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FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY MIDWEST CHAPTER

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The Mineralogical Society of America
American Geological Institute
Rocks & Minerals

Saturday, September 9, 2006, 12:00 Noon EDT
GREENFIELD, INDIANA
HANCOCK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
In Conjunction with the 30th Annual Greater
Indianapolis Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show
Sponsored by 500 Earth Sciences Club



MR. WILLIAM WUESTENFELD PRESENTS

“A VISIT TO THE CANADIAN DIAMOND MINES”

Mr. Wuestenfeld grew up in Davenport, Iowa, and then graduated from Purdue University in 1943 with a degree in Chemical Engineering. He has been retired for 24 years from the oil refining and chemical business. Beulah “Boo”, his wife, and he have been members of the Chugach Gem and Mineral Society for over twenty years. They are also members of the Alaska Miners Association and the Midwest Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy.

The trip to the diamond mines was arranged by the Alaska Miners Association.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—SEPTEMBER 2006

Hope you all have a good summer, it will be fall before we know it. Our next meeting will be at noon, Saturday, September 9th at the Greenfield show. I am hoping we will have a slate of officers for next year before the meeting. The slate needs to be presented to the club for consideration before the election at the Cleveland show in November. Please give serious consideration to helping out as an officer or activity chairperson. For the club to be successful, we need active participation of the membership. Many thanks to Ernie Carlson and others for arranging the field trips we have had this year and for those yet to come. We were at the Auglaize Quarry on August 26, and the symposium and associated field trips will be September 2 and 3. Bob Harman has a great program scheduled for the Greenfield show. See you there.

David Straw

MINERAL SALES

Don't forget to bring your donated specimens to the Greenfield Show for inclusion in the Mineral Sales. Mr. Schwin will need help, so volunteer your time for a while.

If you have any questions, please call Paul at 419-929-9074 or rocknut2@aol.com

MINUTES OF THE MEETING—June 24, 2006

President David Straw opened the meeting by introducing our speaker for the day, Mr. Robert Harman, of Bloomington.

The location is a secret, but Mr. Harman gave a very interesting and informative talk on the geodes from a sandy siltstone formation in southern Monroe County, Indiana. He discovered this location a number of years ago and was fascinated by the minerals found. The types vary from location to location and are formed in a different way from the common Harrodsburg geodes. These geodes can range from one inch in diameter to medium to volleyball size. Many times the geodes are found in groups of two and three. Some are thin walled and others very thick, but contain a wide variety of minerals, usually quartz, but many with aragonite, limonite, siderite, ankerite, dolomite and occasionally malachite and pyrite in micro. The aragonite forms crystals as needles, sprays and sometimes the aragonite covers the quartz in a melted form. There has been no barite, millerite or calcite found in these geodes. Mr. Harman passed around photos of the zone and also of the crystals inside the geodes. A question and answer period followed wherein, Mr. Harman answered with knowledge about the geodes he has collected. A table was filled with examples of his finds.

President Straw opened the business portion of the meeting with twenty-two members and guests present.

The minutes of the May 6, 2006, meeting were approved with a motion from Dwaine Edington and a second from William Otte.

Lorraine Wright, treasurer, reported that the balance in the account as of this date was \$1,396.66. The \$100.00 donation to the Clement Mineral Museum still needs to be sent, but the treasurer's report was approved with a motion from Nelson Shaffer and a second from Victor Hurm, Jr.

Ms. Wright then discussed the insurance policy. In the past we have paid \$250.00 per year for the policy and on the last renewal date, the company informed her that a new policy was being written and that the rates would be going up. When the invoice arrived, the cost of the policy had risen by more than \$150.00 and from an accompanying letter the reason for the increase was due to a terrorist clause being added. A discussion followed and Mr. Shaffer made a motion for Ms. Wright to shop around for other insurance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hurm and approved by voting members.

OLD BUSINESS: President Straw opened a discussion on our not-for-profit status and from research done by Ms. Wright found that fees had not been paid for a number of years. The National Friends of Mineralogy requires all chapters to be registered in a state as incorporated. We were registered with the state in January 1995. It was decided that we would apply for new status.

Paul Schwin has set-up a booth at this Bloomington show and has already had the help of George and Roger Heaton. We will have a booth at the Greenfield show and again donations of mineral specimens are needed as well as volunteers to help Paul.

NEW BUSINESS: Upcoming events for the Midwest Chapter was discussed and a flyer was distributed with a list of MSHA training session, field trips and the symposium to be held in September.

Mr. Straw noted that he had received a message from Sharleen Harvey, Publicity Chairman for the National Organization, about Earth Sciences programs that members had been involved in directed to young people. New member, Len Gritzer, and Mr. Hurm both have given lectures and distributed specimens to students. They will forward the information to Ms. Harvey, Mr. Shaffer or Mr. Dameron.

