

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

Midwest Chapter Newsletter for January - February 2018



In this issue:

Presidents Message - 3

Treasury Report - 7

FM meeting minutes - 8

Membership Application & HHA Forms - 11

Membership dues are still \$20.00 per person and should be paid no later than March 1, 2018. The membership form allows you to add an additional contribution along with your dues. You may choose to designate your contribution for the Annual Symposium or the General Fund. Please consider an additional contribution so we can keep our treasury in good shape while pursuing our Chapter Mission. Only new members need to also complete the Hold Harmless Agreement. **If your dues are not received by March 1, you will be ineligible to participate on the first field trip of the year unless you are new member to the Chapter.** See the forms at the end of this newsletter.



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.

Chapter Website:

www.fommidwest.org

National Website:

www.friendsofmineralogy.org

On the Cover –

“Sphalerite”

*Graymont Dolime Quarry –
Genoa, Ohio*

T. Bolka

2018 Officers

President - Ken Bladh, 132 East 2nd St.

Springfield, Ohio 45504

(937)390-1742 president@fommidwest.org

Vice President Programs –Randy Marsh, 6152 Old Stone Ct.

Hamilton, Ohio 45011

(513)515-7890 vpprograms@fommidwest.org

Vice President Field Trips - Reggie Rose, 4287 Parkmead Dr.

Grove City, Ohio 43123

(614)875-2675 vpfieldtrips@fommidwest.org

Secretary – Frank Konieczki, 50355 W. Huron River Dr.

Belleville, Michigan 48111

(734)-699-3321 secretary@fommidwest.org

Treasurer - Jeff Spencer, 4948 Beechwood Road

Cincinnati, Ohio 45244

(513)248-0533 treasurer@fommidwest.org

Liaison Officer – Clyde Spencer, 1858 Robin Hood Dr.

Fairborn, Ohio 45324

(937) 878-9988 liaisonofficer@fommidwest.org

Fund Raising (Committee Chair) - Vacant

Affiliations:

THE MINERALOGICAL RECORD
THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
AMERICAN GEOSCIENCES INSTITUTE
MINERALOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
ROCKS & MINERALS MAGAZINE
MINERAL NEWS
MINDAT

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.



Friends of Mineralogy

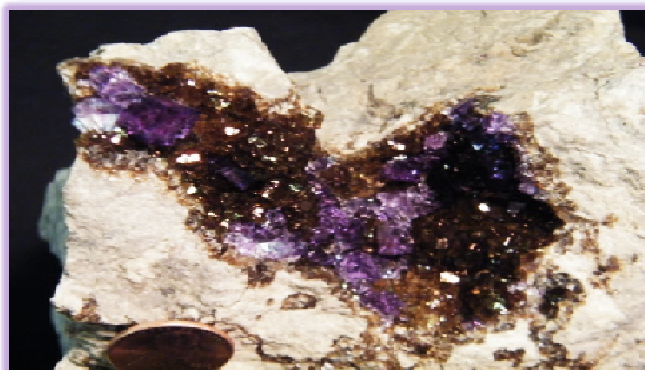
Midwest Chapter President – Ken Bladh president@fommidwest.org

President's Message

The following is a synopsis of the topics presented by Ken from our last FM general meeting.

1. **Chapter Boundaries** *"President Bladh stated he will form a subgroup that will consider the possibility of redefining the chapter boundaries and expanding the number of collecting sites."* (Minutes of May 2017 meeting)
 - a. After discussion by Executive Board – no redefinition at this time
 - b. Clyde Spencer – appointed to develop more options for field trips
2. **Creation of Mineral ID Committee on recommendation of Executive Board**
 - a. Clyde Spencer – appointed chair
3. **Volunteer Opportunities**
 - a. Program Committee (First VP) – contact Randy Marsh
 - b. Field Trip Committee (Second VP) – contact Reggie Rose or Clyde Spencer
 - c. Chair of Fund Raising – contact Jeff Spencer
 - d. Nominating Committee – contact Ken Bladh
 - e. Audit Committee – contact Jeff Spencer
4. **Requests in Newsletters this year – *Your input still welcome***
 - a. Suggestions for good public mineral exhibits to add to our web page
 - b. Names of teachers or youth group leaders to whom we can offer our services

5. **Personal gratitude** for the mentoring received by this first-year president and for the patience and dedicated work on behalf of the Chapter by the current officers.
6. **Highlights** of the year that raised public awareness of minerals and mineralogy
 - a. Collecting field trips (6) saved many fine mineral specimens from the crushers.



