

CHIP & LICK



Official Publication of the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club

VOLUME 48, NUMBER 1

JANUARY, 2002



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!

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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.**2002 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 (2002)	John Mercer	322-1768
Trustee (2003)	Ginny Bignell	866-8789
Trustee (2004)	Udean Babyak	322-0443

2002 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

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Ginny Bignell Jan 6
 Elsie Smith Jan 23
 Philipp Ruben Jan 28

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

None this month



Spring Banquet... April ?? 2002 Swap Date...June 8-9 2002 Show Date...October 5-6, 2002

President's Message

2002 - The debate over which year is the start of the millennium no longer an item. What will this year bring our way? 2001 now seems to have passed so fast, but will live forever in our memories. Hopefully everyone has had a wonderful Christmas and New Years. Did we have snow? As I write, it is doubtful. December starts out unseasonably warm.

Our Christmas Party - attended by 21 at the Tapestry and Tales in Springfield - good food and fellowships enjoyed by all. A gift exchange and door prizes were awarded accompanied by Christmas music by Philipp Ruben. Thanks to Udean Babyak and Joyce Perry for a great night out.

Before the party Emory Stewart called with word that Beth was home from the hospital and walking with a walker, but they would not be able to attend.

Received a Christmas card and note from Paul & Elsie Smith, they are still traveling the west, but not doing much in the way of rock stuff. They wish us luck in getting new and active members.

Today we begin a new era in a new location, however the objectives of the club remain the same. These objectives can only be brought to fruition through your involvement.

Thank you.

Hugh Fulton

P.S. Hope all went well today. What do you think?



MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL & GEM CLUB MINUTES - DECEMBER 15, 2001

The December meeting of the club was the Christmas Banquet. It was held at the Tapestry & Tales in Springfield, Ohio. There was no formal meeting, nor minutes. The 21 members who attended enjoyed a delicious dinner, a gift

exchange, door prizes, and good fellowship. Thanks again to Udean and Joyce.



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 CO. FAIRGROUNDS
- OCTOBER 5-6, 2002, FAIRBORN, OH
MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL AND GEM CLUB ANNUAL SHOW



MIDWEST FEDERATION NEWS

STUDENTS RECEIVING AFMS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION GRANTS:



Matthew Strine received his B.S. in Geology at Oberlin College in Ohio; his M.S. in Geology at the University of Rochester, New York, where he continues his studies for his Ph.D. in Geology. He has done research of the structural history of the NW Highlands of Scotland with a focus on the Moine Thrust.

Melissa Berke graduated from Oberlin College, Ohio, with honors and continues her studies for a M.S. in Geochemistry at the University of California at Riverside. Her research project concerns carbonate sedimentology/geochemistry as they apply to the stromatolites being studied.

Receiving the second year of their grants, Jeffrey M. Schwartz continues his studies for his M.S. in Geology at the University of Washington, Seattle; Robert Graves continues work on his M.S. in Geology at the University of Nevada, Reno.

NEW PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FROM MWF PROGRAM LIBRARY

A set of 26 30-minute video programs titled "Earth Revealed", explores the geologic features and phenomena that make up and control our world. This mini geology course explores how scientific theories are developed, how scientists analyze changing landscapes, presents interviews with a range of 'experts' and uses graphic illustrations as well as location footage to reveal key facts about our planet. To reserve segments contact: MWF Program Library - John & Rose Blue, 16155 Shurmer Rd., Strongsville, OH 44136

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

Another Midwest junior club joined the Future Rockhounds of America. They are the Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Junior Members from Chippewa Falls, WI. This brings the FRA clubs total to 18 with 263 members across the U.S. If your club is interested in starting a juniors club and being part of the Future Rockhounds of America, please contact us. Bob & Kathy Miller, Co-Chairs.

Via MWF Newsletter 01/02

American Federation News



AFMS Code of Ethics

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, buildings.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

- zI will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well, the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners: and will at all times conduct myself in a matter which will add to the stature and Public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.



