

CHIP & LICK

Official Publication of the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club

VOLUME 50, NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY, 2004



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: Phil Lind
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Springfield, OH 45502

WEB SITE: www.mvmgc.org

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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.**2004 OFFICERS**

President	Hugh Fulton	322-1021
Vice President	Andreas Ruben	390-2081
Corresponding Secretary	Katrin Ruben	390-2081
Recording Secretary	Dick Faux	289-7032
Treasurer	Joyce Perry	372-8228
Editor	Phil Lind	322-7916
Librarian	Joyce Perry	372-8228
Curator-Historian	Becky Dobbs	372-9022
Trustee (2004)	Udean Babyak	322-0443
Trustee (2005)	Marie Shinabarger	426-2289
Trustee (2006)	Becky Dobbs	372-9022

2004 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		
MWF Liaison	Hugh Fulton	322-1021
Photographer	Hugh Fulton	322-1021
Program	Andreas Ruben	390-2081
Refreshment	Joyce Perry	372-8228
Scholarship	Joyce Perry	372-8228
Show Chairman	Hugh Fulton	322-1021
Spring Banquet	Udean Babyak	322-0443
Sunshine	Joyce Perry	372-8228
Swap	Hugh Fulton	322-1021
Webmaster	Katrin Ruben	390-2081

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

John Mercer	Feb 4
Joyce Perry	Feb 4

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Joan & Hugh Fulton Feb 24



President's Message

January has given us a workout. Big rains, floods, assorted snows, ice, alternating high and low temperatures, and today fog. Did I forget anything? Oh yeah, wind, we had that too. Nine members attended the January meeting; there were no guests present. The meeting covered numerous subjects and I believe we attended to everything necessary. I believe everything that was brought in for the silent auction was sold, the entire proceeds going to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation.

Have you been following the Rover Mission to Mars? The six-wheeled robot with a "Swiss army knife" of gadgets would be the ultimate rock hound tool. It not only takes pictures; it has on board spectrometers. It rolls up to a rock drills into it and then tells you what the rock is made of. So far it has noted iron, argon, sulfur, chlorine, nickel, zinc, olivine, and hematite resembling "Alaskan diamonds". Think they will ever be at government auctions? Scientists will be most excited to report finding water. Looking at the pictures it appears water had to have a hand in shaping the red planet.

I'm looking forward to seeing Philipp Ruben's middle school project at our February program.

Hugh Fulton - President



MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL & GEM CLUB MINUTES – 11 FEBRUARY 2004

The president, Hugh Fulton called the meeting to order.

"A New Beginning," was the subject of our devotional message brought by our chaplain, Udean Babyak. The minutes of the November meeting were approved. Joyce Perry presented the Treasurer's reports for November and December and the annual report for the year 2003. These were all accepted.

REPORTS: EDITOR, Phil Lind, our new editor, presented us with his first edition of Chip and Lick. He also described his struggles in getting it prepared for printing.

CORRESPONDENCE: Katrin Ruben, our webmaster, continues to receive e-mail communications; some of them from distant places. Hugh Fulton received a report from Quartzite and a description of an available DVD disk which contained pictures and descriptions of minerals. We also received a communication from Rock and Gem magazine. They offer discounts to people who subscribe to their magazine through a rock club and make a contribution to clubs that send in these subscriptions. Interested members should contact Joyce Perry.

LIASON: Hugh Fulton shared some of the information he receives in the AFMS Newsletter and the MWF Newsletter. It included a description of the efforts of other clubs to produce newsletters as well as a description of club activities.

PROGRAM: Andreas Ruben sent in a report on upcoming programs: February, a report on a school project by Philip Ruben; March, Fluorite; April, How to Organize Your Collection. The club Swap has been set for June 11, 12 and 13 and our Show is set for October 1, 2 and 3.

It was reported that two offices were still unfilled. Udean Babyak agreed to chair the Spring and Christmas banquets and Joyce Perry agreed to be refreshment chair. We were informed that MWF dues had been paid and that the club insurance premium had been paid. The rent for the use of our meeting place is due. Udean Babyak moved that we make the payment for 2004 and the motion was passed unanimously. Becky Dobbs agreed to secure new fliers for Swap and Show. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned for refreshments and a silent auction.