- b. Midwest Chapter exhibit of self-collected specimens at Tucson Gem & Mineral Show.



- c. Midwest Chapter member Stan Esbenshade, of Tucson Arizona, recognized with the Mineralogical Record American Mineral Heritage Award. *"For significant contributions to the cumulative heritage of aesthetic and/or scientific mineral specimens preserved in museums and private collections worldwide"*



- d. Midwest Chapter member Janet Clifford (Micromineral Society, Cleveland Museum of Natural History), elected to the Micromounters' Hall of Fame (Baltimore Mineral Society). *"By her efforts over a period of years, she has earned a worldwide reputation among mineral collectors in general and especially among micromounters."*

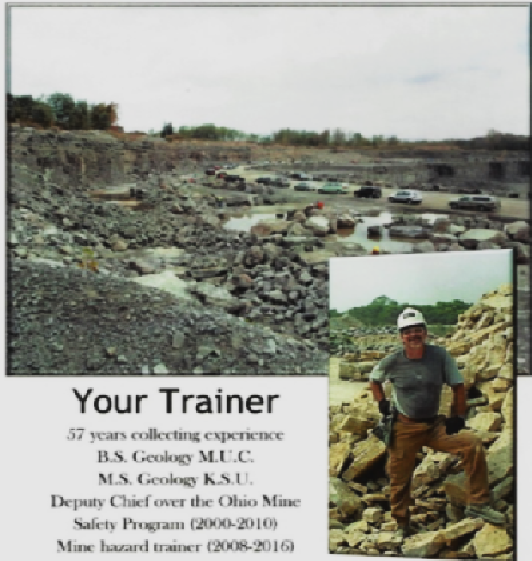


- e. MSHA training led by Scott Kell

"In just three Ohio classes alone this year, the Wittenberg class attracted 35 trainees, Mansfield 43 and Columbus 68. That's 146 collectors trained and ready to enjoy the thrill of discovery."

Reggie Rose

Collecting Safety
Hazard Training, 2017



Your Trainer
57 years collecting experience
B.S. Geology M.U.C.
M.S. Geology K.S.U.
Deputy Chief over the Ohio Mine
Safety Program (2000-2010)
Mine hazard trainer (2008-2016)

Scott Kell, Geologist

- f. Friends of Mineralogy Midwest Chapter 5th Annual Mineralogical Symposium
SPHALERITE AND WURTZITE: THE ZnS POLYMORPHS
(Hosted By The Karl E. Limper Geology Museum, Randy Marsh and John Rakovan)



- g. Swap table and Mineral ID volunteers at Cincinnati Geofair.
- h. Midwest Chapter booth (Clyde and Randy) at the GeoFest, Indiana Museum Center in Indianapolis.
- i. Reggie Rose and Scott Kell – attended the OAIMA Tradeshow to promote our Chapter.

Treasurers Report 12/15/17

2017 Interim Report

The chapter had 115 registered members for 2017. This was consistent with 2016. So far, 23 members have registered for 2018. This brings our current treasury balance to \$6,177.01.

2018 Dues

2018 Dues are still \$20.00 per person. Please complete and sign the Registration form and include it with your check. Existing members may indicate 'no change' if all the information remains the same. The new form is available on our website at:

<http://www.fommidwest.org/library/registration-forms/>

New members must also submit the Liability Agreement form. You may also include an additional donation with your dues and indicate that on the same form.

Remember - registrations are due no later than March 1st, so don't put it off! Please contact me at treasurer@fommidwest.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Jeff Spencer – Treasurer

FM is looking for Fundraising Chairman to help manage silent auctions and the swap table at GeoFair, reach out to Randy Marsh if interested.

