

Meeting Announcement

April 3, 2019 – The Many Faces of Fluorite

Our April presentation will be “The Many Faces of Fluorite” by Herwig Pelckmans. I have heard this presentation once before, in April 2018 at the Atlantic Micromounters’ Conference, and I can tell you, you are in for a treat. I can’t wait to hear it again and am very grateful that Herwig’s travels bring him into our area at a time that coincides with our October meeting.

A little bit about Herwig: Herwig Pelckmans is the president of the Mineralogical Society of Antwerp, Belgium; one of the most vivid mineral clubs in the world. His travels and collecting trips have brought him and his family all over Europe and the United States, and even to some countries in Africa and Asia. In addition, he loves to write mineralogical articles and gives talks for mineral clubs (lucky us!). Herwig also is a strong promoter for the use of the polarizing microscope and spindle stages as an inexpensive and reliable tool for mineral collectors who want to identify their unknowns in a scientific way. He retired from his job as an officer and database administrator for the Belgian Army in 2013 and soon realized that life is even more hectic in retirement. He, his wife, and three kids live in the small town of Hasselt, Belgium, about one hour east of Brussels.

Please join us in taking Herwig to dinner on April 3rd before the club meeting. We will be meeting at 6:00 pm at Elephant & Castle Restaurant, 1201 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC, about 2 blocks from the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) where our club meeting is held. If you plan to come to dinner, please send an e-mail to me (davidhennessey@comcast.net) and let me know so I can try to get the number right for the reservation - but do not hesitate to come to dinner if you forget to e-mail. We can always make room for more around the table. If you cannot make it to dinner, we will meet in the NMNH lobby at 7:30 pm and head up to the Cathy Kerby Room for Herwig’s presentation.