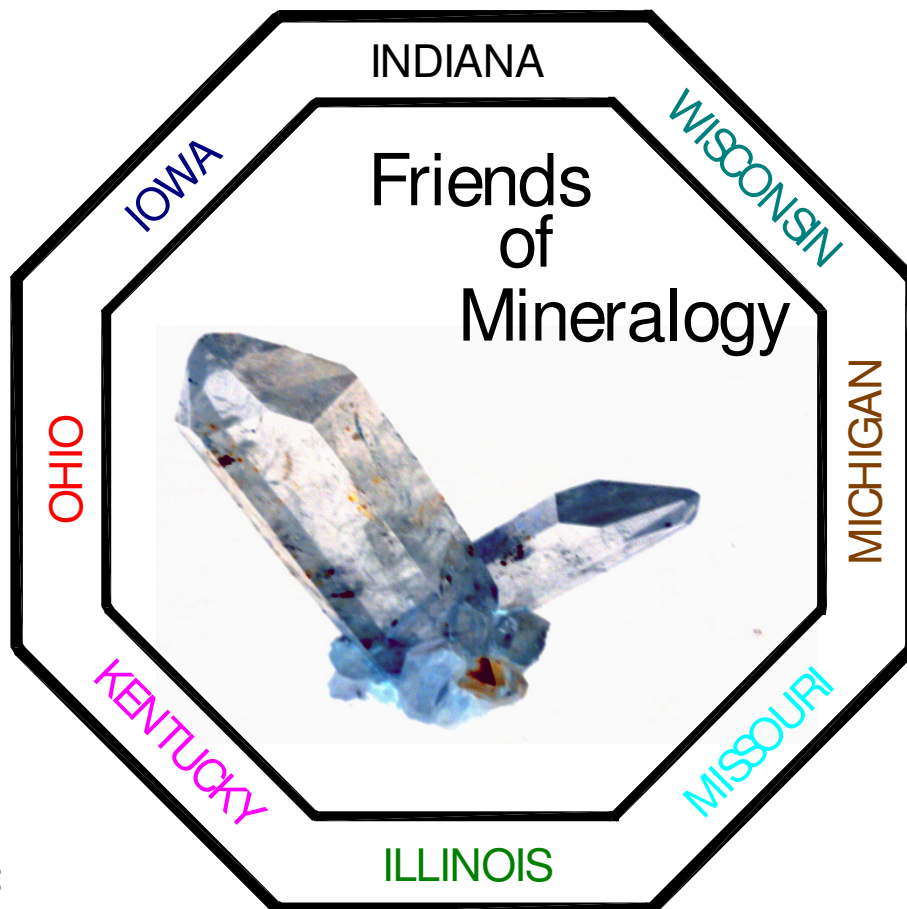


# Friends of Mineralogy

Midwest Chapter Newsletter for

July – August 2015



## 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 15<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.

Summer is finally here!



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# Friends of Mineralogy

**From The office of the President**

**Clyde Spencer**

## President's Message

It's bad enough when you wander around the house trying to find something you need and you don't remember where you put it. You keep telling yourself that you are sure you purposely put it somewhere that would make it easy to find. Now, in the age of computers, one can spend hours exploring the virtual 'house' of your hard drive. Even getting assistance from the funny looking little puppy that accompanies the search feature of the OS is about as

much help as enlisting the family dog to find the car keys when the only thing it cares about is if it smells like bacon. I was sure that I had started writing this note at least a couple of weeks ago to save myself some time when the submission deadline approached. I confess I have wasted more time than I would have potentially saved! The only thing that kept me going was the certainty that it had to be there somewhere! Unless that funny looking little digital puppy ate it, I guess I was just experiencing a sense of digital déjà vu. So, on to my remarks – for what I'm sure is the second time!

The major event since the last newsletter came out was the 2015 GeoFair, at the new venue in Sharonville (OH). I took advantage of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources having a booth there and bought a copy of the revised and expanded second edition of Minerals of Ohio. It is quite well done and, being hard-bound, it will prove to be more durable than the soft-cover 1<sup>st</sup> edition. GeoFair was well attended and I heard many positive remarks. The only concern that I heard expressed was that the outside swap area would be problematic should there be inclement weather in the future. Speaking of the Swap Area, I want to especially thank our 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Randy Marsh, and his wife Heather, who made our participation a resounding success! Again, thank you Randy and Heather!