Friends of Mineralogy, Inc. Midwest Chapter
Annual Business Meeting Minutes - November 18, 2017
Barbara Kuss Deer Science Center, Wittenberg University Springfield, Ohio

Called to order by President Kenneth Bladh at 9:34 AM, after declaring a quorum. The following officers were present: Kenneth Bladh, President; Randy Marsh, Vice President Programs; Jeff Spencer, Treasurer; Clyde Spencer, Liaison; Frank Konieczki, Secretary. Vice President Field Trips Reggie Rose was unable to attend. Seven members were present.

The following items/topics were presented and discussed:

1. President Bladh welcomed all attendees. He asked if any corrections to the May 6, 2017 meeting minutes, as published in the July-August, 2017 newsletter, were necessary. No changes to the minutes were proposed or adopted. A motion was requested and subsequently made to accept the minutes as published. The motion was affirmed by unanimous consent. (RMarsh/JSpencer/P).
2. A request for a motion to approve the meeting agenda was made, the motion was proposed and passed without opposition (CSpencer/RMarsh/P).

3. Officer Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Jeff Spencer indicated that a comprehensive financial report was available in the November-December edition of the newsletter. He provided highlights of the report, specifically that this year's beginning balance was \$5,527.89. This includes \$1,580 in dues income and also \$1,025 in non-dues income, for a current total of \$2,605.00 in revenue. The yearly disbursements to date are \$2,445.78, yielding a current balance of \$5,687.01. There is a surplus of \$159.22 for 2017. Jeff also commented that the treasury balance is usually highest at year's end because we have already paid our obligations and many members submit their annual dues prior to the new membership year. FoM Midwest had a total of 115 members in 2017, and 37 paid their dues in 2016 with 78 paying in 2017. One member has paid 2018 dues to date. The 2018 symposium budget is \$1,000, and there is \$240 in funds earmarked to fund it.

Vice President Programs Report: Randy Marsh provided a summary of the 2017 Chapter activities. He noted that there were three meetings held this year, which is less than the requirement contained in the by-laws. He indicated that some meetings are held in conjunction with other events (i.e. GeoFair). He suggested having a meeting in conjunction with the annual safety training since the training is well attended. Also to possibly move the meeting (and training) several weeks earlier so that it would not be too close to the date of the annual symposium. Randy also proposed that holding a meeting in conjunction with one or more local rock and mineral shows, such as those held in Mansfield, Columbus, Bedford and Detroit, might be a good idea. He also suggested that we could also explore the possibilities of having information booths or sales tables at one or more of these venues to augment the sales table at GeoFair (see the last paragraph of the VP Programs report).

There was extensive information and discussion regarding the 2018 annual symposium. Vice President Marsh reminded those present that the event will not focus on one specific topic with the goals of providing a broader spectrum of topics and more participation by students. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Peter McGaw, who will focus on hydrothermal Ag deposits. Other speakers include Dr. Peter Richards (distorted crystals) and Mark Jacobson (Chinese mineral collecting or Pike's Peak minerals). The afternoon session will feature presentations by students, and possibly a talk by Dr. John



Rakovan. Several students have already expressed interest in participating. There was discussion as to whether there should be a registration fee for the symposium. It was generally agreed that our organization's finances are sound and having an admission fee might discourage attendance, especially if it was tiered. It was observed that the fees received would not significantly impact FM's financial status, so having registration fees might prove to be more problematic than beneficial. Resultantly, Vice President Marsh proposed to not have a registration fee for the 2018 symposium, and the motion was carried (CSpencer/TBolka/P). Subsequent discussion about the possibility of monetary awards for graded/judged talks by students ensued, and a motion was made to award the following prizes for student presentations: 1st place- \$200; 2nd place- \$100; 3rd place- \$50. The motion was unanimously affirmed (RMarsh/MRoyal/P). Judging criteria will need to be developed. Randy Marsh will contact the organizers for the Rochester Mineralogical Symposium as a starting point for development. President Bladh graciously volunteered to be a judge. The topic of the respective roles of FoM Midwest, Miami University, and Cincinnati Gem and Mineral Society was also discussed. The impetus for the discussion was a name change for the event that was published in the CMS newsletter that reflected joint sponsorship by the three aforementioned organizations. However, the event is, in FoM's opinion, a mineralogical symposium sponsored by FoM, hosted by Miami University's Karl Limper Museum, with partial financial support for the keynote speaker provided by CMS. Vice President Programs Marsh will draft a charter for the symposium in the near future. Randy also indicated that Dr. John Rakovan will step back from his current symposium role after 2018, but Miami University will continue to host the event.

