


# CHIP & LICK



Official Publication of the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club

VOLUME 47, NUMBER 9

NOVEMBER, 2001



**MEETINGS:** Second Sunday of the month except June, July and August.

**PLACE:** YMCA, 300 South Central Ave., Fairborn, Ohio 45324

**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:

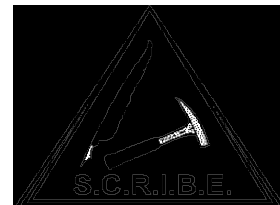
To promote interest and increased knowledge in the fields of mineralogy, geology, and the lapidary arts.

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



**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Jane Freese	Nov. 4
Emory Stewart	Nov. 25
Treva Miller	Nov. 30

**NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**



Beth & Emory Stewart Nov. 25

Swap Date...June 8-9 2002

Show Date...October 5-6, 2002

## President's Message

The annual show is over, past history, but still on my mind. I have mulled it over in my head for a while and can't quite call it a success. The club did all right financially, but a club show should mean more than money. I was embarrassed at the number of displays, but not the quality. I'm sure that each member who did not attend, work, display or support the club in some way felt that he or she would not be missed. You were.

Are you aware? Your club will be 50 years old next year. Together we can make it a banner year. The contract with the YMCA has been signed, flyers for swap and show have been printed; contract with the Lions Den has been signed for the show. Programs are planned through June. Let's make it a year to remember.

Among the good things, our Editor Becky Dobbs received 5<sup>th</sup> place in the MWF Bulletin Contest. Congratulations Becky. Members please note that the category with the most points off was for members original articles submitted.

A remarkable happening in Ohio: a Fossil Park opened September 23, 2001 in Sylvania, Ohio. It sounds too good to be true. Thanks to a donation of a 10 acre site by Hanson Aggregates Midwest Inc., a fossil Park will open in Sylvania. Plans for the future are very impressive. The park will close for the winter and open in the spring for Saturdays and Sundays only in 2002. It is planned the park will open on a daily basis in 2003. Entrance fee of \$3.00 per car will be charged for non-residents. How well I remember when we were allowed to hunt in the Sylvania Quarries. Hopefully this will be similar material, pyritized brachiopods 2 inches across and trilobites like Phacops rana. Ready for a field trip? Fossil Park info from Nov. newsletter of MWF.

Hugh Fulton

## MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL & GEM CLUB MINUTES - OCTOBER 14, 2001

The meeting was called to order by President Hugh Fulton. Udean Babyak, our chaplain, read a selection from Guide Posts by Fred Bauer, called Flag Day. The club welcomed a visitor, Steven Fisher.

The minutes were read and approved as corrected. The treasurer's report and a financial report of the show in September were also read and approved.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

High Fulton called club members' attention to the fact that Becky Dobbs, our NEWSLETTER editor, had received a fifth place award in the Midwest Federation contest for small bulletins. He also noted that the lowest score was due to the absence of original articles by club members, and hoped that members would help by contributing original articles for the Chip & Lick.

Dave Perry reported on the **LIBRARY**. He explained the new sign out system. To check out a book, take the card out the card file, sign it, and place the card in the sign out section of the card file. Appreciation was expressed for the hard work of Dave and Joyce Perry in getting the library in good order.

Joyce Perry reported that the **SUNSHINE COMMITTEE** had sent cards to Udean Babyak and Jane Freese.

Andreas Ruben reported that Katrin would be posting snapshots of our show on the club's **WEBSITE**.

**Correspondence** received was placed on the table so members could browse.

Matt Kromphardt announced a **FIELD TRIP**

arranged by the Bruckner Center Gem and Mineral Club. On Friday, October 19th at 1:00 PM we can visit Dodds Monuments in Xenia. Their main building was part of the St Louis World Fair. It was taken apart, moved to Xenia and reassembled. It contains very interesting stone work.

Our Christmas party will be held on the 2nd Sunday in December. The menu will appear in Chip and Lick and members can make their entree choices at the November meeting.

Andreas Ruben reported on future **PROGRAMS:**

- November a student from Wittenberg will tell all about his geology field trip to Colorado;
- December is the Christmas party;
- January will be a silent auction to raise money for the scholarship fund;
- February we will share accounts of field trips we have taken;
- March we hope to have a program at Wright State University;
- April - radio active minerals;
- May a program on fluorescent minerals-bring your specimens

**SHOW:** Hugh Fulton, show chairman reported that our finances were very similar to last year. The rent was \$675.00, we had one new vendor and attendance was 400 and we made a profit. A discussion on ways to improve our show followed. We were short on member displays this year and need to work on that. Ideas for securing publicity included posting fliers, more roadside signs and displays in local libraries. In order to secure the use of the Lion's Club on the dates we like, we have already signed a rental contract for next year. Members were very appreciative of the contribution Hugh Fulton makes by chairing this event.