We had an FM membership meeting in the basement of the convention center (Actually, very nice accommodations!) at the end of Saturday. As previously, Terry Huizing generously provided us with a meeting place. While we had a quorum, there was no old business on the agenda, and no formal motions for new business were presented. Our treasurer, Jeff Spencer, gave a treasurer's report, which is supplemented in this newsletter. I read an email from our 2<sup>nd</sup> VP and field trip chairman, Reggie Rose, regarding his concerns about the large number of people who renew their memberships late. We then spent considerable time discussing the concerns and proposed solutions. Two of the major concerns are the extra work for the treasurer when dues trickle in over an extended period of time, and the uncertainty of eligibility of members who sign up for the first field trip of the season. It seems that the consensus was that we should modify the By-Laws to require that former members be a member in good standing (dues paid) for at least one month before they can attend a field trip. Dues are officially delinquent as of March 1<sup>st</sup>; so, with the possibility of having a field trip as early as April or May (weather permitting), that may be an impetus for people to pay their dues on time. Consider this an official notice that this action item will be on the agenda for the annual business meeting in early November.

Our funds are held by US Bank. Periodically, I get invitations from them for a credit card. I haven't seen a need for the chapter to have a credit card. Therefore, I routinely tear up the applications and dispose of them. If anyone feels, and can present a good argument as to why we should have a credit card, I'd appreciate hearing from you.

There was a member field trip to Auglaize at the end of May, which Reggie is providing more details on below. He and I have been exchanging email on ways to increase our collecting opportunities and we have some leads that need to be pursued. Lastly, we are having discussions about improving the hazard training that most quarries want, and we have an offer from the safety manager of Jurgensen Aggregates, Tim Renneker, to walk us through putting an MSHA-approved training plan together. Stay tuned!

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### **Treasurers Report**

#### ***2015 chapter treasury report as of 6/18/2015***

##### **2015 Income**

We began the year with a balance of \$1938.29. This included \$400.00 for 20, 2015 member registrations paid in 2014. Since Jan. 1, 86 additional members have registered bringing in \$1720.00. That brings our total membership to 106. We also received \$60.00 for advance payment of 2016 dues.

The Cincinnati Show swap table effort yielded \$722.00 from the sale of donated items. We have also sold 7 t-shirts and a coffee mug yielding another \$150.00. Contact Randy Marsh if you are interested in purchasing a shirt.

##### **2015 Expense payments**

Pens and Mugs for promoting the chapter	\$186.55
Symposium speaker expense reimbursement	\$200.00
2015 T-shirt printing costs	\$335.20
Insurance premium to Johnson-Witkemper, Inc.	\$675.00
National dues of \$4 x 105 members paid	\$420.00

This gives us a current balance of \$2,678.54

##### **Outstanding Items**

The National Chapter has agreed to reimburse us \$200.00 for symposium expenses. We have not yet received that payment.

Jeff A. Spencer - Treasurer

## Quarry Travel & Event Guide

For trip type - **FT** = Field trip with only our club **OH** = Open House with several other clubs besides ours \* = Date is proposed, not yet confirmed \*\* = to be proposed For training - **MSHA** means MSHA is required **OS** means on-site training is sufficient **TBD** = to be determined

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Time:</u>	<u>Trip Type:</u>	<u>Training:</u>	<u>Company Locale:</u>	<u>To collect:</u>
Sat Jul 11	9:00 – 4:00	OH	OS	N/A	Gold Trip
Sat Jul 25	8:30a-1:00p	FT	MSHA	GLA S. Rockwood, MI	calcite, celestite, fluorite, quartz
Fri Jul 31**	TBD	FT	OS	Rogers Mitchell, IN	selenite, pyrite calcite, dolomite
Sat Aug 01**	TBD	FT	OS	Rogers Bloomington, IN	aragonite, barite, calcite, celestite, dolomite, goethite, gypsum, marcasite, millerite, pyrite, pyrrhotite, smythite sphalerite, strontianite
Sat Aug 08	9:30a-2:00p	OH	OS	IMI Anderson, IN	calcite, sphalerite; Devonian clams, gastropods, and trilobites (rare)
Sat Aug 15	TBD	FT	MSHA	Melvin Stone Williamsport, OH	barite, calcite, dolomite, marcasite, pyrite
Sat Aug 29	7:00a- 12:00p	FT	MSHA	Stoneco Clay Center, OH	calcite, celestine, dolomite fluorite, galena, gypsum, marcasite, pyrite, sphalerite
Sat Sep 12	9:30a-2:00p	OH	OS	IMI Corydon, IN	apatite, aragonite, barite, calcite, chalcopryrite, chert, dolomite, fluorite, glauconite, gypsum, hydrozincite, malachite, marcasite, millerite, pyrite, quartz, sphalerite
Sat Oct 10*	6:45a-2:00p	OH	OS	Dolomite Group Walworth, NY	calcite, dolomite, selenite, sphalerite and cubic fluorite
Sun Oct 11*	6:45a-12:00p				
Sat Oct 31	TBD	FT	MSHA	Graymont Genoa, OH	calcite, celestite, dolomite, galena, marcasite, pyrite, sphalerite

