



Midwest Chapter Newsletter for March - April 2018

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

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MSHA training will be offered Saturday, March 24, 2018 from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm in Room 262 Barbara Deer Kuss Science Center at Wittenberg University, 315 Bill Edwards Drive, Springfield, Ohio. Parking is available directly across the street from the Science Center. The class will include specialized collector specific instruction from ODNR safety expert Scott Kell. Contact FM Program VP Randy Marsh (marsh.rg@pg.com) if you plan to attend.

If you have donations for the Chapter's annual swap table at GeoFair, you can drop them off at the MSHA training event.



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 –

“Selenite” - China

2018 – Tucson Exhibit

J. Spencer

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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

Greetings, I have several reminders about events for the Friends of Mineralogy Midwest Chapter and summaries of activities associated with the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show and National FM meeting.

FM Midwest Symposium at Miami University – March 10, 2018 (in a few weeks)

There are details about this upcoming chapter meeting and annual event elsewhere. I want to highlight the high quality of the invited speakers for this event. I have heard them all and look forward to the topics they plan to share with us. Dr. Peter Megaw, who has just published a magnificently illustrated monograph in the *Mineralogical Record* (Jan-Feb 2018) on the Santa Eulalia mining district in Chihuahua, Mexico, will speak on the topic “Mexican Minerals”, a subject he has spent over 3 decades studying. Another short presentation by Dr. Megaw is under discussion as this newsletter goes to press. The second featured speaker will be Mark Jacobson, President of the Friends of Mineralogy National Chapter, on the topic “The Hiddenite and Emerald Mineral Localities, Hiddenite, Alexander County, North Carolina”. Dr. John Rakovan will speak on Crystal Forms and Distorted Crystals.

39th FM-TGMS-MSA Mineralogical Symposium in Tucson February 10, 2018

This annual symposium adopted the theme of the TGMS Show “Crystals and Crystal Forms”. Four of the speakers live in our Midwest region and their presentations were well done and warmly received by the audience - John Rakovan (also co-convenor of the symposium) “Crystals and Crystal Forms”, Pete Richards “Distorted Crystals”, Terry Huizing “Calcite Twins”, and John Jaszczak “Sphalerite & Wurtzite Polytypism and Morphology” and “Breaking the Law: Exceptions to the Classical Laws of Crystallography”.

FM National Business Meeting in Tucson February 10, 2018

Much of the meeting was routine reports from officers that will be published soon in the national FM newsletter. I will share descriptions of some projects the officers are exploring on behalf of the organization. There will be a call for volunteers to plan future FM-MSA symposia associated with the TGMS. The 39th symposium, described above, may be the last of that series unless new organizational leaders volunteer. If you are interested let me know. *BlueCap Productions* is seeking help from FM on a project to create “audio field kits” to record “mineral stories – a wealth of knowledge that is slowly being erased from our collective consciousness.” Another project in the design stage is “Breakfast with Minerals” – a mineral-based podcast radio channel. We decided to meet again next year at the TGMS show and will abandon the FM information table unless more volunteers appear to staff it.

64th Tucson Gem & Mineral Show – “Crystals and Crystal Forms” February 8-11, 2018

The TGMS show is an annual international event which exceeds my expectations every year. This year was no exception – great displays, competitive exhibits, high-end mineral dealers, and more satellite shows than one could possibly visit.

The show topic was chosen as the theme of the January-February 2018 issue of *Rocks & Minerals*. There are several very good featured papers and regular columns on the topic of “Crystals and Crystal Forms” – four of these by residents of our Midwest Chapter region.



True to the theme, Harvard University displayed large well-formed crystals from the historically significant collection of Professor Charles Palache, a co-author of the first two volumes of the 7th edition of *Dana's System of Mineralogy* (1944, 1951) and renowned American morphological crystallographer. The two photos on the back wall of the case show 2/3 of the full collection, first exhibited in 1926.

Although photographs can only suggest the visual impact of the exhibits, I will share a few to give a sense of the quality on display. This next well-organized and professionally labeled display of crystals from the orthorhombic, monoclinic, and isometric systems is a club case containing contributions by approximately two dozen members of the TGMS – who call themselves the *Arizona Mineral Minions*.



