

CHIP & LICK

Official Publication of the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club

VOLUME 49, NUMBER 8

OCTOBER, 2003



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.

2003 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
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Librarian	Joyce Perry	372-8228
Curator-Historian	Becky Dobbs	372-9022
Trustee (2003)	Ginny Bignell	866-8789
Trustee (2004)	Udean Babyak	322-0443
Trustee (2005)		

2003 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		
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



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Al Cowan Oct. 5
Paul Smith Oct. 14

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

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



Spring Banquet... April 12, 2003 Swap Date...June 7-8 2003 Show Date...October 4-5, 2003

President's Message

It is a beautiful fall day, my favorite time of the year. I'm wondering where the summer went. September has to be the shortest month of the year. The October show is fast approaching and I have so much to do.

You didn't make it to the September meeting? You were missed we had a lot of work to do. And you missed a great program, a geothermal adventure in Yellowstone National Park. Thanks Andreas for another great program, I want to go more than ever.

I learned how the club fared at the swap - not bad even with the rain. Also understand the field trippers had fun looking for quartz crystals in Arkansas. I've yet to see any bragging rocks though maybe they will show up at the show.

I received a couple phone calls this week one from Allen Cowan, Al will not be able to make it down from Canada this year. He will be able to celebrate his birthday at home this year. Allen remarked how dry their weather had been this summer that their wells were very low. I think I know where their rain fell. We are above normal great for the mosquitoes they have been terrible. Allen asked that I give everyone his regards. Allen, your work and humor will be missed at the show. We hope Fay will soon be better.

A call from Jack Lahr, he will be able to make the show on Saturday. He will be off to the William Holland School on Sunday. Jack is always welcome to our events. I certainly appreciate his presence.

Today was another day out placing flyers for the show. I am asked so many times "is there any publicity for the show or swap" when the attendance is not what is expected or desired. It's out there. One way to tell is the number of localities we receive visitors from. They come from all over just not enough to satisfy us. There

is so much competition for everyone's time and money. The one thing constant about the show? How relieved I am when it's over. I hope you were there and had a display and that you enjoyed yourself and learned more about our great hobby.

Hugh Fulton



MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL & GEM CLUB MINUTES - 14 SEPTEMBER 2003

The business meeting was called to order by President Hugh Fulton.

The minutes for May were read and approved. Joyce Perry read a Treasurers report for May, one for June, July, and August, and a report for our Annual Swap. They were all accepted. The treasurer also reported that she had sent a check to the AFMS scholarship fund and that she had received a letter thanking us for the gift and recognizing that our club had exceeded 5000% of our contribution goal. We have been awarded two plaques, one for reaching 4500% of our goal and a second for reaching 5000%.

REPORTS:

WEB SITE, Andreas Ruben reported that our web site had received a request for information about collecting sites in Ohio.

CORRESPONDENCE: We continue to receive numerous fliers and letters about the activities of other rock clubs. Hugh Fulton reported on plans for the Ohio Falls Festival. The other correspondence was placed on the table for members to examine.

LIASON: Hugh Fulton brought us up to date on the AFMS Scholarship Fund. The former officer who stole some of the fund has been sentenced and is required to make restitution. The fund is still able to make scholarship grants

PROGRAM: Andreas Ruben reported that the program for today’s meeting is a slide show entitled, “Yellowstone, a Geothermal Adventure”. Future programs include a video on Gem Stones and a report on the trip which some of our members took to collect quartz crystals in Arkansas.

SWAP REPORT: Our swap was judged a success, in spite of a few rain showers. We realized income from several activities and our expenses were more than cared for. There was some discussion of the format of future Swaps. The Lions Club has suggested that we might combine the Swap with a softball tournament.

SHOW: Members were reminded that our show will be held on October 4th and 5th. No job assignments have been made this year but we need help with the set up beginning on Friday at 1:00.

NEW BUSINESS: Hugh Fulton announced that it was time to appoint a nominating committee. Since the potential members were not present, he recommended that the matter be cared for informally before the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned for refreshments and the program on Yellowstone Park, presented by Andreas Ruben.

