

CHIP & LICK



Official Publication of the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club

VOLUME 47, NUMBER 10

DECEMBER, 2001



- MEETINGS:** Second Sunday of the month except June, July and August.
- PLACE:** Small Business Development Center, 300 E. Auburn Ave.,
Springfield, OH 45505. Phone: 322-7821
- TIME:** 2:00 P.M.
Guests are always welcome!
- EDITOR:** Becky Dobbs
2792 Greystoke Dr.
Xenia, OH 45385

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Published monthly except July and August

Purpose and Memberships

The objectives of the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club are:

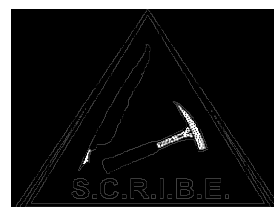
To promote interest and increased knowledge in the fields of mineralogy, geology, and the lapidary arts.

To further the art of mounting and setting stones.

To encourage the collecting, identifying and displaying of specimens in these fields.

The annual dues are \$7.50 for an individual membership, \$10 for a couple, or \$12 for a family membership.

This club is a member of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies (MWF), which is a member of The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS).



The Editor of the MVMGC is a member of S.C.R.I.B.E.

MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL AND GEM CLUB, INC.

2001 OFFICERS

President	Hugh Fulton	322-1021
Vice President	Matt Kromphardt	878-3348
Corresponding Secretary	Katrin Ruben	390-2081
Recording Secretary	Dick Faux	289-7032
Treasurer	Joyce Perry	372-8228
Editor	Becky Dobbs	dobbsr2001@yahoo.com
Librarian	Dave Perry	372-8228
Curator-Historian	Becky Dobbs	372-9022
Trustee (2001)	Udean Babyak	322-0443
Trustee (2002)	John Mercer	322-1768
Trustee (2003)	Beth Stewart	864-1682

2001 COMMITTEES

Anti-Litter	All Members	
Canceled Stamps	Kay Faux	289-7032
Chaplain	Udean Babyak	322-0443
Christmas Banquet	Udean Babyak	322-0443
Field Trips/ Safety	Matt Kromphardt	878-3348
MWF Liaison	Hugh Fulton	322-1021
Photographer	Hugh Fulton	322-1021
Program	Andreas Ruben	390-2081
Refreshment	Becky Dobbs	372-9022
Scholarship	Joyce Perry	372-8118
Show Chairman	Hugh Fulton	322-1021
Spring Banquet	Udean Babyak	322-0443
Sunshine	Joyce Perry	372-8118
Swap	Hugh Fulton	322-1021
Webmaster	Katrin Ruben	390-2081



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Hugh Fulton	Dec. 11
Lee Litzinger	Dec. 15
Lena Brewington	Dec 23

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

None this month



Swap Date...June 8-9 2002

Show Date...October 5-6, 2002

President's Message

From early times, the month of December was considered an extremely cold period. In 1799 John Nathan Hutchins penned these lines: "Now days are short, nights long and raw, with pinching frost, and slabby rain and snow; But let good rousing fires, and Christmas cheer, still mix'd with charity, conclude the year...."

Hopefully the leaves are all down and bagged. The outside work done, the grass cut for the last time. Now time to concentrate on Christmas.

At our last meeting, for a while there was anxiety as to whether we would have enough members present to have the quorum needed to conduct the important meeting ahead. We had enough and when Andreas Ruben submitted a proposal to move our meeting place to Springfield, after a little discussion it was unanimously voted to make the move. I once heard that not to accept change is to die. So, this may be the change the club needs to keep it alive.

An observation by MWF Newsletter Editor Kitty Starbuck, While Sitting on a Rock Pile may apply here "Decisions are made by the people that show up." Democracy in action, our club this year established a web page. Have you visited lately? Changed the format of the Annual Swap to include crafts and be held a week later; decided to have our Christmas Banquet out. And now, to move from long time meeting place at the Fairborn YMCA to Springfield. Small Business Development Center is located in the former Fry elementary school at 300 E. Auburn Ave. We will be in the southwest corner room on the first floor. I think you will like it.

Since the last meeting I learned Beth Stewart had fallen and had undergone brain surgery to remove a blood clot. She then was in a coma for a week and is now in therapy for speech and to walk. She is in Miami Valley Hospital and hopefully will be home for Christmas.

