


CHIP & LICK



Official Publication of the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club

VOLUME 47, NUMBER 8

OCTOBER, 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:

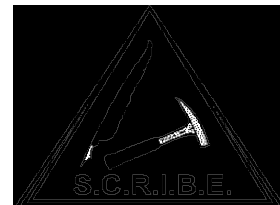
To promote interest and increased knowledge in the fields of mineralogy, geology, and the lapidary arts.

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

**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

Al Cowan	Oct 5
Matt Kromphardt	Oct 9
Paul Smith	Oct 14

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Fay & Al Cowan	Oct 1
Elsie & Paul Smith	Oct 30

Swap Date...June 8-9 2002

Show Date...October 5-6, 2002

President's Message

The recent attack on America remains fresh in our minds. Other than donating and praying we wonder what can we do to help. Of course the answer is to keep doing what has to be done. With the economic fallout coming on an already faltering economy I selfishly wonder what effect it will have on our annual show. Attendance at Rock Shows has been declining for several years, as has been membership in clubs.

Can you believe I had not seen our web site until this past week? Our webmaster Katrin Ruben showed me how to use the Internet and see it first hand. I had heard it was good. I was really impressed. It is so complete. It covers the Chip & Lick issues, the swap with pictures, the rocks and jewelry, etc. we brought in look great. The show is covered and a map to find it, and links to more information than anyone can use. I can only imagine the skill and work it took to produce this web page. Congratulations and a 'well done' to Katrin. To others, if you have a chance, give it a look-see for yourselves.

Attendance at the September meeting was disappointing. Maybe some just forgot or even had a good excuse. Every meeting is important for many different reasons, the September meeting because it is the first after summer vacation and the last before the Show. Also it is discouraging for members who have spent time preparing a program not to have good member attendance. Thank you to those who attended. And a thank you to all who worked at the show and displayed. Al Cowan called from Canada. He and Fay plan to be here for the show. He said to give him a job, he will work anywhere. Now that's what a show chairman likes to hear. Al is also bringing a display.

Hugh Fulton

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To get rid of itch from mosquito bites, try applying soap on the area and you will experience instant relief. *Via The Show Me Geode 08/01, Via the Hard Rock News 07/01 Via The BEMS Tumbler 08/01*

## MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL & GEM CLUB MINUTES - September 9, 2001

President Hugh Fulton opened the meeting. For devotions chaplain Udean Babyak read a story about a philosophy professor who used a jar and some to rocks to give his class a lesson on keeping our priorities right. She closed with an Irish prayer.

Hugh Fulton read the minutes for May and they were accepted as read. Joyce Perry presented a treasurer's report for June, July and August and a financial report for the Swap in June. We realized a profit of \$200.74 on the Swap this year. The reports were accepted.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Editor:** Becky Dobbs reminded the club that she needs articles for the Chip and Lick.

**Librarian:** Dave Perry reported on the steps being taken to get the library in shape. He asked people to sign a sheet on the library door when they check out books. He reminded members that we have many good books in our library, described some of them and encouraged us to make more use of them.

**Sunshine:** Joyce Perry reported for the Sunshine Committee. Art Pitstick continues to have trouble with his eyes and Udean Babyak is expecting to have surgery again.

**Cancelled Stamps:** Kay Faux asked members to save canceled commemoration stamps so they can be used to raise money for the scholarship fund.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Hugh Fulton described the communication he had received and they were placed on the table for members to examine. One letter offered a book containing prize-winning essays in the 2001 contest for Mid West Federation newsletters. Udean Babyak moved that we purchase this book. The motion was seconded and passed.

In response to comments about our website,

Andreas Ruben reported that people are using it; 266 pages were down loaded in June and 529 in July

**SWAP:** Hugh Fulton reported on our June Swap. Nine dealers and five crafters participated. We made a profit and the Lions thought they had a successful show. The club needs signs in the future that announce the craft booths as well as the rock swap.

**SHOW:** Our October show will come before our next meeting. We need displays, help in setting up the show, and contributions for the wheel of fortune and silent auctions.

**PROGRAMS:** Andreas Ruben reported on upcoming programs. In October will be copper and copper minerals. A program at Wright State University is planned for November but the arrangements are not yet complete. The Christmas banquet will be the December program.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Hugh Fulton announced that the trustees would be asked to serve as a nominating committee. They will be contacting people during the show and present their report at the annual meeting in January.

