



NEWSLETTER

of the INDIANA CHAPTER, FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, INC.

Volume III: No. 3

May 1989

OUR NEXT CHAPTER FIELD TRIP:

HOOSIER STONE AND CONCRETE CORP.
SALEM, INDIANA
Saturday, May 6, 1989
8:00 am local time

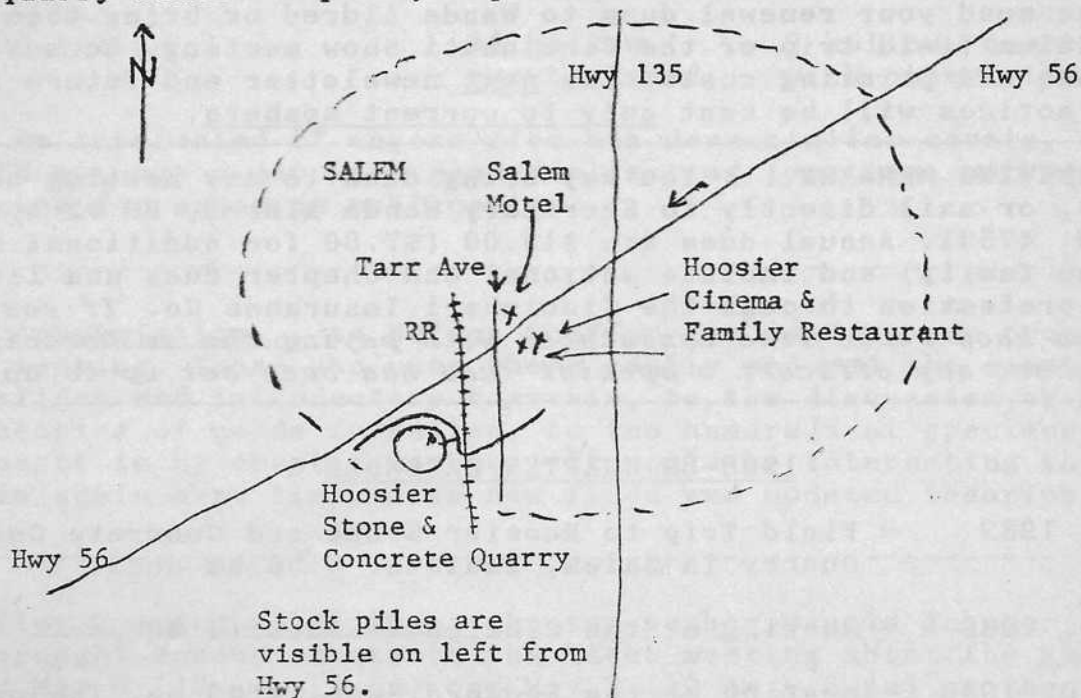
Quarry Location: SW edge of Salem, Indiana. See sketch below.

Geology: Mississippian; Salem Limestone 8 ft. Harrodsburg Limestone 30+ ft.

Minerals Reported (in thin-walled quartz geodes in limestone):
Calcite, celestine, barite, marcasite, pyrite, gypsum,
dolomite, sphalerite, anhydrite, fluorite, strontianite.

We will meet at the scale house at 8:00 am where we will sign a release before entering the quarry. Hard hats must be worn and good eye and foot protection is encouraged. Participation is limited to members only; however, anyone prepared to pay dues before entering the quarry may attend.

Care and discretion must be used in approaching or working near the quarry walls. A quarry representative will be checking.



Important: We will not receive final permission until Thursday, May 4. If you plan to attend, call Vern Swanson at (317) 724-2460 or Rich Eddy at (812) 372-2745 on Friday to make sure the trip is still on.

OUR NEXT CHAPTER MEETING:

"Minerals of Ohio"
by Dr. Ernest Carlson
of the Ohio Geological Survey
4:30 pm
at the Albert Sabin Convention Center
Downtown, 5th and Elm Sts.
Cincinnati, Ohio

It's time again for the outstanding Cincinnati Gem and Mineral Show! Sponsored by the Cincinnati Mineral Society, the Show will be celebrating its 25th year/ Silver Anniversary this year. The Show Chairman, Rick Russell and the Swap Chairman, Rick Uhlenbrock, are both members of our Chapter, as well.

