What's New in the Mineral World?

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This is my first online report since October of 2020, but never fear, I'm still here, still virus-free (getting my second Moderna shot in just a few days), and still routinely scouring the web for What's New In Minerals. Around the turn of the year I wrote another report which normally would have appeared in this online space sometime in January, but you'll see it instead *in print* when you get your March-April 2021 issue. Thus the present report constitutes a return to the practice of posting mineral news online, between the big shows, while news from 2021's revived Ste.-Marie-aux-Mines, Denver and Munich shows will be shared, as of old, in the print magazine. Okay, I'm not sure yet about Ste.-Marie but I *will be* getting to Denver and Munich, and "all shall be well and/All manner of thing shall be well," as T.S. Eliot wrote (not, of course, in reference to minerals, but let's pick up on the lines' serene optimism while also wearing our masks and getting vaccinated when we can).

During the past six months or so there has been an apparent decline in the number of active websites representing smaller dealerships: visiting one of these smaller sites very often brings up a blank page announcing "this site can't be reached" or "this domain is for sale." Conversely, however, most of the bigger dealerships' websites are expanding their technological razzmatazz as well as expanding their stocks of interesting minerals. I regret to say that this time around I found no smaller, out-of-the-way websites with what's-new prizes to offer, and it's for this Darwinian reason that I've had to cite just some "big" dealerships often cited before…I hope that next time Darwin will take a break, and I'll find some less familiar sites with wares to tell you about.

In mineral collecting there is hardly anything "bigger" than the **rhodochrosite** of the Sweet Home mine, and right now the big news appertaining thereto is that Bryan Lees' *Collector's Edge Minerals* crew has resumed mining of the deposit through the "Detroit

City Portal," considerably up-slope on Mount Bross from the portal used during the great 1991-2004 mining period. Extraction of specimens began in late 2018 (for a few details, see the 2019 Denver Show report in the March-April 2020 issue), and in July 2020 the crew breached "Deano's Pocket," which yielded, the website says, "some of the finest and largest rhodochrosite crystals found so far at the Detroit City Portal…" Right now that website (collectorsedge.com) is offering 16 Sweet Home mine rhodochrosite specimens, thumbnail to cabinet-size, some from the new workings and some from the old, at prices from $150 to $32,000. Here I show you the very best and priciest of the bunch, a July 2020 "Deano's Pocket" prize which suggests the great potential of this Sweet Home Two mining project. So you can't afford $32,000 to buy it? Well, just *looking* is free…

Rhodochrosite, 6.7 cm, from the Detroit City Portal, Sweet Home mine, Alma, Park County, Colorado. Collector's Edge specimen; Annette Slade photo.

Dan Weinrich of *Weinrich Minerals Inc.* (WeinrichMineralsInc.com) also has some newly emerged Sweet Home mine rhodochrosite specimens, as well as other items not quite so show-stopping but likewise *new* anyway. Dan has, for example, about a dozen fine specimens, thumbnail to cabinet-size, of the rare Ca-fluorosilicate **bultfonteinite**, as white acicular crystals on matrix, sometimes in jumbled groups, sometimes in discrete sprays. First described from the diamond mines of South Africa, bultfonteinite was later found in presentable specimens with other very rare species in the N'Chwaning and Wessels mines in the Kalahari Manganese Field near Kuruman, but Dan's specimens, which are generally better than their South African cousins, are from the Shijiangshan lead-zinc mine at Lixi, Inner Mongolia, China (this mine, begun in 2008, has also turned out exceptional specimens of the exotic borates olshanskyite and wadeite). For the well-composed bultfonteinite miniature shown here, Dan asks only $90.

Bultfonteinite, 4 cm, from the Shijiangshan mine, Lixi, Inner Mongolia, China. Weinrich Minerals, Inc. specimen and photo.

Dan Weinrich has had Chinese bultfonteinites on his site for several weeks now, but *brand*-new are his three small-cabinet-size specimens of **hureaulite** from "a recent find" at the Jocão (Cigana) claim, Conselheiro Pena, Minas Gerais, Brazil. The specimens consist of intergrown crystal crests without matrix, each crest being an aggregate of pale pink, bladed crystals in subparallel growth. The 7-cm specimen shown here is priced at $950.

