


# CHIP & LICK



Official Publication of the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club

VOLUME 47, NUMBER 7

SEPTEMBER, 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:

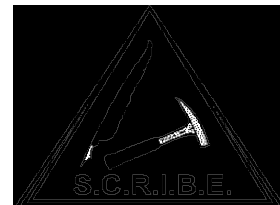
To promote interest and increased knowledge in the fields of mineralogy, geology, and the lapidary arts.

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	
Trustee (2001)	Udean Babyak	325-0443
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	Adlib	
Field Trips/ Safety	Matt Kromphardt	878-3348
MWF Liaison	Hugh Fulton	322-1021
Photographer	Hugh Fulton	322-1021
Program	Andres Ruben	390-2081
Refreshment	Becky Dobbs	
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



### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Marie Shinabarger	Sep 7
Becky Dobbs	Sep 14
Wilda Kromphardt	Sep 23
Glenn O. Russell	Sep 28

### SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Marie & Ed Shinabarger	Sep 5
Don & Lena Brewington	Sep 25
Dick & Faye Faux	Sep 30



**President's Message**

Welcome back! Can you believe it? Summer has passed. I can't. I'm about ready for it to start again.

The last time we met was the swap in Donnelsville. The weather was on our side this year. Changing the date worked, as the week before was cold and very wet. Charging for booth space paid off for the club too. The crafters did not fare so well. If we continue with crafts next year, we will probably have to change signs.

After the swap, longtime member of the Lions, Walter Cotton, was electrocuted in his basement. Mr. Cotton was 77. He was past president of the Lions and was dedicated to the Donnelsville Lions Club.

I haven't heard from anyone, club members that is, so hopefully no news is good news. It's always good to see past members at the swap and show. At the swap, Anne Yokell and Martha Miller visited, as did some Fulton and Smith kids and grand kids, oh and great grandkids. Does that mean I'm getting old? Don't answer that.

And now, let's turn our attention to the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Show. Our October meeting topic is copper minerals, so my show project will be copper and it's minerals. You might also include copper etc., in your displays and make it the theme of our show this year. Also remember we always need material for the silent auction, Wheel of Fortune and door prizes. And of course, YOU to display and WORK and make sure everyone in your community knows about your show.

Another thing this time of year brings is election time, but first a nominating committee must be named. And the winners are.....the trustees! They will be asking you to serve as officers for 2002.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Hugh Fulton

**MIAMI VALLEY MINERAL & GEM CLUB MINUTES - May 13, 2001**

(These minutes missed the June C&L)

President Hugh Fulton called the meeting to order. Chaplain, Udean Babyak, read a selection from Guide Posts, by Elizabeth Sherill.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

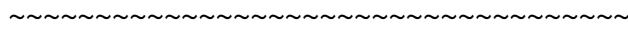
**Librarian** David Perry reported that the Lapidary Journal had arrived and described an article on crystals that it contained. He encouraged members to check out a library book and prepare a book review for a club meeting.

**Sunshine Chair** Joyce Perry reported that Art Pitstick had visited them. He has developed macular degeneration in his eyes. His upbeat attitude impressed Dave and Joyce. A real sunny note was the report that Becky Dobbs will receive her MBA from Wright State on Saturday, June 9th.

**Program Chairman** Andreas Ruben announced that the September meeting program will be about our club library and the October program will be on copper minerals. He asked if members would be willing to have meetings at nearby locations to take advantage of program opportunities. Wright State University was offered as an example.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** We received announcements of several rock shows which were placed on the table. The newsletter of the MWF which shows announcements and articles is also available.

Good progress on arrangements for the Swap on June 9 & 10 was reported. Assignments to committees are listed in the May Chip and Lick. Katrin Ruben was asked to serve as webmaster of our new web site. The address is [www.mvmgc.org](http://www.mvmgc.org). Udean Babyak reported that arrangements had been made to hold the



Christmas Party at 1:30 on the second Sunday in December at the Tapestry and Tales Tea Room in Springfield. Hugh Fulton brought the members up to date on arrangements for our annual show in October. Three contracts with dealers have been signed and two more have been promised. Wonders of Earth, a new dealer, will participate. May 20th is the day to fill grab bags at the home of Teresa Guess

A membership renewal from Don and Lena Brewington was received.

