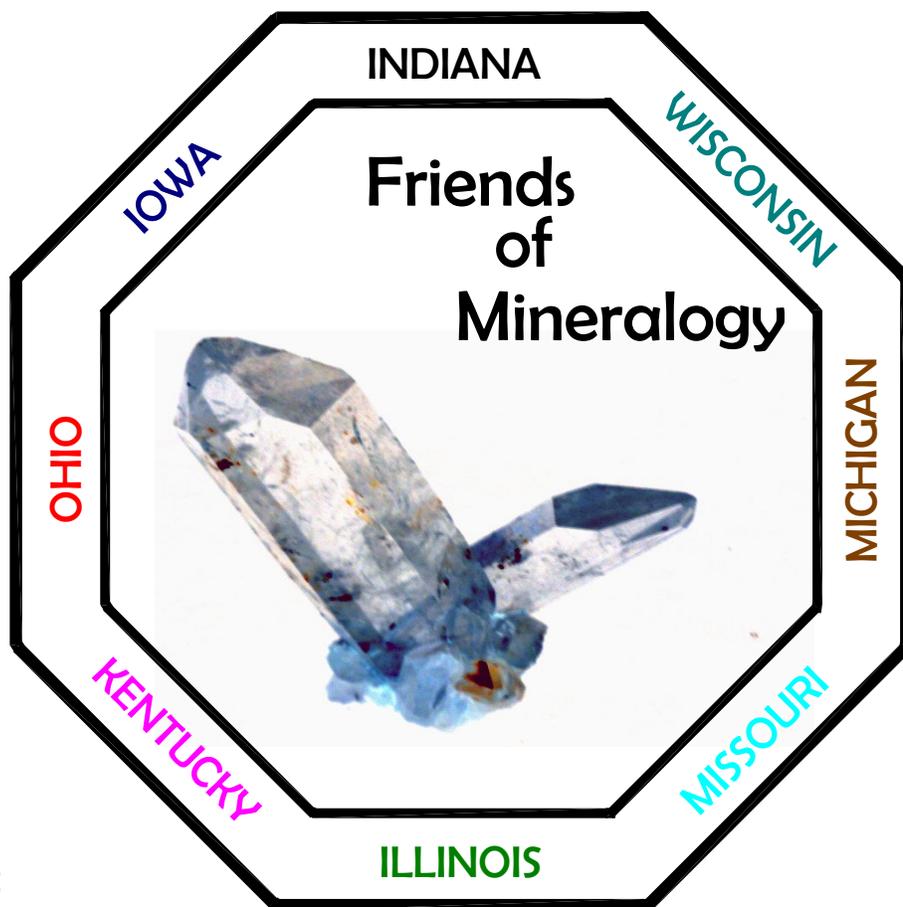


Friends of Mineralogy

Midwest Chapter Newsletter for
November – December 2013



Affiliations:

THE MINERALOGICAL RECORD

THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

AMERICAN GEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

ROCKS & MINERALS MAGAZINE

Our purpose is to organize and promote interest in and knowledge of mineralogy; to advance mineralogical education; to protect and preserve mineral specimens and promote conservation of mineral localities; to further cooperation between amateur and professional and encourage collection of minerals for educational value; and to support publications about mineralogy and about the programs of kindred organizations.

Newsletter published bi-monthly in January, March, May, July, September and November. Please submit all information for publication in the newsletter by the 15th of the previous month.



FM Members at a recent Duff Quarry field trip.

In this issue, Duff's, Clay Center and IMI field trip reports.

Treasurer's Report – page 3
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The next FM meeting will be on Saturday, November 2nd at 3:00. It will be held in conjunction with the annual Micromineral Symposium in Cleveland. The meeting location is at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. See the Presidents' message for more information.