The meeting recessed for refreshments. Reports on several of the books in our library was the program which followed. The meeting then adjourned

. Richard Faux, Recording Secretary



VALUABLE FOX? Perhaps the most valuable fox that ever lived was in Canada that howled until the blacksmith got so angry he threw his hammer at him. The hammer knocked a corner off a rock and exposed a fine metallic ore. The great Cobalt mines of Cobalt, Ontario, were the result. *Via MWF Newsletter 10/01 from Rocky Trails 1/90 Via Rocky Reader 3/90*

## OCTOBER PROGRAM COPPER By Hugh Fulton

Copper, the native metallic element Cu is classified as a base metal. Standing next only to iron as the most important metal in modern living, vital to national security and a high standard of industry.

Copper could be said to be the oldest and newest metal. Copper was used by very early civilizations, which learned to beat and melt it. Rich mines on the island of Cyprus (Greek, Kuprus, Copper) were of great importance in antiquity, and copper was sacred to the islands' goddess, Aphrodite. Bronze, the alloy of tin and copper, gave its name to the Bronze Age, when it was discovered how to make tools, musical instruments, weapons and jewelry from the alloy.

In its natural state copper is often green because the surface has oxidized to verdigris, but copper itself is reddish and shiny. Native copper can occur in distorted forms as wires or branches, rarely as crystals. Copper can be extracted from minerals such as chalcopyrite. The green of malachite, the blue of azurite and the multiple colors of bornite - peacock ore - are all due to the presence of copper. Large deposits occur in North Central and South America, Zaire and Zambia South Africa, Iran and Burma. Copper is non-ferrous and conducts electricity well making it valuable for electrical uses.

The most common primary copper mineral is chalcopyrite, but bornite, tetrahedrite and enargite are frequently present. The oxidation of these minerals yield at the surface of a copper deposit limonite, malachite, azurite, cuprite native copper, chryscolla and antlerite. The zone of oxidation usually extends downward to the water table where secondary sulfides appear. The breakdown of the copper sulfides and associated pyrite produces copper ferric sulfate and sulfuric acid which react with the copper to form copper sulfate, which is soluble and is carried downward. When the copper sulphate solution reaches a reducing environment it reacts with the

sulfides there coating with or replacing them by chalcocite. Such long continued action may give rise to massive chalcocite bodies at the water table.

The largest native copper nugget ever found was on the Keweenaw Peninsula, Michigan in 1857. It weighed approximately 420 tons. More recently, a 33,000 pound copper boulder from Lake Superior was found. The boulder, which was found nearly a mile offshore in 30 feet of water, measures more than 18 feet long, 8 feet wide and 15 inches thick. It is the largest mineral specimen ever taken from Lake Superior. The final destination will be the Quincy Mine in Hancock, the new home of the Seaman Mineral Museum. It is expected to be a big tourist draw.

References: Dana's Manual of Mineralogy, 1001 Questions - Pearl, A field guide to Rocks & Minerals - Pough, and MWF Newsletter 9/01.



**ANOTHER DISCOVERY**

"In 1997, while searching for minerals on a former potato farm, a huge piece of copper was found. It weighed an estimated 40 tons; measures 14'3" by 13'2" and the thickness varies from 17" to 4". It is the largest known float copper in the world." (It was buried 4' deep and had to be wrestled to the surface by heavy machinery).

"Float copper is formed by glacial action were the copper is torn from the earth by the huge mass of ice that moved through northern Michigan four times during the past million years."

"...Only since the development of metal detectors with the power to penetrate the earth has it been possible to find buried float copper. The Million Dollar Copper boulder is very unique, even the huge power of the glacier was not able to move it very far, and etched on the surface of this boulder are the deep markings from rocks carried by the glaciers clearly showing the direction traveled by the ice mass."

*Excerpts taken from an information sheet on this discovery - Via MGAGS, Fall 2001*

[Jane Matz, Editor of MGAGS: During our Keweenaw vacation this past summer we fell into conversation with a waitress about rocks and copper. She turned out to be the wife of the man who found the giant specimen, and she produced a Polaroid photo of the copper out of her apron pocket! She said deer come into the clearing and lick the rock. Also, some elderly neighbors will lie flat on the surface to treat their arthritis.]



