

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

*Midwest Chapter Newsletter for January –
February 2019*



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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 –

“Genoa Quarry”

John Medici photo

2019 Officers

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Fund Raising (Committee Chair) - Vacant

Affiliations:

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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.



Midwest Chapter President – Ken Bladh

president@fommidwest.org

President's Update

On page 6 of this newsletter, please read the minutes from the November business meeting held in Cleveland at the Natural History Museum, where we had one of our largest turnouts of members in several years. Frank's minutes accurately summarize the meeting and my annual report "Highlights of the year that raised public awareness of minerals and mineralogy". I am grateful for the efforts of the individuals mentioned in those minutes that keep our chapter vibrant and relevant for our members.

All current officers were re-elected for 2019. Please thank each of them for their service the next time you get a chance.

Also note in the minutes that dues remain \$20 for 2019, on the recommendation of your officers. Jeff is accepting payments now and into next year. Remember, registrations are due January 1st and must be received no later than March 1st, 2019.

I wish to highlight one part of my annual report, how officers and/or members have made new or renewed efforts in the categories of activities highlighted below in red. As you might remember, these specific activities came as suggestions from members in response to the online chapter survey in 2018. My comments are in parenthesis.

What else should our chapter be doing?

- Offer more fieldtrips** (3 officers are scouting new options for trips)
- Purchase old quarries or pay for access to them
- Support youth education** (read about the *Great Lakes Aggregates - Annual Quarry Challenge and Fossil Walk* at South Rockwood, MI in the minutes).
- Support mineral shows state-wide (by our official presence)**
- Schedule joint meetings with clubs in our region** (we were in Cleveland with the micromounters)
- Schedule meetings at locations near member clusters, i.e. Mansfield, Troy** (Cleveland 2018)
- Expand our activities in Michigan** (FM table at the Detroit mineral show 2018)
- Communicate
- Establish and support networks for people with our interests

In 2019 we expect to continue a broad distribution of regional business meetings and official chapter presence (information table) at mineral events in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. **Please send me contact information for clubs in our region that would like an FM Midwest presence at their shows.**

National FM President, Mark Jacobson, asked me to remind you that one of the benefits of your membership in Friends of Mineralogy is a free subscription to the online digital **EARTH** magazine published by the American Geosciences Institute. I signed up and immediately found several interesting articles about geology. To opt-in to this digital publication go to <https://digital.earthmagazine.org>. (see a copy of their flyer on page 11)



- List an email address where you would like the monthly issue notifications sent.
- For the Qualification section, choose “Member of an AGI Member Society or Associate Society.” Then select the “Friends of Mineralogy” from the list of affiliated organizations.

The December issue (68 pages) contains interesting articles with excellent color photos on glaciers in the Rocky Mountains, volcanoes, predicting California earthquakes, a layman’s tour of the geology and building stones used in the monuments and buildings of Washington, DC. Also “critical minerals”, celebrations of the winter solstice over the last 5000 years, and several other topics.

Let me now wish each of you a safe and joyous holiday season and best wishes for the new year quickly approaching. I will end this note with a photograph of one of my favorite mineral specimens, a calcite crystal perched on the tip of a dipyramidal wulfenite from the Defiance mine, Cochise County, Arizona.



12/15/2018

The chapter had 114 registered members for 2018. This was consistent with 2017. So far, 38 members have registered for 2019. Those registrations along with an additional \$165.00 in donations brings our current treasury balance to \$7557.93.

2019 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 who intend on participating in field trips must also submit the Liability Agreement form. You may also include an additional donation with your dues and indicate that on the application for membership form.

Remember: registrations are due January 1st and must be received no later than March 1st, 2019, so don't put it off!
Please contact me at treasurer@fommidwest.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Jeff Spencer – Treasurer
Friends of Mineralogy Midwest Chapter
Treasurer@fommidwest.org

[illegible]

Upcoming Event - Friends of Mineralogy Midwest Chapter, 7th Annual Mineralogical Symposium, Saturday March 9, 2019, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, 152 Shideler Hall, Miami University, Oxford, OH. Steve Chamberlain will be the keynote speaker.