Hureaulite, 7 cm, from the Jocão (Cigana) claim, Conselheiro Pena, Minas Gerais, Brazil. Weinrich Minerals, Inc. specimen and photo.

But best of all on the *Weinrich Minerals, Inc.* site at present (in my own thumbnail-philic opinion) are the thumbnails from the former Martin Jensen collection which Dan scatters over his pages. Martin collected many of these spruce little items himself, mostly in the southwestern United States, but when, long ago, I visited him, I saw many beauties from worldwide localities in his collection too…

Here indeed are two Jensen thumbnails from the Yaogangxian mine in China, and one from Tsumeb—with assurances that many others from the collection now being offered by Dan are just as superb as these. For the Yaogangxian **bournonite** and **freibergite** Dan asks respectively $800 and $1200:

Bournonite, 2.5 cm, from the Yaogangxian mine, Chenzhou Prefecture, Hunan Province, China. Ex Martin Jensen collection. Weinrich Minerals, Inc. specimen and photo.

Freibergite, 2.8 cm, from the Yaogangxian mine, Chenzhou Prefecture, Hunan Province, China. Ex Martin Jensen collection. Weinrich Minerals, Inc. specimen and photo.

...and for the Tsumeb **dioptase** Dan asks $3000, and yes, that's a lot for a thumbnail, but have you ever seen a Tsumeb dioptase of comparable size that is more celestially fine than this one?

Dioptase, 3 cm, from Tsumeb, Namibia. Ex Martin Jensen collection. Weinrich Minerals, Inc. specimen and photo.

During this past year, Jordi Fabre of *Fabre Minerals* (fabreminerals.com) has missed the regular Tucson, Munich etc. scenes as much as anyone, but he has been creative in his nostalgia—constructing "virtual" shows on his website, putting up photos of people, displays and evocative scenery from past editions of the great shows and *then* tempting us with new material which he *would* have brought to the 2021 shows if only they'd happened. At the right times, for example, there were on his site a "Tucson Show Virtual Edition" and a slightly later "Tucson Show Virtual 2021 Update," the latter being six pages, each page headed by an array of photos from many Tucson Shows of the past.

On page 6 of Jordi's Virtual Update was something I found especially intriguing: six miniatures showing sharp visible crystals of the super-rare species **dissakisite-(Ce)**, from the Trimouns talc mine, Luzenac, Ariège, Midi-Pyrénées, France (see Freddy Marty's article on this unusual locality in the May-June 2004 *Mineralogical Record*). Groups of

long-prismatic, well terminated dissakisite-(Ce) crystals to a remarkable 1 cm lie flat or rise up in little sprigs from matrix pieces which are covered by crusts of snow-white dolomite crystals. Actually, a continuous series exists between Mg-dominant dissakisite-(Ce) and Fe-dominant allanite-(Ce), and the crystals in Jordi's specimens show a distinct color-zoning which probably, he suggests, reflects compositional zoning, from dark brown (allanite) to greenish brown (dissakisite). And two of Jordi's specimens have pale brown transparent platelets, to 9 mm, of hydroxylbastnäsite-(Ce), another exotic rare-earths species. The price of the miniature shown here, which sports a main dissakisite/allanite crystal 1 cm long, is $339.

Dissakisite-(Ce), 4.2 cm, from the Trimouns mine, Luzenac, Ariège, Midi-Pyréeées, France. Fabre Minerals specimen and photo.

Jordi Fabre's "regular" pages are organized by locality, and on the Morocco page, as well as on the page called *The Vault*, you'll find some examples of the very new **gold** specimens for which the locality tag as given so far is Assa-Zag Province, Guelmim-Oued Noun Region, southwestern Morocco (probably near the town of Tan-Tan). In the aforementioned *print* what's-new column in the March-April 2021 issue—soon to be

mailed to subscribers—there is more information about the occurrence; suffice to say here that the gold specimens, most of which are thumbnail-size, stalk-like groups of lustrous spinel-twinned crystals, have so far been handled by just four dealers, of whom Jordi is one. Read about it, watch for it, and meanwhile check out this picture of a splendid 1-inch specimen, priced by Jordi at $2185.