Richard Faux, Recording Secretary



FEBRUARY PROGRAM

School Project presented by Philipp Ruben

Dave and Joyce Perry will provide refreshments.



Future Programs and Refreshments:

March: Program - Flourite

Refreshments - Hugh Fulton

April: Program – How to Organize your collection

Refreshments – Dick & Kay Faux

May Program: - unavailable at this time

Refreshments – Becky Dobbs

June: – Club Swap

July : - no meeting

August: - no meeting

September Program: unavailable at this time

Volunteer needed for refreshments

October Program: – unavailable at this time

Refreshments -Jim & Udean Babyak

November Program: - unavailable at this time

Refreshments – Ed & Marie Shinabarger

December Program – Annual Christmas Party



UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS:

- **JAN 31 – FEB 14, 2004, TUCSON, AZ**

32 SITES; WORLDS LARGEST GEM, MINERAL & ROCK SHOW

- **MARCH 20-21 CANTON, OH**

37TH ANNUAL GEM & MINERAL SHOW; THE MCKINLEY ROOM IN THE CANTON CIVIC CENTER, 1101 MARKET AVE. NORTH CANTON, OH SAT 10-6, SUN 10-5

- **MARCH 27-28 COLUMBUS, OH**

2004 CENTRAL OHIO MINERAL, FOSSIL GEM & JEWELRY SHOW; VETERANS MEMORIAL, 300 W BROAD ST SAT 10-7 SUN 11-5

- **APR 3-4 CINCINNATI, OH**

GEO FAIR 2004, 40TH ANNUAL GEM, MINERAL, FOSSIL & JEWELRY SHOW OF GR. CINTI. CINCINNATI CONVENTION CENTER, 5TH & ELM. SAT 10-7 SUN 11-5

- **APR 23-25, 2004 CEDAR RAPIDS, IA**

2004 MIDWEST FEDERATION SHOW AND CONVENTION

FOR MORE INFORMATION CHECK OUT; WWW.ANGELFIRE.COM/IA3/CVRMS (ALL LOWERCASE)

4400 6TH ST SW

FRI 10-6; SAT 8:30-6; SUN 9:30-5



FEDERATION NEWS



Although I haven't seen the February Midwest Federation Newsletter, I believe it will be available for reading at the February meeting.



I'm not a stamp collector nor a stamp collectors son, but since joining the gem & mineral club I keep seeing notices about collecting commemorative stamps. I realize each of us has a special interest in the club and sometimes we don't take time to check all the clubs requests. After taking over as the editor I figured I had better improve my understanding of things I request in the newsletter. I won't say that I didn't know what a commemorative stamp was, however, what ones are the clubs interested in? Well, I now find that almost any stamp that has a limited printing is considered commemorative. Please collect these stamps and turn them into your clubs canceled stamp committee. If you need information about how much border is needed or what condition the stamp must be in contact your club committee chairperson. Our chairperson is Kay Faux, she also collects your stamps and forwards them to the federation for processing and re-sale.



AFMS

In December AFMS stated that they would like to hear about affiliated clubs that have a member we would like to brag about. They call these persons “Rock-hounds of the year”. Our president has submitted in the following:

The Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club in Springfield, Ohio, honors Joyce Perry as our rock-hound of the year. Joyce with husband, Dave and children joined the MVMGC in 1985. Joyce, assumed the office of treasurer in 1986, a position she still holds. Taking on additional the jobs of librarian, scholarship and the sunshine committees. Fifty words cannot begin to explain what Joyce means to this club. She has had a hand in everything this club has participated in for nineteen years. Joyce can always be counted on to step up. Thank you Joyce.

Hugh Fulton – President

Hugh Fulton 231 W .State St. Springfield, Oh 45506-2634 (937)322-1021

Another request from the AFMS is that they need our help: Please read and take action on the following:

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies has an ongoing goal of having subjects of interest appear on commemorative stamps. Currently we are attempting to get gemstones on stamps.

The 2003 United States 50 Quarters program features a faceted diamond gemstone on the Arkansas 25 cent piece. Collect these and also support gemstones on stamps, too!

We need you to actively support and promote the project by sending letters to the USPS. You do not have to be an AFMS member to write, so encourage your friends and relatives to get involved, too. Letters or petitions for stamp subjects should be sent to:

**The citizens Stamp Advisory Committee
C/O Stamp Development
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 5670
Washington, D.C. 20260-2437**

In your letter, be sure to tell the committee, in your own words, how you would like to see a series of gemstones on stamps issued. (There have never been gemstones on U.S. issued stamps.)