Another group of Arizona collectors, META (*mineral enthusiasts of the Tucson area*), showed minerals collected near Tucson (talk about envy of geographic location). Close-up views of the right and left sides follow the case photo.



This last view (above) of the META case includes 4 spectacular wulfenite specimens (next year's theme). One case focused completely on examples of the 4 twin laws and diverse forms and habits of calcite.



The Cincinnati Museum Center had an excellent display of large calcite twins that illustrated the fine symposium presentation by Terry Huizing.



The American Museum of Natural History brought an excellent display of contact and penetration twinned crystals. I hope you see some familiar examples.



Fans and collectors of isometric crystals must have found this display useful and irresistible. I find the color-coded drawings of combination crystal forms quite effective. The garnet in the middle of the back row is very nice. The purple phantom fluorite in the left front quarter is from the Elmwood Mine, Tennessee.



And then around the corner were two cases of pyrite (a common isometric mineral) side-by-side, the first from Spain displaying shapes derived from the cube and the second case contained many other habits and form combinations from worldwide exhibited by Martin Zinn.



Another exhibitor used pear wood crystal models to illustrate the crystal forms present on each sample in their pyrite case – a ribbon winner (2nd place Master)!



Of course, there was much more to see in the dealer booths and cases. I've totally ignored the gem and jewelry on display and for sale. Many quality pieces, but not of interest to me this year. Next year the TGMS theme is Wulfenite – I can hardly wait!

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### It's 2018 Registration Time!

It's that time of year again! Seventy members have registered for 2018 so far, including 5 new members; however, 50 current members have not submitted their 2018 dues yet! Dues are still \$20.00 per person and are due by March 1st. Use the form at the link below to submit your registration. The form allows you to add an additional contribution along with your dues. You may choose to include an additional contribution and designate your contribution for the Annual Symposium or the General Fund. New members should also complete the Hold-Harmless Agreement.

Please be aware that after March 1<sup>st</sup>, anyone who has not registered yet when a field trip sign-up announcement is distributed will not be allowed to attend that trip, even if their registration is received prior to the trip!

Please contact me ([treasurer@fommidwest.org](mailto:treasurer@fommidwest.org)) or one of the other officers if you have questions.

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

Jeff Spencer – Treasurer  
Friends of Mineralogy Midwest Chapter  
<http://www.fommidwest.org>  
[Treasurer@fommidwest.org](mailto:Treasurer@fommidwest.org)  
513-476-2163



## Dear Friends of Mineralogy Midwest Chapter Member –

As part of our efforts to raise additional funds for Chapter activities, we are planning to have a swap table at GeoFair on Saturday May 5 from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

A flyer with details about GeoFair 2018 and a discount coupon is attached.

Many of you have graciously helped us out in previous years with donations for the swap table. This has included mineral specimens, books, lapidary items, jewelry settings and various pieces of equipment.

**I am writing in the hope that many of you will consider making a donation this year as well.**

The Chapter is willing to provide a letter for the total sale proceeds so that these can be deducted as a charitable item on income taxes. If you would like such a letter, I need to know at the time you provide the donated goods to me.

Opportunities to drop off donations include the FM Midwest Symposium at Miami University on Saturday March 10, the MSHA refresher training at Wittenberg University on Saturday, March 24, and at the Marblehead field trip in April. I would be pleased to connect with you at these events to transfer items over to me. I'm also open to making other arrangements. You can reach me by email ([marsh.rg@pg.com](mailto:marsh.rg@pg.com)) or cell phone (513-515-7890) – please leave a voicemail message.

**We are looking for a Fundraising Chairman if you would have an interest in leading the collection of donations and the GeoFair swap table.** You get free access to the show as a benefit.

Thank you for your support of our Chapter!

Cheers,  
Randy

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### **Gary Elliott – Living Legend – FM Friend**

Following field trips, as standard operating procedure, I send a “thank you” message to our quarry host. In the week following our October 21, 2017 field trip to Graymont Dolime in Genoa, Ohio, I followed standard operating procedure. This time the “thank you” message was a little longer, had deeper heartfelt thanks and was a little bitter-sweet. It included not only a “thank you” for one field trip, but for a career’s worth of field trips.

