

# CHIP & LICK



Official Publication of the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club

VOLUME 48, NUMBER 5

MAY, 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



**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

Udean Babyak	May 1
Karen Hall	May 5
Matt Kromphardt	May 8
Katrin Ruben	May 11
Russell Bignell	May 28

**MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

Brian & Janice Rogers  
May 21



## President's Message

May is older Americans month, did you know we had our own month? So now what do we do with it? Probably yard work here at the Fulton homestead.

Since the last Chip & Lick I have learned of the passing of two more former members. Treva Miller, on March 15 and Mary Baird on April 22. Treva was 78 and was last active in the club in 1994. Mary was 91 and last active in 1992.

The last three months as we have studied the Electromagnetic Radiation Spectrum, we have lived up to our motto "Revealing God's Handiwork", as stated on our log. Thank you Dr. Andreas Ruben, I have enjoyed these and hope others have also. It is a shame we haven't had better attendance.

Pablo Picasso once said, "If only we could pull out our brain and use only our eyes" we would be amazed at the work around us. But perhaps Georgia O'Keeffe expressed it best when she observed that "In a way nobody sees a flower really, it is so small, we haven't the time - and to see takes time." We don't have the time. How many times do we hear that, or worse, say that. Take the time to enjoy His handiwork.

Happy Mothers Day.

Hugh Fulton



## MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL & GEM CLUB MINUTES – APRIL 14, 2002

The meeting was opened by President Hugh Fulton. Since Udean Babyak, our chaplain, was not present Hugh read a passage from Emmet Fox and described the club emblem, which tells how nature reveals God's handiwork. Scott Dixon, a guest was welcomed.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as corrected and the treasurer's report was accepted as read.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**REFRESHMENTS:** Members are needed to sign up for the May, October and November meetings.

**LIBRARY:** Dave Perry would be glad for any clues on the location of a missing library document entitled *The Minerals of Franklin County*.

**SUNSHINE:** Joyce Perry, the chairman, talked with Emory Stewart and learned that Beth Stewart has been diagnosed with colon cancer. Her rehabilitation from her hip injury is progressing and she is now using a walker. She also reported that Udean Babyak was in the hospital, and that Treva Miller and Harold Thornburg had passed away.

**PROGRAMS:** Andreas Ruben reported on plans for future meeting programs. Members were asked to be prepared to tell about their most recent field trip or their favorite field trip at the May meeting. In October a meeting on Quartz is planned.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** We received a communication from the Flint Ridge Runner saying that the show they had planned for their annual meet and swap in Zanesville on May 24, 25, and 26 had been cancelled. The other activities announced in their flier will go on as planned. Alan Cowan sent us some pictures from Canada. Matt Kromphardt sent a letter requesting a leave of absence from his responsibility as Field Trip Chairman. The club agreed that Matt needed the leave, considering his present circumstances.

A discussion on our need for display cases followed. It was pointed out that it would be easier for members to prepare exhibits for our swap and show if cases were available for club use. Andreas Ruben presented information that he had secured about methods of securing signs to publicize our swap and show. He promised to bring a detailed proposal to our May meeting.

The meeting was adjourned for refreshments and a program on fluorescent minerals. Several members had brought fluorescent specimens that they owned, equipment to make the minerals fluoresce and some carefully assembled displays.

The members enjoyed a very interesting program.

Richard Faux, Recording Secretary.



## UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS:

- MAY 18-19 , BEREA, OH  
34<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CLEVELAND AREA GEM & INERAL SHOW & SALE, CUYAHOGA CO. FAIRGROUNDS.  
SAT 10-7, SUN 11-5 ADMISSION \$4.00
- MAY 25 - SEPT 2 DINOSAUR DAYS AT THE FALLS OF OHIO, CLARKSVILLE, IN  
A LARGE EXHIBIT OF DINOSAURS AND RELATED FOSSILS, ON LOAN FROM COLLECTOR DR. JOHN HANKLA, ONE OF THE FINEST PRIVATE COLLECTIONS IN THE U.S. LOCATED ON THE NORTH SHORE OF THE OHIO RIVER.
- MAY 25-26 , DAYTON, OH  
DAYTON GEM MINERAL SOCIETY. SHOW AT DAYTON ART-IN-THE-PARK, RIVERBEND ART CENTER, 1301 E. SEIBENTHALER RD., DAYTON
- JUNE 8-9, 2002, DONNELSVILLE, OH  
MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL AND GEM CLUB ANNUAL SWAP AND CRAFT SHOW
- JUNE 15-16, CLIO, MI  
ROCKHOUND SEMINAT - HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS, DEMOS, LECTURES. CARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL, RODGERS LODGE DR. I-75 (EXIT 131-VIENNA RD) \$12 ADVANCE/ \$15 AT DOOR / DAY OR \$25/2 DAYS
- JUNE 21-23, BLOOMINGTON, IN  
GEM, MINERAL, FOSSIL SHOW & SWAP  
MONROE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
- JULY 13-14, HUESTON WOODS, OH  
FORT HAMILTON GEM & MINERAL SUMMER SHOW
- JULY 18-21, 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
- AUGUST 4-11, HOUGHTON, MI  
KEWEENAW WEEK; 28 FIELD TRIPS; ROCK SWAP; HISTORICAL TOURS; SPEAKERS; BENEFIT AUCTION;

MORE INFO: WWW.CCRMC.INFO

- AUGUST 16-18 FLINT, MI  
13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SEMINAR - MIDWEST FACETERS GUILD  
FRI 4 PM - 8:30 PM REGISTRATION, SETUP & WELCOME  
SAT 8:30 AM - 5 PM CLASSES  
SUN 8:30 - 3:30 PM CLASSES  
CLASS SIZES LIMITED - REGISTER EARLY  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY JULY 24, 2002  
CALL HAROLD "ARIZONA" RICE - 810-463-5972
- AUGUST 17-18 PARRSBURO, NOVA SCOTIA CANADA  
NOVA SCOTIA'S GEM & MINERAL SHOW C/O FUNDY GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM  
INFORMATION: 902-254-3814  
EMAIL: FUNDYG@NS.SYMPATICO.CA  
WEBSITE: WWW.FUNDYGEOMUSEUM.COM
- OCTOBER 5-6, 2002, FAIRBORN, OH  
MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL AND GEM CLUB ANNUAL SHOW



**June meeting -  
Program: The Swap**

**June - Article only**



## MIDWEST FEDERATION NEWS



MWV President John blue reports that the present officers of the AFMS and the Scholarship Foundation are instituting new procedures that will improve control over operations and they are pursuing the recovery of any funds that may be missing. We, as members of the Midwest Federation, must continue as donors to the Foundation even though we might like to point the finger at past errors and say "never again". This setback is minor in comparison to the "good" the Foundation has accomplished since the scholarships program

was started. The MWF has been the leading donor to this program since its inception. Members and clubs are urged to continue that tradition.

The mailing address of the MWF has changed from 7636 V AVENUE EAST to **7636 EAST V Avenue**.

The Sylvania Fossil Park opened last year and will be open on weekends starting May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2002. The cost for people living outside the Sylvania, OH area will be \$3.00 to \$7.00 (per carload) depending on what day it is.

### **2002 Nominating Committee Report:**

For President - Kitty Starbuck

For First Vice-President - Alan Hukill

For Second Vice-President - John Washburn

For Treasurer - Norman Hanschu

For Secretary - name not yet announced.

For Nominating Committee (2 to be selected)

Donna Moore, IL

Dolores Rose, NE

Bill White, MO

Ken Bendick, MI

The Nominating committee's appointment to the Board of Selectors: Ceil Duluk, MI

For additional information on each nominee, please read the MWF Newsletter!