Richard Faux, Recording Secretary



October Program:

Gemstones of America



November

Articles Refreshments Display

Dave & Joyce Perry
Ed & Marie Shinabarger



UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS:

- OCT 4-5 - FAIRBORN OH**
 46TH ANNUAL SHOW PRESENTED BY THE MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL & GEM CLUB, LIONS DEN, 1042 RONA PARKWAY DR SAT 10-6, SUN 10-5. MINERALS, GEMS, DISPLAYS SPECIMENS, FOSSILS, SILENT AUCTION, DOOR PRIZES. INFO: 937-322-1021
- OCT 10-12 - WARREN, MI**
 GREATER DETROIT GEM, MINERAL FOSSIL & JEWELRY SHOW HOSTED BY THE MICHIGAN MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY, SOUTH MACOMB COMMUNITY COLLEGE EXPO CENTER, BLDG. P, 12 MILE & HAYES. FEATURING A CAVE BEAR FROM THE PLEISTOCENE ICE AGE, 150 POUND CALCITE CRYSTAL, ETC. FRI 9-7, SAT 10-7, SUN 11-5
- OCT 18-19 – CLIO, MI**
 FLINT ROCK & GEM CLUB, 36TH ANNUAL SHOW. CARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL ROGERS LODGE DRIVE, CLIO, MI. SAT. 10AM TO 7 PM, SUN 10 AM TO 5 PM. ADULTS \$2.00, STUDENTS \$1.00, CHILDREN UNDER 6 FREE. DEMOS, RAFFLE DOOR PRIZES, EXHIBITS, DAILY GRAND PRIZE DRAWING
- OCT 18-19 - KEOKUK, IA**
 4TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM MISSISSIPPI VALLEY CHAPTER - FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY - "GEODES OF THE WARSAW AND KEOKUK FORMATION, MISSOURI, ILLINOIS AND IOWA". SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS, GUIDED FIELDWORK AND PUBLISHED GUIDEBOOK. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR REGISTRATION CONTACT MR. SHERWOOD 816-6908226 OR MSHERWOOD@SWBELL.NET
- OCTOBER 25-26 - MASON , MI**
 38TH ANNUAL GEM & MINERAL SHOW "LORDS OF THE ROCKS" PRESENTED BY CENTAL MICHIGAN LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY, INGHAM COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, FRI 609 PM, SAT 10-7, SUN 11-5. SILENT AUCTION, CHILDREN ACTIVITIES, EXHIBITS, DOOR PRIZES. ADM.
- OCTOBER 25-26 - INDIANAPOLIS, IN**
 2ND ANNUAL GEOFEST, THE INDIANA STATE MUSEUM ROCK, FOSSIL & MINERAL SHOW. MINERAL & FOSSIL COLLECTIONS, DEALERS, CHILDRENS ACTIVITIES, EXPERTS FROM INDIANA STATE MUSEUM & ORGANIZATIONS FROM AROUND INDIANA. EXPORE MUSEUM'S THREE NATURAL HISTORY GALLERIES. ATTEND THE 6TH MIDWEST CHAPTER FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY MINERAL SYMPOSIUM. GEOFEST IS INCLUDED WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION. ADULTS \$7. CHILDREN (3-12)

\$4. INFO: PEGGY FISHERKELLER 317-232-1637
PFISHERKELLER@DNR.STATE.IN.US OR ALICIA STEWART
ASTEWARD@DNR.STATE.IN.US

• **NOV 7-9, TAYLOR, MI**

MIDWEST FACETERS GUILD ANNUAL SHOW, TAYLOR
SPORTSPLEX, 13333 TELEGRAPH RD. (US 24) BETWEEN
EUREKA & NORTHLINE RD. FRI 3-8 PM, SAT 10AM – 7 PM,
SUN 10 AM – 5 PM. ADMISSION \$3.00



FEDERATION NEWS



AFMS Scholarship Foundation:

Scholarship Foundation Resolution

From Dee Holland, Scholarship Foundation
President-elect

The sentencing phase of the trial against Dan McClellon, former Treasurer of the AFMS Scholarship foundation is now over and the fund can continue with a clean slate. Dan was sentenced on Wednesday August 20, 2003 to one year and a day in federal prison for his embezzlement of funds from the Scholarship Foundation. He was told to pay restitution in the amount of \$72,000 which is the amount taken that falls within the five year statute of limitation.

Sincere thanks to Lewis Elrod and Arlene Burkhalter for their continued efforts in this case. Arlene believes that the judge might have reduced the sentence further if it had not been for the eloquent testimony of Lewis Elrod who spoke before the judge telling him that Dan had embezzled the money from scholarships for students and that the scholarship fund was having a hard time now coming up with the money needed for the students.

If it had not been for Arlene who worked closely with the banks and brokerage firms we might not have been able to get the documentation needed to prosecute. With the background as an accountant that Jon Spunaugle has, he was able to get a handle on what monies had been taken. Three cheers for these

hardworking volunteers, who spent many hours and days on this unpleasant task.