My message to Gary Elliott for our 2017 field trip came on October 26, 2017 and was as follows:

I wanted to thank you for the wonderful field trip last Saturday. Our members found many nice specimens. Thanks also to Harry and Mike, we all left the quarry vertically.

Not having FM historical file at my disposal, I know we have been coming to Genoa since I have been an FM member at large (I don't even know what year I joined). I'll have to see when I started to get newsletters (it was circa 2006). Probably a decade or more. Not only have you and your company promoted learning in mineralogy and geology, but you have done well to honor the memory of our great field trip leader emeritus Dr. Ernie Carlson, who was a dedicated



geologist, mineralogist and educator at Kent State University. You called "Dr. Ernie" a great man. You also fall well into that description. Thank you for all that you have done for FM.

On November 29, 2017 Gary Elliott responded to by email as follows below:

*To answer your questions, I have been in the business for 43 years. That takes some thought as to how that happened so quickly! I have been at Graymont just over 20 years and have always been the quarry supervisor here and additionally kiln supervisor for I believe, 17 years.*

*You certainly honor me by any comparison to Dr. Carlson. Ernie to me certainly was a gentleman. Was always a pleasure to have Ernie and his wife on site watching over the students and patiently sharing his knowledge to what must have been some of the most basic of inquiries. It did take me a bit of digging into old paper work to get an idea of when Dr. Carlson and students first visited. The best I can tell, Dr. Carlson had a relationship with Mr. Howard Lang, plant manager at Martin Marietta. Mr. Lang contacted me about allowing Kent State group visit here in conjunction with visits at Martin Marietta quarry. So, if I have saved all my old paper work, then the first visit by Kent State was in fall of 2000. Again, this number of years a cause to pause and reflect at how time goes by so rapidly.*

*I have always been pleased to offer up the quarry to your group and other collectors for their enthusiasm and entirely different perspective of the deposit. For myself and my crew, the stone is the means to an end, quality lime products, and hard work. But to the collectors, it is more like a treasure trove of possibilities, what is behind, under or inside the next rock!*

*Here we are in the process of hiring a replacement supervisor as I have plans on retiring. I will certainly make sure that this new person is aware of the value of allowing visitors such as your group on site and encourage that future visits continue.*



Without activity in the field, we are restricted to academic discussions of what used to be found in days gone by. The field trip program of FM exists only because men like Gary Elliott recognize the value of their presence in the community and the positive impact they have on learning. Companies like Graymont Dolime have provided specimens to amateur and professional mineralogists, teachers, geologists, and the general public who fill our membership rosters over time. Graymont Dolime and men like Gary Elliott educate our members by providing field opportunities for us.

A total of 43 years in the quarry industry, 20+ years at Graymont Dolime, all of it as plant superintendent, 17 years as kiln superintendent, and 18 years a friend of Dr. Carlson and FM. That is nearly a century of expertise and kindness wrapped up in one man. When you put up these kind of numbers and spend most of your career in a supervisory role, you must know what you are doing. Gary Elliott, has been a proponent of safety and public education in the areas of geology and mineralogy. He extended his hand of friendship to our late great leader Dr. Ernie Carlson and continued to extend his hand to FM for nearly two decades. To men like you Gary, we owe our existence. Someone may fill your position, but it will be hard for anyone to fill a pair of steel toed boots with the kind personae you have given us for such a long time. We will miss you, we wish you well, and we will not forget you. Thanks for the memories.



## Friends of Mineralogy Midwest Chapter 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Mineralogical Symposium

Hosted by the Miami University Karl E. Limper Geology Museum

**DATE:** Saturday March 10, 2018

**TIME:** 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

**LOCATION:** 152 Shideler Hall (Spring Street & Patterson Ave), Miami University, Oxford, OH

**CONTACTS:** John Rakovan ([rakovajf@miamioh.edu](mailto:rakovajf@miamioh.edu) or 513-529-3245)

Randy Marsh ([vpprograms@fommidwest.org](mailto:vpprograms@fommidwest.org) or 513-515-7890) Ken

Bladh ([president@fommidwest.org](mailto:president@fommidwest.org) or 937-390-1742)

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:** FM's objective is to promote, support, protect, and expand the collecting of mineral specimens, while furthering the recognition of the scientific, economic, and aesthetic value of minerals and mineral collecting. The purpose of the symposium is to bring together professional and amateur mineral enthusiasts to share information of common interest, to build a local mineralogical community and to provide students with an opportunity to share their work and receive public recognition for it.