Gold, 2.5 cm, from Assa-Zag Province, Guelmim-Oued Noun Region, Morocco. Fabre Minerals specimen and photo.

But wait! Don't leave Jordi's Vault quite yet, for on page 5 there is an exceptional and unusual, one-of-a-kind **fluorite** specimen which I insist you appreciate. The specimen measures 9.2 × 9.5 × 11.3 cm, and most of that volume is taken up by a single, transparent and lustrous, pale pink octahedral crystal of fluorite with complex, apparently dodecahedral, "steps" on its faces, perched on a bit of matrix with quartz and dolomite crystals. Of course we already know about octahedral pink fluorite from Swiss and French Alpine clefts, from the old Huanzala mine in Peru, from Chumar Bakhoor in Pakistan and

from the very much newer Huangganglіang mine complex in Inner Mongolia, China. But this one is from the old Shangbao polymetallic mine, Leiyang, Hengyang Prefecture in Hunan Provinc, China. Shangbao is one of China's great (though short-lived) fluorite localities, known before now for its very attractive, almost always *purple* crystals. For this otherworldly example of an apparently rare kind of Shangbao fluorite, Jordi's price is $7040. (See Bert Ottens article on Shangbao in the September-October 2012 "China-IV" issue of the *Mineralogical Record*.)

Fluorite, 11.3 cm, from the Shangbao mine, Leiyang, Hengyang Prefecture, Hunan Province, China. Fabre Minerals specimen and photo.

Sticking for one more entry with **fluorite**, a new occurrence of that ever-popular, ever-diverse species has been making the news of late: I refer to the complexly color-zoned fluorite of Larkin's quarry in the Townland of Shannapheasteen, County Galway, Republic of Ireland. This occurrence, whose specimens first hit the international market late in 2016, is described in detail by a major article in the forthcoming issue of the *Mineralogical Record*, soon to appear in your mailbox, and so again I don't want to steal too much

thunder. However, these beautiful Irish fluorites are not yet known very widely in collector circles—thanks to the dearth of mineral shows this past year—and so I'll brief you by referring you to the "Latest Update" page on the website of *Via Mineralia* (viamineralia.com). The proprietors of this dealership, the enthusiastic two-man Austrian team of Robert Kunze and Martin Grüll, have latched on to 11 specimens of Larkin quarry fluorite, all showing sharp, transparent, modified cubic crystals in fickle internal shadings of purple and green. Most of the miniature to small-cabinet-size specimens are loose crystal clusters, although in a couple of cases the crystals rest on a matrix of granite (exploitation of which is the quarry's purpose), with small quartz crystals and green chlorite dustings. The specimen shown here is marked "sold" but I'm showing it *anyway* because it's so striking; the pieces yet un-sold are priced from 280 to 1400 Euros (≈ $335 - $1675).

Fluorite, 4.8 cm, from Larkin's quarry, Townland of Shannapheasteen, County Galway, Republic of Ireland. Via Mineralia specimen and photo.

During the 1970s and early 1980s the Black Pine mine, Philipsburg, Montana turned out the world's best-ever specimens of the rare Cu-Zn phosphate **veszelyite**: most of these are only thumbnails but they exude classiness, as they show razor-sharp, highly lustrous, sumptuously blue-green veszelyite crystals to 2 cm on baby-blue chrysocolla. Then all was quiet on the veszelyite front until about 2005, when the market saw small numbers of pretty examples of veszelyite crystals reaching 1 cm on blue hemimorphite from the Laochang orefield, within the Gejiu district, in Yunnan Province, southern China (in my *Compendium*

of Mineral Discoveries I wrongly placed the Gejiu district in Hunan, not Yunnan— a thousand pardons). Then, in early 2020, exceptional veszelyite specimens were taken from the Palabanda mine, Republic of the Congo, by collecting teams from *Spirifer Minerals*— you'll read about these as well in the upcoming issue.