Now we must go forward and work to build up the scholarship foundation so we may help more students. We're able to continue awarding two scholarships or \$2,000 each for two years to students in the participating Federations, but with the interest from investments being down, plus our loss of income from the embezzled funds, we need to contribute more than ever. This is where all of you come in. We need your continuing support in making this fund GROW.

Be assured that something like this will never happen again. Both the Scholarship foundation and AFMS have revised their Bylaws to ensure more safeguards are in place.

And speaking of contributions and safeguards, the Northwest Intermountain Faceters Guild held their annual stone auction this summer. They voted to donate a portion of the proceeds to pay for the bonding of the Scholarship Foundation for this coming year. The extra money was turned over to be placed in the Scholarship restricted funds so it can begin to draw interest for the future.

Thanks to Arlene Burkhalter for staying on as Treasurer and Ruth Bailey as Secretary for the coming year. We need their expertise and knowledge to forge ahead.

Contributions to the Scholarship Foundation are always welcomed and encouraged. Send all contributions to your regional Scholarship Foundation Coordinator.

Via AFMS Newsletter 10/03



HINTS & TIPS

The next time you stop for morning coffee, don't be too quick to discard your plastic stirrer. The stirrers make excellent little spatulas for mixing and applying epoxy.

Via Jefferson Co Rock & Min Club (NY) 12/02 from Florida Society of Goldsmiths newsletter; submitted by Al Cowan MVMGC



GEMSTONE INCLUSIONS

Almost all gemstones have some type of inclusion, which a lot of people look at as a flaw. This flaw is an important characteristic of the gem material as it often proves to be an indicator of the type gem you are looking at, as well as the genuineness and sometimes even the country of origin of a particular stone. A jewelers' loupe or a microscope is needed to view the internal world of the gemstone.

Lily-pad inclusion looks like a lily-pad and is found in peridot.

Fingerprints are small crystal inclusions that are arranged in curved rows and look like a fingerprint.

Halo or disc-like inclusions look like a flat disc-like shape and resembles a halo. Very often this inclusion will contain a black mark in the center, which could be a zircon crystal. This inclusion is found in Ceylon sapphires.

Horsetail inclusions consist of hair-like fibers arranged together and resemble a horses' tail. This is indicative of demantoid garnet.

Needle inclusions resemble fine needles and are found in garnet, sapphires, aquamarine, andalusite, and Burmese rubies.

Two-phase inclusions resemble a frankfurter in outline that has a bubble enclosure. This bubble may or may not move when the stone is tilted. Topaz, quartz, some tourmalines, synthetic and genuine emeralds exhibit this inclusion.

Bubbles look just like what you would think they would. This type of inclusion indicates a synthetic material, glass, or a piece of genuine amber.

Dark, ball-like inclusions look like a dark opaque ball surrounded by irregularly shaped, wispy brown cloud-like formations. The inclusions are exclusive to Thai rubies.

Feather inclusion is actually a crack in a gemstone that looks like a feather. This inclusion is observed in sapphires, rubies, and diamonds.

Zebra stripes look just like a zebras' stripes and are indicative of quartz.

Swirl marks look like serpentine, curved shapes or curlicues and usually appear as a darker shade of material than what you are looking at. This indicates you are looking at a piece of glass.

Veils look like bubble-like inclusions that are arranged in layers and resemble a wispy veil. This is common in synthetic emeralds, and synthetic rubies.

Color banding looks like concentrated color-resembling bands in a gem material. This is caused by changes in temperature, pressures, and chemicals during the growing period. Straight color banding indicates a genuine stone and curved color banding indicates a synthetic stone of gem material.

*Via Gr. Cinti Lapidary & Faceting Society 07/03;
from Snoopy Gems 06/03*



MONTANA AGATE INFORMATION

Agate is one of the most varied and desired forms of "chalcedony" which is one of the many varieties of quartz. Scientifically classified as a macrocrystalline or microcrystalline quartz, it has a hardness of 7.

Quartz, in all its forms, is the single most abundant mineral on earth, making up almost 12% of the earth's crust. Quartz varieties are separated into 2 basic groups, macrocrystalline and microcrystalline. In macrocrystalline quartz, the individual quartz crystal can be seen with the naked eye. In microcrystalline, the individual crystals are too small to be seen even under slight magnification. Agates and chalcedony in other forms, like chrysoprase, carnelian, jaspers and flint, are some of the cryptocrystalline forms of quartz.

Some examples of the macrocrystalline forms of quartz are amethyst, ametrine, citrine, rose quartz, rutilated and smoky quartz. Agates in many different varieties are distributed worldwide but localities of agate beds of major significance number less than a hundred.