Mr. Shaffer explained about our affiliation with The American Geological Institute and the benefits we receive from that affiliation.

Our next meetings will be September 9 in Greenfield and November 4 in Cleveland. A nominating committee will be appointed at the September meeting with a vote for officers at the November meeting.

Mr. Harman is Vice-President in charge of acquiring speakers for our programs, but members are urged to suggest names to help in getting these people to speak at our meetings.

Mr. Shaffer discussed the Friends of Mineralogy booth at the Tucson Show. He suggested that contact be made to presidents of the other chapters to donate \$10.00 to \$20.00 to purchase a banner to display at this booth. Also, Mr. Shaffer requested that any member that would be attending the Tucson show to please donate an hour or two in the booth to explain the purpose of our organization.

Dennis Haas reported that he had made copies of the article from a St. Louis newspaper announcing the reason for the closing of Sheffler's Geode Mine and Rock Shop.

Philip Lind, new member in 2006, stated that he and Kenneth Newman attended the Mineral Show at the Clement Mineral Museum in Marion, Kentucky. He reported that they found the museum fantastic and that there was just not enough time to attend all of the field trips and the show all in one day. To go on the field trips to the mines in the area there was a fee and collecting was allowed. They did find some beautiful fluorite specimens.

(Continued on Page 3)

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Vice-President (Field Trips) Ernest Carlson 330-678-8875, ecarlson@kent.edu

Secretary Albert Sicree 937-236-1320

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Minutes-June 24, 2006, continued from Page 2

Mr. Shaffer stated that any member that knew of students or others that would volunteer their time, there are openings to help at the sinkhole at Pipe Creek, Jr. in Grant County. Contact him for further information. He discussed Indiana Geological Survey and stated that there are very interesting items to view.

The meeting was adjourned with a motion from Mr. Edington and seconded by Mr. Otte.

Marlene Edington, Secretary Pro-tem

NOTE FROM PAUL SCHWIN

I would like to express my appreciation for the help that George and Roger Heaton gave at the Midwest Chapter's booth at the Bloomington show. They remained in the booth and helped in the pricing of the mineral specimens. Ernie Carlson was instrumental in having the starting cash. Thank you. A special thanks to Bob Harman, Charlie Oldham, Dwaine Edington, Vernon Swanson and others that donated specimens for the sale. New members Sharon and William Otte and others were purchasers of specimens. I will expect to see more of you at the Greenfield show. Thanks to everyone again.

REPORT OF THE CLAY CENTER FIELD TRIP—JULY 22, 2006 BOTH REPORTS BY ERNIE CARLSON

The trip to Clay Center, Ottawa County, was good in spite of the early start (7 AM). The weather was excellent and collecting was fine for the twenty-eight Midwest FoM members making the trip. I sent a thank you letter to the quarry superintendent who had told me earlier that MSHA certificates were required for entry. Celestine and fluorite were plentiful and many nice intergrowths of the two were obtained. The celestine is colorless, white and sky blue in nice bladed and tabular crystals. Cubic crystals of fluorite were dark brown, wine colored, light brown and colorless, with some fine-grained purple material present as well. The dark brown, wine-colored, and light brown fluorite shows cream-colored fluorescence and phosphorescence in long-wavelength ultraviolet light. Numerous color-zoned cubes of fluorite with dark cores and light rims were observed. Several nice ruby sphalerite crystals were found, as well as a few cubic crystals of galena. Rare masses of yellow sulfur were obtained, which have not previously been reported from Clay Center!! Also pale yellow rhombohedrons of calcite showing parallel growth, and fine-grained iridescent iron sulfides, which earlier X-ray work on similar material has shown to be pyrite, were recovered.

AUGLAIZE TRIP—AUGUST 26, AND SYMPOSIUM—SEPTEMBER 2 AND 3, 2006

I am writing this the day before the trip to Auglaize Quarry, Paulding County, and we are hoping the scattered thunderstorms predicted will stay away so the eighteen members signed up will keep dry. MSHA certificates are required for this trip. Plans for the Field Symposium are complete. Twenty-nine members and guests are planning to attend. On Saturday morning we start at Sylvania, Lucas County, go to Genoa, Ottawa County, in the afternoon and drive to Lima, Allen County, for dinner and the Symposium Saturday evening. Speakers will be George Simmons and Joe Vasichko. Sunday morning we drive to the Delphos quarry, Van Wert County, and the Bloomlock quarry, Allen County, in the afternoon, both operated by the Suever Stone Company, Inc. before departing for home. MSHA certificates are not needed for Sylvania and Genoa, but are required for Delphos and Bloomlock. Hard hats, boots, and safety glasses are required for all trips.

