

We have had considerable positive feedback on our first issue of *Showcase*. I am now pleased to *Showcase* the museum's new logo, a result of the efforts of Brandy Tichonoff, Creative Director in the University Marketing and Communications department. I am also pleased how the Michigan Tech name is seamlessly a part of the new logo. We have other versions of our new logo that include a byline such as "Mineral Museum of Michigan" and one using our traditional museum logo specimen in large format, that will help us brand and promote the museum.

The museum extends its reach beyond the confines of Michigan Tech campus in multiple ways, including: our web site, satellite exhibits, presentations by museum staff, and exhibiting and attendance at mineral shows. Chris Stefano, Associate Curator, John Jaszczak, Adjunct Curator, and I recently represented the museum and Michigan Tech at the 2015 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, arguably the world's largest event of its kind drawing an international audience. The theme of the public exhibits at the Tucson Convention Center was "Minerals of Western Europe."



The museum's exhibit fit well with the theme, "European Classics from the Collection of John Thorley Reeder." Chris notes that "Many collectors, and those of you who have visited the museum, would recognize the Reeder name in association with superior native copper specimens, but few would realize that he also assembled a fine collection, in the day, of minerals from Western Europe." The Reeder collection, acquired in 1938, provides "the cornerstone around which our world-class native copper collection was built."

John Jaszczak was impressed by the amazing amount of material available at all levels of quality and cost. Chris agreed and added that while new finds remained few and far between, the quality of specimens from recycled collections was outstanding. There were quite a few large Russian tourmalines available and we are pleased to report that the one generously donated by Bill Shelton is definitely among the largest two or three. For copper lovers, Chris notes that there was a new find of exceptional crystallized coppers found at the Chino Mine in New Mexico. We would sure like one for our collection. Their quality makes them some of the finest non-Michigan coppers ever discovered. As many of you know John has been active in mineralogical research for many years and has recently authored several articles on Merelani minerals. While mineral shows are of course dominated by the buying and selling of minerals, John was particularly pleased to "hear lots of people talking about research projects involving mineralogically interesting things such as morphologies, twin laws, and mineral formation." There are many benefits to participation in mineral shows especially the one-on-one interactions. John has been instrumental in developing the museum's well recognized outstanding fluorescent mineral exhibit, and garnered at the show some tips to use for our exhibit.

It is a rare mineral show that George Robinson, former Curator, and now Chris did not find a mineral they could not resist acquiring for the museum's mineral collection for one of many reasons. This year is no exception! Chris acquired an attractive specimen with the rare mineral stolzite on scheelite on a matrix of quartz crystals from Mundo Nuevo, Peru. The specimen is pictured on the right.

In closing, I am also happy to *Showcase* that during the Tucson show, Chris was interviewed about the museum on The Collector's Edge's "Minerals Live" internet TV show. I hope you enjoyed this second issue of *Showcase*.

Until Next issue.....Ted Bornhorst, Director

