

CHIP & LICK



Official Publication of the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club

VOLUME 49, NUMBER 7

SEPTEMBER, 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

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Marie Shinabarger	Sept 7
Becky Dobbs	Sept. 14
Glenn Russell	Sept 28

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Marie & Ed Shinabarger	Sept 5
Dick & Kay Faux	Sept 30



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

President's Message

As summer comes to its end I wonder where it went. There has been so much going on: the Celebration of flight centennial, Ohio's bicentennial events and cleaning up after our maple tree. With the almost daily rains the tree has kept us busy so many seeds - is it telling us something? Every day seems to bring something new so I don't get old projects finished.

I'm eager to find how the club fared at the swap. Might not be good rain seems to be part of the swap anymore. Lions' members suggested that next year they schedule a softball tournament for the weekend. Also want to hear how the field trippers made out at the quartz crystal mines.

In my opinion the Congress of the United States, has so many really important matters to deal with. Why then is Senator Akaka (D-HI) and Senator Baucus so adamant about S546 and insuring that no "amateur" picks up some "paleontological resource." Please take minute or two to read August MWF newsletter. If you get the Rock and Gem magazine read June Culp Zeitner, page 24 Sep. 2003 issue. It concerns amateurs' contributions to all the many fascinating branches of the earth sciences and lapidary arts.

The September meeting will be another work meeting addressing stamping the publicity mailings also naming a nominating committee for election. I hope you are all here I look forward to seeing you again. I also hope you had a nice summer and we can successfully restart the year and power up for the show.

Hugh Fulton

46th Annual MVMGC show Sat. Oct. 4 and Sun. Oct.5. We will gather on Friday Oct. 3 for set up 1PM your help greatly appreciated.

Show needs grab bags - something to put in them also items for silent auction, wheel of

fortune and door prizes plus you and your display.

In honor of Ohio's bicentennial show theme add a display of your Ohio rocks, minerals, fossils, artifacts or whatever.

Hugh Fulton



September Program:

Yellowstone NP - a geothermal adventure



October

Articles Refreshments Display

Jim and Udean Babyak

Mabel Husted



UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS:

- SEPTEMBER 19-21 LINCOLN, MO**

MOZARKITE SOCIETY OF LINCOLN MISSOURI, INC.'S 44TH ANNUAL ROCK SWAP, LINCOLN CITY PARK, 20 MILES SOUTH OF SEDALIA ON HWY. 65. PUBLIC DIGS FOR MOZARKITE FRI. & SAT., SILENT AUCTION, ETC. INFO ROBIN KIMBER 660-438-9665
- SEPTEMBER 20-21 - CLARKSVILLE, IN.**

9TH FALLS FOSSIL FESTIVAL PRESENTED BY THE FALLS OF THE OHIO STATE PARK & CLARKSVILLE RIVERFRONT FOUNDATION. FOSSIL COLLECTING, SPEAKERS, WORKSHOPS, IDENTIFICATION, HIKES TO FOSSIL BEDS. SAT 906, SUN 10-5. FREE FOR OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES. INFO 812-280-9970
- SEPTEMBER 27-28 - HEATH OH**

35TH ANNUAL GEM, MINERAL FOSSIL AND CRAFT SHOW. SPONSORED BY LICKING COUNTY ROCK & MINERAL SCOEITY, INDIAN MOUND MALL, 771 S. 30TH ST. (SOUTH OF NEWARK OH) SAT. 10-6, SUN. NOON-6. ADM. FREE. INFO: PAUL GREEN 740-366-2778
- SEPTEMBER 27-18 - TRAVERSE CITY, MI**

ROCK & MINERAL SHOW PRESENTED BY GRAND TRAVERSE ROCK & MINERAL CLUB, GRAND TRAVERSE HERITAGE CENTER, 322 SIXTH ST, SAT 10-6, SUN 11-4. ADM.

• **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 - 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



FEDERATION NEWS



The September issue of the A.F.M.S. Newsletter and a special August issue of the MWF Newsletter contains information about the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, which is due to be voted on in the House of Representatives very soon. The Senate version of this bill has already been passed. In effect, if this bill is passed, it could kill amateur fossil collecting as we know it. Every rockhound is strongly encouraged to write their representatives and congressman immediately. The whole bill can be read at <http://thomas.loc.gov> Click on Senate and enter S546 or click on House and enter HR2416.

Representative address is:

Rep _____
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Senators' address is:

Senator _____
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510



HINTS & TIPS

Never put any rock in a microwave oven! All rocks contain some water which will make them explode when heated in a microwave oven. You could be badly hurt, and besides, your mother or significant other will be very upset with you!