The January meeting will see no change in club officers and you will be asked to remain on the job heading the committees. January's program will be a silent auction. For the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, so remember to bring something. And remember the change of meeting place. Come and check it out.

Wishing you all the best this Christmas Season and Happy New Year.

Hugh Fulton



MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL & GEM CLUB MINUTES - NOVEMBER 11, 2001

Hugh Fulton, our president called the meeting to order. Our chaplain, Udean Babyak, read a meditation on Thanksgiving, which she had prepared. Two guests, Brian and Janice Rogers were welcomed.

The October minutes were read and approved. The treasurer's report was also read and approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The SUNSHINE COMMITTEE reported sending cards to Udean Babyak and to Betty Husted, whose husband Eugene passed on. Dave Perry encouraged members to use the LIBRARY. Katrin Ruben reported that pictures taken at our Annual Show had been posted on our WEB SITE and she brought a lap top computer that permitted members to see these pictures. Members were reminded of the FIELD TRIP to the Geology Museum at Miami University on November 17th. Details, directions and a map are available in the November Chip & Lick. Our next PROGRAM will be the Christmas Party at the Tapestry and Tales Tea Room in Springfield. See the map in the November Chip and Lick for location. Members who are interested may bring a gift and participate in a gift exchange. Hugh Fulton

reported that he had begun to make arrangements for our Swap in June of 2002.

NOMINATIONS: The Nominating Committee proposed the following slate of officers for the year 2002: President, Hugh Fulton; Vice President, Matt Kromphardt; Recording Secretary, Dick Faux; Corresponding Secretary, Katrin Ruben; Treasurer, Joyce Perry; Curator-Historian, Becky Dobbs; Editor, Becky Dobbs; Librarian, David Perry.

NEW BUSINESS: Andreas Ruben told the club about a conversation that he had had with the administrator of the Small Business Development Center in Springfield about the possibility of the Rock and Gem Club meeting at the center. We could use their conference meeting room and they would charge us \$10.00 per month. There would also be some storage space that the club could use. After a discussion in which people examined how that location would work for our current club members and the programs that we have, Andreas Ruben moved that we change our meeting place to the Small Development Center in Springfield beginning in January 2002. The motion was seconded and passed with a unanimous vote. Becky Dobbs was asked to include a map in Chip and Lick so we could find the new location.

The meeting adjourned for refreshments followed by a program by Emil Du Muaz on his geology field trip to Colorado.

Richard Faux, Recording Secretary



HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO
ALL!

UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS:

- FEBRUARY 23-24, SUSSEX, WI
KETTLE MORRAINE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
10-5 SAT 10-4 SUN
- MARCH 8-10, RICHMOND, IN
EASTERN INDIANA GEM & GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
WAYNE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
- MARCH 8-10, KANSAS CITY, MO
EARTH SCIENCE CLUB OF GREATER KANSAS CITY
FRI, SAT & SUN
- MARCH 16-17, HAMILTON, OH
FORT HAMILTON GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY
BUTLER COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
SAT & SUN 10-6
- MARCH 16-17, 2002, MONROE, WI
MINERAL, GEM & FOSSIL SHOW
THE BADGER LAPIDARY & GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
9 AM - 5 PM SAT & SUN
- APRIL 6-7, COLUMBUS, OH
COLUMBUS ROCK & MINERAL SOCIETY
NORTH HALL VETERANS MEMORIAL
SAT 10 - 7 SUN 11 - 5
- JUNE 8-9, 2002, DONNELSVILLE, OH
MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL AND GEM CLUB ANNUAL SWAP AND
CRAFT SHOW
- JULY 18-21, 2002, PORT TOWNSEND, WA
NFMS AND AFMS GEM AND MINERAL EXTRAVAGANZA
"VICTORIAN GEMS A STEP IN TIME"; SPONSORED BY
PORT TOWNSEND ROCK CLUB;
JEFFERSON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
- OCTOBER 5-6, 2002, FAIRBORN, OH
MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL AND GEM CLUB ANNUAL SHOW



MIDWEST FEDERATION NEWS



Election Results Certified:

Credentials Committee Chairman Robert Beauvais certified the results of the 2001 election. The Nominating Committee slate was elected without opposition and taking office November 1 were: John Blue, President; Kitty Starbuck, 1st Vice President; Alan Hukill, 2nd Vice President; Mary Hanning, Secretary; and Norma Hanschu, Treasurer.