Now, according to Mike Keim of *Marin Minerals* (marinmineral.com), there has been "a new find made in July 2020 at an old zinc mine located about 400 kilometers away from…the Laochang mine," although still lying in Yunnan Province. This one is called the Dongchuan mine, near Kunming, Yunnan, China, and its veszelyite specimens, to judge from the three seen on Mike's "Mixed Minerals" update of February 24, are quite as fine as any of their rivals as noted above. One of the specimens (shown below) comes at us dramatically with a solid blanket of brilliantly blue veszelyite crystals over a 4-cm matrix. Another, quite different-looking piece has a 1-cm fan of blue crystals in a quartz-lined vug, with green hemimorphite; and still a third is a 3-cm matrix of rusty, vuggy quartz with a tight blue-green cluster of wedge-terminated veszelyite crystals rising from its center. Are beautiful specimens of this beautiful mineral now about to become *familiar*? Mike Kein has priced the Laochang example shown here at $750.

Veszelyite, 4 cm, from the Dongchuan mine, Kumming, Yunnan Province, China. Marin Minerals specimen and photo.

Rob Lavinsky's *The Arkenstone* (irocks.com) put up a February 24 update with 38 Brazilian specimens from a collection Rob has just bought—the "multigenerational Bruno and Rolando Gioia Collection, assembled over the heyday of modern Brazilian mineral collecting," Rob writes. Eight of these impressive specimens were already marked "sold" on the late afternoon of that same February 24, but four which were then still un-sold have good showings of the famous **rose quartz crystals** first taken during the 1970s from the Ilha claim, Taquaral, Itinga, Minas Gerais (see Jacques and Jeannine Cassedanne's article on the locality in September-October 1973). The prettiest of the four is the miniature shown

here, with a spiky blob of medium-pink rose quartz crystals on a milky white stem, priced at $2,250.

Rose Quartz, 4.1 cm, from the Ilha claim, Taquaral, Itinga, Minas Gerais, Brazil. The Arkenstone specimen and photo.

From the same Brazilian collection, Rob also has a "cross" of sharp, submetallic black **tantalite-(Fe)** crystals from Parelhas, Rio Grande do Norte, priced at $2,450. And he has a larger, even heavier (in more ways than one) companion-piece to the tantalite-(Fe): a single, incomplete, sleek-sided crystal of **tantalite-(Mn)** which is red-brown and exceptional for the species, and which weighs almost two pounds ($12,000). Get princely old Brazilian classics like this while you can:

Tantalite-(Fe), 3.7 cm, from Parelhas, Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil. The Arkenstone specimen and photo.

Tantalite-(Mn), 6.4 cm, from the Alto do Giz pegmatite, Equador, Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil. The Arkenstone specimen and photo.

From time to time I have noted winning Greek specimens from Christos Spiromitros's *Greek Rocks* (greekrocks.com), and now—again—Christos has come up with something new from the ancient mines of Laurium, Attika, Greece. Here, local collectors continue to probe ancient, still-accessible workings in the deposit of argentiferous galena from which the ancient Athenians (actually, their slaves) dug silver and other ores to finance the classical Greek "Golden Age" (ca. 5th century B.C.). A February 9 update on *Greek Rocks* offers **malachite-coated cuprite crystals** found in December 2020 in the Exi mine ("Mine #6") in the Sounion area of the Laurium district. Now, these earthy to slightly fuzzy green dodecahedrons reach only a few millimeters across, and thus they fail to rival the much larger malachite-coated cuprites from Chessy, France or from the Onganja mine in Namibia—but the little green crystals perch cutely on brown iron oxides, making for fine and interesting thumbnails.

Malachite-coated cuprite crystal on iron oxides, 1.7 cm, from the Exi mine, Laurium district, Attika, Greece. Greek Rocks specimen and photo.