### DETAILED AGENDA:

- 9:00-9:30 FM Midwest Chapter Meeting (open to all)
- 9:45-10:45 *Dr. Peter Megaw*<sup>1</sup>: **Minerals of Mexico**
- 10:45-11:15 *Dr. John Rakovan*<sup>2</sup>: **Crystal Forms and Distorted Crystals**
- 11:15-11:45 *Mark Jacobson*<sup>3</sup>: **The Hiddenite & Emerald Mineral Localities, Hiddenite, Alexander Co., NC**
- 11:45-1:00 Lunch Break Armstrong Student Center and Museum Viewing
- 1:00-1:30 *Dr. Peter Megaw*<sup>1</sup>: **Carbonate Replacement Deposits (CRDs)**
- 1:30-3:15 Submitted talks (20 min each, in order outlined on next page)
- 3:15-3:30 Coffee Break
- 3:30-4:00 Awards for Submitted Talks

<sup>1</sup> *Dr. Peter Megaw is an economic geologist from Tucson Arizona who specializes in hydrothermal ore deposits in Mexico. Peter has been the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society show exhibits chairman for many years.*

<sup>2</sup> *Dr. John Rakovan is a Professor of Mineralogy at Miami University and an executive editor of Rocks & Minerals.*

<sup>3</sup> *Mark Ivan Jacobson, a consulting editor of Rocks & Minerals, is President of the Friends of Mineralogy National Chapter with mineralogical specializations in pegmatites and their histories of exploitation.*



## **SUBMITTED TALKS:**

### **1. CRYSTALLINITY AND TEXTURE OF NATURAL AND SYNTHETIC WIRE SILVER**

C. J. Anderson<sup>1</sup>, J. Rakovan<sup>1</sup>, T. Böellinghaus<sup>2</sup>, and V. Lüders<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Dept. of Geology and Environmental Earth Science, 250 S. Patterson Ave., Miami University, Oxford, OH, 45056

<sup>2</sup>Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und prüfung (BAM) Unter den Eichen 87 D-12205 Berlin, Germany

<sup>3</sup>Helmholtz-Zentrum Potsdam, Deutsches GeoForschungsZentrum, Section 3.2 Telegrafenberg, 14473 Potsdam, Germany

### **2. TRACE AND RARE EARTH ELEMENT CHEMISTRY OF FLUORITE FROM THE ILLINOIS-KENTUCKY FLUORSPAR DISTRICT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ORIGINS OF MINERALIZING FLUIDS**

J. Bergbower<sup>1</sup>, C. Dietsch<sup>1</sup>, J. Rakovan<sup>2</sup>, and J. Singer<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH

<sup>2</sup>Miami University, Oxford, OH

<sup>3</sup>Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY

### **3. GEOCHEMISTRY OF FLUORAPATITE FROM THE ROSE ROAD WOLLASTONITE DEPOSIT, PITCAIRN, NEW YORK**

C. Empro<sup>1</sup>, P. Tomascak<sup>2</sup>, and A. Andersen<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Geological and Environmental Earth Science, Miami University, Oxford, OH, 45056

<sup>2</sup>Department of Atmospheric and Geological Sciences, State University of New York at Oswego, Oswego, NY, 13126

### **4. THORIUM RICH FLUORAPATITE FROM THE POUDRETTE PEGMATITE, MONT SAINT-HILAIRE**

C. Chappell<sup>1</sup> and J. Rakovan<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Miami University, Oxford, OH

### **5. RESULTS OF GEOCHEMICAL AND GEOCHRONOLOGICAL CHARACTERIZATION OF LLALLAGUA ALTERED PORPHYRY AND HYDROTHERMAL VEIN ASSEMBLAGE IN CONTEXT OF PREEXISTING AGE DISCREPANCY**

W. B. Betkowski<sup>1</sup> and J. Rakovan<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Geological and Environmental Earth Science, Miami University, Oxford, OH, 45056

**ADDITIONAL PRESENTATIONS by KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Dr. Peter Megaw will be giving two additional talks. The first at Miami University on Thursday, March 8 at 4 PM in Rm 100 Shideler Hall. The title: *Integrated exploration approach to discovery of the blind Cinco de Mayo Skarn/Carbonate Replacement Deposit, Chihuahua Mexico*. Contact John Rakovan at [rakovajf@miamioh.edu](mailto:rakovajf@miamioh.edu) for further information. His second talk, *40 years of mineral adventures in Mexico*, will be at the Cincinnati Mineral Society meeting on Friday, March 9. Contact Terry Huizing at [tehuizing@fuse.net](mailto:tehuizing@fuse.net) for further details or visit the CMS website ([mineralsociety.org](http://mineralsociety.org)).