For the third year, your Indiana Chapter of FM will hold a public lecture program and meeting in conjunction with the Cincinnati Show. As with our previous programs there, this year's program promises to be excellent; Terry Huizing has arranged for one of Ohio's state geologists, Dr. Ernest Carlson, to speak on the topic of a new book he has just written: "Minerals of Ohio". We hope you can join us for this informative and interesting presentation, and encourage you to invite others to come to this public talk.

Following the program we will conduct a regular business meeting to discuss future field trips, programs and projects.

Attention! 1988 members who have not yet renewed.....

Please send your renewal dues to Wanda Aldred or bring them to the Salem field trip or the Cincinnati Show meeting. Because of postage and printing costs, the next newsletter and future field trip notices will be sent only to current members.

NEW and RENEWING MEMBERS.... You may bring dues to any meeting or field trip, or mail directly to Secretary Wanda Aldred, RR #2 Box 175, Shoals, IN 47581. Annual dues are \$15.00 (\$7.00 for additional member in the same family) and include National and Chapter dues and liability insurance protection through the Cincinnati Insurance Co. *If you or someone you know would like assistance with paying the membership fee, please contact any officer; a special fund has been set up to do this.*

1988-89 CHAPTER CALENDAR

- May 6, 1989 - Field Trip to Hoosier Stone and Concrete Corp. Quarry in Salem, Indiana. 8:00 am until ?
- May 20, 1989 - Meeting at the Cincinnati Show. 4:30 pm.
- June 10, 1989 - Meeting at the Bedford Swap. 4:00 pm. The program will be: "The Minerals of Cave-in-Rock, Illinois" by Alan Goldstein.
- July 1,2,3 1989 - Field Trip to Houghton, Michigan for the second Red Metal Retreat in "Copper Country".

Follow-up to the Program on Geodes...

Jeff Kosmala, Chapter member who lives in Racine, Wis., wrote regarding the subject of geodes, which we discussed at our March meeting. Following are excerpts from his letter: "...you discussed geodes, one of my favorite interests in Indiana. Boy! I wish I could have been at the March meeting. Yet my wife and I took a field trip around Bloomington...March 27, 28." Jeff talked with other geode collectors, and decided to collect 100 geodes from one selected road cut, to record the minerals found in them and write up the results. "We field collected at Nashville, Harrodsburg and Bloomington. The Bloomington Highway 37 roadcut was the area where I would do my 100-geode study. I chose geodes of different sizes that were imbedded in the limestone, not deciding which one was better than another." The results: 100 geodes: 58 small (1-2"), 36 medium (2-4"), 6 large (4-7")

| | Solid | Quartz (Hollow) | Hollow with Minerals |
|--------|---|---------------------------|---|
| Medium | 6 quartz only 10 w/ calcite 6 calcite & dolomite 1 calcite, dolomite and sphalerite | 10 medium | 1 w/ calcite 1 w/ dolomite |
| Large | 2 quartz only 2 calcite & dolomite 1 calcite, dolomite and sphalerite | 1 large | |
| Small | 20 quartz only 5 calcite 3 calcite & dolomite | 23 small | 2 w/ calcite 4 calcite & dolomite 1 w/ dolomite |
| Total: | 57 solid | 34 hollow quartz lined | 9 hollow, quartz lined with other minerals |

Jeff is interested if anyone else has done similar counts, and suggests FM put out a map with geode collecting locations marked on it, possibly even for magazine publication.

A Note of Appreciation... to Nelson Shaffer for leading our program at the March meeting. Those who were there really enjoyed the event: from Nelson's slides and introductory comments, to the discussion of much-debated theories of geode formation, to the hundreds of specimens of geodes brought in by chapter members. It would be interesting to do the program again some time, with new finds and updated theories.

Wabash Valley Gem & Mineral Show: Chapter member Donald Schuder and his wife brought announcements to the March meeting about the show to be held May 6 (10 am - 9 pm) and May 7 (10 am - 5 pm) at the Tippecanoe County Fairground. Sponsors: Wabash Valley Gem and Mineral Society. Admission is \$1.00 adults, children free.