Quartz fanciers have long been respectful of fine specimens of **Japan-law-twinned quartz** from the PC mine, Basin, Jefferson County, Montana—well, they have been respectful since the mid-1980s, when the specimens began to emerge, but since then these shapely twins, often reaching very large sizes, have not been widely available on the

market. In late February, on his *Dave Bunk Minerals* website (davebunkminerals.com), Dave reports that Pete Knudsen once collected many fine specimens of the Japan-law twins in the PC mine, and that some of these went to his friend Bryce Colwell's collection: Dave is now offering about 15 specimens, some from the Knudsen/Colwell hoard and others from the collection of the late Bryant Harris. Search "Montana" on the website and you'll find excellent Japan-law-twinned quartz specimens ranging in size from 3 to 10 cm; some are single loose twins while in others the twins rise at high angles from platy groups of "normal" prismatic quartz crystals. It's a fairly impressive stash from a locality which it has been easy to think of as "dead." For the 4-cm loose twin shown below Dave asks $350.

Quartz Japan-law twin, 4 cm, from the PC mine, Basin, Jefferson County, Montana. Dave Bunk Minerals specimen and photo.

In a February 4 update on the darkly luxurious-looking website of Rudolf Watzl's *Saphira Minerals* (saphiraminerals.com) there's a ten-page "Treasure Trove" of beautiful high-end specimens, mostly of the Alpine (as we'd expect) and gem-crystal type. Twenty days after posting, almost everything after page 3 of the Trove is marked "sold," but here are a couple of very remarkable highlights which remained un-sold as of the last week of

the month—a whiff of the kind of wonders that you can acquire (if you can afford them) from this busy son of an Austrian *Strahler* family. First we have an old-timey classic: a terminated **emerald** crystal which is an impressive 7.6 cm long and rests lightly on matrix of mica schist, collected who-knows-when from somewhere along the Tokovaya River, Ekaterinburg, Middle Urals, Russia. Unlike almost all of the old Russian emerald crystals which we have seen, *this* crystal is of a rich, saturated green and is partially gemmy (i.e. not cursed with foggy inclusions of mica), and it is accompanied on its matrix by two smaller crystals both fully as fine as the big one. This piece would set you back 18,000 Euros (≈ $21,600).

Emerald in mica schist, 7.7 cm, Tokovaya River, Ekaterinburg, Middle Urals, Russia. Saphira Minerals specimen and photo.

The second of Rudolf Watzl's "Treasure Trove" specimens which I'll commend to you is more modern but just as regal: a loose, gemmy orange-pink, long-prismatic, well terminated crystal of **väyrynenite** which is 5.6 cm long—a giant, for this very rare species—from the Urandu mine, Shingus Valley, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan. The crystal has a couple of smaller "sidecar" väyrynenite crystals clinging to it, and near its bottom it has three inconspicuous repairs (not visible in the photo but conscientiously mentioned by Rudolf). This is the biggest and best väyrynenite I can recall ever seeing; at first glance it

resembles a gemmy pink elbaite crystal, but the sloping termination says otherwise. Rudolf's price is 16,500 Euros (≈ $19,800).

Väyrynenite, 5.6 cm, from the Urandu mine, Shingus Valley, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan. Saphira Minerals specimen and photo.

Ibrahim Jameel of *The Khyber Mineral Company* (khyberminerals.com) has a very deep site which he frequently updates, and clearly he has an eclectic yet sophisticated taste, so if you are up for a couple of hours of innocent mineral browsing, whatever your specialty, you'll find plenty of specimens here which are tempting and/or in some way *interesting*. The superstar of a late February *Khyber* update is a 10.7-cm **ludlamite** specimen featuring two fat green crystal sheaves on brown matrix—from a single-pocket find at the end of 2019 in the Huanuni mine, Dalence Province, Oruro Department, Bolivia. Elsewhere I have

described other excellent ludlamite specimens which probably are from this same find, as a few of them surfaced at the big shows in 2020, but Ibrahim says that this is "the second best piece from the batch I got," and I'm sure I've haven't seen better that *anyone* got. Not normally one to charge five-figure prices, Ibrahim asks $16,000 for this superlative cabinet-size specimen of the green iron phosphate.

Ludlamite, 10.7 cm, from the Huanuni mine, Dalence Province, Oruro Department, Bolivia. Khyber Mineral Company specimen and photo.