Humanity has admired agates for thousands of years. In ancient times, the beauty and durability of agate prompted man to use it in both practical and ornamental forms. It was believed that agate had unique properties that protected the wearer from dangers and prompted strength and healing.

Agates in general come in many different forms and are formed in at least five different ways. The main conditions necessary for agate formation, are the presence of silica from devitrified volcanic ash, water from rainfall or ground sources, and manganese, iron and other mineral oxides that form bands and inclusions.

A large portion of the agates found around the world are found "in-site" where they were formed. The main problem with this is that once the deposit is dug out, they are gone. Unless a new deposit of a particular agate is found in the same area, they are gone forever.

Montana Moss Agate is one of the alluvial agates. Found not "in-site" but in the Flaxville gravel deposits scattered over a huge area encompassing thousands of square miles. The beauty of this is that they cannot be claimed, mined, and dug-out by a few enterprises, but will be available, in smaller numbers, to the public and collectors for tens and hundreds of years to come. The fresh exposures do get hunted quite diligently each year, but new agates are always found by the persistent agate collector.

Via Nickel Basin Rockhound 03/03; via Surrey Rockhounder 08/01; Don Itchsu; via Harmon's ; via The Prairie Gem 06/02; submitted by Al Cowan MVMGC



Got old Jeans?

Make a nifty gift for your favorite rockhound!

By: Linda Jaeger, TRMS

Every rockhound can use a rock bag, and this one is as washable as your jeans. You will need:

- old jeans (boys sizes 12-18 are good)
- scissors
- thread to match the jeans

- zigzag sewing machine
- black pencil
- straightedge (ruler)

Place the jeans on a flat surface with the seat side up, so you can see the back pockets, making sure the waist is together at front and back. Use the straightedge ruler and pencil to mark a line across each leg about 3 inches below the back pockets. Carefully cut off each leg by following your line. From the legs cut 2 strips, each about 5 inches wide and 24 inches long. The strips will make the strap.

Turn the seat part of the jeans wrong side out and stitch across each of the legs with a 1" seam. Stitch again about ¼ inch from the first seam with a zigzag stitch, and then trim away the excess seam allowance. Turn the jeans right side out.

Now seam the 2 long strips together along the 5 inch side with right sides together. Fold in half lengthwise, right sides together, and stitch again, making a casing. Turn the casing right side out. Press the casing flat.

Find the left belt loop on the jeans. Place one end of the strap inside the waistband, just behind the loop. Stitch through the strap at the top of the waistband and at the bottom of the waistband. Place the other end of the strap inside the waistband, just in front of the right belt loop. Stitch through the strap and waistband at the top and bottom of the waistband.

Be sure to zip up the zipper and button or snap the waistband, and this rock bag is ready for rocks.

To make this an extra special gift, tuck a state map in one of the back pockets and a small notebook and pen in the other. Add a compass, whistle and small specimen bags to the front pockets, and toss in a section of newspaper and a small spray bottle, too. Feeling really generous? Take your friend and his new rock bag to your favorite spot to hunt!

Via Gr. Cinti Lapidary & Faceting Society 07/03; via Quarry Quips 06/03; via T-Town Rockhound, Tulsa R&M Society 12/99

BECKY DOBBS - EDITOR
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SAVE COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

ROCKS & MINERALS

T	T	A	X	R	A	P	S	D	L	E	F	M
A	T	E	E	T	I	R	O	U	L	F	U	R
P	Z	L	N	S	I	L	V	E	R	S	E	E
S	T	U	A	R	O	U	U	M	P	P	T	H
C	C	O	R	S	A	P	E	Y	P	I	E	E
A	J	H	U	I	A	G	G	O	R	T	T	M
L	C	H	I	R	T	B	C	A	I	K	Y	A
C	A	J	T	S	M	E	B	H	B	W	W	T
I	J	K	R	B	T	A	C	E	J	P	X	I
T	W	S	E	M	D	A	L	C	T	A	D	T
E	V	R	I	L	L	S	Q	I	I	A	D	E
Q	Y	C	O	A	O	W	T	E	N	B	L	E
L	A	G	M	T	C	Y	B	U	R	E	R	S

AZURITE	BARITE	BASALT	BERYL	CALCITE	COPPER
JADE	FELDSPAR	FLUORITE	GARNET	GOLD	GYPSUM
HEMATITE	MALACHITE	MICA	RUBY	SCHIST	SILVER
SLATE	TOURMALINE				

Via Glacial Groove 05/03; from Michigan Mineralogical Society Conglomerate 01/03