Via The Prospector Newsletter 0803

A Crystal

A crystal is one of the strangest objects in nature. It is not alive, yet it grows. A crystal attracts the same kind of materials of which it is composed, arranges them with great accuracy in geometrical forms, cements the parts together and holds them. Place a crystal in a liquid or a vapor composed of the same ingredients as the crystal, and the process of accumulation immediately begins. If a crystal is broken in two parts and placed in a bath of liquefied crystal, the broken surface will be repaired and each part will grow into another crystal, providing other conditions favorable for crystal growth are present.

Even after the crystal has been worn until it is but a rounded grain of sand it will speedily become a crystal again if placed in a solution containing the ingredients of which it is composed. There is no known limit to the ability of a crystal thus to repair itself and resume its growth.

Under a microscope a crystalline solution can be seen forming into crystal, and it is a wonderful sight. First, innumerable dark spots form in the fluid; they stand still and then begin to move. It is soon seen that the movement arranges the spots in straight lines, like beads. The beads speedily coalesce into rods and the rods arrange themselves into layers until a crystal is created.

The process proceeds so rapidly that it is almost impossible to follow it closely.

From Nickel Basin Rockhound 06/03, via Surrey Rockhounder Newsletter 0-3/02, via The Rock Rollers, via Chips and Chatter 01/02



WHATS A ROCK HOUND TO DO

By Hugh Fulton, MVMGC

Pity the poor rockhound on vacation for three weeks in the Southwest New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada areas. Pity! Envy seems more honest.

But this rockhound is in the company of a group of non-rockhounds. However they are into flea markets antique stores, and visiting tourist attractions. These are the places where the old silver pick came in handy.

Our trip west started in early March. We are not camping but staying in motels. In Grants, New Mexico lava is every where so a walk around the motel fringe area one can find some small pieces that won't take up much room in the van.

The next day we are in the Petrified Forest - all that pretty petrified wood lying at your feet - don't even think about it. Not to worry in nearby Holbrook, AZ. we visited the local museum where we were given a small piece of petrified wood and a coupon for a free pound of petrified wood at Jim Gray's Petrified Wood Co. If you are in this area you must stop at this store and see this fabulous collection of petrified wood and other minerals. Our next stop would be the Grand Canyon, outstanding in itself of course but I was surprised to learn there had been a mine right on the south rim. Another point of interest there is Hermits Rest with its huge fireplace built in 1914 now an outlet for tee shirts etc.

On to Mesa, AZ. This was our base for the next two weeks. Our motel has several orange, grapefruit and lemon trees, pecan trees, palm trees and flowers all around. Others who will make up the group are staying in a nearby RV Park. They are here for the winter and really know the area. They will be our guides and they did keep us busy. Most of this area once served as the bed of the Salt River. Rocks are every where - hey that looks like a piece of petrified wood right there. Mesa has large flea markets and antique stores. This is where the silver pick comes in handy.

The foothills around Mesa are a result of regional uplift about 60 million years ago and are known for petroglyphs. A petroglyph is produced when the desert varnish is scratched exposing the lighter rock below. Did you know they are still being made?

Nearby are Superstition Mt. and the valleys only authentic ghost town. Found here is the Southwest's largest collection of antique mining equipment and a great place to eat. We did a lot of eating on this trip, the cookout and great eateries we visited would be a story in itself.

One trip the group planed would be to Laughlin Nevada. On the way we came on a town called "Nothing". Nothing AZ. population 4 has a combination ROCK SHOP, garage, junk car yard and store. I bought a small piece of local rock so now I own a piece of nothing. Scenic pull-off bears some exploring also in my search for interesting rocks. While the others stayed in Laughlin, Joan and I drove to Boulder City and Hoover Dam. After driving across the dam we found a place to park where boulders had been cleared. The boulders appeared to be conglomerates. On our way back to Laughlin on the AZ. side of the Colorado River we stopped to see a friend from Xenia who had moved west to the foothills of Mt. Tipton. More rocks. Her neighbor gave me two small pieces of turquoise he had found on the mountain. On the return trip to Mesa on Historic Route 66 we stopped in Oatman, AZ which is an authentic western ghost town and mining camp. Oatman is now most noted for its friendly wild burros. Here at the antique store I found a 1939 Rock and Minerals magazine, which sold for 25-cents then and sells for 4 dollars now. I also purchased another book written in 1886, entitled *Walks and Talks in the geological field*. Hope to read it next winter. We crossed the London Bridge now located in Lake Havasu, AZ. Think moving 22 million pounds of granite from London, England through the Panama Canal to Long Beach Ca. then trucked to Lake Havasu.

Back in Mesa we visit one of the groups' cousins whose husband had been a rockhound, together they collected everything - their place out in the desert is like a museum. She gave us all some apache tears and gave me a small bottle of Mexican opal they had collected.

We had many more interesting stops on the way home and you know this wasn't a bad trip for a rockbound after all.



Lapidary Did You Know?

That stones are the collective name for all the solid constituents of the earth's crust. For the jeweler, a stone is a gem; for the architect the material used for building streets and houses.

In the science of the earth, geology, one does not talk of stones, but of rocks and minerals.

