



# *A Celebration of Agates News*

*January 2012*

## **Registration forms posted online**

Registration forms for A Celebration of Agates are now on the Minnesota Mineral Club website: [www.minnesotamineralclub.org](http://www.minnesotamineralclub.org). Forms recently added to the site include: Seminar Registration Form, Federation Registration Form, Exhibit Form (competitive), Exhibit Form (noncompetitive). The four-day agate show will be held July 26 to 29, 2012, at Lindbergh Center at Hopkins High School, located in Minnetonka, Minnesota.



## **Seminar presenters list posted**

The list of confirmed seminar presenters has been added to the Minnesota Mineral Club website on the A Celebration of Agates show page: [www.minnesotamineralclub.org](http://www.minnesotamineralclub.org).

Among the presenters is **Dietrich Mayer** (pictured at left with a large Condor Agate). Mayer was born in 1940 in Wiesbaden, Germany. He is married and has two grown children. He studied law in Mainz and Frankfurt. After two legal exams he became a judge. He retired in March 2005 as a federal judge at the Supreme Administrative Court in Leipzig.

Mayer started collecting minerals in 1972, but found a passion for agates after a successful trip to nearby Rheinhessen. He now has about 3,800 pieces from all over the world, with an emphasis on agates from Rheinhessen, the region of Freisen, Idar-Oberstein (Germany),

Argentina, Botswana, Mexico and Morocco. He is fascinated by the variety of colors and patterns of the agates and their genesis, which is still a big mystery even to geo-scientists. He also loves agates because among all minerals, they can be found by everyone through good luck, effort and patience.

At the show in July, Mayer will show agates from different locations of Morocco, including Agouim, Aouli, Kerrouchen, Sidi Rahal, Zaer Zaiane and from a recently discovered new place in the High Atlas Mountains called Al Hama. He has traveled about 20 times to Morocco for agate collecting.

## Check out the hotel information for discounted rates

Two hotels near the agate show site have special deals for 2012 A Celebration of Agates attendees. Call the Marriott Minneapolis West, 9960 Wayzata Blvd., St. Louis Park, at (952) 544-4400 ([www.marriott.com/mspsp](http://www.marriott.com/mspsp)) and ask for the “Celebration of Agates” discounted rate of \$79/night. Spring Hill Suites by Marriott, 5901 Wayzata Blvd., St. Louis Park, also offers a \$79 discounted rate. Call the hotel directly at (952) 738-7300 to ask for the “Celebration of Agates” discounted. Information about other Twin Cities metropolitan area hotels, motels, campgrounds and other tourism information has been added to the Minnesota Mineral Club website: [www.minnesotamineralclub.org](http://www.minnesotamineralclub.org).

## Send us your ideas for getting the word out to rockhounds

Thousands of people are expected to attend the event, the first of its kind to be held in Minnesota. If you have ideas on how to get the word out to other rockhounds and others who may be interested in attending, send an email to [acelebrationofagates@gmail.com](mailto:acelebrationofagates@gmail.com). We welcome your ideas!

## Encourage others to sign up for show news

A monthly newsletter will be e-mailed out to those who sign up for information on the Minnesota Mineral Club website: [www.minnesotamineralclub.org](http://www.minnesotamineralclub.org). The show flier is attached. Print some out and give them out to your rockhound friends.

## Find A Celebration of Agates on Facebook, MySpace, Twitter

Find information about A Celebration of Agates on social network sites, such as Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/A-Celebration-of-Agates/174714759237403>), MySpace (Celebration Agates) and Twitter (@celebrationagat). Follow or friend these pages to get the latest news about A Celebration of Agates.

## Agate of the month: Mendoza Agate

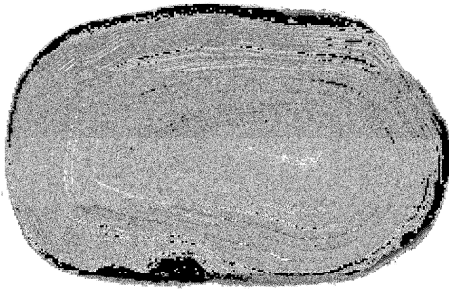
(Photo courtesy Doug Moore)



This agate features bands of bright colors, including red and yellow. Mendoza is the capital city of Mendoza Province, in Argentina. It is located in the northern-central part of the province, in a region of foothills and high plains, on the eastern side of the Andes.

## Send us your agate photos and stories

Send photos of your favorite agates and the story of how you found or acquired them to [acelebrationofagates@gmail.com](mailto:acelebrationofagates@gmail.com).



# *A Celebration of Agates*

*July 26 to 29, 2012*

**Seminars on Thursday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**Event hours: Friday, noon to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**Lindbergh Center at Hopkins High School  
2400 Lindbergh Drive  
Minnetonka, Minnesota**

The Minnesota Mineral Club is hosting a four-day agate show, in conjunction with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies.

Sign up for more information at [www.minnesotamineralclub.org](http://www.minnesotamineralclub.org)

- *Celebrate agates!*
- *Celebrate collectors!*
- *Celebrate rockhounds!*
- *Celebrate Minnesota!*
- *Celebrate dealers!*
- *Celebrate kids and families*