2002 DUES ARE DUE!

See Treasurer Joyce Perry so you can continue to receive this newsletter!



**February meeting -
Program: Radioactivity and Radioactive
Minerals**

**Don't forget new meeting place:
Small Business Development Center
300 E. Auburn Ave.
Springfield, OH 45505
(see map on last page)**

December Field Trip By Hugh Fulton

I knew the date - December 15 and I knew where, the Allen County Museum, Lima, Ohio. What I did not know was the time. I should have called Neil Reeder for details, but I didn't. Joan and I arrived at the Museum at 11 am to find the museum is open from 1-5 (winter hours). I had read somewhere the main reason to go to Lima is to eat dinner at the Old Barn Outback. We found it. Wow, they may be right. It was a nice experience and the buffet was good - even for lunch.

The American Mall was nearby, and time was available, so we were able to do some Christmas shopping before heading back to the Museum. Neil was there when we arrived and Frank and Louise Brower came in right behind us. I had heard the museum had a fine display of minerals and fossils and a great fluorescent display. This was an understatement. The display is outstanding - one of the best that I have seen in this state.

The Allen County Museum is the only county museum in the state of Ohio that is accredited by the American Association of Museums. It is a complete museum with exhibits covering prehistoric and historic collections from Native American to turn of the Century 1800's to 1900's through the world wars and beyond. Artwork including fine paintings and statuary. Needless to say, we were there until closing time, and intend to return for summer hours, June - August 10-5 PM.

The James Alfred MacDonell family made most of the artifacts and displays in the museum possible. MacDonell was a pioneer oil producer in the Lima area. Lima was the Pipeline Center of the Mid-West with the discovery of oil in 1885.

Next to the museum is an elaborate Victorian mansion built in 1893 by Mr. Frank Banta - a candy maker - who swapped mansions the Mr. John VanDyke, a Chairman of the Board of the Atlantic Oil and Refinery Co.

The last owners of the home, the MacDonell family donated it to the Allen County Historical Society. Seventeen rooms are open to the public; all decorated in period furniture and accessories, all furnished in great detail. A paneled trophy room contains an outstanding collection of big game animal heads and full mounts bagged by Mr. MacDonell, in Africa, British Guinea, and an Alaskan polar bear. A vivid two-story stained glass window depicting a rural scene is most beautiful.

If you want to see and feel the atmosphere of rich and lavish living, spend a few hours with the Allen County Historical Society. It is located at 620 West Market St., Lima, Ohio. This winter it is open Tuesday through Sunday from 1-5 PM. Summer hours (June-August) are 10-5 PM.



SAFETY HINT

We are learning that deafness can be attributed to the noise of our lapidary equipment. As we use facemasks and goggles to protect our lungs and eyes from dust, so we should use earplugs to protect our ears from the noise of grinders and saws. We also need to be aware of the dangers of buffing machines in our jewelry making. If there is no fan directly connected to the buffer, be certain the area is well ventilated and that you wear a facemask. Protect your eyes too from flying debris from the buffer and that occasional "slip"; and metal being polished flies off. Be certain to wash your hands after using buffers, grinders and polishers so bits of abrasives don't get caught in your eyes or mouth. Remember it is always better to err on the side of caution.

Via The Roaming Rams 3/97 via G.I. Nugget 11/01 via The Strata Data 12/01



Field Trips: There is a field trip meeting of all the clubs in the southwest part of Ohio on Jan. 15 @ 7:00PM - Brukner Nature Center, Troy, OH. *Via the Quarry 01/02*

CHERT - A Geologic Mystery

Geologists call it "chert". Archaeologists call it "flint". Indians used it for making arrowheads, spearheads, and small cutting tools. Lapidarists and rockhounds collect it. But, no matter what its name, chert (or flint) remain a challenging mystery to scientists and laymen alike.

While chert is easily identified on sight, by simple tests, a shroud of scientific mystery cloaks its chemical composition. Even the most exacting professionals do not agree on the solubility and insolubility of silica and calcium content, precise age determination, and primary versus secondary processes in deposition or sedimentation.