Vice President Marsh is currently seeking volunteers for the swap table at the Cincinnati GeoFair. Randy and his wife Heather have been setting up and manning the tables for several years, as well as storing all of the minerals at his house. He would like to step back from the role. This would normally be organized by the Fundraising Chairman; however, the position has been vacant for several years. President Bladh indicated that he can provide space at Wittenberg University to store minerals for the event.

Vice President Field Trips Reggie Rose: President Bladh provided the update on field trips on Vice President Rose's behalf, based on Vice President Rose's previous e-mail communication with President Bladh on October 18, 2017. The tentative 2018 field trip schedule is: April- Marblehead, OH; May- Penfield, NY and Junction, OH (Auglaize); July- South Rockwood, MI; October- Walworth, NY and Genoa, OH. If the Genoa trip is moved to September, we would still be looking for collecting opportunities for June and August.

Further information regarding the topic of field collecting will be included in Liaison Clyde Spencer's report.

Liaison Officer Report: Clyde Spencer indicated that the intent of 501c organizations is to serve the community, so it would be a good idea to expand our services for the public, such as providing grant funding or outreach. He also indicated that the outreach could include support of existing outreach groups from other organizations.

Liaison Officer Spencer provided information about several collecting locations. He has been communicating with management at the Harding Street Quarry, but the most recent information provided by quarry staff indicates it will be several years before the quarry is accessible. Vice President Field Trips Reggie Rose and Scott Kell met with the new manager of the Williamsport quarry at the OAIMA conference, but the former manager, who was instrumental in getting FoM access to the quarry, did not attend. Stoneco indicated FoM will be able to collect there in the future, but they did not provide a specific time frame. Portage quarry was viewed as a possibility, since it had reopened in 2016 for a large project; however, no fresh blast rock is currently available. Maumee is currently barren of mineral rich material.

Bellevue was also a possibility, but encroachment has limited any clear access to possible collecting area(s). Liaison Spencer spoke with the plant superintendent at Plum Run and tried to schedule a field trip, but he has been unsuccessful to date. There was also discussion about returning to a pair of collecting sites in Missouri that were accessed two years ago. A suggestion was made to possibly coordinate with one or more local clubs regarding field trips.

Clyde addressed the topic of a new service provided by FoM Midwest, specifically, mineral identification (ID), and that a framework for it is being established. Providing the service may attract members and potential members to Chapter events, making these events more useful and impactful. The initial committee members for mineral ID will be President Bladh and Liaison Spencer. Clyde is actively seeking volunteers for the committee, especially long-time Ohio collectors who are able to readily identify specimens and also their localities. This will be started on a small scale. Members, along with their families and friends, can bring a few items for identification. The identifications will be free and will be considered "best guess", non-binding opinions. Liaison Spencer suggested that any specimens that are subject to paid analysis and funded by FoM Midwest, based on case-by case recommendations would be reported in the newsletter.

4. Old Business: None.

5. New Business: The nomination and election of officers for 2018 was the first item. The floor was opened for nominations, the proposed slate of officers was: Ken Bladh, President; Randy Marsh, Vice President Programs; Reggie Rose, Vice President Field Trips; Jeff Spencer, Treasurer; Clyde Spencer, Liaison Officer; Frank Konieczki, Secretary. Note- all are incumbent officers in the positions for which they were nominated. A motion was made to accept the aforementioned slate of officers, the motion was carried by unanimous acclamation (CSpencer/MRoyal/P). There are also two Committee Chairs, namely the Newsletter Committee Chair and the Fund Raising Committee Chair. Tom Bolka agreed to continue in his current role as Newsletter Committee Chair. The position for Fund Raising position remains vacant.

Annual dues were briefly discussed, and because of the organization's financial stability, and projected income and disbursements, a motion was introduced for dues to remain the same (\$20 per member) in 2018, and unanimously passed (CSpencer/RMarsh/P).