Elected to the nominating committee were Marvin Starbuck and Colleen Kugler.

MWF is still seeking a Secretary to the Endowment Fund. If you are interested in serving or know possible candidates, please let President John Blue know. John's address is: 16155 Shurmer, Strongsville, OH 44136; or email: jblue@stratos.net.

The annual S.C.R.I.B.E. Meeting will be held in Quartzsite, Arizona on January 26, 2002. Meeting to be held at the Senior Citizens Center on Moon Mountain Road at 8:30 A.M.

New Appointees: Education - Ruth Chamberlain of Montgomery, IL; Insurance - Jeffrey Theroux of New Hope, MN; and Public Image - Karen Heram of Rice Lake, WI.

Two new assistants to the Geology Committee: Joseph Devera of Carterville, IL and Brian Poelker of Pekin, IL.

New Program: A new mini-mineral kit about coal has been developed. It includes a video, samples of coal, a fact sheet and copies of educational materials developed by the Ohio DNR. To borrow this or any other mini-mineral kit, contact Neil Reeder, MWF Program Assistant (937-773-0545).

Nellie Claxton, MWF Scholarship Chair of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation issues a special thanks to Southern Illinois Earth Science Club of Benton IL for their gift of \$51.75 in honor of Louellen Montgomery, retiring President of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation. The club reached 1800% level. Congratulations and thanks!

The MWF Scholarship Committee would like to challenge ALL MWF Clubs to contribute to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation in 2002! Why not let your gift honor some deserving club member or deceased member?

At the State Director's meeting November 10th, 2001 at Taylor MI, Marvin Starbuck addressed to group regarding MWF materials being available at area shows. Including the idea that State Directors and/or assistants should take the lead and attempt to secure a table at shows and display MWF materials, both free and for sale items. The idea was well received, with action expected in that area.

Sandy Fuller announced that a Minnesota club would be making a bid for the MWF 2003 Convention.

The deadline for MWF Directory information is Feb. 15, 2002, although Celia would prefer material closer to Feb. 1st if possible.

Via MWF Newsletter 12/01

American Federation News



Greetings from Ron Carman, President-Elect of AFMS. I want to introduce myself and mention some of my particular interests in the federation as well as rockhounding in general.

First, let me congratulate Steve Weinberger upon assuming the presidency and say that I will try to work with him as best I can to manage the affairs of the AFMS. I also want everyone to know that I will also try my best to address their concerns. All members should feel free to contact me by E-mail, snail-mail, and phone or

see me at a show to talk about our Federation and where it is going. Contact information:

Ron Carman
6947 Foxhurst
Humble, TX 77338-1302
(281) 446-8949
Email: rrcarman@ev1.net

By way of introduction, my home federation is the South Central Federation (SCF), and I am a member of two of its clubs: the Houston Gem & Mineral Society (HGMS) and the Rollin' Rock Club. My primary interest is mineral collecting, especially collecting them myself. I have enjoyed collecting rocks and minerals since the ripe old age of eight - more than 50 years - and from knowing many of our members I really believe this hobby helps keep us young! I joined the HGMS in 1973 and began showing minerals competitively in 1975. After winning a few ribbons (and getting my ears pinned back too), I decided to acquaint myself better with how the Uniform Rules are managed. Fortunately I had two good mentors: the late Rick Shaw and his wife Kate of the SCF, who really encouraged me to get involved in the rules and judging. Of course, that involvement soon led me to federation shows and the resulting opportunities to meet other persons from all over the country, not just Texas. Actually I am not a native Texan, but from Oklahoma originally. I do share one sentiment with another famous Okie, Will Rogers: "I never met a rockhound I didn't like".

Persons have asked if I am a professional geologist, and I must admit I am not. However, I have always claimed that you don't need a degree in geology to be able to tell one stone from another. Many persons in our clubs bear constant witness to that fact! Since 1971 I have worked for the FAA in air traffic control at Houston Air Route Traffic Control Center. My work has given me the chance to travel all over the country and collect minerals in places I might otherwise not have been able to visit, and also to go to shows all over the U.S. I certainly intend to

continue with both; I enjoy it too much to quit now.