The meeting was adjourned in order to take pictures of rock specimens for display on the new web site.

Richard Faux, Recording Secretary



**38<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GEM MINERAL ~ FOSSIL SHOW & SWAP & CRAFT SHOW  
June 9 & 10, 2001**

With the help of some beautiful weather and a group of willing volunteers the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club was an event that provided a good time for a lot of people. For the first time Crafters shared the event with Rock and Gem dealers. There were 4 crafters and 9 mineral dealers. Hugh Fulton reports that the club realized a profit this year.

People who weren't able to attend can get glimpse of what they missed by visiting the club web site at [www.mvmgc.org](http://www.mvmgc.org). Thanks to Katrin, Andreas, and Philipp Ruben, who spent part of one afternoon photographing, we have a page of pictures showing dealers and swap activities.

Looking ahead, the web site also has an announcement for our upcoming show, in October, and a map showing the location of the Lions Club.

Richard Faux



**September Program: The Club Library  
October Program: Copper**

**October meeting -  
Refreshments, Article & Display  
Udean and Jim Babyak**



**September Field Trips**

September 21-23 the Brukner Gem & Mineral Club is heading to the Sheffler Geode Mine in Alexandria, MO. Last chance at those Keokuk Geodes for a \$15.00 fee per person up to 50#. It is a 10-hour drive from Troy, OH, plus rest, fuel and eat stops. Plan to travel most of the day Fri 9/21/01 and come home Sun 9/23/01. All the motels and restaurants are in Keokuk, Iowa – 12 miles north of the mine.

September 12-16 Denver, Colorado. G/M Show, Pikes Peak, Colorado Springs, Air Force Academy, Dinner at the Buckhorn Exchange Restaurant. Bead Renaissance Show – same dates. The trip is by bus, stopping on the way and visiting the Sternberg Museum of Natural History in Hayes, Kansas. On the way home, may stop and visit the Fick Fossil & History Museum in Oakley, Kansas.

Check with Neil Reeder of the Brukner Club if you plan to attend or want information on these field trips. 937-773-0545.

*Via Brukner Rockette 08/01*



**THINGS REALLY DO 'GO BETTER' WITH COKE:**

In many states in the USA the highway patrol carries two gallons of Coke in the truck to remove blood from the highway after a car accident. *Via the Chiseler 09/0, via The Mountain Gem 07/01*

## UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS:

- SEPT 7-9, RICE LAKE, WI  
MWF SHOW AND CONVENTION
- SEPTEMBER 7 – 9 TOLEDO, OH  
TOLEDO GEM & ROCKHOUND CLUB – JEWELRY, GEM &  
MINERAL SHOW & SALE  
4645 HEATHERDOWNS BLVD.
- SEPTEMBER 14 – 16 LINCOLN, MO  
42<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL LINCOLN ROCK SWAP  
LINCOLN CITY PARK
- SEPTEMBER 21 - 23 CLARKSVILLE, IN  
2001 FALLS FOSSIL FESTIVAL, FALLS OF THE OHIO STATE  
PARK, 201 W. RIVERSIDE DR.
- OCTOBER 6 – 7 FAIRBORN, OH  
44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MIAMI VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB SHOW  
LIONS DEN, 1043 RONA PARKWAY DR.  
SAT 10 AM - 6 PM, SUN 10 AM - 5 PM
- OCTOBER 12 – 14 WARREN, MI  
GREATER DETROIT GEM & MINERAL SHOW
- OCTOBER 19 – 21 FT. WAYNE, IN  
THREE RIVERS 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GEM, MINERAL, FOSSIL,  
LAPIDARY AND JEWELRY SHOW  
ALLEN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
- OCTOBER 27 – 28 CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH  
SUMMIT LAPIDARY CLUB AND AKRON MINERAL SOCIETY  
EMIDIO & SONS EXPO CENTER
- OCTOBER 26 – 28 LANSING, MI  
36<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GEM & MINERAL SHOW  
CENTRAL MICHIGAN LAPIDARY AND MINERAL SOCIETY  
MARSHALL STREET ARMORY



## MIDWEST FEDERATION NEWS



A number of MWF people attended the annual AFMS annual meeting held in Arlington, TX in June. We learned that the MWF leads all Federations in contributions to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation. The MWF has contributed \$185,428.39 as of April 30, 2001. The MWF clubs and members should be saluted for their giving to this worthy cause.

