

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, INC MIDWEST CHAPTER

AFFILIATIONS:

THE MINERALOGICAL RECORD
THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
AMERICAN GEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
ROCKS & MINERALS MAGAZINE

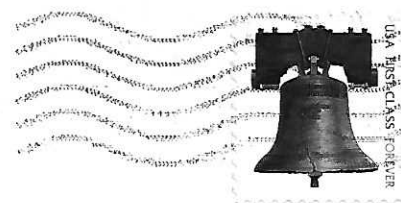
NEXT MEETING:

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2008
LAWRENCE COUNTY SHOW & SWAP
FAIRGROUNDS, BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY
MIDWEST CHAPTER
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I have made up a small info packet to give to new members, consisting of an initial welcoming message, our list of field trip guidelines, and the membership list. I am hoping we can include it in the next newsletter after this one so you can all see it. After that, it will be given or mailed to new members only. If you would rather not have your email address included, let me know.

At the last two meetings, we have had a discussion regarding making contributions to worthy causes. We will probably decide which to donate money to at Bloomington. Candidates so far are the AFMS scholarship fund, Rocks & Minerals magazine color fund, the Clement Museum in Marion KY, the American Geological Institute, and the Indiana State Museum. Let me know if you have other suggestions.

Don't forget to communicate with Alan Goldstein (502-426-4399, deepskyspy@insightbb.com), if you would like to sign up for the symposium Nov 1&2. See you at Bloomington.

Dave Straw

MEETING MINUTES, MAY 3, 2008

President Dave Straw called the meeting to order in the lecture room at the Cincinnati Gardens at 4:35 PM on Saturday, May 3, 2008. He thanked the Cincinnati Mineral Society and the Dry Dredgers for hosting the show and meeting, and welcomed guests and one new member, as well as long-time members. Because of the small number of members attending the Richmond, Indiana, show, there was not a formal meeting, and so no minutes

Dee Slater moved to accept the minutes from the January 19, 2008 meeting in Indianapolis; motion passed. Treasurer Lorraine Wright reported a balance of \$1554.68 in the checking account and 1448.21 in the savings account for a total of \$3002.89. Dave asked that anyone present who had not paid this year's dues pay them to Lorraine; she had a list of all those who had paid, and said about 30 of last year's members were delinquent for this year. She will send them a reminder; dues are \$10 for one member, \$15 for two at the same address. It was moved to send a contribution to the AFMS Scholarship Fund of \$100 each (total of \$200) in memory of deceased Midwest Chapter active members Bill Cook and Marlene Edington; motion passed.

Vice president (field trips) Ernie Carlson reminded members of upcoming field trips on May 24 to the Auglaize Quarry and June 7 to the Lime City Quarry. Those going MUST have taken MSHA training this year and must bring their certificates. We may enter the quarries at 7:30 AM and should start leaving at 11:30; we must be out by noon. There will be more field trips in the fall. He has been turned down for this year by Sylvania and Clay Center.

Dave will make up the membership packets, containing a brief introduction to the group, a member list, the rules for behavior on field trips, and information about the website. They will first be sent to all present members, then later to new members as they join.

The chapter symposium will be Nov. 1 and 2, headquartered at the Shaker Village at Harrodsburg, Kentucky (not Indiana). Alan Goldstein has the sign-up list; the limit is 50 people. Transportation to collecting sites will be in vans, with a truck for equipment (private cars will be left at headquarters) and the total cost of \$50 includes 2 lunches and 1 dinner.

We were reminded about the Clement Museum show and dig on June 7 and 8 at Marion, KY (bclement@kynet.biz).

A nominating committee for next year's officers is needed. Dave said that since he has been president for 3 years, we will need a new person for the office. Future meetings will be held on May 31 at 12 noon at the Columbus, OH show; on June 28 (time to be arranged) at the Bloomington, IN swap; on Sept. 6 at 12 noon at Greenfield, IN; and on Nov. 8, probably at 3:30 PM at the Cleveland Symposium.

Under other business, Bob Harmon pointed out that the Louisville club show might be Nov. 1-2; symposium attendees should be aware of this. Sylvia Sicree mentioned that we had given various donations in the past, and that we should consider how to handle these in the future, coming up with a policy. Dave said that we could discuss that in Bloomington, and asked members to make a list of causes to be considered and other ideas, and e-mail them to him before June 20.

There being no further business, we were adjourned at 5 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Anne Cook, Secretary

REGISTER NOW FOR ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

You are cordially invited to attend the Friends of Mineralogy, Midwest Chapter 2008 Symposium on the Central Kentucky Mineral District at Historic Shaker Village on November 1st & 2nd.

Why Central Kentucky?

This is among the older mining areas west of the Appalachians. It was an early producer of lead and later was a source of calcite, zinc (primarily sphalerite), barite, and fluorite. Dozens of mines and prospect pits cover a large portion of the Inner Bluegrass, extending as far north as Owen County and as far south as Lincoln County. This region has *never* been the subject of a symposium for mineral enthusiasts!

What's happening?

Field Excursions

Registered participants will be transported to sites throughout the district. *Planned* stops include two active underground limestone quarries with mineralized veins running through and several abandoned mines (with small dumps) as well as a spectacular exposure of the Kentucky River fault zone. We are using vans to move participants on the field trips because safety is paramount! Narrow country roads and scarce parking at several locations makes convoys impractical. Vans will also allow information to be shared as we drive throughout the district. We will provide "chase" trucks to carry your tools and specimens.