That is about it for a brief (well, kind of) introduction. I hope to see as many people as I can at future shows, and want to repeat my invitation to everyone with any concerns about putting on shows, exhibiting, judging, collecting, or about the federation in general to feel free to contact me. I may not always be able to respond immediately but will do my best to answer all those who contact me.

Recognition Programs:

The AFMS has several recognition programs which you and your club members should consider entering.

1. The All-American Awards Program. Details in the November issue.
2. Bulletin Editor's Contest. The first step in this recognition program is your local Federation contest. Details should be in your Regional Federation Newsletter this month. Do enter! Not only will you gain recognition for your club, newsletter, editor and authors, but you will also learn from the evaluation you will receive.
3. Club Rockhound of the Year is a neat way to say "thank you" to someone who has done many wonderful things for your club. You may nominate one individual or a husband/wife team each year for the award. Those recognized are noted in the AFMS Newsletter.
4. Program Competition. Many of us take photographs of our various aspects of our hobby. Why not turn your expertise into a slide program which can be shared with others throughout the country? There are cash prizes for the top winners each year and the best programs are duplicated and sent to your Regional Federation program library for loan to clubs. Details are on page 4 of this issue.
5. Public Relations. What are the unusual things your club has done recently for the public? Don't keep these a secret; let our Public Relations folks know.

Via AFMS Newsletter 12/01

A Bolt Out of the Blue

from Mel Albright, Safety Chair

There are thunderstorms around and lots of thunder and lightening. But the storms aren't over you, so relax and carry on. No problem? You'll just duck unto the car when it gets to you. Guess what - you may be about to die from lightening. The old phrase "A bolt from the blue" as conveying surprise didn't come from imagination. It came from real lightening strikes.

But, a bolt from the blue is misleading. Lightening NEVER comes from a clear blue sky. It is ALWAYS caused by thunderstorms. But, the "from the blue" part may be true. Lightening can hit as far as 10 miles from a thunderstorm where the sky may indeed be blue.

So, take care to protect yourself whenever you can hear thunder. Sound travels about a mile a second. So, thunder from 10 miles away may seem unrelated to any lightening you see - in fact, you may not be able to see the lightening strike. When you can see a flash, start counting "one thousand one, one thousand two, one thousand three, --" until you hear the thunder. Divide that number of seconds by 5 and you'll know about how far away the storm is. I've been near two lightening strikes. It isn't fun.

On one, I was driving a tractor raking an alfalfa patch. Suddenly my hair stood on end and electricity began sparking back and forth between the strands of a barbed wire fence 50 feet away. Guess who was the highest object around. I shut off the tractor and dived for the ground. I didn't reach the ground before lightening hit the fence about 100 feet away. The cloud was NOT overhead.

Another time, we were playing miniature golf when our hair stood up and sparks started flying around the wire for the lighting system. A huge cottonwood tree was in the middle of the course. We squatted and ducked our heads. Lightening did strike then, but it hit a chimney, 2 blocks away and 2 power poles - 3 bolts! The thunder was deafening!

So, remember - you can indeed be hit by a bolt from the blue. If your hair starts standing up, you are in trouble and have little time. You have seconds at most to protect yourself. Do not be the highest object around Squatting with your head down is considered by many as the safest position. But, stay well away from trees, power poles, chimneys, antenna, or anything that stands tall. If you're in a boat, ball up with only your bottom touching the boat.

Via AFMS Newsletter 11/01



January meeting -

Program: Silent Auction

**New meeting place:
Small Business Development Center
300 E. Auburn Ave.
Springfield, OH 45505
(see map on last page)**



NOVEMBER FIELD TRIP

Dave and Joyce Perry joined members of the Troy Brukner Gem and Mineral Society and attended the field trip to the Karl E. Limper Geology Museum at Miami University, Oxford, OH. Professor John Rakovan gave a tour of the Geology Department, and he demonstrated how some of the equipment works. An enjoyable dinner at the Country Cooker topped off the afternoon excursion.