Joyce Perry asked that we authorize her, as treasurer, to write a check for \$82.77 to pay the

printing expenses of the show

Following a recess for refreshments, Andreas and Philipp Ruben presented a program on copper minerals.

The meeting was adjourned.

Richard Faux, Recording Secretary

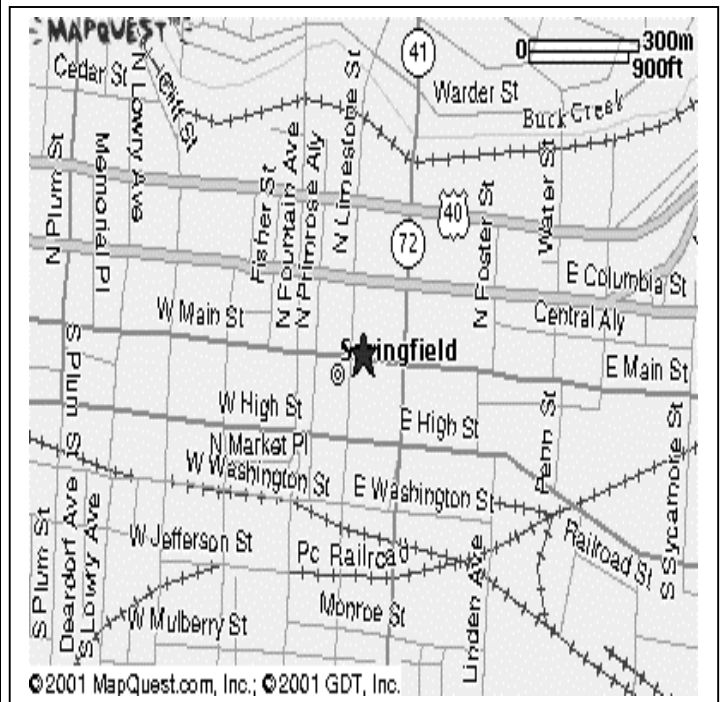


**December meeting - Christmas Banquet**

**When: December 9, 1:00 P.M.**

**Where: Tapestry & Tales  
126 E. Main St.  
Springfield, OH 45502**

**Menu Choice of Turkey or Ham  
Must have 15 people to reserve the restaurant.  
RSVP to Udean by Dec. 4**



**Happy  
Thanksgiving**

## The Bingham Copper Mine By Phillip Ruben

The Bingham Copper Mine is located in Utah by Salt Lake City. The mining districts dates back to 1803, but the open pit mine was started in 1906. It has the worlds first open pit mine and now the world's largest man-made excavation. It is over three-quarters of a mile deep and 2 1/2 miles across. Big enough to be one of the 2 man-made objects you can see from space. The other is the Great Wall of China. Another astonishing fact is the Sears Tower, one of the worlds tallest buildings would barely reach half way up the mine. The Bingham Canyon ore has yielded more than 16 million tons of copper, 21 million ounces of gold, 185 million ounces of silver and 790 pounds of molybdenum (a metal used to strengthen steel). This is only by removing 500,000 tons of material a day. It takes about 1 ton of ore for 12 pounds of copper. Bingham Canyon ore contains an average of only .6% copper. The mine is one of the most high-tech mines in the world. Therefor it is one of the safest and environmentally friendly mines. The year results are about 310,000 tons of copper plus significant quantities of molybdenum, gold and silver.



## OCTOBER FIELD TRIP

By Kay Faux

The Bruckner Center Gem and Mineral Club of Troy, Ohio invited the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club to join them for a visit to Dodds Monuments in Xenia on October 19<sup>th</sup>, which was a Friday. This made it difficult for some club members to attend but it was necessary to permit us to watch the men working with the stones. There were nine of us -three from Troy, two from Cincinnati, and four from our club (the Perry's and Fauxes): you can see the value of making this a joint field trip!

For those who weren't able to be with us for

the hour-long tour, this article is partly aimed at encouraging you to stop in at 123 W. Main Street in Xenia. Here you will see the showroom filled with colorful granite blocks imported not only from quarries in USA but from all around the world.