Friends of Mineralogy, Inc. Midwest Chapter
Meeting Minutes- November 2, 2018
Cleveland Museum of Natural History
Cleveland, Ohio

Called to order by President Kenneth Bladh at 3:07 PM, after declaring a quorum. The following officers were present: Kenneth Bladh, President; Randy Marsh, Vice President Programs; Jeff Spencer, Treasurer; Frank Konieczki, Secretary. Vice President Field Trips Reggie Rose and Liaison Clyde Spencer were unable to attend. The meeting took place in conjunction with the 2018 Micromineral Symposium that was held by the Micromineral Society of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Fifteen members were present during the meeting.

The following items/topics were presented and discussed:

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

President Bladh asked if any corrections to the May 5, 2018 meeting minutes were necessary. No changes to the minutes were proposed or adopted by the attendees. A motion was requested and made to accept the minutes as published, and the motion was carried without opposition. (JDaly/Clifford/P).

Old Business:

There had been discussion of changing the FoM Midwest Bylaws regarding guests taking part in field trips during the Chapter meeting in May. Resultantly, a motion was made at the meeting to eliminate Article II, Section 2 of the Bylaws, which would allow the Vice President-Field Trips discretion in allowing guests during field trips, provided they met any applicable safety training requirements. The motion was passed, and the meeting minutes were subsequently published. These steps met the FoM Midwest Constitution's requirements to bring the matter to a vote. President Bladh asked for input from the floor, and one question was posed, namely, if the change would create any liability issues for the Chapter if guests were allowed. Treasurer Jeff Spencer indicated that he did not believe the insurance coverage would change if the proposed elimination of the aforementioned article section was made. The proposal to eliminate Article II, Section 2 of the Bylaws subsequently was put to a vote, and it passed unanimously.

New Business:

The nomination of officers was discussed. President Bladh indicated that he had asked the other current officers (Randy Marsh, Jeff Spencer, Reggie Rose, Clyde Spencer, and Frank Konieczki), if they would be willing to continue in their current roles for the coming year, and all had agreed; however, since President Bladh had served for two consecutive years, nominations from the floor were required for the position of President. The floor was opened for nominations, and 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. A motion was made to accept the aforementioned slate of officers, and the motion was carried by unanimous vote (JDaly/Fox/P).

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 2019, and the motion passed unanimously (JSpencer/Fox/P).

Officer Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Jeff Spencer stated that there was a substantial turnover in membership this year, with a loss of 23 former members, but the Chapter gained almost as many new members, and the current number of members is 114. Membership has been relatively stable for several years. The 2018 starting balance was \$6,317.01. The current account balance is \$6,652.53, and all 2018 financial obligations have been met.

The subject of setting funds aside for the 2019 Symposium was discussed after the Treasurer's report. The funds would be used for partial reimbursement of travel expenses for the keynote speaker, awards for student presentations, and refreshments. After brief discussion, \$1,000 was suggested as the amount. The proposed amount was put to a vote of the Executive Board. The proposed amount was unanimously approved by the four Executive Board members who were present.

Vice President Programs Report: Randy Marsh reported that the keynote speaker for the 2019 FoM Midwest Symposium will be Steve Chamberlin. Student speakers will also be scheduled. Vice President Marsh stated that John Rakovan will recruit Miami University students, but it may be more challenging to schedule students from other universities.

Vice President Marsh also discussed field trips. Efforts have been made to see if additional quarries could be added to those that currently allow access to FoM Midwest. Officers have scouted at Castalia, which seems to have sparse mineralization, and also at a couple of National Lime quarries. There was a question from the floor about Cary, which has calcite and celestine. Randy observed that if access is obtained for smaller quarries, or those with less mineralization, there may be a need to reduce the size of collecting groups for these types of sites. There currently is optimism regarding collecting at Marblehead in 2019, but possible changes to corporate regulations may impact accessibility.

GeoFair is still on for 2019, and there may be some changes in the operation of the sales table. Donations of materials by members are welcomed and appreciated.