That every personal ornament piece is a jewel.

Generally a jewel refers to a piece of jewelry containing gems set in precious metal. It can also refer to cut unset gemstones.

That the Egyptians were the first to fake valuable stone with glass.

That in 7158, a Viennese, Joseph Strasoer developed a type of glass that could be cut and looked similar to a diamond. It was called STRASS and reached the European trade via Paris.

That the first man-made gemstone appeared during the 1830's. Later man-made rubies and sapphires were produced in 1910 by A.V. Verneuil with his flame-fusion process which is still used today.

That the Cullinan 1 Diamond was cut from the largest diamond ever found 3,106 carats.

Via Nickel Basin Rockhound 06/03, via Surrey Rockhounder Newsletter 11/02, from Harold Jeske, 06/98; via Earth Science News; and Arkansas Rockhound News; and Chips & Chatter 10/02



"There's gold, and it's haunting and haunting, it's luring me on as of old; yet it isn't the gold that I'm wanting, so much as just finding the gold". *Via The Prospector Newsletter 08/03 from Robert W. Service, The Spell of the Yukon, via BruknerRrockette 05/03*

Senior Exercise Regimen

Here is a little secret for building arm and shoulder muscles. Three days a week works well. Begin by standing outside behind the house, and with a 5 lb. Potato sack in each hand - extend your arms straight out to your sides and hold them there as long as you can. After a few weeks, move up to 10 lb. Potato sacks and the 50 lb. Potato sacks, and finally get to where you can lift a 100 lb. Potato sack in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute.

Next ... start putting a few potatoes in the sacks, but be careful not to overdo it!

Via Nickel Basin Rockhound 06/03; via Northern Heartline 05/02



TEN LITTLE FINGERS

By Julie Salisbury - OBMS Staurolite Editor

Your hands are the keys to your work and pleasure. They are your best tools and you have only one pair. Guild them for your life depends on them. Machines cannot think and most serious injuries happen from working with machinery. Be sure you understand a machine before operating it. Look and use the guards and safety devices. They are for your protection.

There are also hazards to your hands off the job, such as car doors, electric fans, kitchen knives that are all sources of injury. Close the cover of paper matches before striking. Always demand 'first aid.

Never neglect a cut or scratch. Infection can spread rapidly. Protect your hands by wearing the hand protection required by the job.

Rings and metal watchbands should not be work when working with machines. They catch on bolt end, etc., and they are dangerous conductors of electricity.

Think about those ten precious fingers - the key to your work and pleasure. You have only one pair. Guard them every minute.

Via Rock Pickings 09/03; via Scribe '97; T-Town Rockhound 03/02; Gold Spike News 04/02



SCHOLARSHIP INVESTIGATION NEWS

By Arlene Burkhalter, Treasurer from June '03 AFMS Newsletter

We're a step closer to a resolution of the theft of funds from the AFMS Scholarship Foundation.

Dan McLennan, former treasurer of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation pleaded guilty in a hearing in Federal District Court on April 9 to one count of mail fraud – frauds and swindles.

Shortly after Dan resigned as treasurer of the Foundation in 2000, several AFMS past presidents and current scholarship Foundation officers began to suspect that some of the Scholarship funds were unaccounted for and questioned the amount in the investment fund.

Investigation by Jon Spunaugle, Arlene Burkhalter and Lewis Elrod, a past AFMS President and retired fraud investigator, found that donated funds were correctly attributed to the Federations and Clubs, but income from invested money did not balance with statements. Through full cooperation the AFMS Board of Directors, Scholarship Board Members and the present and past Foundation officers, Lewis was able to build a case against Dan McLennan, and present it to the FBI, who started their own investigation of mail fraud and swindles. They soon agreed that the foundation members had a good case to present for prosecution.

Sentencing will occur sometime this summer following a study of the Victims Statements by the Judge handling the case. We'll let you know when this occurs.



To Preserve Fossils

After proper cleaning, paint the fossil with diluted (half water) Elmer's glue. It dries fast and makes the fossil look sharp and clean. It can also be washed off if necessary with no trouble.

Author Unknown, Source: The Petrified Digest 10/02; via Brukner Rockette 09/03

BECKY DOBBS - EDITOR
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SAVE COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

HELPFUL ? HINTS

- Don't try to cut and polish cabs while watching TV
- Always walk uphill while collecting large specimens
- Tin Oxide will not work as well in your coffee as Cremora
- Most worthwhile gemstones can be dug only during a rain or snow storm
- All worthwhile gemstones are a good 500 miles away at the end of a dirt road at an elevation of at least 8,000 feet
- If you can't identify a mineral, call it jasper, no one else will know either
- Don't spill dop wax on your wife's kitchen stove
- Don't store tumbled stones in the candy dish
- There are approximately 135 ways to polish jade, most of which don't work

From The Roadrunner 12/02; via The Chiseler 09/03