Kitty Starbuck writes: I have been reading in several bulletins lately: "Save your cancelled stamps for the MWF Scholarship Fund. The Midwest Federation does not have a Scholarship Fund, it has an Endowment Fund. The money from the sale of the bookmarks made from the cancelled stamps goes to the MWF Endowment Fund. The American Federation is the one that has a Scholarship fund, and has given out over one million dollars in scholarships to worthy students chosen by the person your club nominates for the scholarship Honoree. He/she in turn picks the worthy students. So when someone asks you "What does the American Federation do for us?" You can tell them how many scholarships they have given out. As for the Midwest Federation Endowment Fund, we need to thank Lyle and Colleen Kugler for the diligence in continuing to make these bookmarks.

Two new slide presentations – gifts from AFMS, are now available from the MWF Program Library: Sundogs and Rainbows – A Sky Show – 78 slides; and The Main Ingredients: Rock Forming Minerals – 48 slides. To borrow these (or other programs from MWF Library) contact: John and Rose Blue, 16155 Shurmer Rd., Strongsville, OH 44136 – phone (440)238-4412. Shipping/handling fee: \$5.00 per program.

*Via MWF Newsletter 09/01*

## American Federation News



According to AFMS President Isabella Burns, people were buzzing about many topics at the recent Rocky Mountain Federation Show in Roswell, NM; California Federation in Pasa Robles, CA; Eastern Federation in Syracuse, NY; and the AFMS and South Central Federation Show in Arlington, TX. The one topic that seemed to be on most people's minds is the closing of collecting areas. In the west, it is how to protect endangered species and keep areas where we collect open. In some areas construction and other uses of land have closed collecting sites. Everyone is seeking answers. The AFMS voted to give \$2000.00 to ALAA to help them with issues and to write a policy for use of public and private lands. This will not solve all of the problems. The increase in population has made a need for more land for private use and is leaving less available for our recreation. The banquet speaker in Arlington, Charles Finsley, retired Curator of the Dallas Museum of Natural History, stated *people go to the Tucson Show, purchase the popular material from overseas and think they are rock collectors, but the real thing is to be in the field.* The speaker at the Syracuse banquet, Carl Francis, Curator of the Harvard University Mineralogical Museum stated that there is nothing like *learning in the field.* We who have collected in the field need to share our material and be sure that we display them. There is a need for geology, mineral and/or fossil journeys where we show where material has been collected and the type that was collected.

You may have heard some buzz about the AFMS Directors voting for us to work with the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council in 2004 to 2006 by providing information about the geology, paleontology and mineralogy along the Trail. Brenda Hankins, a very articulate and enthusiastic woman, from

Mississippi will be the leader of this project. She would love to backpack the trail to see the rocks, minerals, fossils, gems, and geological formations along the way, before writing a brochure for us about the trip. That is an enormous task for one person. Therefore we want to invite you who live along or near the trail to give her a vicarious experience of the earth science where Lewis and Clark and their men walked. As we progress on this program you'll hear more about it. We hope to include each of our seven Federations in this project. We will need researchers, promoters, editors, and many good women and men to help with this enormous undertaking. If you wish to volunteer let me (Isabella) know.

*Via AFMS Newsletter 09/01*

### HINTS:

If you want matched stones, put a piece of paper between two stones and glue together with mounting glue; then shape as desired in one grinding. A light tap with your hand will separate them.

*Via Michigan Gem News; via The Drive 7/01; Via ACHATES 08/01*

Stone Hint: Test for topaz. Quartz and topaz are not easy to separate by eye, and are sometimes impossible when the quartz is true topaz color. There is a big difference in price in the two and anyone describing quartz and topaz however innocently, may well be in trouble.