Outside the building we admired the ten tall columns of highly polished black granite decorating the front of the limestone building. In 1905 all these stones arrived from St. Louis on fifteen freight cars. George Dodd impressed with a building at the St. Louis World's Fair of 1903, bought it, saved it from being razed, and had it reconstructed in Xenia. Joyce Perry gave us each copies of a 1999 newspaper article telling about this history and Neil Fogarty enlarged on it as he conducted our tour. He is one of the family members who now own and operate Dodds Monuments.

The impressive facade speaks of the heyday of the business when they not only had branch offices in Chicago and Indianapolis but also owned three quarries and finishing plants in New England, supplying materials for buildings such as Penn Station, in New York City, and the New York City library. Ninety three years ago a trade journal said of the stone from their Massachusetts quarries, "It is safe to assume that no other granite in the world occupies so high a place in the esteem of leading architects."

Rock club members who have visited an operating quarry might be interested to know that Neil Fogarty told us that engineers have to know how to advise managers about the proper ratio between width and depth. Quarries have had to close when the granite was damaged and they became unsafe. A million dollars is being spent in Oklahoma to reopen such a quarry and another is reopening in Pennsylvania.

You may have noticed that marble because it does not hold up well out of doors is no longer used for tombstones. However the Dodd brothers worked with marble when they first came to this country from Scotland in the 1850's and established a business in Yellow Springs. When rail transportation became available in

Xenia the business moved there when they needed to expand in 1863. They were the first company west of New York to use imported granite and Andrew Dodd bought their first shipment of granite in Scotland.

What can you see now if you step inside Dodds large showroom in Xenia? Large blocks of igneous rock, mostly granite, shipped from the quarries with one side left the natural color and the other side polished to bring out its color. The most expensive stone is "Lake Wausau Red" and next, the green granite shipped from India. The mahogany colored granite is from South Dakota, the grey from New England, and the jet black from India. Black is always used if a client wants photographic quality of the picture on the stone, which is cut by a laser, a process not done at this location.

In the show room you will also see examples of lettering with a deep V shaped groove made by sand blasting. It looks like black paint has been applied but it is a shadow instead. Other firms that do use black paint sell less expensive stones, but the paint begins to peel and may not hold up much over ten years.

At the back of the show room we saw the computer room where clients are shown possible designs for personalizing a memorial stone. Then we were taken to the room where a rubber like mat was glued over the polished surface of the stone to protect parts from being sand blasted by the aluminum oxide, and we saw an etcher and a carver at work. In the show room there is an example of a deeply carved rose that had been gouged out of the granite. One time consuming design that a farmer had requested to have on his stone was a picture of his farm house with its surrounding trees.

A dramatic finished monument we saw had gold leaf decorations and will be set up outside the Air Force Museum at Wright Patterson in Dayton. A much older example of the work done by Dodds Monuments is the McKinley Monument in Canton. If you go through any cemetery and wonder if a stone is their work, look for the name on the back.

A member of the Troy club asked Neil Fogarty why his grandmother's stone looked like black paint was running down from the carved lettering. You might be surprised to know the answer: dust sticks to the stone when sap is blown from surrounding trees in the spring time and it can be scrubbed off with scouring powder and it will look like new!

We enjoyed our visit to Dodds Monuments and are glad the Troy club invited us.



**NOVEMBER FIELD TRIP**

When: November 17, 2001

Time: 1:00 P.M.

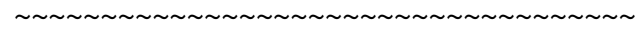
Where: We will visit the Karl E. Limper Geology Museum, Miami University, Oxford, OH. Professor John Rakovan will also give us a tour of the Geology Department, and he will show us how some of the equipment works. Dinner will be at the Country Cooker, Route 127 & I-70, Exit #10.

The Geology Department is located in Shideler Hall, on Miami University's Oxford campus just west of the intersection of US Highway 127 and State Route 73. The Department office is on the ground floor in Room 114, just off the main lobby. The Limper Museum is in the basement of Shideler Hall in Room 8.

For more information contact Neil Reeder, Field Trip Chairman of the Brukner Gem and Mineral Society, 937-773-0545.

*Via Brukner Rockette 11/01*

See map on last page of this newsletter.





### Eugene Husted - May he rest in peace

We were saddened to learn that Eugene Husted passed away on Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. He had been ill for some time. Eugene was born on January 19, 1930 in Springfield, Ohio. He was 71 years old. Eugene was a member of the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club from 1974 to 2000. He was Chairman of the June Swap and Show for several years during his membership. Eugene is survived by his wife Betty, his son Eugene, daughter Darlene, three grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles. Eugene and Betty had been married for 49 years.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family.



### UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS:

- NOVEMBER 9 - 10, TAYLOR, MI  
MWF FALL MEETING  
AT THE RAMADA INN, I-75 & EUREKA RD.  
OFFICERS & DIRECTORS MEET AT 7:30 ON NOV. 9 ALL  
INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED
- NOVEMBER 8 - 10, TAYLOR, MI  
MIDWEST FACETERS GUILD ANNUAL SHOW  
GILBRATAR TRADE CENTER
- NOVEMBER 10 - 11, NEWARK, OH  
LICKING CO ROCK & MIN SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW  
THE TEHERAN GROTTTO, WATER WORKS RD.
- JUNE 8-9, 2002, DONNELSVILLE, OH  
MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL AND GEM CLUB ANNUAL SWAP AND  
CRAFT SHOW
- OCTOBER 5-6, 2002, FAIRBORN, OH  
MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL AND GEM CLUB ANNUAL SHOW

### MIDWEST FEDERATION NEWS



The first goal for this year, of MWF President John Blue is to think "future". His goal is to have committees and individuals, serving the Federation, to not only accomplish those things that need to be done for the current operating year, but to be working to provide information usable for future years. This goal should be the goal of club leaders as well.

In other words, members of the nominating committees should certainly present a slate for the present, but also be talking to members about accepting selection in the future. Presidents should immediately fill necessary committee chairs, but should also be seeking potential candidates for predecessors. This "intelligence" is then passed to incoming officers and chairs. If this system is practiced, incoming officers and committee heads have a starting place rather than facing the new position with nothing.

The second goal is to revive interest in the many opportunities members have to honor members, their clubs, and those outsiders, who willingly serve our hobby, with the awards available through both our Federation and the American Federation. In this light, I called for nominations for the Honorary Award for the American Scholarship Foundation in a past issue of the MWF Newsletter. Not one response was received from the 150+ clubs or the 8000+ members of this organization. Such indifference must be eliminated or at least greatly reduced if clubs and this organization are to survive.

### American Federation News



Newsletter not available at printing time.



Show pictures:



Hugh Fulton stands before his display on copper.



Club members Andreas Ruben, Matt Kromphardt and Joyce Perry



Joyce Perry helps a young rockhound choose a grab bag



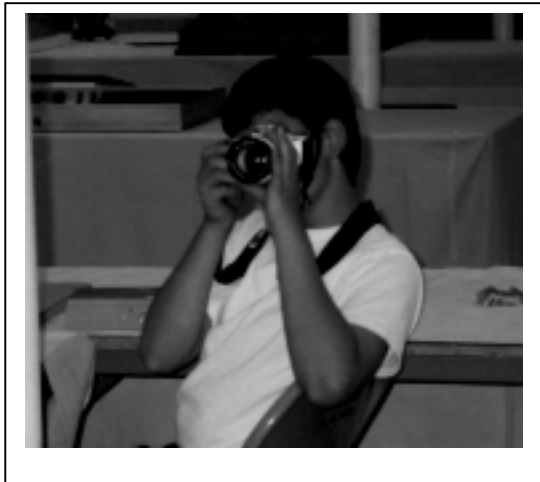
Harold & Joan Thornberg and Martha Miller



Karen Hall and Kay Faux working the Registration Desk



Webmaster Katrin Ruben works on the club website



Philipp Ruben doing double duty - Photographer and working the Wheel of Fortune

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Congratulations to the Brukner Club of Troy, Ohio. The club is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! The Club was founded in 1976. Charter members remaining are Frank and Louise Brower and Bob and Doris Hoover. Looking forward to 25 more years of Rockhounding!



**WEBSITES TO PROMOTE THE HOBBY**

For those members who wish to attend some classes to improve your skill in the hobby or learn some other facet of the hobby take a look at these web sites:

**William Holland School of Lapidary Arts**  
[www.alltel.net/~lapidary/](http://www.alltel.net/~lapidary/)

**John C. Campbell Folk School**  
[www.folkschool.com/classes.html](http://www.folkschool.com/classes.html)

**Arrowmont School of Crafts** (summer classes)  
[www.arrowmont.org/classes.html](http://www.arrowmont.org/classes.html)

**Penland School**  
[www.penland.org/classes/summer/summer.html](http://www.penland.org/classes/summer/summer.html)

**Wildacres Workshop**  
[www.amfed.org/efmls/](http://www.amfed.org/efmls/)

*Via Flint Flashes 10/01*



**Don't forget to save your commemorative cancelled stamps.**

Kay Faux will send them to  
 Lyle E. Kugler  
 612 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
 Aledo, IL 61231



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2792 GREYSTOKE DR.  
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SAVE COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