*Via MWF Newsletter 05/02*



### **Did you know?**

Mr. Rogers is an ordained minister.

There are 336 dimples on a regulation golf ball.

The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube, and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.

*Via ACHATES 05/02*

### **American Federation News**



Good Scholarship News - from Jon Spunaugle, Foundation President:

Last month I shared with you the news about some difficulties with the Scholarship Foundation. At that time, one of our concerns was that tax returns for two years had apparently not been filed on time by the previous treasurer and that the IRS was assessing the Foundation with a several thousand dollar penalty. (The Foundation does not have to pay taxes, but because of the revenue each year, we are required to file a return. If the return is not filed on time, penalties apply).

Our present treasurer Arlene Burkhalter has been diligently working with the IRS on this and has now been informed that the Foundation will not have to pay the penalty Arlene is to be commended for her efforts on our behalf.

As a result of your continuing contributions to the Foundation we will be able to assist another 12 students this year with grants.

As always, I thank you for your continuing support of this very worthy program.

*Excerpts from AFMS Newsletter 05/02*

The Southeast Federation is pleased to announce the unveiling of its new website. You can read all about the SFMS by visiting [www.amfed.org/sfms](http://www.amfed.org/sfms).

Headed to a Rock Show? As you begin to make plans to travel to shows and annual meetings, study your maps and see if you might be headed toward the Lewis and Clark Trail! Along with your maps, you need a copy of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail brochure from the National Park Service. The brochure is free of charge, and you can get a copy by e-mailing your postal address [<LECL\\_Administration@nps.gov>](mailto:LECL_Administration@nps.gov)

Complete information on the Lewis and Clark Trail is available at the national Parks

website <<http://www.nps.gov/lecl/travel.htm>> or the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial National Council website <[lewisandclark200.org](http://lewisandclark200.org)>. Another good resource is Jay Rasmussen's complete listing of information, guides, and resources at <[lcarchive.org](http://lcarchive.org)>.

*Via AFMS Newsletter 05/02*



## WONDERS

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

1. Egypt's Great Pyramids
  2. Taj Mahal
  3. Grand Canyon
  4. Panama Canal
  5. Empire State Building
  6. St. Peter's Basilica
  7. China's Great Wall
- (The 8th is Texas)

While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one quiet student hadn't turned in her paper yet. So she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The girl replied, "Yes, a little. I couldn't make up my mind because there are 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 touch
  2. to taste
  3. to see
  4. to hear",
- She hesitated a little, and then added,
5. "to feel
  6. to laugh
  7. and to love."

The room was so full of silence you could have heard a pin drop.

Those things we overlook as simple and "ordinary" are truly wondrous. A gentle reminder in the new year 2002 that the most precious things in life cannot be bought.

*Via AFMS Newsletter 05/02 (Contributed by Cathy Gaber)*



## CRYING WOLF

From Mel Albright, AFMS Safety Chairman

In this age every bureaucratic nanny is trying to protect everybody from something. Lawyers are trying to protect manufacturers from lawsuits. We are buried in warnings. Almost every item has some warning printed on it - sometimes several. If you hunt, you will find there is a MSDS (material safety data sheet) issued for WATER as required by the government. A little search says vinegar is considered one of the most dangerous substances around. Stickers say not to let the baby put its had in a bucket of water. Plastic sheet repeatedly warns that it isn't for putting over your nose. And on and on.

If you are like me, you are starting to ignore all of the safety warnings. I don't even read them anymore. There are so many that there might as well be none.

BUT, some of them are somewhat serious. They should be followed carefully. Every new prescription carries several pages of fine print mumbo about how it acts. Buried in there are safety warnings such as "Don't take on an empty stomach." "Do not eat grapefruit products while taking this medicine." "Call your doctor if these symptoms occur." These should be observed. But, you have no warning about the seriousness of the warnings. Are they warning against a possible headache? Sometimes "Don't take this medicine with that medicine" is a matter of life and death.