**DIRECTIONS and PARKING:** The Limper Geology Museum is located on the Miami University campus just inside the East and West entrances to Shideler Hall on the first floor. Shideler Hall is located west of the intersection of US Highway 27 and State Route 73. See map on following page.

Recommended parking is in Cook Field lot near the bell tower across the road from Shideler Hall. Parking requires the purchase of a permit. Please visit <http://www.miamioh.edu/parking/permits/index.html>, select Visitors/Contractors/Vendors, and then click Purchase Visitor Permit. You will need to display this permit on your dashboard the day of the event. Cost is \$3.

You may also obtain permits from John Rakovan inside the auditorium on the day of the symposium. You will need cash. You will have to walk back to your vehicle to display your permit.

## Permits

Please select your affiliation with Miami University below to continue:

☒

Current Students, Faculty, and Staff

☒

Departments and Offices

☐

Visitors, Contractors and Vendors

### Where to Park

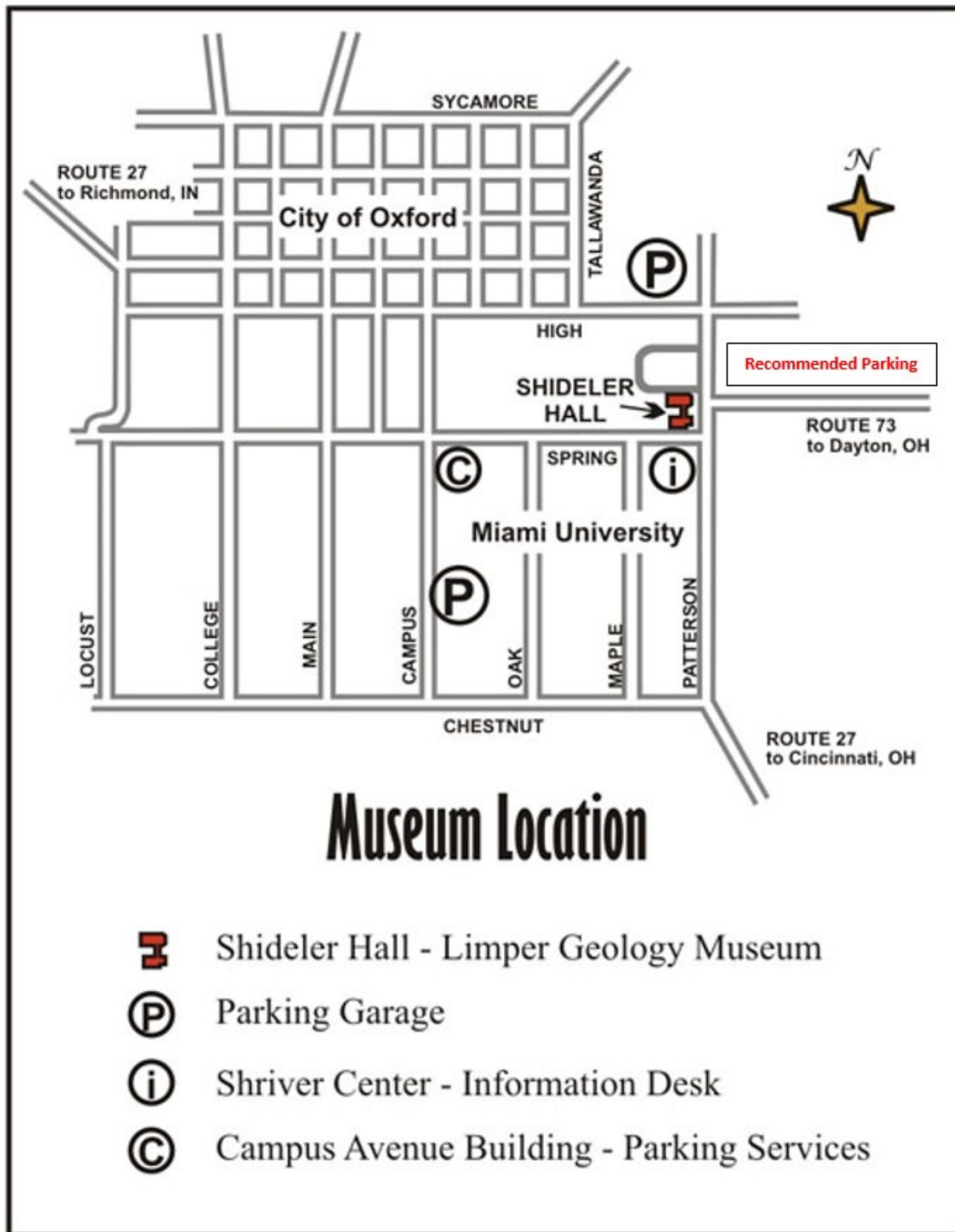
A permit is required at all times to park in a University parking lot except as noted in the [parking policies](#). Visitors to campus are encouraged to park in the Campus Avenue Garage or the North Campus Garage. No permit is needed, but hourly rates and event parking rates apply.

