



MIDWEST CHAPTER, FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, INC.

C/O F. W. Lewis, President
137 Audubon Dr/
Carmel, IN. 46032-1835

February 4, 1995

Ms. Karen J. Wenrich, President
Friends of Mineralogy
63 S. Devinney Street
Golden, CO. 80401

Dear Ms. Wenrich:

As the new President of the Midwest Chapter, Friends of Mineralogy, your letter to Hal Roepke was turned over to me for reply.

Due to prior obligations, I will not be able to attend the meeting at the Tucson Gem and Mineral show. Also due to this late date I'm send this correspondence with Nelson Shaffer who I hope will receive it before he leaves for Tucson.

Hal Roepke suggested in lieu of attending the meeting, I give you a brief summary of our chapter.

We have 59 members with a majority from four states, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan and a few from other more distant states.

Due to driving distances our meeting attendance is usually small even with interesting, educational speakers. As with many organizations today increasing membership is one of the most difficult problems.

Our new letterhead features a sketch of the Indiana Geodes, encompassing the four states which our chapter serves. As Indiana is well know for it's geodes, the club has a travelling display case available to all interested parties who are willing to be responsible for it. Continual up date of loaner geodes is a major theme to present the best minerals available to the public. Also many of our members present programs to local schools near their personal home addresses.

Six meetings are held each year including meetings held in conjunction with four major Gem and Mineral Shows in two of the states mentioned. As the public is always invited to attend meetings during the shows, we hope to expose visitors to our work and interest them in minerals. Several field trips to quarries are included in our yearly progams.

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A major goal for me as president for 1995 would be to find ways of developing interesting speakers and programs and to have a greater participation at each meeting. Unfortunately with a limited financial budget and a general lack of interest by younger people today these goals may be difficult to attain. If any one in the National Office has suggestions, they will be gratefully accepted.

I trust the Tucson meeting and show will be a success and I will try for next year, I remain,

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. H. Lewis". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "J. H. Lewis".