

**THE BERRY MEDAL FOR 2004
TO
J. DOUGLAS SCOTT**



The time is most appropriate to honor Doug Scott, who has served *The Canadian Mineralogist* in the trenches for quite a long time. The annual index has been compiled by Doug since volume 18, in 1980! Issue after issue, Doug goes through each and every article to pull out entries for the Author index and, of course, for the Subject index. He is incredibly thorough, and in December, must work efficiently so that the production of the annual index does not unduly slow down the production of the December issue. The production of the journal really is the Association's most important activity, and it relies on people like Doug who are there issue after issue. Doug has given the Association hours upon hours of consistent commitment to doing an excellent job, so that end users of our journal get the maximum out of their utilization of it. He is now retired from a position in industry, and later as a consultant in applied mineralogy, but has always had very broad interests in mineralogy, petrology and geochemistry that make him an ideal compiler of the contents of our journal. An added asset, in the context of today's celebration, is his close connection with Len Berry, founding editor of this journal, after whom the Medal is named. Doug carries on Len's standards, and contributes in a very important way to the achievement of his vision.

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Thank you for the award of the Leonard G. Berry medal. It was an unexpected honor for doing something that I actually enjoy and which keeps me scientifically

current. It does, however, mean a great deal to me, since Len Berry was both a mentor and a good friend. I should probably say a few words on how that situation came about. Most of you will not know my history in any detail, although many of you probably know of me as the long-time author of the annual index. It was also requested that I say something of an unusual incident that happened regarding Len and my time with him.

I was interested in chemistry before I got to high school and, while there, made the fascinating discovery that minerals were just naturally crystallized chemicals; I was hooked on mineralogy from then on. I went to UofT in their Engineering Geology program mainly because it included more of Digger Gorman's mineralogy courses. Digger was the person who first focused my attention on sulfides and sulfosalts, and they have been my primary interest ever since. He also supervised my undergraduate thesis and introduced me to the bible of sulfide X-ray powder data, *X-Ray Powder Data for Ore Minerals: the Peacock Atlas* by L.G. Berry and R.M. Thompson. There is a strange and quite funny, though almost tragic, postscript to the story of the *Peacock Atlas* that I will get to shortly.

It was also through Digger's recommendation that I was able to undertake a rather unusual joint Masters program in sulfide synthesis with F.G. Smith and their X-ray diffraction with E.W. Nuffield. This also relates to Len because the sulfide that I chose to grow and study was lillianite, which had been legitimately discredited by Len in 1940, but whose composition was reinstated by me in 1966. All three of my professors of course

knew Len Berry at Queen's very well and strongly recommended that I go to him for a Doctorate in sulfide crystallography. So I did.

I was accompanied on this move to Queen's by my friend and fellow sulfosalt enthusiast Paul Kingston, who was also to study with Len. At that time, graduate student carrels in Miller Hall were at a premium and very cramped. There was, however, a large and moderately junk-filled basement space immediately adjacent to the X-ray laboratory. With Len's active assistance, Paul and I partitioned off one corner of the basement and built ourselves a fine joint office. He thought it was a great joke, and showed ingenuity to make sure that no one threw us out when they eventually noticed what we had done. It turned out to be a very lucky thing that we did move in. The third year that we were there, Len went on sabbatical, and while he was away the Department chairman (who shall remain nameless) decided to clean out the X-ray laboratory to make room for some new equipment. One thing that he classified as junk was a large wooden cabinet with many shallow drawers; it contained all of the powder mounts listed in the *Peacock Atlas*, most of the original films and some of the type specimens. Paul and I became aware of what was happening just as the garbage men were loading the case onto a truck. We dashed out the back door and ran down the alley after the truck screaming STOP at the top of our voices. Luckily, the driver listened to us and returned the case; it was still there in the front left-hand corner of the laboratory when I visited Queen's in 1988, and I hope that it remains there to this day. Len needless to say was both ecstatic and furious when he returned and we told him what had almost happened.

I became responsible for the index of *The Canadian Mineralogist* in the early 1980s, and was peripherally involved with it for several years before that. In those days, every entry was written by hand on file cards, the year's worth of cards were manually sorted and sent to the GSC, where they were typed out as a list, which was sent to the printer. Today, it is all done by computer and e-mail, but it remains a finicky and exacting task and means that I have to read every paper very thoroughly. I have been accorded remarkable freedom to structure the index as I see fit, so any complaints are directly my responsibility; do not blame Bob Martin for this one. In fact, the only directive that I can remember receiving was a plea early on to please see what could be done about reducing the length of the index. That was when the listing of every locality mentioned was dropped and replaced by a listing of only those that are scientifically important on a global scale.

Len was the editor of *Contributions to Canadian Mineralogy* from 1950 to 1957, when he helped it to evolve into *The Canadian Mineralogist*, and he remained its editor from 1957 to 1975. He also founded the Queen's periodical exchange, which gave Canadian mineralogists a world-wide readership for their journal. He once told me, at a particularly hectic time editorially, that his objective was to provide a journal that was not only one that everybody needed to read, but also was one that everybody wanted to read. He was constantly working to increase the relevance of the journal, and I think that he would be very pleased with the journal that we have today.

J. Douglas Scott