PETRIFIED FOREST (ARIZONA)

Just last week we took a trip out to Nevada by van. The intent was to arrive in Nevada as quickly as possible and spend our vacation there. As we passed through Arizona, we saw the sign stating that we were near the Petrified Forest. The pressure was to great and a side trip (even a short one) was necessary. After spending an hour or so in the museum and gift shop at the entrance we continued on the 28-mile trip through the forest. We cried because the beautiful petrified wood is for viewing only. At the end is another museum and gift shop run by the park. You may purchase samples there. A ranger explained that there are many places on BLM and private land (outside the park) where we could collect for ourselves. We choose not to purchase any samples and continued on our trip to Nevada. Later at a rock shop along the way we discovered that the prices at the park gift shop appear to be much better than at any rock shops. Should you be in the area, check prices at rock shops before entering the park and compare before making purchases.

NOTE: We left the van in Phoenix Arizona, will return for it in late February and continue our vacation to New Mexico. We see a future trip to spend much more time around the Petrified Forest area.

Your editor – Phil Lind



SAFETY

Spring is just around the corner or at least it is according to the calendar. With this in mind I thought it might be a good time to re-run an article entitled DIGGING AWAY by Mel Albright, AFMS Safety Chair. Here it is:

There you are. Happily digging away in a dirt bank . Or happily climbing and digging in a waste pile. Or, going to China as you dig deeper and deeper looking for that big bragging find. Just a little deeper. The big find might be down just a little more.

Suddenly the bank collapses or the pile slides and carries you down and maybe covers you or the sides of your deep hole caves in and buries you. To those brave souls who venture into mines, add the sides collapse and the roof caves in. How do you protect yourself?

First understand the collapse is predictable. Anything that can be piled up can come down. Some things – like the waste pile, collapse easily. Others, like the mine wall, are harder to start down. The deciding factor is a thing called angle of recline. (No, nothing to do with how far back you tilt your easy chair.) What the angle says is that any pile subject to the action of gravity has a critical angle. If the pile's angle with the ground is above that angle, the pile collapes. If the angle is below that angle the pile is stable. So, when you look at a roadcut, the angles on the sides aren't what the contractor decided was handy. They are set by the dirt's angle of repose with a safety angle added. A pile of marbles has a very critical angle (almost zero degrees. A stone bluff has a very high critical angle (almost 90 degrees).

In every one of the places mentioned above, the angle of repose will be passed and collapse depends only on something to get it started. It may take only one more shovel full or another foothold dug in or someone wandering by. If you're lucky, it won't happen. But, it is only luck protecting you.

So, whenever you are digging, keep safety in mind and take steps to protect yourself from harm if things let go around or from under you.

Original article by Mel Albright 9/01 (AFMS, Safety Chair) present article found in Great Cincinnati Lapidary & Faceting Society newsletter (8/02)



Refreshments, articles, and displays needed for future newsletters and meetings. A sign-up sheet will be available at the February meeting. Please sign up. I know each of you has a specialty that would interest the entire club.



PHIL LIND - EDITOR
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SAVE COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

A group of students was asked to list what they thought were the present "Seven Wonders of the World". Though there were some disagreements, the following received the most votes:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Egypt's Great Pyramids | 4. Panama Canal | 7. China's Great Wall |
| 2. Taj Mahal | 5. Empire State Building | |
| 3. Grand Canyon | 6. St. Peter's Basilica | |

While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one student had not finished her paper yet. She asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The girl replied, "Yes, a little, I couldn't quite make up my mind because there were so many". The teacher said, "Well, tell us what you have, and maybe we can help." The girl hesitated, then read, I think the Seven Wonders of the World are:

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. To see | 5. To feel |
| 2. To hear | 6. To laugh |
| 3. To touch | 7. And to love |
| 4. To taste | |

The room was quite you could have hear a pin drop. The things we overlook as simple and ordinary and the things we take for granted, are truly wondrous. The student's response reminds us that the most precious things in life cannot be built by hand or bought by man.

(Found in Knob Prairie UCC bulletin 01/04, unknown author)