2013 Officers

President - Clyde Spencer, 1858 Robin Hood Dr., Fairborn, Ohio 45324
(937)878-9988 c_spencer123@att.net

Vice President Programs – Vacant

Vice President Field Trips - Reggie Rose, 4287 Parkmead Dr.
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Secretary - John Davis, 58300 Pear Rd., South Bend, Indiana 46619
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Treasurer - Jeff Spencer, 4948 Beachwood Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio 45244
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Liaison Officer – Nelson Shaffer, Ph. D., Indiana Geological Survey
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Fund Raising (Committee Chair) Paul Schwinn, 38 W. Washburn St.
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(419)929-9074 Rocknut2@aol.com

Newsletter (Committee Chair) Tom Bolka, 2275 Capestrano Dr.
Xenia, Ohio 45385
(937)760-6864 tbolka@att.net



FM member looking for calcite vugs at Anderson, Indiana.

Treasurer's Report

Since the last newsletter, I have completed the transfer of all funds from the old Indiana Credit Union account into our US Bank account. Our current balance is \$859.45 We owe \$24.00 to the National Treasury for 2013 dues. We currently have 104 registered members. As I stated in the last report, membership dues at the current rates barely cover our annual expenses, which we have cut since last year. There is very little left to fund other expenses that might be required to fulfill the goals of the organization. The National FM organization does not recognize 'family' memberships with any dues discount. So the additional family member dues of \$10.00 is actually losing us money since our insurance and National dues add up to around \$12.75 per person.

Please send me any questions or concerns that you have.

Jeff Spencer

Treasurer - Friends of Mineralogy Inc. Midwest Chapter

jspencer@jsite.com

513-476-2163

President's Message

First of all, the proposed amendment to our constitution to redefine the quorum for meetings to be 5% of our membership, passed with 73 yes votes, 2 no votes, and 29 not voting. All of you with email access should have already been notified about this.

Midwest Chapter founder Nelson Shaffer is a member of the Board of Directors for FM National. As such, he has effectively been acting as a Liaison Officer for the Midwest Chapter. Therefore, with approval from our board of directors, I appointed Nelson, in early-September, to fill the vacant office of Liaison Officer.

I attended the annual Denver mineral show in mid-September. I had good intentions of attending the FM general meeting on Friday afternoon. Unfortunately, circumstances conspired to prevent me from attending as planned. However, I did seek out and sit down with Allan Young, the president of FM National. Inasmuch as National has a treasury of about \$13,000, and we have a treasury of about \$800, I asked Alan to consider reducing the dues paid by the chapters to National. He said he would take the request under advisement and discuss it with his board. I also asked about financial help for symposia and seminars and he said that he thought that a specific request would be considered. So, with some help from National, we may be able to sponsor some money making events that will increase our treasury. I have had a discussion with Dr. Rakovan of Miami University about him hosting the site for a symposium or seminar.



Our chapter Constitution specifies that our elections are to be held at the annual November meeting. Traditionally, it has been held in conjunction with the Micromineral Symposium at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. The Symposium is always the first weekend in November, so this year it is Friday evening Nov. 1st, Saturday Nov. 2nd, and Sunday Nov. 3rd. For additional information about the Micromineral Symposium, please go to the following website: <http://www.cmnh.org/site/GetInvolved/ClubsandSocieties/MicromineralSociety/MicromineralSymposium.aspx>. The FM business meeting is usually held on Saturday because that is when most of the attendees are present; the meeting will be held at the end of the day on November 2nd from about 3:00 to 4:00 PM. All FM members are welcome to attend the Micromineral Symposium, for which there is a fee (see link above); that will also allow you access to the museum. If you just want to come to the FM business meeting, there will be no charge, but you will **not** have access to the museum. Parking is free in either case. In any event, I hope that at least six of you will show up for the meeting. We also need to address the issue of dues, which need to be increased, unfortunately. Related to that, the \$10 in dues paid by additional family members is immediately reduced by \$6 after we pay National for all our members. The remaining \$4 has to be applied to our liability insurance (an average of about \$6.50 per person) and miscellaneous expenses such as mailing newsletters. Family members are being subsidized by all the other members! Please be aware that there is high probability that the dues for 2014 will be \$20 per person, which is not reflected in the membership form in this newsletter. If the dues are changed for next year, I will send out email to everyone informing them about it.