Chert, which has sharp edges, a smooth surface, and curved (conchoidal) fractures, accumulates in the stress beds as gravel, and on hillsides and slopes within the soil. Since it is brittle, dense, and harder than glass, it remains as one of Missouri's common rocks because of its extreme resistance to weathering. It is this quality which makes chert stream gravel valuable for concrete aggregate and for use in road construction.

Jasper, agate, tripoli, and mozarkite (Missouri's official state rock) are all varieties of chert or "cherty" material. Its form varies from nodules, beads, concretions, lenses, and stringers to rounded or irregular tube-like figures. More than one Missourian has been fooled by elongate, banded chert modules which (to the inexperienced eye) appears to be petrified or fossilized bones of giant animals. Chert concretions, such as these found near Osceola, Mo., are naturally spherical and porous. Some of these "petrified cannon balls" are as large as cantaloupes; others are as small as glass marbles.

Chert is as inconsistent in coloring as it is in shape and size. Iron oxides stain it red, rust, tan, yellow, or brown - with most shades of the prism colors being represented. Scientists know what chert is and where to find it, but they are still searching for a logical answer to the question of

how it got that way in the first place, and when. It remains one of the mysteries of the geologic world!

Via MO Geological Survey, General info. Sheet No. 8 Revised May 1969 and GEMROCK, and The Shawmish Roktaw 3/01 Via The Rockpile 12/01



Pebble Candles

Did you ever try making pebble candles? It's an unusual way to show off those pretty stones you picked up at the beach. You will need paraffin, with a pan for melting it over hot water, a utility household candle, a frozen juice concentrate can, pebbles, and a blow dryer.

Set the utility candle upright in the can and fill the space around it with pebbles. Melt enough paraffin to fill the mold and pour carefully around the pebbles, shaking to fill all the spaces. When the paraffin has cooled thoroughly, strip off the sides of the can. Then set the candle in a pan to catch dripping wax and with the blow dryer melt off the outer paraffin so the pebbles are as exposed as you want them to be.

Variations will occur to you. Paraffin may be colored with crayons melted in it. For molds use anything of desired size and shape from which you can peel out the hardened candle. Old candle stubs or candlewicking may be used for wicks. (For safety's sake, be very careful when melting paraffin - it is hot and flammable.)

From The Rockpile, via Quarry Quips 12/96 and 11/01, via the Show Me Geode 11/01



White Buffalo Turquoise

When discovered in the Dry Creek Mine in the Shoshone Indian Reservation near Battle Mountain, Nevada in 1993, they (the

discoverers) were not sure what it was. Because of its hardness, it was decided to have it assayed. Their suspicious proved correct. It was, in fact, white turquoise. It was not until 1996, however, that it was finally made into jewelry.

The Shoshone Indians are not known for jewelry work and, as a consequence, the Shoshone sell or trade the white turquoise to the Navaho in Arizona who work it into jewelry. Because white turquoise is as rare as the white buffalo, the Indians call it "White buffalo" turquoise.

Turquoise gets its color from the heavy metals in the ground where it forms. Blue turquoise forms where there is copper present (most Arizona turquoise). Green turquoise forms where iron is present (most Nevada turquoise). White turquoise, where there are no heavy metals present, turns out to be rare. To date no other vein of white turquoise has been discovered anywhere else. When this current vein runs out that will be the last of it.

From Rockhound Gazette 12/00 via Glacial Drifter, and others, Via ACHATES Jan-Feb 02