**November meeting -  
Refreshments, Article & Display  
Matt & Wilda Kromphardt**



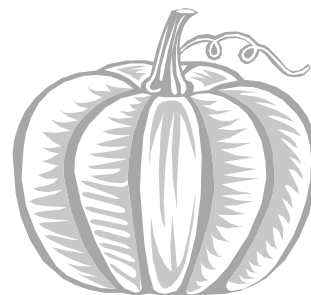
**FIELD TRIPS**

Friday afternoon, October 19, Xenia, OH

Dodds Monuments acquires shaped and polished granite blocks from all over the world and personalizes them for tombstones. Dodds did Canton's McKinley tomb.

Check with Neil Reeder of the Brukner Club if you plan to attend or need more information on this field trip. 937-773-0545.

*Via Brukner Rockette 08/01*



## UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS:

- OCTOBER 19 – 21 FT. WAYNE, IN  
THREE RIVERS 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GEM, MINERAL, FOSSIL,  
LAPIDARY AND JEWELRY SHOW  
ALLEN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
- OCTOBER 20 – 21 CLIO, MI  
FLINT ROCK & GEM CLUB 34<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GEM, JEWELRY &  
MINERAL SHOW/SALE  
ROGERS LODGE DRIVE - SAT 10-7 SUN 10-5
- OCTOBER 27 – 28 CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH  
SUMMIT LAPIDARY CLUB AND AKRON MINERAL SOCIETY  
EMIDIO & SONS EXPO CENTER
- OCTOBER 26 – 28 MASON, MI  
36<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GEM & MINERAL SHOW  
CENTRAL MICHIGAN LAPIDARY AND MINERAL SOCIETY  
INGHAM CO FAIRGROUNDS  
FRI 6-9 SAT 107- SUN 11-5
- 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  
AT THE TEHERAN GROTTTO, WATER WORKS RD.



Two paleontologists came upon some tracks. One said they were Stegosaurus tracks. The other said they were T-Rex tracks. They were still arguing when the train hit them.

*Via AFMS Newsletter 07/01*

## MIDWEST FEDERATION NEWS



MWF Website has moved to the American Federation website. The new address will be:  
<http://www.amfed.org/mwf>.

The 'DUES FORM' for 2002 dues is in the October issue of the MWF Newsletter. You do not have insurance if you have not paid your dues. Also included is "The Calendar of Events listing for the 2002 directory. Please list your show, and other important 'happenings' your club is planning. Please PRINT or TYPE these forms.

## American Federation News



Copies of the AFMS Code of Ethics are available for your members on printed cards. If you would like copies for your members, please contact Dan McLennan at PO Box 891208, Oklahoma City, OK 73189-1208 or email [AFMSCODAN@aol.com](mailto:AFMSCODAN@aol.com).

The 2001 Program Competition Award was won by Jody Fronk, of the Central Illinois Gem & Mineral Club. The program was "*Rockhounding in Upper Peninsula, Michigan and Ontario*", a slide program which recounted the events of a trip to the historic copper mining area in upper Michigan and then on to Bancroft and Cobalt, Ontario.

### ***EDUCATION - ALL AMERICAN CLUB AWARD PROGRAM*** *from Colleen and Lyle Kugler, AFMS Co-Chairs*

Established in 1967 by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the seven regional federations, the All-American Club Award is meant to:

- encourage local club members to share their expertise and enthusiasm for the hobby within their respective regions.
- provide a model for organizing an annual historical account for the posterity of each club, and offer an opportunity for national recognition of exceptional clubs.

Just as the award is focused on quality effort that enables members to grow and clubs to flourish, it is also focused on quality that the All-American Club Award judges seek in evaluating applications for regional and national honors. Completeness of the report is important, and quality is valued over quantity. The clubs' respective regional chairman must receive entries by the date they specify.

This is not a competition of one club against others. This is an evaluation of quality based on a standard of excellence. Gold, Silver and Bronze awards are granted for achievement of point in the appropriate scoring range. Only the top regional and national awards are determined on a high point basis. To allow more equality, separate top awards will be given for large clubs (100 or more members), small clubs (up to 99 members) and organized junior divisions (5 or more members).

Application forms for YOUR club entry are found on pages 5 & 6 of the October issue of the AFMS Newsletter. Feel free to copy them as needed. We're really looking forward to reading about YOUR club this year.

### **Bulletin Editor's Hall of Fame**

The "Bulletin Editor's Hall of Fame" was started in 1995 during the AFMS Convention in Boise, Idaho. Along with editors from other Federations, *Marie Zigler* - editor of Tulip City Rock Club Bulletin, Holland, Michigan, was inducted into the Hall of Fame for 2001

### **COMING TO A SCREEN NEAR YOU**

*from Marge Collins, Program Competition Chair*

Three new video presentations have been distributed to your regional federation program

librarians in the past month. These new programs are made possible by funds generated from the AFMS Endowment Fund and we thank all of you for your generous donations, which have made these funds available to us.