The President's annual message was presented, and it included the following topics: forming a subgroup to consider Chapter boundaries and expanding the number of collecting sites; creation of a mineral ID Committee; volunteer opportunities; input welcomed from members; personal gratitude for mentoring received during the year, and thanks to the officers for their work; highlights of the year (several). Secretary's note - As noted in the succeeding paragraph, the entire President's annual message will be included in the upcoming newsletter, so to avoid duplication, only a brief description was provided in these meeting minutes.

6. For the Good of the Order: Vice President Programs Randy Marsh suggested the President's annual message be included in the next FoM midwest newsletter, and subsequently be submitted to the national newsletter.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting (KBladh/MRoyal/P). It was carried without opposition.

Meeting adjourned: 12:22 PM. Respectfully submitted by Frank Konieczki, Secretary



Friends of Mineralogy Midwest Chapter Field Trip Waiver/Hold Harmless Agreement

1.0 I, _____, desire to participate in Friends of Mineralogy Inc. Midwest Chapter (“FMMC”)

(please print full name of participant)

field trips/activities (“Activity”). I fully understand and appreciate the dangers, hazards and risks inherent during any Activity, in the transportation to and from the Activity, and in any independent research or activities I undertake as an adjunct to the Activity, which dangers include but are not limited to serious and mortal injuries and property damage.

2.0 Knowing the dangers, hazards, and risks of such Activity and research, and in consideration of being permitted to participate in the Activity and research, on behalf of myself, my family, heirs, assigns, my estate and anyone claiming through me, release waive, forever discharge and covenant not to sue FMMC, it’s officers, directors, members, agents or third parties (hereafter called the “Releases”) connected with the FMMC Activity of any and all claims, loss, injury, damage, demands, actions, causes of action, costs, and expense of every nature, known or unknown for damage to personal property, personal injury, death, as well as any emotional or psychological harm, or damages or loss of reputation, employment, contract, property rights and due process.

I further agree to assume all the risks and responsibilities known or unknown surrounding my participation in the Activity, including transportation to or from, or any independent research or activities undertaken as an adjunct thereto. I understand the activities have inherent risks and I understand those risks and assume responsibility to protect myself from those risks and acknowledge that FMMC cannot foresee all risks and hazards.

3.0 I understand and agree that Releases do not have medical personnel available at the location of the Activity. I understand and agree that Releases are granted permission to authorize emergency medical treatment if necessary, and that such action by Releases shall be subject to the terms of this agreement. I understand and agree that Releases assume no responsibility for any injury or damage which might arise out of or in connection with such authorized emergency medical treatment.

4.0 In signing this Release, I acknowledge and represent that I have fully informed myself of the content of the foregoing waiver of liability and hold harmless agreement by reading it before I sign it, and I understand that I sign this



5.0 I further agree that this Release is in effect in perpetuity once executed, unless revoked in writing and shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the state in which FMMC is incorporated, Ohio. If any term of this provision of this Release shall be held illegal, unenforceable, or in conflict with any law governing this Release, the validity of the remaining portions shall not be affected thereby.

Participant Signature: _____

Phone (with area code): _____ **email:** _____

Emergency Contact: _____ **Phone (with area code):** _____

Witness Signature (must be at least 18 years old): _____

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, INC.

Midwest Chapter

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

MEMBER DATA SHEET

Please fill in this application and mail it along with your dues 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? _____

Would you be willing to serve in another volunteer capacity? _____

How did you find out about Friends of Mineralogy? _____

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 and renewing Midwest Chapter members should send this completed application and \$20.00/year dues to the address below:**

Our Chapter is funded by membership fees, fundraising efforts and additional contributions. Please consider an additional contribution to help support us in achieving our Chapter Mission. We will email you a receipt for tax reporting purposes.

Additional donations:	Annual Symposium	\$ _____
	General Fund	\$ _____
	Total (including Dues)	\$ _____

*

1. To promote interest in and knowledge of mineralogy.
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.

Jeff Spencer, Treasurer

Friends of Mineralogy, Midwest Chapter

4948 Beechwood Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio 45244

