

June 3, 1987

Ray Lasmanis
2711 Morse Merryman
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Ray,

I am sorry for not having written a personal communication earlier, but there has always seemed to be something else to keep me busy. Now, finally, here is some information for you about our Chapter's developments.

First, attached are our current membership roster and a special edition of our most recent newsletter. This edition was sent to non-member prospects and has information about FM and how to join. Up until now, we have been sending our newsletter to members and prospects, but we will probably trim that list back to just our members. Besides cost, we have some quarries asking us not to publicize our field trips to their locations, so we may drop regular mailings to non-members.

Thanks
①

You and Betty Tlush will still receive our mailings, because we want to keep you informed at the national level of what we're doing. When you do get the regular newsletter, please note that the two quarries, Salem and Meshberger, have reversed long-standing "closed to collecting" policies to let us in, and have asked for restraint on publicity as mentioned above.

Thanks
②

will honor

In your letter, you asked for information about the chapter's formation and goals. Following is a description of how we started:

When I lived in Pennsylvania prior to moving here, I participated in a number of the Penn. Chapter's programs, such as their "Farewell to Cornwall" conference, and learned a lot while just getting started in minerals. I hate to admit that I never joined the chapter there, but waited until I moved to Indiana, where there was no chapter, to join FM as a national member.

Good send copy to Betty

Wanting to have a state-wide society of people with interest in and knowledge of minerals, preferably part of FM, I talked with several people I had met, particularly Vern Swanson and Nelson Shaffer, who shared ideas and encouragement that there was need and interest for such a group. Marie Huizing was also very helpful, providing a list of people and MWF organizations to contact.

I put out an interest sign-up sheet a year ago at the Indiana State Museum's Mineral and Fossil Day, and then in the fall sent out the first invitation to an organizational meeting. Ron Richards of the State Museum and Vern Swanson arranged a meeting place and time for our first meeting in November 1986, at the museum. The meeting went well, about a dozen present, and the decision was made to form an FM chapter. Terry Huizing was key in explaining

the benefits of FM to those present who were less familiar with it.

Our second meeting was in January of 1987, when we approved a constitution and by-laws, and set in motion all the organizational details to become a non-profit chapter of FM. Officers were elected and assignments made.

Since then:

1. We have incorporated and received our tax-exempt status from the State of Indiana.
2. We have applied for federal 501(c)(3) recognition by the IRS, and are waiting for word on that.
3. We received our Charter from FM (thank you!)
4. We have elected officers: (addresses and phone numbers are on the attached roster)

President	- Rich Eddy, Columbus, IN
1st V.Pres. (Prog.)	- Nelson Shaffer, Bloomington, IN
2nd V.Pres. (Trips)	- Vern Swanson, Alexandria, IN
Sec'y/Treas.	- Wanda Aldred, Shoals, IN
FM Liaison	- Terry Huizing, Cincinnati, OH

5. Our membership reached 31 last Saturday.

6. Completed activities are: 4 meetings (two organizational and two with programs), one field trip (with 4 more planned this year), participation in two mineral shows (Cincinnati and Chicagoland) and in the Indiana State Museum's Mineral and Fossil Day (displays and free handouts to the general public), and two programs, one by Dr. Ken Brock of IU on "Minerals of Pleasant Ridge, Indiana" and the other by Dr. Carl Francis of Harvard on "Twinning in Calcite".

Plans for the future include lining up liability insurance, participating in shows/swaps at Bedford and Greenfield, IN, and an annual dinner meeting in November to celebrate the first year. Next year, we will likely take on one or more of three suggested projects: developing traveling exhibits for the State Museum and for the Chapter, co-sponsoring a conference/symposium on the current state of knowledge of Indiana mineralogy, or helping work on a new state mineralogy for Indiana.

I really hope we will make some lasting contributions to mineralogy in this area. The response we've had from so many people in just 5 months of existence tells me there is a need and interest for FM in this area. I hope we can carry on in the tradition of what has been done by you and the other chapters already.

Several things have been especially encouraging to me. First, the tremendous job done by the other officers in each area of responsibility. Second, the level of enthusiasm and involvement by all the members. Third, the support from the State Museum as a meeting place and corporate base. Fourth, initiative shown by members to help, such as Shirley Allen putting together a chapter display for the Chicagoland Show, and Terry Huizing get-

Send national tax data

- send zip code Min Record sub, list

← tough problem note on agenda June 13 meet

ting us listed in the Cincinnati Show schedule before we had even formed as a group. Fifth, a good cross section of members, geographically (Hammond, Ind. to Cincinnati, Ohio) and in the mineral field (state geologist, professors at Indiana and Purdue Universities, a dealer, two curators, and collectors.) Sixth, the large group of members from the Cincinnati area of Ohio, who are strong supporters. Finally, the welcome we have received from Friends of Mineralogy, including the special grant, which we really appreciate.

You're welcome to excerpt anything from this letter or the attached material for the FM newsletter. I thought you might want to know more of the detail yourself, but if you want a more concise description, you may want to check out the paragraph on chapter history on the attached information sheet.

Best of everything to you in your work with FM, and please let us know if there is anything we can do, individually, or as a chapter, to help.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Eddy