The new video programs are:

#### *1. Yellowstone Imprints of Geologic Time.*

This video takes viewers on a spectacular journey through the colorful geologic story of Yellowstone National Park.

#### *2. Rainbow of Stone- A Journey through Deep Time in The Grand Canyon.*

The geologic story of Grand Canyon National Park is a story about time - immense time.

#### *3. The Rock Cycle - Understanding the Processes and Products of an Ever-changing Earth:*

This video breathes life into one of the classic concepts of earth science: rocks evolve and transform from one type to another in a never-ending cycle.

### **LOUD & CLEAR**

*by George Loud, Conservation & Legislation Chair*

### ***The Roadless Battle Continues***

Access to 59 million acres of public land (in National Forests), i.e., the so-called "Inventoried Roadless Areas", remains a political football. We laymen can only wonder at the use of the word "roadless" by bureaucrats to describe land areas which are the subject of so much debate as to how to manage roads therein. The controversy continues on two fronts.

On the judicial front, on May 10, 2001 the Idaho District Court granted a Preliminary Injunction which prohibits the U.S. Forest Service from implementing "all aspects of the Roadless Area Conservation Rule" as well as the section of the November 2000 Forest Planning Rule that addresses the inventory and evaluation

of roadless areas during the Forest Plan Revision Process. The "green" groups who are interveners in the suit have appealed that Preliminary Injunction.

Injunction to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. The Bush administration declined to participate in the appeal. Oral argument on the appeal is set for the middle of October 2001. I believe that the trial on the merits of the case is on hold pending resolution of the appeal.

On the regulatory front, the chief of the Forest Service has issued Interim Directives Nos. 2400-2001-3 and 7710-2001-2 on July 27, 2001. Comments on these directives must be submitted in writing by October 22, 2001 and should be sent to:

Content Analysis Team  
Forest Service, USDA  
Attn: Roadless Interim Directives  
P.O. Box 221150  
Salt Lake City, UT 84122  
via e-mail to: [roadless\\_id@fs.fed.us](mailto:roadless_id@fs.fed.us)  
or via facsimile to: 801 296 4088

By Interim Directive No. 7710-2001-2, the chief of the Forest Service has reserved himself "The authority to approve or disapprove road construction or reconstruction in inventoried roadless areas, except..." My understanding is that this reservation of authority to the chief of the Forest Service would extend to any act decommissioning a road in the so-called "roadless areas", although I do not find decommissioning to be explicitly mentioned in the directive. If true, if the decommissioning of a road must now be approved by the chief of the Forest Service, this might ameliorate the problem encountered all too often in recent years by field collectors who find access to a site blocked by closure of a road for no apparent reason.

Please write and give your input. My understanding is that comments received today run heavily in favor of locking-up these lands by shutting off access to everyone, including rockhounds and others who use public lands for

benign purposes. Again, the deadline for comment is October 22, 2001.

*Via AFMS Newsletter 10/01*

**HINTS:**

To preserve newspaper clippings, dissolve a milk of magnesia tablet in a quart of club soda overnight. Pour into a glass pan large enough to accommodate the flattened clipping. Soak clippings an hour, remove and pat dry. Estimated life span -- 200 years.

*Via Fort Hamilton Gems 10/01 via The Quarry*

When dopping, don't get the wax smoking hot or it will get weaker.

*Via Fort Hamilton Gems 10/01 via The Rock Collector and others.*

***Just A Little Dust***

*by Mel Albright, Safety Chair*

Have you ever told yourself "It's just a little" about the dust from some lapidary project you're working? Yes, I know. Most of our work is done wet and there is no dust flying around. But, not everything! Carving is often done dry-especially sanding and polishing. Knapping arrowheads are almost always done dry. Finished silver and gold projects are often "touched up" with dry sandpaper. Breaking rocks with a hammer or from matrix out in the field is a dry project. Often cleaning fossils for presentation is a dry project - especially when sand blasting. How about trimming up your mineral samples? I bet you can think of other places where a little rock dust flies around. Well. It IS only a little!

BUT, your lungs do not expel silicates from rock dust. So, a bunch of "littles" is as bad as a "bunch". It might take years to get too much, but eventually you may. What's the problem? A disease called silicosis.

