



## NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XI: No. 6

NOVEMBER, 1997

### MIDWEST CHAPTER, FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

#### MEETING

SATURDAY

NOVEMBER 8, 1997

3:00 PM \*\*\*

CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY  
1 WADE OVAL, UNIVERSITY CIRCLE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO, 44106

PROGRAM IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MICROMINERAL  
SYMPOSIUM - F of M MEETING FOLLOWS JOE MARTY ON  
THE "MICROMINERALS FROM ARIZONA AND NEVADA"  
AT 1:30 -2:30 PM.

### Field Trip News: MSHA TRAINING COMPLETE!!!

On August 23, 1997 nine Midwest Chapter members completed the 8 hour nonmetal surface mining training. Topics included hazard recognition, first aid, mandatory health and safety standards, explosives, a history of the law etc. Safety statistics are kept separately for coal and surface mining. For each of these a break down was given as to where the accidents were happening. It was interesting to find out that 43% of the accidents involved Haulage. That is the trucks and loaders operating on the quarry property. Since the training requirements were first implemented there has been a steady decline in accidents and fatalities until this year. There have been 48 deaths just in open pit quarries so far in 1997. Again, about 43% were involving haulage. While on a recent field trip, the quarry had posted MSHA notices concerning this years statistics over the coffee pot. Another quarry operator told us that inspectors were being taken from the coal mines and assigned to open pit quarries due to this unusually high fatality rate. This could be another reason why quarries are harder to get into this year.

After several faxes, including copies of the MSHA certificates, we were allowed into the Delphos quarry. Quantity was lacking but was made up for in quality. Everyone got several nice specimens of fluorite, sphalerite, pyrite, calcite and dolomite.

A field trip is being planned for all Club members on November 15, 1997. The location has not been determined yet. Call Pat Westby at 937-299-8128 by 11/10 to register or earlier if you have a specific request.

Due to other activities, I will not be able to plan sufficient field trips to continue in the position of Vice-president in charge of field trips. I will be happy to assist the new volunteer in getting started, please call me if interested. I apologize for the lack of trips this year and don't want to jeopardize club membership for lack of field trips. Thank you for your support and patience over the last two years. Sincerely Pat Westby.

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\*\*\*IF F of M MEMBERS WANT TO COME JUST FOR THEIR CLUB'S  
MEETING, THEY SHOULD SO INFORM THE PERSON AT THE  
MUSEUM'S REGISTRATION DISK AND THEY WILL BE ADMITTED  
FREE OF CHARGE.

REGISTER IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND THE SYMPOSIUM.

## MIDWEST MINERAL SYMPOSIUM - UPDATE

Brochures advertising the First Midwest Mineral Symposium and requesting abstracts for the all day Poster Program were recently mailed to 33 universities in Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio.

### UPCOMING FM MEETINGS & PROGRAMS

Note the change in date for this meeting!! Saturday November 8, 3:00 PM, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland OH. Since the FM meeting will be held in conjunction with the Micromineral Symposium, there is no separate FM program. The Micromineral Symposium, which is hosted by the Micromineral Society of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, will run from Friday evening October 31 through Sunday afternoon November 2. The main speaker will be Joe Marty, a noted collector of Utah minerals.

Ernie Carlson