Some materials rockhounds use give the same problems. Strong acids ALL warn again skin contact. Hydrochloric acid burns somewhat

(and is very dangerous to breathe) but is present in your stomach. Nitric and sulfuric acid give second and third degree skin burns. However all 3 give you a little time to minimize damage by rapid washing with water But ONE small drop of hydrogen fluoride can KILL you. So getting complacent about using acids can be fatal. Some flammable solvents are actually hard to get burning. Some flash easily from heat or static electricity. So casual use of solvents can be dangerous. Some tools can bruise you if misused while others can take off a finger.

SO, WHAT TO DO? First, is to read the information on everything you buy. Then decide what warnings are for your status. Then remember EVERY TIME you use them to mentally review the safety conditions needed and be sure you follow them.

Remember, sometimes the wolf really does show up.

*Via AFMS Newsletter 05/02*



#### Find a Whetstone:

Next time you find a deposit of chert, bring home a solid piece and slice it. You will have the finest whetstone for sharpening knives that you could possibly ask for. TRY IT.

*From Northwest Newsletter, 02/93; via Clagary Lapidary Journal, 10/99, via surrey Rockhounder Newsletter 02/2002 via Nickel Basin Rockhound; submitted by Al Cowan CM*



#### **17,000-year-old bear bones discovered in cave**

VANCOUVER - The first exploration of the largest known cave in British Columbia's Queen Charlotte Islands has yielded the 17,000-year-old bones of a black bear, the oldest such discovery in the province. The find supports the argument that coastal refuges for plants and animals existed during the last ice age.

*Via Nickel Basin Rockhound 12/01 - submitted by Al Cowan CM*



#### **News from other area clubs:**

Stark County Gem & Mineral club Website:  
[http://www.geocities.com/starkgem\\_minerals/index.html](http://www.geocities.com/starkgem_minerals/index.html)

#### **Field Trips**

- **CANCELLED** - May 25 - Collect flint at Flint Ridge
- June 15, 2002 – Bus trip to Lexington, KY to visit the Kentucky Horse Park and the Headley-Whitney Museum. Cost is \$20 per person.
- September 21 - Collect trilobites at Fossil Park in Sylvania, OH
- October 12 - Detroit Show & Cranbrook Institute of Science
- November 15 - FJ Designs, Cat's Meow, Wooster OH. Visit Rubbermaid Factory Outlet

Details on each field trip will be sent to the club present one-month ahead of time. Plans for 2003 include a bus trip to the field Museum in Chicago, The Johnson's Family Diamond Cellar in Columbus, OH and a tour to Ohio Earthquake Center in Delaware, OH.

*Via Brukner Rockette 02/02*



#### **KIDS CORNER**

#### **HOME-GROWN CRYSTALS**

##### **Sugar Crystals**

You will need:

- 1 saucepan
- 1 large spoon
- 250 ml/1 cup of water
- 500 ml/2 cups of granulated sugar
- food coloring (optional)
- 1 jar with a large opening

Suggestions: Ask an adult to help you.

- Get permission to use the stove. Use an oven mitt.
- Heat the water until it's hot; you do not need to boil it.
- If you want to make colorful crystals, add a few drops of food coloring now.
- Pour the sugar in the hot water and stir the mixture until the sugar has completely dissolved.
- Let the mixture cool for 15 minutes.
- Pour the mixture into the jar.
- Place the jar in a safe place where it will not be disturbed for a few weeks.
- Watch your crystals grow.

**SALT CRYSTALS**

You will need:

- Several small pieces of charcoal
- 1 glass bowl
- 250 ml/1 cup of hot water from the tap
- salt
- 60 ml/2 tablespoons of vinegar
- food coloring
  
- Place the charcoal in the glass bowl.
- Measure a cup of hot water and add salt slowly while stirring continuously. Stop adding salt when it no longer dissolves.
- Add the vinegar to the salted water
- Pour part of the salted solution over the charcoal. Do not add too much liquid, the charcoal must not float.
- Add some food coloring to the charcoal mixture. You may add three or four colors for spectacular results.
- Place the bowl in a warm place where it will not be disturbed. After a few days, crystals will appear. After a few weeks you will have a beautiful crystal arrangement.