President's Annual Report:

1. Our paid membership shows 4 main clusters, with three trending from southwest to northeast Ohio, and also 1 cluster in southeast Michigan.
2. A survey of our members was conducted in July, and a summary of the responses was provided in the September/October newsletter. 42 members responded, and the respondents thought FoM Midwest's overall rating was as follows: Excellent - 14; Very Good - 23; Fair - 4; Poor - 1. Responses to the question "How are we doing on field trips?" were: Excellent - 7; Very Good - 22; Fair - 11; Poor - 2. When asked "What factors would attract you to attend meetings?" responses included: geographic closeness - 14; micromounting - 8; and K-12 educational - 2. Members were also asked "What could we do better?" and suggestions included more field trips, swap tables, and mineral identification. Officers and others have discussed and taken other actions



pertaining to survey feedback. They include the following: Great Lakes Aggregate Quarry Fossil Walk (K-12 education); FoM Table at Detroit Show (geographic closeness); “Boots on the Ground” (expansion of field trips); onsite support of FoM trip leader; moving business meetings around the state/region; and an inquiry from MMS on joint ventures.

3. There are volunteer opportunities available for members. If interested, you can contact Randy Marsh regarding programs, Reggie Rose or Clyde Spencer regarding field trips, or Jeff Spencer regarding fundraising. (President’s note: The Fundraising Chair position has been open for several years).
4. President Bladh expressed his gratitude to work done on behalf of the Chapter by the officers.
5. 2018 Highlights included:
 - A. Five Field Trips- Stoneco Auglaize Quarry (Junction, OH), Great Lakes Aggregates/Sylvania Minerals Quarry (South Rockwood, MI), Melvin Stone (Williamsport, OH), Dolomite Products, Inc. (Walworth, NY), and Graymont Dolime Quarry (Genoa, OH).
 - B. Cincinnati GeoFair - FoM Midwest had a swap/sales table. Chapter members also judged exhibits at the Geofair for the first time and awarded a prize for Best Educational Display.
 - C. Greater Detroit Gem Mineral and Fossil Show - President Bladh organized an information table at the event, provided information about FoM Midwest, he and Frank Konieczki answered questions. This was part of an effort to increase our presence in southeast Michigan, which has a cluster of FoM Midwest members. We have been invited back in 2019, but the nature of our involvement is unclear.
 - D. 2018 Symposium - This year’s programs were not based on a theme, as was the case in previous years. The morning featured guest speakers, and the afternoon was devoted to students who gave excellent presentations about current academic research projects.
 - E. Fossil Walk - FoM Midwest organized one of five educational tables at the Fossil Walk in South Rockwood, MI. Members Don Venier, Dieter Burrell and Frank Konieczki served as volunteers. The local newspaper published an article about the event, and FoM Midwest was mentioned.
 - F. Collector Specific MSHA Training- Scott Kell once again provided MSHA training that he designed specifically for collector safety. The Chapter is thankful for the time and effort he has devoted for making this excellent training available to the organization and others.

For the Good of the Order: No comments were offered.

A motion to adjourn was entered (Fox/Konieczki)

Meeting adjourned: 4:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Frank Konieczki, Secretary



FM COLLECTORS IMPRESS GENOA HOSTS

Reggie Rose

First of all, thank goodness for Scott Kell. He is one of my heroes in this club. In late August, he made a trip to Genoa to meet with our new host. As a result of this meeting, our quarry host had a copy of Scott's course guide and we kept a Dr. Carlson field trip alive. So, on the morning of October 20, 2018, 29 FM collectors respectfully checked in to receive their safety training and enjoy a day of collecting. Even the weather cooperated. In a fall full of frigid and wet days we were able to go on a field trip on a day when we dodged both icicles and rain drops.

The collecting was normal enough with all our usual mineral companions in attendance to various degrees, and in enough quantities so each of us could leave with something to keep.

FM members who contributed specimen photos from this trip were Scott Kell (Columbus, OH) with one celestite and one celestite / sphalerite specimen. Johan Maertens (Cincinnati)



Genoa Quarry - John Medici

chipped in (no pun intended) with a dazzling slab adorned with calcite. All three of the aforementioned specimens were ones to take home, but the real hopper of the day was a huge celestite pocket extracted by James Baumgartner (Sycamore, OH).

To sum up this trip, the collecting was only one of several factors which led to a successful day: First was Scott Kell's safety program presentation in August, which sealed the deal for this trip; second was our good luck with the weather (we were under threats of a wash-out); third was the safe behavior

of our attending members, and fourth, not to be minimized was the generosity of our collectors. Johan Maertens donated the previously mentioned calcite slab to the quarry. Then Jay Medici (Fredericktown, OH) gave one specimen (of their choice)



Celestite - Scott Kell

to both of our quarry hosts. One host, more of a mineral man, chose a Duff's pyrite. The other, more interested in artifacts, got as close as he could by selecting a piece of Ohio Flint. Happy holidays to all. I hope to see you all next year.