Also, in his January 8, 2021 "Mixed Minerals" update, Ibrahim offers eight very fine, miniature to cabinet-size **ferberite** specimens from "a newer mine in Bolivia…not from Tasna": the San Pedro mine, Potosi Department. Loose single examples and groups of two or three blocky, lustrous black crystals, some with adhering quartz crystals, come in sizes from 4 to 7.6 cm, priced from $145 to $885. Below, check out the biggest/best/priciest piece, and below that a smaller but tighter, more handsomely lustrous one.

Ferberite, 7.6 cm, from the San Pedro mine, Potosi Department, Bolivia. Khyber Mineral Company specimen and photo.

Ferberite, 5.1 cm, from the San Pedro mine, Potosi Department, Bolivia. Khyber Mineral Company specimen and photo.

Jack Crowley of *The Crystal Mine* (crystal-mine.com) is a skilled field collector who often offers material from little-known localities in Nevada and California. He may have field-collected the specimens just last weekend or 30 years ago or not at all, but all are lovingly explicated on this very chatty site. Currently Jack is showing off several miniatures of **"grossular-andradite (grandite)"** from the Alpine mine, Nightingale distract, Pershing County, Nevada, "collected about 25 years ago." The specimens show fairly sharp, fairly lustrous orange-brown dodecahedral garnet crystals to 2.5 cm on skarn matrixes, as in this example, priced at $185.

Grossular-Andradite, 5.5 cm, from the Alpine mine, Nightingale district, Pershing County, Nevada. The Crystal Mine specimen and photo.

Also, scattered about on his "New Arrivals" pages Jack has a few serious-looking miniatures of **creedite** on matrix from "recent finds" in the Qinglong (or Dachang) mine, Qinglong County, Qianxinan, Guizhou Province, China. Pale purple spherical aggregates of pointy little creedite crystals rest on druses of colorless fluorite over matrix.

Creedite, 7 cm, from the Qinglong (Dachang) mine, Qinglong County, Qianxinan, Guizhou Province, China. The Crystal Mine specimen and photo.

Do you like the distinctive kind of **rhodochrosite** that comes only from Mont St.-Hilaire, Quebec—twinned, flattened, generally triangle-shaped, as much orange as red, and utterly different from ore vein-type rhodochrosite from anywhere else? Well, David K. Joyce (davidkjoyceminerals.com) has just posted about a dozen lively-looking thumbnails of that kind; the loose little individual crystals and flattened clusters of parallel crystals range in size from 1.3 to 2.1 cm, and all are priced under $70.

Rhodochrosite, 1.7 cm, from Mont St.-Hilaire, Quebec, Canada. David K. Joyce Minerals specimen and photo.

I ended an earlier online report with a sampling of miscellaneous, in one way or another remarkable, specimens from the extremely deep website of Kevin Downey's *Well-Arranged Molecules* (wellarrangedmolecules.com). And now I'll do it again, as this site, more than any other I know, makes for hours and hours of browsing fun: instead of separate pages for categories of specimens there is an all-in-one-package arrangement such that little surprises might always happen, one specimen yielding, as we scroll down, to another which is entirely different…and there are hundreds and hundreds of specimens in this miscellany of more than 100 screen pages. As of this writing in early March the specimens on the first 50 pages or so are marked "new year 2021," and here I will show you five of them in such a way as to mimic the browsing experience I've been describing, i.e. randomly, each piece unlike all of the others.

First, here is a northeastern U.S. classic: a rich congregation of sharp blue-black octahedral **spinel** crystals over matrix, from Amity, Orange County, New York. Kevin has priced this authoritative-looking old specimen from the collection of William J. Hladysz (1949-2020) in New York, priced at $340.

Spinel, 4.6 cm, from Amity, Orange County, New York. Ex Hladysz collection. Well-Arranged Molecules specimen and photo.

Pyromorphite with incipient alteration to galena, 5.7 cm, from the Daoping mine near Guilin, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, China. Well-Arranged Molecules specimen and photo.