Topaz is quite a different mineral, which is harder than quartz. Because of this, a drop of water will not spread on topaz, but will on quartz. Clean the stone as effectively with a cloth to remove all traces of grease. It must be dry before the test. Then place a small drop on it with a thin glass of metal rod.

On stones with hardness of less than 7 on the MOHS scale, the water is dispersed. On harder

stones it will remain as a globule. The harder the stone, the more rounded will be the globule of water.

*Via Crystal Cluster 10/98; via Greater Cinti Lapidary & Faceting Society 07/01; via Brukner Rockette 08/01*

Catsup when spread evenly on your copper specimens when left to dry a few minutes then rinsed well will brighten your copper.

*Via Jeff Co. Rock & Mineral Club Newsletter 03/00 (Submitted by Al Cowan)*

Sandbags have more uses than holding back floods. Duck-canvas sandbags filled with sand make ideal bases for supporting metal being shaped with a hammer

*Via Jeff Co. Rock & Mineral Club Newsletter 03/00 (Submitted by Al Cowan)*

**Candle Your Agates**

Candle your agates just as you would eggs. Punch a small hole in the bottom of a two-pound coffee can. Turn it upside down and place a light inside. Place your agate over the hole and rotate it this way and that. It is surprising how the light coming through the hole will show the color, pattern, dendrites, and fractures. Makes it much easier to 'SEE' which way to slab it. (works well for Montana Agates).

*Via The Calgary Lapidary Journal, Dec/99  
Via Chats & Chips 04/01; Via Nickel Basin Rockhound 06/01*



**Digging Away**

**By Mel Albright, AFMS Safety Chair**

There you are. Happily digging away in a dirt bank. Or, happily climbing and digging in a waste pile. Or, going for China as you dig deeper and deeper looking for the big bragging find. (Just a little deeper. The big find might be down just a little more.)

Suddenly, the bank collapses - or, the pile slides and carries you down and maybe covers

you - or, the sides of your deep hole collapse and bury you. To those brave souls who venture into miles, add, the sides collapse, and the roof falls.

How do you protect yourself?

First, understand the collapse is predictable. Anything that can be piled up can come down. Some things - like the waste pile, collapse easily. Others, like the mine wall, are harder to start down. The deciding factor is a thing called the angle of recline. (No, nothing to do with how far you tilt your easy chair.) What the angle says is that any pile subject to the action of gravity has a critical angle. If the pile's angle with the ground is above that angle, the pile collapses. If the angle is below that angle, the pile is stable. So, when you look at a road cut, the angles on the sides aren't what the contractor decided was handy. They are set by the dirt's angle of repose with a safety factor added. A pile of marbles has a very small critical angle (almost 0). A stone bluff has a very high critical angle (almost 90 degrees.)

In EVERY one of the places mentioned above, the angle of repose will be passed and collapse depends only on something to get it started. It may take only one more shovel full or another foothold dug in or someone wandering by. If you're lucky, it won't happen. But, it is only luck protecting you.

So, whenever you are digging, keep safety in mind and take steps to protect yourself from harm if things let go around or from under you.

*Via AFMS Newsletter 09/01*

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**THE SKY WATCHER**

A striking array of late summer astronomical conjunctions will light up the September sky. The moon's tilted path carries it within a single degree of a number of planets: Saturn on September 10<sup>th</sup>, Jupiter on the 12<sup>th</sup>, Venus on the 15<sup>th</sup> and the 'star' Regulus on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Look up!**

*From Old Farmer's Almanac, 2001 Via Fort Hamilton Gems 09/01*

### **Think about this! Are you a hitchhiker?**

With his thumb, a hitchhiker says: "You furnish the gas, the car, the insurance, and attend to repairs and upkeep and I'll ride with you. But if you have an accident, I'll sue you for damages!"

