter has been the first person to identify at least 35 of these species. In addition, his collecting and subsequent examinations have resulted in him discovering 12 new species from not only MSH but other alkaline localities. Considered to be "the dean" of Mont Saint-Hilaire mineral collectors for his long and sustained contributions to Mont Saint-Hilaire mineralogy, Peter was honoured with having the new species, petarosite, named after him in 1980 by George Y. Chao, T. T. Chen, and J. Baker.



## Société Française de Minéralogie et de Cristallographie

[www.sfmc-fr.org](http://www.sfmc-fr.org)

Peter's dedication to systematic collecting, curating of his own collection, and keeping and maintaining an archive of accurate, detailed historical and scientific information has been of great benefit to the mineral sciences community in Canada and world-wide. Researchers have benefitted from his generosity in providing specimens and information for their studies. Peter has also authored or co-authored many articles in scientific and popular mineralogical publications. Peter has been a member of the Mineralogical Association of Canada since 1964, and was a member of the Mineralogical Society of America for more than 30 years.

Fourteen years ago Peter returned to his roots to work as a volunteer at the Redpath Museum where he has helped to completely renew the mineral exhibits, reorganize the mineral collection, and has written a scientific guide to the mineral gallery. He is an associate at the museum with the title of Honorary Curator of Mineralogy. Peter knows where his passion for the minerals sciences began and he is doing his utmost to ensure that the next generation has the same opportunities that he did.

The Pinch Medal recognizes major and sustained contributions to the advancement of mineralogy by members of the collector-dealer community. The Mineralogical Association of Canada is honoured to present Dr. Peter Tarassoff with this award: he is the true embodiment of what it means to be a professional amateur in the mineral sciences. His legacy, spanning more than five decades, will serve as inspiration for future generations. The Pinch Medal is given out on a bi-annual basis and will be presented at the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show Banquet on 11 February 2017.

### SERPENTINE DAYS 2016

The 4<sup>th</sup> international Serpentine Days workshop was held 25–29 September 2016 at the Lazaret resort in Sète (France). Workshop sponsors included the Société Française de Minéralogie et de Cristallographie (SFMC), Géosciences Montpellier, the CNRS, the Université de Montpellier, the Institut des Origines and the Université de Lyon, the Région Occitanie Pyrénées-Méditerranée, and the Deep Carbon Observatory. The workshop convened more than 85 scientists from 13 countries with broad expertise in the geological, physical, chemical and microbiological processes of serpentinization to share new findings in this exciting field of research. Sète's strategic location enabled the group to spend the first mild days of Autumn immersed in a deep discussion on the side products of serpentinization, such as methane and that intriguing, but evasive, mineral, brucite.



Participants of Serpentine Days 2016 at the Lazaret resort in Sète (France)

The program was divided into several sessions including: serpentines and tectonics, serpentinites and subduction, experimental petrology, serpentinization, redox and carbon cycle, serpentinization and life, ophiolites as field laboratories, and serpentinization in extra-terrestrial systems.

Two poster sessions complemented the oral discussions. Outstanding keynote speakers introduced each session, leading to passionate discussions that continued during coffee breaks and poster sessions. The participation of colleagues from NASA expanded our views on possible serpentinization on Mars.

To complete the workshop, Yves Lagabrielle (University of Rennes, France) and Michel de Saint-Blanquat (University Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France) led a two-day field trip to the Pyrénées. More than 40 participants joined the field trip, where they explored field evidence of mantle denudation associated with a Cretaceous rifting event in the North Pyrenean Zone (Étang de Lers and Bestiac).

See the full Serpentine Days 2016 workshop report at <http://serpentines2016.gm.univ-montp2.fr/>

### AWARD PRESENTATION

Camille Cartier, co-winner of the 2015 Haiy-Lacroix award of the SFMC, gave a lecture in Paris (14 November 2016) on the behaviour of the rare earth elements and high field-strength elements at low oxygen fugacity during the early differentiation of the Earth. After a sabbatical year, Camille received her medal from Bertrand Devouard, President of the SFMC.



Camille Cartier receiving her medal from Bertrand Devouard.

# \$5000 Scholarships

## The Mineralogical Association of Canada Foundation

will award two \$5000 scholarships to graduate students, one to a student enrolled in an MSc program and one to a student in a PhD program. The applicable fields of study are:

- Mineralogy
- Crystallography
- Geochemistry
- Mineral Deposits
- Petrology

**Deadline to apply:  
May 1, 2017**

#### Eligibility

- 1 Students entering the second year of an MSc program or the second or third year of a PhD program at a Canadian university in September 2017.
- 2 Canadian citizens enrolled in the above or equivalent programs at any university.

For more information, contact the business office:

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Application form available at  
[www.mineralogicalassociation.ca](http://www.mineralogicalassociation.ca)



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