Getting back to the election, all of the current officers except John Davis, Secretary, have agreed to serve for another year. A new member who lives in Cincinnati, Randy Marsh, has volunteered to serve in the capacity of First Vice-President (programs). A short bio' of his background appears at the end of my message. That means we need a volunteer to fill the positions of Secretary. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. However, if you are nominating someone who is not present, please have written assurance that the person is aware of your intentions and is willing to serve if elected.

I received notice that Paul Schwinn was in a serious car accident July 8th and has been unable to work since then. Although, he did vote on the recent constitutional amendment and signed up for the trip to Marblehead. He has been listed as our Fund Raising Chairman for some time. However, considering the circumstances, I think it would be best if I appointed someone else to the position. Please let me know if you would be willing and able to step up to this responsibility.

For those of you who perhaps haven't heard, member Dr. Chris Stefano has accepted a position as associate curator for the A. E. Seaman Museum in Houghton, Michigan. We wish him well in his new position. I have corresponded with him and he may be able to give us some personal field trip assistance in the Upper Peninsula next Summer. I'll stay in touch with him on this.

One last item: the scheduled field trip to Marblehead (OH) was cancelled by the host four days before it was to happen because they were going to be working on Saturday to meet an increase in the production quota. If he has not already done so by the time you read this, Reggie Rose will arrange a new date for the field trip.

Randy Marsh Bio



Hello my name is Randy Marsh and I am originally from Western Canada. I completed my Bachelor's degree in Zoology and Master's degree in Cell Biology at the University of Alberta. I moved to Cincinnati in 1995 and completed my PhD in Cell and Molecular Biology in 2000. Upon completing the Doctorate, I joined Procter and Gamble in the Baby Care business unit, working on understanding how various materials protect infant skin from irritation and on developing new cleaning technologies for baby care products. I am very comfortable with leading and teaching other people and at organizing events for sharing of information. Outside of work, I served as a board member of the National Vitiligo Foundation (a skin depigmentation disorder) from 2006-2012 and as Chairman of the Board from 2012-2013. I love anything to do with rocks and mountains and being outside searching for things. I have been passionate about minerals since I was a little kid and started my first collection at 9 years

old. I have been avidly building my collection from all over the world (courtesy of eBay) for the last few years and very much want to do more field collecting with other people. I would welcome the opportunity to work with the leadership and serve the membership of Friends of Mineralogy Midwest Chapter if elected as Vice President.

Clay Center Field Trip Report

Clay Center Trip Report - A SCORNFUL LADY

Have you ever heard the famous quote by William Congreve, "Heaven has no rage like love to hatred turned, nor hell a fury like a woman scorned?" This quote applied to Clay Center this year. Normally, when you go to Clay Center, the quarry is littered with boulders coated with white bladed celestine in the lower level and pale blue, blockier celestine from the upper level. On August 24th, 25 FM members journeyed to Clay Center with visions of those boulders in mind. All fantasized about taking home boulders that would beautify their flower beds back home, and all thought they would find some attractive specimens of fluorite perched in a celestine pocket. This year, Clay Center was not so giving of her specimens. Though our more sophisticated collectors with sharp collecting eyes still had a good day, there were no fabulous fluorite finds that I saw, nor did one celestine covered boulder ride home in my van. Mike Scaglione did find some nice, small boulders with celestine blades and pale, brown fluorite cubes up to 1/2 inch. One of Mike's specimens did have celestine blades covering a pocket of colonial coral. John Lindsay found some attractive yellow fluorite.

Reggie Rose



Calcite / Fluorite / Celestine – Clay Center (Ohio) – Mike Scaglione

FM field trip to IMI quarry in Anderson, Indiana

On October 5th, approximately 20 brave collectors showed up at the IMI quarry in Anderson, Indiana. The weather forecast predicted copious amounts of rain for the day. After most of us drove through very heavy rain getting to the site, the showers cleared just in time for the dig to begin. We were able to get 3 plus hours in before the rains came once again. Plenty of honey, colored calcite was to be found along with pockets of darker, dogtooth crystals. There was a good amount of material to look through, and I believe everyone went home happy.