Banquet and Guest Speakers

The evening banquet will feature fine Kentucky cuisine followed by a series of presentations by knowledgeable speakers. Local collectors will provide door prizes of good mineral specimens from the district to be given away between programs. Topics / speakers will include:

Geological Overview of the Mineral District: Dr. Warren Anderson

200 Years of Mining History: Tab Farthing

Review of Minerals from the District: Alan Goldstein

Minerals of the Thomas Vein, Georgetown: Ed O'Dell

Mines of the Lower Kentucky River: Charles Oldham

Caldwell Stone Quarry – Famous Mineral Locality: Danny Settles

Mines and Minerals of Mundy's Landing: Bill McKenzie

Swap - Sale

Before the banquet, a swap and sale will be offered. Participants are encouraged to bring minerals. We will not charge a fee, but participants must be registered for the symposium. Expect to see minerals from the district available!

(Symposium Cont'd)

How much does it cost and what do I get?

Registration: \$50¹

Shaker Village room rates: \$80 per night²

Option breakfast buffet: \$8.50³

Lunches⁴: Free, courtesy the Kentucky Crushed Stone Association

Symposium dinner: Included in registration fee

Color, bound symposium guidebook: Free, courtesy WMB Engineering, Inc., Lexington

Transportation by 15-passenger van for both days: Free, courtesy the Kentucky Geological Survey

¹ Limited to 50 people

² Participants must book their own lodging and indicate they are coming to the Friends of Mineralogy symposium in order to receive this much lower than normal room rate.

³ Breakfast *must* be reserved when you book your room, not on-site.

⁴ Selection of meat and veggie subs will be on the registration form.

To book your room at the special price and reserve a place for breakfast, call 800-734-5611 ext. 1548 or 859-734-1548 (Ann Voris). Tell her you are attending the Friends of Mineralogy Symposium. Questions about the lodging? E-mail her at ann@shakervillageky.org.

If I want to attend, what should I do?

Contact Alan Goldstein by e-mail (deepsksyspy@insightbb.com) or telephone (502-426-4399). You will be sent a registration packet (once the itinerary is complete) by e-mail or USPS. We hope to see you at Historic Shaker Village! Numerous activities are available for family members not interested in the symposium. Look up Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill on the web –www.shakervillageky.org.

NEXT MEETING, FoM, MIDWEST CHAPTER

Our next meeting will be Saturday, June 28 at the Lawrence County Rock Club, 43rd Annual Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show and Swap, Monroe County 4-H Fairgrounds, Bloomington, IN on Airport Rd. From junction of IND 37 & IND 45 South, go south on 45 for 1.2 miles then right (west) on Airport Rd for 0.7 miles. 70-100 Vendors expected at show & swap from Friday - Sunday. See club website at www.lawrencecountyrockclub.org

ENLIGHTENED DISCOURSE

The tourist from the prairie states was marveling at New England's scenery and asked a local New Hampshire farmer, "Where did all those rocks come from?" The farmer replied, "The great glacier brought them here." Seeking more enlightenment, the tourist persisted, "Well, where is the glacier now?" The farmer drawled, "It went back for more rocks." *From MGAGS Quarterly Newsletter, Summer 2001*

FIELD TRIP & SAFETY

In our single minded search for minerals and fossils, we sometimes miss the tiny animal life we inadvertently encounter, such as ticks and chiggers. These are crawling insects, which feed on blood and search for their meals from the tips of grasses and shrubs, and transfer to animals or persons that brush against the vegetation.

We recently encountered these pests while searching for rocks along roadsides and riverbanks. Fortunately we have never encountered these critters in working quarries, where vegetation is usually not present.

Chiggers are so small that they could be called 'no-see-ums.' Indeed, the hungry young chiggers are almost microscopic. They have six legs and are rust red in color. Although the attacking chigger soon departs your skin after feeding, it leaves behind an intense inflammation in the form of welts, about the size of nickels. The intense itching can rob you of sleep and scratching may lead to a bacterial skin infection. We found that the recommended use of calamine lotion, or a 1/2 percent hydrocortisone creme, reduced that itching. After a week, the welts on thigh, back and chest gradually disappeared without consequence, as they were expected to have.

While chiggers are apparently merely nuisances, some types of ticks can be very dangerous. After hunting for fossils along a southern Indiana roadside, I picked up a tick on my right arm. Being right handed, I had my wife pull the tick off my arm in the recommended manner—by grasping the head of the tick with a tweezr, and pulling it straight out. I watched my skin for the next couple of weeks, and fortunately no rash appeared, nor did I experience any flu-like symptoms during tht period. I was confident that I had not contracted Lyme Disease.

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection, that can be spread to humans by the bite of a tick which is infected by a corkscrew-shaped bacteria. According to the Center for Disease Control, CDC, Lyme Disease is found in all fifty states, and the highest incidence occurs in the Northeast from Massachusetts to Maryland, and in the North Central states, especially Wisconsin and Minnesota.

In the eastern United States, the deer tick, can transmit Lyme disease. The victim experiences flu-like symptoms, such as chills and fever, headache and muscle and joint pain. A red circular patch on the skin may appear, usually 3 days to one month after the bite of the infected tick, at the side of the bite. The patch expands, often to a large size, however it usually is not painful. It is suspected that some cases of arthritis are the result of Lyme disease. See a doctor at the sudden onset of these symptoms. Victims treated with antibiotics, under the supervision of a physician, usually recover rapidly and completely.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. The chances of being bitten by a tick can be decreased with a few precautions:

- * Spray insect repellent containing DEET, (diethyl toluamide) on the clothes and on exposed skin other than the face.
- * Treat clothes (especially) pants, socks and shoes with permethrin, which kills ticks on contact.
- * Wear long pants and tuck the pant legs into socks or boots, and shirt into pants.
- * Wear light colored clothing, so that the ticks can be spotted more easily.