DECEMBER FIELD TRIP

When: December 15

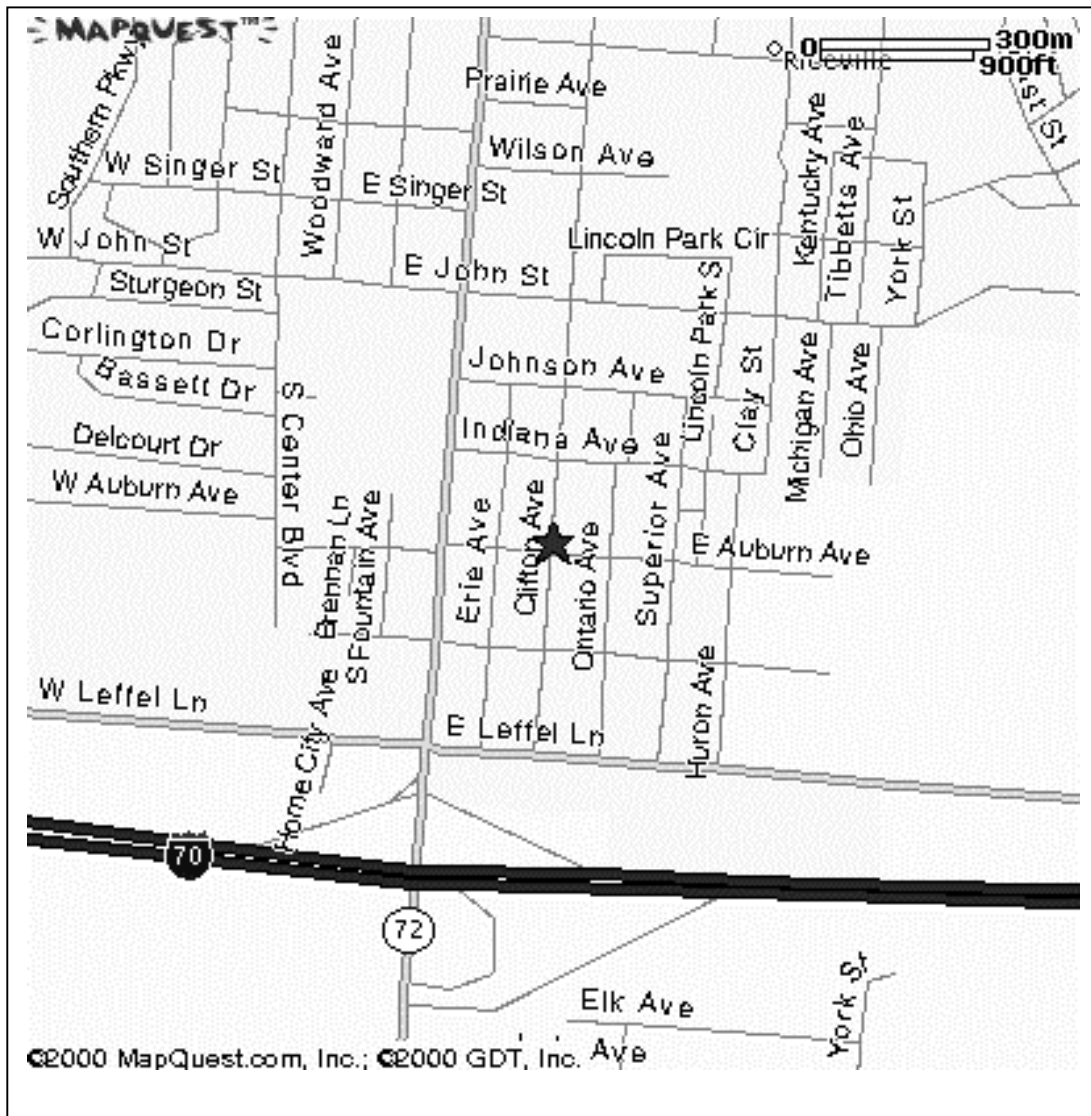
Where: Allen County Museum, Lima, OH

They have fine educational displays of minerals and fossils. Their Fluorescent display is great! Dinner will be at the Old Barn Outback.

For more information contact Neil Reeder (937 - 773-0545).

BECKY DOBBS - EDITOR
2792 GREYSTOKE DR.
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SAVE COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS



Small Business
Development Center
300 E. Auburn Ave.,
Springfield, OH