Duff Quarry Field Trip Report

Upon arrival at the quarry, we were met with disappointing news. There were supposed to be fresh blast piles for us to go through, but the blast scheduled for Friday the 20th was cancelled due to thunderstorms in the area. So, unfortunately we had very little material to search.

This was a joint collecting trip with the South Bend group. We ended up having 17 collectors in attendance. Of these, 8 were from the Friends of Mineralogy and 9 were from the Michana Gem and Mineral Society out of South Bend, Indiana. Mr. Duff personally came out and spoke with us and handed out calendars.

Despite what appeared to be slim pickings, everyone seemed to have a good time and found plenty of specimens to take home. We found the normal dolomite, calcite and pyrite, but were surprised to find an unusual amount of nice fluorite crystals. The crystals were light purple and yellow in color and measured to an incredible 1/2", but quite a few were in the 3/8" range. This is very unusual for this quarry.

What started as an apparent bad day, ended with a day of incredible collecting and weather. Everyone seemed to have a great time.

John Davis



At the right
2 nice samples from the Duff Quarry Trip

Quarry Travel Guide for November and December

Field Trip #1 Locality: Graymont Dolime, Genoa, OH

Address: 21880 West State Road 163, Genoa, OH 43430

Date of Trip: Saturday, November 09, 2013; There is a limit on this trip.

Time of Field Trip: 8:00 am – 1:00 pm; check-in from 7:30 am – 8:00 am

Travel Distance (from Grove City, OH, exit 100): 129 miles

Travel Time (from Grove City, OH, exit 100): 2:45

Age of Rock: Middle Silurian

Rock Units: Lockport Dolomite

Specimens Present: Genoa is noted for bladed celestine and cubic brown fluorite in pockets of the dolomite. Also present are sphalerite, dolomite, calcite, pyrite, galena and marcasite.

Training Required: MSHA

Quarry Location: The quarry can be reached from US 20 & US 23 at Stony Ridge by turning NE and then east on Ohio Route 163 to Genoa, a little more than 7 miles. Continue through Genoa on Route 163 and turn south on Graymont Quarry Road (the north entrance).

From the south, come up through Ohio on Route 23. *At the Junction of Routes 23 & 20, go straight on Fostoria Road. In about 2.7 miles, turn right (east) onto Genoa Road (Route 163). In about 2.2 miles, you will enter the town of Genoa. In approximately 0.7 of a mile turn right (SE) onto Graymont Quarry Road. The quarry office is 0.3 miles down this road.

If you are accessing Graymont via I-75, exit I-75 at exit 179 (US Route 6). Take Route 6 east for about 12 miles to its junction with Route 23. Then proceed north on Route 23 for about 9 miles to its junction with Route 20 (the asterisked Point above) .

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, INC.

Midwest Chapter

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

MEMBER DATA SHEET

Please fill in this application and mail it along with your check to the address listed at the bottom.

Name _____
Last First Middle Initial

Address _____
Street City or Town

_____ State Zip/Postal Code

Telephone Number _____ (Home) _____ (Office/cell)

E-mail address _____

Would you be willing to serve as an officer or committee member/chair? _____

I affirm that I support the purposes* of Friends of Mineralogy:

Signature _____ Date _____

Friends of Mineralogy, Inc. is composed of the members of 7 local chapters, plus national members not affiliated with a chapter. **Prospective Midwest Chapter members should send their application and \$15.00/year dues to:**

**Jeff Spencer, Treasurer
Friends of Mineralogy, Midwest Chapter
4948 Beachwood Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio 45244**

*

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2. To advance mineralogical education.
3. To protect and preserve mineral specimens and promote conservation of mineral localities.
4. To further cooperation between amateur and professional and encourage collection of minerals for educational value.
5. To support publications about mineralogy and about the programs of kindred organizations.