It sounds pretty one-sided, but one wonders how many hitchhikers' there are in many organizations and clubs. Many members seem to say "You go to meetings, serve on the board, serve on the committees, do the paperwork, study the issues, take care of things that need doing and I'll just go along for the ride." But if things don't suit my fancy, I'll complain, criticize, and probably get out and hitchhike to another group.

Hitchhiker or driver? Which are you?

*Via Crack 'n Cab & Gneiss News; via Jeff Co. Rock & Mineral Club Newsletter 06/00  
(Submitted by Allen Cowan)*



### **Recipe for a good rock club**

Assemble a group of rockhounds in assorted sizes and personalities

Measure accurately:

- 1 cup friendly words
- 1 cup understanding
- 1 cup courtesy and patience

Sift carefully and remove all malice and ego. Add a dash of wit and humor, warm welcome for all, and a heart full of co-operation. Praise when needed. Mix well until blended into a smooth running organization. Sprinkle with good time and fun. Garnish with new members.

Serve with warm greetings. Plenty for all!

*From The Rockcollector 02/01 etal. Author unknown; Via Strata Data 04/01*

### **SMILE A WHILE**

Two men are waiting in line at the Pearly Gates when Saint Peter asks them what they did on Earth.

The first one says: "I was a taxi driver in New York City."

The second one says: "I was a minister for 40 years."

St. Peter gives the taxi driver a golden staff and the minister a wooden staff to use in heaven.

Seeing the perplexed look on the holyman's face, Saint Peter says: "Here we work on results. You preached and people slept; he drove and people prayed."

*Via Fort Hamilton Gems 09/01, via The Sun, April 17, 2001.*



### **More about COKE:**

To loosen a rusted bolt: Apply a cloth wet with Coca Cola to the rusted bolt for several minutes.

To remove rust spots from chrome car bumpers: rub the bumper with a crumpled-up piece of aluminum foil dipped in Coca Cola.

To bake a moist ham: Empty a can of Coca Cola into the baking pan, wrap the ham in aluminum foil, and bake. Thirty minutes before the ham is finished, remove the foil, allowing the drippings to mix with the Coke for a sumptuous brown gravy.

The active ingredient in Coke is phosphoric acid. Its PH is 2.8. It will dissolve a nail in about 4 days.

"Coke" and "Coca Cola" are registered trademarks of Coca Cola, USA.

*Via the Chiseler 09/0, via The Mountain Gem 07/01*

**MVMGC 44th ANNUAL SHOW  
OCTOBER 6 & 7, 2001**

Set up at Lions Den, Friday October 5th, 1:00 PM    All members who are able

Show hours Sat. 10 AM - 6 PM

Sunday 10 AM - 5 PM

REGISTRATION DESK                      CHAIRPERSON                      BECKY DOBBS

Mabel Husted & Jane Freese

Becky Dobbs & Karen Hall

Ginny Bignell & Wilda Kromphardt

Dick & Kay Faux

Ed & Marie Shinabarger

Jim & Udean Babyak

GRAB BAGS & DOOR PRIZES                      CHAIRPERSON                      JOYCE PERRY

Joyce Perry

Joyce Perry

Katrin Ruben

Kimberly Hall

Lena Brewington

Mary Isbel

WHEEL OF FORTUNE                      CHAIRPERSON                      GLENN RUSSELL

Glenn Russell

Philip Lind

Phillipp Ruben

David Isbel

Don Brewington

Russell Bignell

SILENT AUCTION                      CHAIRPERSON                      JOHN MERCER

John Mercer

Andreas Ruben

Emory & Beth Stewart

Matt Krumphardt

WORK SHOP                      CHAIRPERSON                      DAVE PERRY

HELP WANTED PART TIME OR FULL TIME PLEASE

PUBLICITY                      CHAIRPERSON                      KATRIN RUBEN

TEAR DOWN & CLEAN UP - ALL MEMBERS OF THE MVMGC

NEED ITEMS FOR DOOR PRIZES, WHEEL OF FORTUNE, SILENT AUCTION

MAKE YOUR SHOW A SUCCESS - PARTICIPATE, HELP WHERE NEEDED

THANK YOU

HUGH FULTON, SHOW CHAIRPERSON

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SAVE COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS