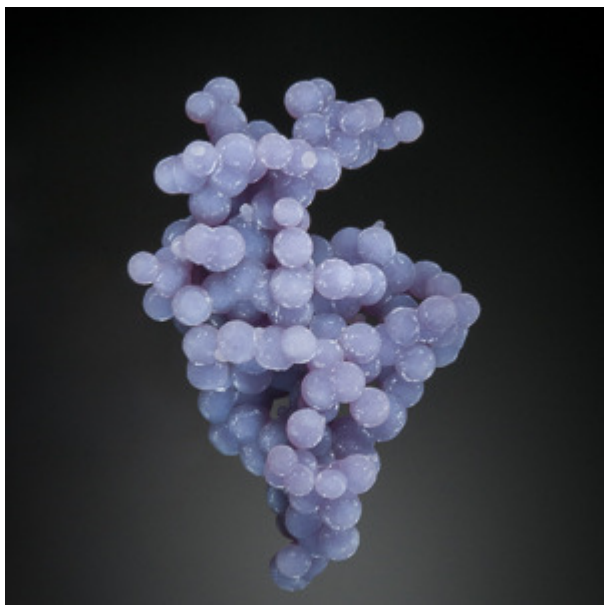


David Barthelmy

From: McDougall Minerals <ray@mcdougallminerals.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2019 1:49 PM
To: webmineral@gmail.com
Subject: Newsletter

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New From Indonesia; Rochester!

New from Indonesia

I've added excellent specimens of "grape amethyst" in this [Indonesia Update \(click here\)](#). These are beautiful pieces!

Originally referred to as "grape agate", specimens were first found in the Mamuju area in 2015. These specimens are recovered from clay, in the spaces between the "pillows" in pillow lava. Although they were first known as "grape agate", they are not cryptocrystalline (and therefore are not agate) - they are balls of radiating crystalline quartz. When the find first came to market, there was a large amount of material, much of which was poor quality. With the passage of time, the diggers began to produce higher quality specimens.

The recent article on this material in the Mineralogical Record (Nov-Dec. 2018) observes that the production of fine specimens is beginning to decline, although there are still a few very active teams working the deposits. The article speculates, based upon local sources, that all specimen mining of the pillow lava deposits will likely cease within the next three to four years. As with all mineral specimen localities, the ultimate accuracy of such speculation varies. In this case, the limited geographical extent of the known pillow lava deposits is a key factor.

Rochester!

It's that time of year again - I hope that you will be joining us at the Rochester Mineralogical Symposium, April 11-14. We have a super speaker line-up! If you haven't yet seen it, the link for the talks is [here](#), and the link for registration is [here](#).

If you've never been, there really is no event in the Mineral World year exactly like Rochester. It may sound scientific and formal, but Rochester is perhaps the most welcoming and inclusive mineral gathering I know.

Rochester is not meant to be a strictly scientific symposium – it is meant for anyone who wants to learn more about topics in mineralogy. At Rochester, many of the best-known mineral people of our time, mineralogists, curators, collectors (including beginners) and students, all share and learn together. And we have a good time together too. How often, in any field of study, does one find this kind of collaboration and true camaraderie among people from the top of the profession through to early-stage amateur enthusiasts? It's a great experience.

So if you've never come, why not come this year? Rochester is meant for you as much as anyone!

Hope you enjoy the update and hope to see you at Rochester!

Canadian and US Dollar

The currency disparity remains significant in favour of the U.S. dollar these days. My usual reminder - prices on the website are in Canadian dollars (if you are thinking in - or used to browsing online minerals in - US dollar terms).

If you are receiving this email in any format in which the above links do not work, the addresses are:

<http://www.mcdougallminerals.com/Indonesia-Grape-Amethyst-March-2019.html>

<http://www.rasny.org/minsymp/46th%20RMS%20Agenda%20Draft.pdf>

<http://www.rasny.org/minsymp/46th%20RMS%20Registration%202019%20Final.pdf>

The link for all new specimens on the website:

<http://www.mcdougallminerals.com/New-Specimens.html>

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