

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, INC MIDWEST CHAPTER



AFFILIATIONS:

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

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, May 2, 2009, 1:00 PM
Cincinnati Mineral Society
Cincinnati Gardens
2250 Seymour Ave
Cincinnati, OH



*Thanks,
Dad!*

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, INC
MIDWEST CHAPTER
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CLEVELAND, OH
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FIRST CLASS



**FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY
MIDWEST CHAPTER**

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ROCKS & MINERALS MAGAZINE

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MSHA (Mine Safety) TRAINING SESSION

Training for updated certificates, needed for entry to some quarries, will be held on Friday, April 24, 2009, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM at the Fountain Square ODNR facility, 2045 Morse Rd, Columbus, OH 43229-6605, Bldg E1, Conference Rm. Stop at entry guard house and obtain a visitors permit. Notify Dr Ernie Carlson by Friday, **April 17** if you wish to attend. Home (330) 678-8875; Office (330) 672-3778; E-mail ecarlson@kent.edu.

The training location is on the north side of Columbus. There is an exit for Morse Road from I-71. Go east on Morse Rd. Entrance is on right

Collecting trips are in the planning stages and will be announced as scheduled.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Finally, after a long, cold, and, for some a very snowy winter, spring is here. The post Tucson mineral and fossil show schedule is in full swing with several local and regional shows over the next several months in Ohio, Western Pa., Kentucky and Indiana. The exhibitors and dealers spend a lot of time setting up their exhibits and sale specimens so, even in these tough economic times, make the effort to support these shows. Check out your fellow collectors' finds in their exhibits and patronize the dealers. As Neil Yedlin said many years ago "buy good rocks"!

Many of us FoM members are field collectors. I am an avid field collector of Indiana Geodes. Any chance I get I am out looking for the geodes and this early spring time of the year is, in many locations, the best time of the year for collecting. As we all know most locations are now closed, with some of the only open locations now being roadcuts. In order to keep these few sites open to fossil and crystal collectors in the future, it is necessary to repeat some simple rules and proper etiquette that we FoM field collectors should abide by. Park cars well off the road right of way. Wear hard hats when near any high walls and safety glasses while collecting. Keep young children safe. Kick any fallen rock back away from the road towards the high wall. If a specimen is exposed but cannot be adequately freed up from the surrounding rock, do not destroy it, but rather leave it for the next collector. And remember that if other collecting folks are there first, respect their collecting territory. I believe that if these simple rules are adhered to, no incidents or accidents will occur and open sites will continue to be available and produce great fossil and crystal specimens for years to come. GOOD HUNTING!

MARCH MEETING

President Bob Harman called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM, Sunday, March 8, 2009, at the Wayne County Fairgrounds, Richmond, Indiana. A moment of silence was observed for departed member Dee Slater of Indianapolis. Approximately 15 members and guests were present. The President announced that our next meeting would be at the Cincinnati Ohio show on Saturday, May 2 at 1:00 PM.

Bob introduced Terry Huizing of the Cincinnati Mineral Club, who presented a program on his recent collecting trip to China. Terry also had displayed his case of unusual crystal forms at the show. The case had been in the Tucson show earlier. His talk was interesting and well received.

"FILLERUPS"

Living on earth is expensive, but it does include free trips around the sun.

If Walmart is lowering prices everyday, how come nothing is free yet?

A penny saved is a government oversight.

Some mistakes are too much fun to only make once.

Accept that some days you're the pigeon and some days you're the statue.

Everybody is someone else's weirdo.

Q: What is a terminal illness? A: When you are sick at the airport.

TOP TEN REASONS TO GET INTO MICRO MOUNTING**By Tim Jokela, Jr**

Here's a top ten list for you, just like Letterman's, but without the funny bits or the canned laughter. There are many reasons to get into micro mounting but these are the top ten:

For those unfamiliar with the term, micro mounting is the study of minerals that require magnification for best appreciation. Micro mounters generally use low-power (10x-60x) binocular microscopes, and mount the specimens in micro mount boxes, which are about 20-mm on edge, with a proper label. You know you're a micro mounter when you find yourself mounting a 1-mm crystal on a toothbrush bristle. Sound cool? Read on!

10 - **Storage** - While you probably can't fit a thousand micro mounts on the head of a pin, you can sure fit them in a small box under your bed, making micro mounting ideal for apartment dwellers or anyone who has heard the immortal phrase, "Get those rocks out of here"!

9 - **Easy Collecting** - Field collecting superb 10-cm crystals of a rare mineral isn't particularly easy, but the micro mounter can find something of interest almost anywhere.

8 - **Perfection** - Micro-crystals are perfectly formed and undamaged far more often than cabinet specimens. They are the peak of aesthetics.

7 - **Variety** - There's only a few hundred minerals out there that come in nice big crystals, and almost no new species are found in sizeable crystals. Go to any mineral show and what you see - table after table of aquamarine, quartz, and fluorite, boring indeed. Micro mounters work with far more species than hand-specimen collectors, and far more rarities. It's where the real mineralogy is.

6 - **Low Prices** - The average price of a micro mount is \$3.00. Really expensive ones are \$20. The initial expense of a good scope and proper light is pretty steep, but after that you're set.

5 - **No Fakes** - When a lot of money is changing hands for a fine cabinet piece, one has to be wary that the specimen hasn't been altered or faked in some way. Faking micro mounts is not only extremely rare, it's nearly impossible; a microscope easily reveals glue where it shouldn't be.

4 - **Cheap Shipping** - Sending 100 micro mounts by airmail to Europe is far more affordable than 100 cabinet pieces.

3 - **Discovery** - A large part of what drives field collectors is the thrill of discovery. The micro mounter doesn't have the constraints of a field season - no matter what the weather is like he can pull some rocks out of storage, trim them down, and find fantastic crystal-filled vugs never before seen by man. It's a year-round hobby.

2 - **Weird & Wonderful** - The micro mounter sees things that aren't even imagined by 'macro' collectors. Things like spiral millerite crystals, Sweet Home Mine rhodochrosite rhombs with moving bubble inclusions, or minerals like rutile, pyrite, and boulangerite in ring crystals, to name a few of the bizarre things seen by the micro mounter.

1 - **Free Stuff** - Last time you went to your average, garden-variety mineral show, did they have tables filled with the fine cabinet specimens free for the taking? At micro mount symposia, give-away tables loaded with interesting stuff are standard practice. Micro mounters are a very generous lot!

From The New York Mineralogical Club Newsletter 2/98 via Rocky Mountain Federation News, 11/03