## Quarry Travel & Event Guide

**Field Trip Locality:** Swank Gold Claim West

**Address:** 1199 Cutnaw Rd. Bellville, OH

**Date of Trip:** Saturday July 11, 2015

**Time of Field Trip:** Sign-up is from 9am to 10am

**The digging Fee:** \$6.00 for adults; children 10 and under are free.

**Travel Distance:** varies

**Travel Time:** varies

**County:** Richland

**Age of Rock:** Rock Units Exposed: not applicable, you will be digging in the Clear Fork River

**Training Required:** On-site

**Specimens Present:** Gold, garnet, iron minerals

**Sign up:** Let Reggie Rose know if you are going, but sign up with GPAA contacts below.

**Site Location:** warm weather meetings take place at the Swank Claim West. This is at the corner of Gatton Rocks Rd. and Cutnaw Road, between Bellville and Butler, OH.

**GPS Coordinates:** N 40° 35.885' W 082° 27.602'

### Event description & schedule:

On Saturday, July 11, 2015 near Belleville, Ohio you will have a chance to dig for gold through a common dig with the GPAA. A gold catcher or long Tom sluice will be used to wash creek gravel. After sign-up, you will begin digging and panning from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm. Then, there will be a break for a pot luck dinner. If you wish to participate in the pot luck, each participant should bring a dish to share. Bring your own place settings. The pot luck will end at 1:00 pm followed by a GPAA meeting. Digging and panning will resume between 1:45 to 2:00 and last until 4 pm when the gold found will be divided up amongst the participants. There will be 50-50 raffles for nuggets, other specimens and merchandise. A prospectors store with gold equipment, t-shirts, ball caps and other items will be on site. Participants can receive membership kits which are \$80 per year (cheaper than on line) which are good all over the country. If you want to camp, you must seek a sponsor, you can do that by contacting Randy Rowdy.

### Other activities:

Following the gold dig, if you have a license, you can fish in the Clear Fork River. Across the road is the Wade & Gatton Nursery if plants interest you. There are 5 motel chains in the Belleville area and a camp ground a mile away. Fast Eddies Pizza delivers monster salads, excellent pizzas, chicken Alfredo and Stromboli. You can also visit Malabar Farms (10 miles away), mid-Ohio Race Track (15 miles away in Lexington, OH), Mohican State Park (hiking and sight-seeing), and one of Ohio's biggest canoe livery's in Loudenville, OH (10 miles away). Also in Loudenville is a grist mill and winery. In Ashland is Mitchell's winery and Fins feathers and Furs, an outdoor sporting goods supplier. The best ice cream and milk in the area is in Wooster, at Hartzlers Dairy.

### Contacts for further information:

You can also ask questions on line at [www.buckeyegold.com](http://www.buckeyegold.com) or on facebook. Type in buckeye gold prospectors or gold in Ohio and you will receive an answer from a member. For more specific questions and camping sponsors contact: Randy Goudy, 419-368-8373, [rowdy@aol.com](mailto:rowdy@aol.com).



## Report on GeoFair 2015

A new show venue and perfect weekend weather are believed to go hand-in-hand with poor attendance; but this did NOT happen at Cincinnati's GeoFair 2015 the first weekend in May. Paid attendance was up a robust 12% over last year, and approximately 3,500 folks enjoyed a great experience at the modern Sharonville Convention Center.