Green **pyromorphite** from the Daoping mine near Guilin, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, China is pretty familiar around the market by now, but I've never seen (have *you* ever seen?) a specimen of it wherein some of the prismatic pyromorphite crystals have lead-gray tips of incipient alteration to galena. On the *Well-Arranged Molecules* specimen shown below, quite a few of the larger crystals clearly show such alteration, and a really close look at the photo reveals that the lead-gray galena tips are in turn overgrown by very thin, almost transparent sheaths of a fresh generation of yellow-green pyromorphite. This fascinating 5.7-cm specimen goes for $1350.

Speaking of **galena**, Kevin has an unusual, very handsome old specimen from the Freiberg mining district in Saxony, consisting simply of two slightly modified octahedral galena crystals—the octahedron being a very rare habit for Freiberg galena. $550 for this antique.

Galena, 3.9 cm, from the Freiberg district, Sachsen, Germany. Well-Arranged Molecules specimen and photo.

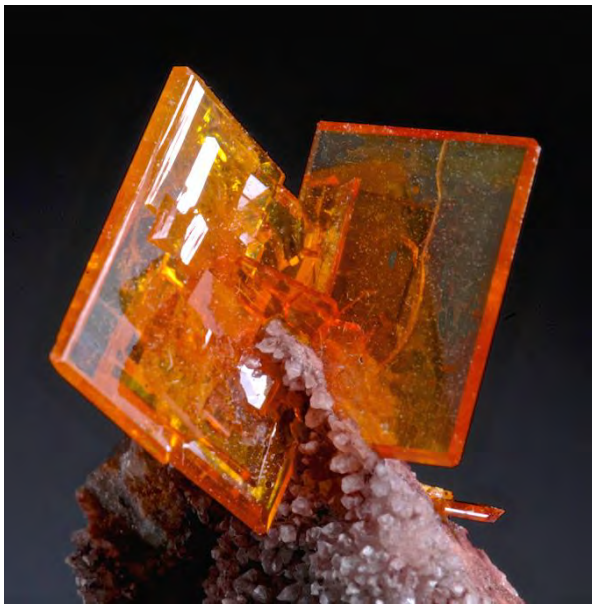
Next, here's a thumbnail antique from another old northeastern U.S. locality: a gemmy pale yellow, complete floater twin of **chrysoberyl** which looks mighty fine to start with, but which I found especially interesting for the locality name: Ragged Ass Jack Mountain, Hartford, Oxford County, Maine. Kevin writes, "This thumbnail is from the Larry White collection, which he obtained almost 50 years ago from Phil Scalisi, who in turn got this from the Grace Dearborn collection"—so yes, this is very old, but still I had to go to Mindat to check out that locality name, and here is what I learned:

> Granite pegmatite, Oxford Pegmatite field. The original and local name for this small mountain is Ragged Ass Jack Mountain. The name was not put on the USGS topographic maps, as there was then an effort thinking the name should be changed. The locality name continues to be used with its full length in the region…For many years, the locality was "secret" and collectors said that the wonderful chrysoberyl crystals from the place were really from Black Mountain in the nearby town of Peru. There has been additional confusion over labeling the locality [because] Ragged-Ass Jack Mountain is near the intersection of three towns: Hartford, Peru and Sumner.

This lovely little piece of ragged-ass local history costs $390.

Chrysoberyl, 1.7 cm, from Ragged Ass Jack Mountain, Hartford, Oxford County, Maine. Ex Larry White, Phil Scalisi, Grace Dearborn collections. Well-Arranged Molecules specimen and photo.

Finally, and to conclude the report in flaming orange, here is one—probably the best—of the several spectacular thumbnails of **wulfenite** from the Rowley mine, Theba, Maricopa County, Arizona, which are dispersed through the many pages of *Well-Arranged Molecules*. Rowley wulfenites haven't been especially hard to find on the market lately, as there have been large-scale collecting efforts there in the recent past (see the article by Wendell Wilson in the January-February 2020 "Arizona-VII" Issue of the *Mineralogical Record*). Kevin Downey seems to have picked up the *very* best of the best; for this one he charges $950.



Wulfenite, 2.1 cm, from the Rowley mine, Theba, Maricopa County, Arizona. Well-Arranged Molecules specimen and photo.

The best of the best of wishes from all of us at the *Mineralogical Record*.