FIELD TRIP TO IMI QUARRY, PENDLETON, INDIANA

BY DENNIS HAAS, TRENTON, ILLINOIS

Getting into an active quarry nowadays is difficult at best, so when the opportunity arises one should take advantage of it. When I read the notice in the Midwest Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy newsletter of the field trip to IMI Quarry on July 15, 2006, it was a field trip not to be missed. Especially since the chapter visited this quarry back in August 2002. The Irving Materials, Inc. Quarry near Pendleton, Indiana, is noted for beautiful transparent to translucent, light brown to orangish brown calcite crystals twinned on the {011 2} plane (Huizing and Russell 1986).

Back in 2002 the Midwest Chapter field trip went to the calcite producing upper level even though there had not been any blasting in that part of the quarry for a long time. One could find some good calcite specimens, but nothing compared to what was found on this field trip. Back in 2002 they were not blasting in the calcite producing area, now in 2006, they are actively working in the old part of the quarry and the calcites the quarry is known for are being found again.

I took a lot of photos back in 2002, the first time I ever visited the quarry to document the visit. I remember reading an article in *Mineral News, Field Trip Journal-How and Why* by Dana M. Morong from the February 1993 issue. He talked of the importance of documenting your field trips. By comparing the photos taken in 2002 with what is happening today one could get a sense of how much has changed in the past four years.

The calcites from the IMI Quarry have been written about in several publications. They were talked of in the *Rocks and Minerals* issue in May-June 1986 and September-October 1999. Also photos and a short description was in *ExtraLapis-Calcite* in the chapter, *Limestone Quarries of the Midwest*. So the mineralogy of this quarry is significant enough to be in several publications.

The IMI Quarry is near Interstate 69, Exit 22, and it is fairly easy to find. Luckily when I arrived at the quarry office, where the group was to meet, the sky was clear, but it was going to be hot. But what do you expect in the Midwest in July!

This time the field trip was a joint field trip of the Columbus Mineral Society and the Midwest Chapter, which made a good size group on this field trip. Luckily there was a fairly large area to collect so all had plenty of room to explore. We were allowed in from eight to one PM, but with the heat several did not stay until one in the afternoon. However, with so many rubble piles and not tall quarry walls to explore, one could find a fair amount in a short time. After signing a waiver and a brief safety talk in the office parking lot, the group got into their vehicles and convoyed a short distance to the collecting area. It was not long before you could hear rock hammers beating away. I went to the area of the quarry with the rubble piles. The limestone is pretty much broken up already for you and one does not have the danger of over hanging rocks. I saw several vugs in the quarry walls toward the end of the collecting day with fractured over hangs to make it dangerous to try to pry out the vugs. They do not require a hard hat for no good reason. No specimen is worth the risk of serious injury.

There was a large area to explore and a limited amount of time, so I would fill up a five-gallon bucket as fast as I could since there were vugs of calcite in just about every part of the piles. Most were completely filled and in fairly large limestone blocks. I returned to the van for water and the 20 pound sledge hammer. Besides the honey-brown calcites, I also found a few small sphalerite crystals in the matrix. It was a collector's dream finding the blocks and part of the quarry wall peppered with vugs.

A field trip is like a visit to an outdoor natural laboratory (Morong 1993). By going and seeing the calcites of IMI Quarry that have been written about and is now being actively quarried, one can get a better understanding of the beauty of the specimens. It will be interesting to see what others found on this trip.

Wish to thank Kenneth Newman for organizing this field trip for the Midwest Chapter. His hard work is greatly appreciated by all and I wish to thank the IMI Quarry for allowing the group to collect.

Field Trip to IMI Quarry continued from Page 4

References:

- Huizing, Terry E., *Limestone Quarries of the Midwest, Calcite-ExtraLapis* English No. 4, Page 82
Huizing, Terry E. and Russell, Richard E. 1986 *Indiana Minerals, A Locality Index, Rocks and Minerals*, Vol. 61 No. 3 May/June Pages 136-150
Morong, Dana M. *Field Trip Journal-How and Why, Mineral News*, February 1993, Page 5
Richards, R. Peter 1999, *The Four Twin Laws of Calcite and How to Recognize Them, Rocks and Minerals*, Vol. 74 No. 5, September/October 1999, Pages 308-317

POSTERS

With compliments of Dennis Haas, this editor has a supply of posters showing Texas Rocks and Fossils and posters showing Illinois Rocks and Minerals with a very extensive description on the reverse side about the different types of rocks and minerals. There are nine Texas posters and ten Illinois posters. Reserve a copy by e-mail to dandme@spitfire.net or see me at the Greenfield meeting.