"Silicosis, a scarring and hardening of lung tissue, can result when particles of crystalline silica are inhaled and become embedded in the lung. The disease can be progressively debilitating and fatal. In construction, workers

can be easily exposed to silica when using rock containing silica or concrete and masonry products that contain silica sand when performing such tasks as chipping, hammering, drilling, crushing, or hauling rock; performing abrasive blasting; and sawing, hammering, drilling, and sweeping concrete or masonry. Even materials containing small amounts of crystalline silica may be hazardous if they are used in ways that produce high dust concentrations. " says the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) So, how do you protect yourself? Lots of ventilation is always a good way. However, the ventilation should come from the side or a little behind you so that any dust is blown AWAY from your nose. You can check before working on the rocks to be sure that is going on. Eddies around your face and head will not protect you. Masks work also - if they're good enough.

Those of you who run club shops should be very careful that dust is controlled. You might get ten exposed rather than one. An exhaust hood would be an excellent investment. A little sheet metal or plywood, a cheap fan, and stovepipe going through a hole to outside would be easy to make. Some equipment may have filters on it. Be sure that a special filter is used and that it is cleaned often. A proper filter is important even if it is no more expensive than something from Wal-Mart.

"PRIVATE" NIOSH recommends the following measures to reduce exposures to breathable crystalline silica in our shops: Breathable silica includes almost every rock or fossil that rockhounds may have.

Recognize when silica dust may be generated and plan ahead to eliminate or control the dust at the source. Awareness and planning are keys to prevention of silicosis.

If possible, do not use silica sand or other substances containing more than 1% crystalline silica as abrasive or blasting materials. Substitute less hazardous materials.

Use engineering controls and containment methods such as filtering machines and cabinets,

wet drilling, or wet sawing to control the hazard and protect nearby friends from exposure.

Routinely maintain dust control systems to keep them in good working order.

Practice good personal hygiene to avoid unnecessary exposure to other shop contaminants such as lead.

Wear disposable or washable protective clothes at the shop.

Shower (if possible) and change into clean clothes before leaving the shop to prevent contamination of cars, homes, and other work areas.

Post warning signs to mark the boundaries of shop areas that may be contaminated with rock dust.

Provide members with training that includes information about health effects, work practices, and protective equipment for breathable crystalline silica.

If you think I'm exaggerating - more than a few knappers have suffered from this disease.

Reference:

<<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/silicupd.html>>

*Via AFMS Newsletter 10/01*



## The Sky Watcher

The Orionid Meteor Shower will make its best appearance just before dawn on October 21<sup>st</sup>, when no moonlight will interfere with its light. Look to the South before dawn, for a possible 25 meteors per hour. This shower is associated with Haley's Comet.

The end of October presents some very interesting viewing. Mercury and Venus can be seen in the predawn hours, while the Moon shares the evening hours with Mars, Jupiter and Saturn.

*Via Fort Hamilton Gems 10/01 from Old Farmer's Almanac, 2001 & Harris' Farmer's Almanac, 2001*

BECKY DOBBS - EDITOR  
2792 GREYSTOKE DR.  
XENIA, OH 45385

SAVE COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

September 11<sup>th</sup> was a day that we will never forget. I've seen many touching things written about that day. This poem is one of them. - Ed. GOD BLESS AMERICA

**THE LADY**

**By: Dana Holland**

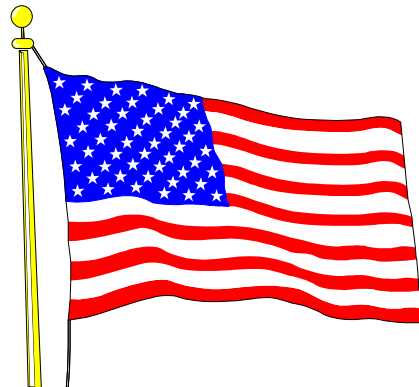
I wonder what she thought  
As she stood there, strong and tall.  
She couldn't turn away,  
She was forced to watch it all.

Did she long to offer comfort  
As Her country bled?  
With her arm forever frozen  
High above her head.

She could not shield her eyes  
She could not hide her face  
She just stared across the water  
Keeping Freedom's Place.

The smell of smoke and terror  
Somehow reduced her size  
So small within the harbor  
But still we recognized.....

How dignified and beautiful  
On a day so many died  
I wonder what she thought,  
And I know she must have cried.



*Via the Internet*