



MIDWEST CHAPTER, FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, INC.

Chairman's Chatter or President's Patter

A belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you since we do not have a December meeting.

I'm not sure which title I should adopt so I will leave the decision to the editor of our news letter.

As your new chairman for 1995, following in the foot prints of our past President, Hal Roepke, I feel I have some large shoes to fill (pun intended). It will be difficult to duplicate or surpass Hal's efforts, but I promise to do my best with your help.

I joined the Midwest Chapter to learn about minerals from all of you. Back in the 70's I was chairman for a year of the Mineral Section of the old Indianapolis Gem and Geology Society. Since that time I have had only a minimal association with minerals.

From my two slide presentations to this chapter, most of you will connect me with being a manufacturing engineer, now retired and involved in Natural History, World Travel and Photography. I am much more comfortable speaking of flowers, birds and people of foreign countries than about minerals. So, your assistance is required to make our club continue to be successful in growth and education.

We have 59 members according to the 1994 membership list covering 6 states. Thirty-five (35) from Indiana; Sixteen (16) from Ohio; Four (4) from Illinois; with one each from four other states. What can we do to increase our attendance at monthly meetings? It is difficult and somewhat embarrassing to have an excellent speaker for an audience of 6-8 members.

If you have ever been a program chairman you realize the difficulties in securing good speakers or programs. Our new Vice President and Program Chairman Al Sicree will certainly welcome your suggestions.

Let us not forget our Secretary/Treasurer Kim Greeman who will be looking for the dues for 1995.

Please write, if only a post card, giving me your suggestions, ideas or criticisms. Only in this way can we expand our knowledge, to ourselves, and to schools to appreciate the fascinating world of minerals.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting.

Fred