MIDWEST CHAPTER MINERAL SALE

Paul Schwin will again be having a mineral sale at the Greenfield show on **Friday to Sunday, September 8 to 10**. Donation of minerals would be greatly appreciated to make this endeavor a success. Everyone must have some extra minerals in their basement, attic, garage, under beds, under chairs and all those boxes that are stacked sky high whether it is micro to museum size. Start going through those boxes and bags and donate to the Midwest Chapter Mineral Sale. Bring your specimens to the show. Be sure you have identified the mineral, the location and other important information and have it on a label for the customer to take along with the specimen. Paul will also need help in manning the booth so **volunteer** a part of your time while at the show to give him a break. This is your organization and the mineral sale will help the club's treasury in paying dues to the National Organization, insurance and fees for the Field Trip Symposium.

PHOTOGRAPHS AND INFORMATION WANTED:

Dennis Haas has requested that any member that has photographs and/or information about Pleasant Ridge Quarry at Rensselaer, Indiana, to please contact him at 104 E. Wisconsin, Trenton IL 62293

NEWSLETTER EDITOR WANTED:

Opportunity for someone to put their creative minds to work. Newsletters sent via e-mail and a few paper copies. Newsletters are sent six times in each year.

Members: This is my sixth year in doing the newsletter and for personal reasons, I would like for someone to take over the job. It is a fairly easy job to do. You get all of the work, but none of the glory as most times editors for club newsletters have a thankless job. I have enjoyed doing this, but think it is time to hang up my hat. If interested, please contact your president.

Thanks.

Marlene Edington

Please make the following changes or additions to your membership list sent in May. For new members a complete copy will be sent along with the back issues of your newsletters and a copy of our Constitution and By-laws. Please let me know if there are any mistakes.

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30TH Annual Greater Indianapolis

Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show

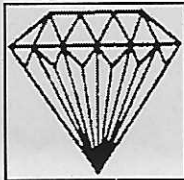
September 8 – 9 – 10, 2006

Hancock County 4-H Fairgrounds, Greenfield, Indiana

Friday: 9:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Sunday: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



MIDWEST
FEDERATION

Dealers and Swappers in:
Fossils, Minerals, Gems and Jewelry
and Lapidary Equipment...

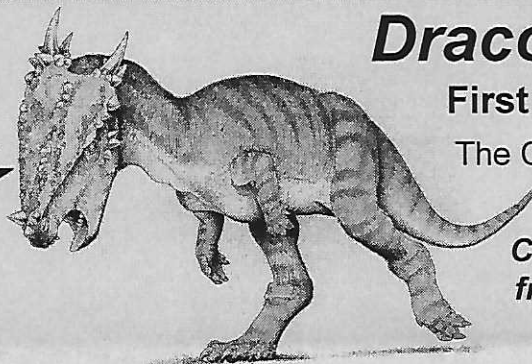


PLUS



Silent Auctions, Raffles, Door Prizes and Much More!

Kids Activities, Demonstrations, Educational Displays and Programs for All



Dracorex is Coming!

First and Only One of It's Kind!

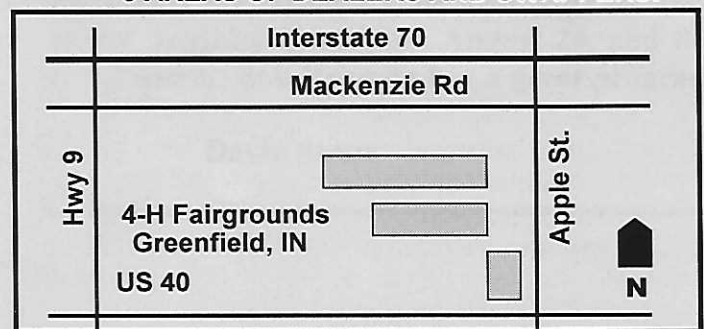
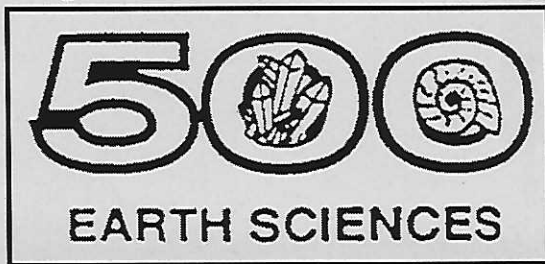
The Children's Museum of Indianapolis
presents *Dracorex hogwartsia!*

*Come and see the "Dragon King"
from the Hell Creek Formation of
South Dakota!*

Meetings on Saturday: Friends of Mineralogy, Midwest Chapter at 12:00 noon
Indiana Society of Paleontology at 2:00 p.m.

3 AREAS OF DEALERS AND SWAPPERS!

Sponsored by:



Don Mahoney, 17914 Juniper Rd., Argos, IN 46501, (574) 892-5264, DLMCNACLU@aol.com, or
James Yarber, 6877 West Byron Dr., Fountaintown, IN 46130, (317) 835-7275, jyarber@mail.inct.net