This regional show, now in its 51<sup>st</sup> year, is organized by members of the Cincinnati Mineral Society, and the Dry Dredgers (the local paleontological society) to provide a balance between the commercial and educational aspects of the show. For example: 70 educational exhibits from museums, universities, and private collections were presented, some to the theme of *America's Mineral and Fossil Treasures*; four illustrated talks on minerals and fossils were given to over 200 attendees, and in addition the Friends of Mineralogy held a regional meeting at the show. On the commercial side, 50 retail and wholesale dealers participated with reported good results, and a busy "swap" area (where script is used) pumped thousands of dollars back to dealers and educational organizations.

GeoFair 2016 is planned for the weekend of April 30 - May 1, 2016, and the show theme will feature *Mineral and Fossil Collections in the American Midwest*. Make a note in your calendar to check it out!

Terry Huizing



### AUGLAIZE 2015: I WANNA BE LIKE MIKE



In February 1991, Gatorade worked out a deal with the then 28 year old Michael Jordan to have him in what turned out to be the most iconic sports advertisement in history. The deal for Jordan worked out to \$13.5 million for ten years. The catch phrase in the Jordan Gatorade commercial was "I wanna be like Mike."

What does Michael Jordan and his Gatorade commercial have to do with collecting minerals at Auglaize Quarry? Keep reading.

On Saturday May 30, 2015, a full complement of 36 FM collectors journeyed to Auglaize to try their luck. As it turned out, the usual suspects, calcite, fluorite and sphalerite were present. Jay Medici showed us a neat brown, iridescent fluorite and a pretty nice single black sphalerite crystal about the size of your little fingernail. I did also see a smaller amber colored one. Jay also showed us small oval fluorite vugs about the diameter of your finger, some filled with purple fluorite, and some with brown iridescent fluorite. Calcite was common, most of it was rhombohedral, although a few scalenohedrons were seen. Most of what I saw collected was small but pretty, and although the day started out hazy, it became a warm, sunny, pleasant spring day, ideal for collecting.

Hmmm. . . still the analogy to MJ is not yet drawn. Keep reading.

We have a lot of highly skilled collectors in our FM chapter, but on what was a warm day for most of us, it was a little warmer for a couple of our guys that you all know really well. This warm day at Auglaize was a good day if your name was Mike. Mike who, may you ask? Well, Mike Royal and Mike Scaglione. Surprised? Probably not. Although Auglaize did not yield the whopper fluorites of the past, Mike & Mike found some purple. Last year Mike S. cranked out a piece which had several purple fluorites on it over ½" on a side (I just hope it makes this newsletter edition so you can all drool over this find).



**Mike Royal**

special. Not only do Mike and Mike see more than the average collector, they also possess the skill and are willing to do the hard work to extract the special pieces they see. On this day at Auglaize, Mike Royal came up with a fluorite specimen with a cube nearly 3/8" on a side. So did Mike Scaglione. Although he found it last year, (he recently finished prepping it and I hope it makes this edition) he showed us a specimen with purple fluorites over ½" on a side. Mike Scaglione's 2014 Auglaize fluorite could have made the cover of Dr. Carlson's Minerals of Ohio book.

If I am lacking photos for field trip report I can always go to Mike & Mike, and quite often they come to me. They recognize that it is important to share with others what they find. Because they volunteer to have their specimens photographed, it seems like they get more press than most of us.

Back to Mike and Mike. More often than not, it is good to be them on any given field trip. Though their skill is not unique, (quite a few of you are highly-skilled collectors) it is



**Mike Scaglione**

Either of the Mike's can probably give you pointers on how to extract a specimen from a boulder. Extracting specimens is a learned skill and they have learned that very well. But their eye to spot top specimens is innate, not developed. They have a great eye – unfortunately, I do not think that a great eye can be taught. If it can, please someone teach us how this is done at one of our symposiums.

What does this have to do with Michael Jordan? Well, if you look at Mike and Mike's specimens over time, you too will "wanna be like Mike".



Postscript: this is to all members on trips. Tom Bolka, our newsletter editor is happy fellow when he can feature your specimens from one of our trips. We have an outstanding newsletter. Part of what makes it outstanding is photos of what you collect on trips. Though you may not become rich and famous from submitting photos of what you collect, you will be exposing your fellow members to the beauty of minerals. So if there's time inside the quarry, please show me what you have found. If we are too busy inside the quarry, let's meet outside the gate after the field trip and take some pictures. Our newsletter is strong because our collectors (you guys and gals) fill it with your finds. You blessed my camera with a lot of nice images last year – let's see if we can do the same this year.



*Mike Scaglione – Auglaize 2014*