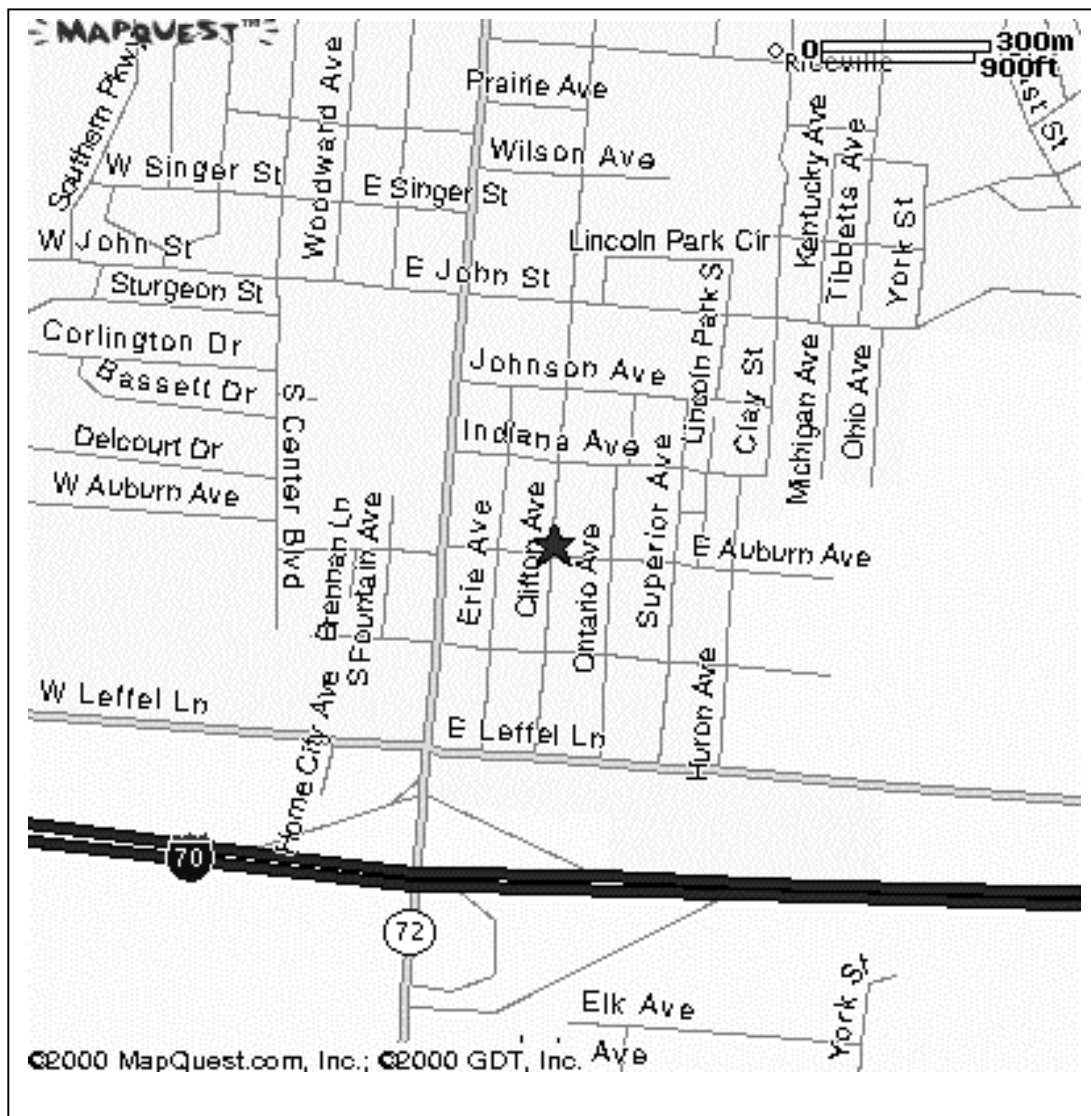
The following e-mail was sent to the Stark Gem & Mineral website:

I am looking for info re: underground rivers in Ohio. When I was in grade school (many years ago) my one teacher told us of two underground rivers running through Ohio, not far from the Canton/Massillon area. I've never lost my fascination for the rivers. I've told my grandchildren about them but I have failed at acquiring any tangible information about the rivers. I remember my teacher called them: The Big and Little Indian Rivers. If you have any information or know where I might look, I would greatly appreciate any help you might be able to share with me, that I could share with my grandchildren.

Thank You, Jeanne Shumar
Email address: vulpecula@nls.net

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SAVE COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS



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