- From 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, a permit is required to park on Spring, Oak and Maple Streets. A permit is not required to park on Spring, Oak, and Maple Streets at other times.
- A permit is not required to park on campus between noon Friday and 10pm Sunday on weekends of home football games.
- A permit is not required in the parking garages or at parking meters.

### Permits and Citations

- Visitors may purchase a surface lot parking permit at the Parking Office during business hours or [online](#) for \$3 per day. Registration requires the license plate number, make, model and color of the vehicle to be registered. This permit allows the visitor to park in any University parking area.
- Visitors who received a University parking citation may make a [payment online](#) or by contacting the Parking Office.

Purchase Visitor Permit





# Cincinnati GeoFair 2018

*53<sup>rd</sup> Annual  
Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry  
Show of Greater Cincinnati  
[www.geofair.com](http://www.geofair.com)*

**May 5**

Saturday  
10 am to 6 pm



**May 6**

Sunday  
11 am to 5 pm

Featuring:

*Calcite Crystals &  
Fossil Echinoderms*

**Illustrated Earth Science Programs**

Saturday, May 5

*Calcite: Beautiful, Intriguing & Important  
Earth Extinction Events*

Sunday, May 6

*Calcite: Habits and Varieties  
The Mississippian Age of Crinoids*

**Sharonville  
Convention Center  
11355 Chester Road  
Sharonville, Ohio 45246  
[www.geofair.com](http://www.geofair.com) for directions**

**FREE PARKING**

# Cincinnati GeoFair 2018

*Adults.....\$9      Two-day pass.....\$12  
Children....\$3      Uniformed Scouts free  
Scout leaders pay adult rates  
Teachers free with ID and paid adult companion*

**\$2 OFF ONE ADULT ADMISSION**

**GeoFair 2018**

**May 5 & May 6**

**Sharonville Convention Center**

**11355 Chester Road**

**Sharonville, Ohio 45246**

**FREE PARKING** 2018.3

**Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Dealers**

50+ Retail • 4 Wholesale • 3 Publications

[www.geofair.com](http://www.geofair.com) for list

**Educational Earth Science Programs**

Dr. Carl Francis • Mr. John Moffitt

Mr. Jeff Scovil • Dr. David Meyer

**Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Displays**

70 museum, university, and private collections

**Family Activities** • Education Center • Games

Geode cracking • Demonstrations • Swap area

Free mineral, meteorite, fossil & gem

identification • Scout merit badge assistance

Free mineral or fossil collection - kids under 12

*GeoFair 2018 is produced by the nonprofit*

*Dry Dredgers – an organization of amateur  
paleontologists & fossil collectors.*

*[www.drydredgers.org](http://www.drydredgers.org), and the*

*Cincinnati Mineral Society – an organization  
of amateur mineralogists & mineral collectors.*

*[www.mineralsociety.org](http://www.mineralsociety.org)*