Field Trip Report:

On Wednesday, April 5 a field trip was taken to the United States Gypsum Company mine and plant in Shoals, Indiana. The following members participated: Wanda and George Aldred, Margaret Kahrs, Ron Richards, Vern Swanson, Fred Lewis, Rick Crosslin, and Rich Eddy. The tour included safety training using rescue devices, descent into the operating mine, and a guided tour through the plaster and wall-board plant which is right on the premises. The mine supervisor led the tour, telling about the various work stations seen underground: drilling, explosives wagon, loading, crushing, etc. He showed the explosives used to break loose the massive gypsum beds- the primary one being fertilizer (ammonium nitrate) soaked in diesel oil. At one point in the underground mine the group was allowed out of their transport for a collecting session: massive gypsum and satin spar were abundant.

The US Gypsum Company provided the following information in a hand-out: "Gypsum in Indiana, to the best of our knowledge, was first found in Southern Indiana during the summer of 1952. It is probable that the presence of Gypsum was known or suspected prior to this time but it was not considered to be of economic importance...The Gypsum beds which make up this deposit..were formed (during)... the Mississippian Period. The..deposit lies between the upper and lower St. Louis limestone formations. The deposit is at least nine and possibly twelve square miles in area. The bed dips to the west and southwest at a rate of approx. 30 feet per mile. The Gypsum bed being mined here has an average thickness of 13 feet and lies 375 feet below the valley floor. The most accepted hypothesis (about its origin) is that Gypsum was formed as a chemical precipitate from a saline solution. It has been determined that the evaporation of 1000 feet of sea water under the required conditions would deposit 7/10ths of a foot of Gypsum. The deposit here in Southern Indiana is composed of massive Gypsum with Selenite and Satin Spar inclusions. Gypsum is Calcium Sulphate (CaSO_4) with two molecules of water of hydration and its chemical formula is written $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$."

Special thanks to George and Wanda for arranging this very interesting and unusual tour!

Officers for 1989

President - Rich Eddy, Columbus, IN (812) 372-2745
 1st V. President - Nelson Shaffer, Bloomington, IN (812) 339-6623
 2nd V. President - Vern Swanson, Alexandria, IN (317) 724-2460
 Secretary-Treasurer - Wanda Aldred, Shoals, IN (812) 247-3780
 FM Liaison - Terry Huizing, Cincinnati, OH (513) 574-7142

Purposes of the Indiana Chapter:

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.

INDIANA CHAPTER
FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY
INDIANA STATE MUSEUM
MARCH 12, 1989

The meeting was opened by Rich Eddy. He welcomed every one to the program and business session to follow.

Rich introduced Program Vice-president Nelson Shaffer who showed slides and discussed the latest theories on the formation of geodes. He ended his talk by saying that there is no known expert on geode formation. How geodes are formed is still very much a mystery and several theories are still that -theories.

Many geodes from Indiana were displayed by FM members and no two were the same. Geodes hold various mineral combinations inside and all are beautiful. This was a very good program that was of interest to a great many people. Several people have expressed regret that they missed this program and have asked if it could be presented again next year.

Business -Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as printed in the newsletter by Terry Huizing, second by George Aldred. Motion carried. Treasury balance reported at \$489.96. A bill for the liability insurance for the year was presented for \$350.00. Terry Huizing moved that this be paid, second by Vern Swanson, motion carried.

Rich Eddy received the Not-for-Profit tax return and will file same. A \$10.00 fee is paid with this return for each year.

Mary Schuder made a suggestion to hold a silent auction within the group to raise money for the treasury. As program Chairman Nelson Shaffer asked that this be tabled until an actual need arises.

Nelson reported that Earnest Carlson will speak on Minerals of Ohio at the Cincinnati Show in May. Allen Goldstien will speak on Minerals of the Cave-in-Rock Area at the Friends of Mineralogy meeting at the Bedford Swap in June.

Field trip Vice-chairman Vern Swanson reported a possible trip to the Salem Quarry on May 6. A trip to the U.S. Gypsum Mine will be confirmed after the number of interested persons is known. The trip will be thru the underground mine, with collecting, and a tour of the plant. A maximum of 10 persons per day and must be on a working day. George Aldred is making arrangement.

The upper Michigan Weekend is July 1,2,3 and 4. Person in charge of our club part is Richard Eddy, Sr.

Maggie Kahrs reported that the naming of the State Mineral and dedication of the Fall-of-the-Ohio is on hold at this time.

Next meeting date is May 20, at the Cincinnati Show.

Submitted by:
Wanda Aldred
Secretary