Following the OAIMA Trade Show in Columbus last November, I thought I would stop by and support the OSU Geology Dept. fundraiser and buy a T-shirt & ball cap. I thought the most logical place to go was the geology museum at Orton Hall, but they had no information on the fundraiser sale. So, I went next door to Mendenhall Lab where Geo. classes are taught and went to the 2nd floor office. The head secretary there knew about the charity T-shirt sale and went into the next room to copy a flyer for me. While I waited, I was looking out the window when from across the room, a specimen caught my eye that was on a large pedestal. It appeared black, and from a distance looked like a large slab of anorthosite, an igneous rock I have collected in Wyoming. I made my way to the other side of the receptionist's desk to get a closer look. Even from close up, the specimen looked black. It's color was masked by its thickness and a good layer of dust. After looking at it for a few seconds a glint of purple caught my eye. Even though I was alone in the room, I audibly said "Oh my! It was a humongous slab of purple fluorite, gloriously sporting its cubic cleavage! Though the curator has not yet confirmed this from his files, he believes the specimen is from Illinois. If you look closely at the photo of the specimen, near the center is a small disk - that is a quarter! After the lady brought me a charity T-shirt flyer, I went out to my truck and brought in my camera and a tape measure. The pure fluorite specimen was 22" top to bottom, 20" left to right, and about 9" thick. It probably weighs between 150 and 200 pounds. If you ever found this on a field trip, you may never collect again. This beautiful beast would ruin you for all other collecting. What a specimen, it made my day!



Reggie Rose



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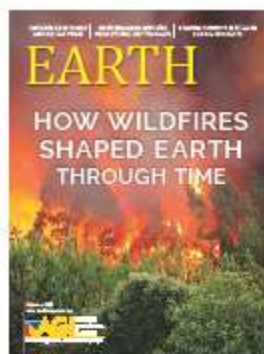
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General Membership Social and News Meeting
Topics of Conversation

4:00~6:00 PM Tuesday, February 12, 2019
Hotel Tucson City Center, lunch tent in center quad
475 N. Granada, Tucson, AZ
(snacks and refreshments will be available)
This meeting is sponsored by LLD Productions
Welcome and introductions of all present
Call to order

New Business

Announcement of new/re-elected Directors by current President

Chapter Reports

Colorado
Midwest
Mississippi Valley
New Jersey
Pacific Northwest
Pennsylvania
Southern California

Discussion

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

YOUR FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY BALLOT

Biographical information was in the last Bulletin of the FM

Please take time to support Friends of Mineralogy by voting. You may vote for up to four positions from the nominated candidates or by writing in candidates of your choice who would be willing to serve. Ballots should be sent to Randy Marsh, FM National secretary either by email at marsh.rq@pq.com Or by postal mail at 6152 Old Stone Court, Hamilton, Ohio 45011.

Ballots must be received before the Board meeting to be held on the morning of Saturday, February 16, 2016.

Ballot for Friends of Mineralogy Board of Directors: Term 2019-2021 (Feb 2019 - Feb 2022)

Vote for up to **four** positions.

- ☐ Erin Delventhal
- ☐ Barb Matz
- ☐ Linda Smith
- ☐ Eric Fritz
- ☐ Virgil Lueth
- ☐ Mark Jacobson
- ☐ Write in _____
- ☐ Write in _____



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



document as my own free act and deed; no oral representations, statements, or inducements, apart from the foregoing written statement have been made. I understand that the corporation (FMMC) does not require me to participate in this Activity, but I want to do so, despite the possible dangers and risks and despite this Release. I further state that I am at least eighteen (18) years of age, and fully competent to sign this Agreement – and that I execute this Release for full, adequate, and complete consideration fully intending to be bound by the same. I further state that there are no health-related reasons or problems which preclude or restrict my participation in the Activity, and that I have adequate health insurance to provide and pay for any medical costs that may be attendant as a result of injury to me.

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.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed this Release this ____ day of the month of _____, 20 ____.

Participant Signature: _____

Address: _____, _____, _____, _____
Street City State Zip Code

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