*Via Canadian Museum of Nature, via Nickel Basin Rockhound -date unknown*



**TIPS:**

Endust helps fossils look clean and detailed, getting rid of the dusty look without producing a shiny look. It also brings out the colors of agates.

*Via Breccia 4/99 via The Tumbler 2/02 via Dusty Rocks 04/02*

Cutting Petrified Wood: Petrified wood should be cut lengthwise of the grain. This produces a more varied pattern. Sometimes cutting crosswise will give good patterns, but this is not usually the case. Limb sections are rather on the scarce side as they tend to disintegrate before they petrify. If they are cut diagonally and polished to one end, it adds to their beauty.

*Via The Flint Gemstones, via Brukner Rockette 05/01*

Tumbling Tips: Two batches of stones were tumbled in a double barrel. Both were run through the same grits for the same length of time. On the polish run, one batch was run in tin oxide and the other in Spick and Span. The one run in Spick and Span seemed the brightest. There is a big difference in cost with tin oxide at 10 to 15 dollars per pound. One cup of spick and Span (approximately) was used for 6 lbs. of rocks.

*Via Tips & Chips 5/79 via Chips & Facets, via MGAGS Winter 2002*



**DEFINITION**

**Paleontology** is referred to as a "gateway science" because it is often the first hands on experience one has with any science. Thomas Jefferson was an amateur paleontologist and had fossils collected from public lands on display in his home. This country needs more citizens with Jefferson's intellectual curiosity, not less. Unfortunately, the net effect of HR2974 would be detrimental to the growth and development of scientific curiosity.

George Loud, Conservation & Legislation Chair, MWF *Via Brukner Rockette, 05/02*



## MVMGC 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Swap

June 8 & 9, 2002



SET UP - Friday June 7, 1:00 PM. All members who are able

**SATURDAY 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM**

### REGISTRATION & GRAB BAGS

Joyce Perry  
Karen Hall  
Mabel Husted  
Jane Freeze

### WHEEL OF FORTUNE

Kimberly  
Philip Lind  
Brian Rogers

### SILENT AUCTION

John Mercer  
Dave Perry  
Emory Stewart

**SUNDAY 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM**

### REGISTRATION & GRAB BAGS

Kay Faux  
Udean Babyak  
Marie Shinabarger  
Ginny Bignell  
Janice Rogers

### WHEEL OF FORTUNE

Philipp Ruben  
Jim Babyak  
Glenn Russell

### SILENT AUCTION

Hugh Fulton  
Russ Bignell  
Ed Shinabarger  
Dick Faux  
Andreas Ruben

**ALL CLUB MEMBERS HELP TAKE DOWN AND CLEAN UP**



### **Montana Adopts the Goodmother Dinosaur**

Maissaura Peeblesorum, a species of duckbilled dinosaur has become the official Montana State Fossil through the efforts of sixth graders in Livingstone. The dinosaur was found on the Pebble Ranch in Teton County. The children were inspired by 1978 discovery of a nest, including eggs. Juveniles and parents launched a campaign to convince the state legislature to adopt the dinosaur as the State Fossil.

One hundred thirty children wrote letters and sent information to schools (200 of them), obtained 9,000 signatures on petitions supporting adoption of the Bill and converged on the House of Representatives in Helena. They served dinosaur shaped cookies and testified in favor of the Bill, resulting in a unanimous decision for its passage. It is hoped that studying the fossil will show if warm-blooded dinosaurs existed. From *American West* via *T-Town Rockhound* via *Snoopy Gems* via *The Quarry*  
05/02

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SAVE COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

