

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, INC MIDWEST CHAPTER



AFFILIATIONS:

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

NEXT MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2011, 1:00 PM
INDIANA STATE MUSEUM
650 W WASHINGTON ST
INDIANAPOLIS, IN



FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, INC
MIDWEST CHAPTER
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16155 SHURMER RD
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FIRST CLASS



**FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY
MIDWEST CHAPTER**

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AMERICAN GEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
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ROCKS & MINERALS MAGAZINE**

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PURPOSE

Friends of Mineralogy, Inc - Midwest Chapter is organized to promote interest in and knowledge of mineralogy; to advance mineralogical education; to protect and preserve mineral specimens and promote conservation of mineral localities; to futher cooperation between amateur and professional and encourage collection of minerals for educational value; and to support publications about mineralogy and about the programs of kindred organizations.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My message this month is really a montage of several subjects, sadly starting with a note on the passing of Dr. Ernest Carlson. By now all of you know that "ERNIE" passed away in mid November. He had been in failing health with several problems for some time. Ernie was a fixture in Ohio mineralogy, being a long time Professor of Geology at Kent State University. He had written many papers on Ohio minerals and a synopsis of the same for the collector publication Rocks and Minerals. Most of us knew him as our long time FoM Midwest Chapter Field Trip Chairman. As he had mentored many Ohio geologists, he knew most of the Ohio quarry management and professional personnel. As such, he was very successful in gaining entrance into many Ohio quarries for us collectors. He was a kind and gentle person and will be sorely missed by all his family and many friends.

Reggie Rose, has kindly agreed to take over for Ernie. Reggie will now be the Field Trip Chairman for both the Columbus Rock and Mineral Society and our Midwest Chapter of The Friends of Mineralogy. Ernie's shoes will be hard to fill, but I am sure Reggie will step up to the plate and fill those shoes in the coming years. Please welcome him and give him all your support. I suspect that some field trips will be together with the Columbus club and, maybe if we are lucky, we can get into some quarries twice as both FoM members and Columbus club members!

My first 2 years of the Midwest Chapter presidency are now history. As no one else is chomping at the bit to take over, I will continue to serve as your Chapter President for another 2 years. But, I must now say that after this two year stint, I will step down. Somebody out there please be prepared to also step up to the plate and take over for me!!!!!! The other officers will also remain the same as I have not heard of any changes. But next year and on down the road we should have some volunteers willing to take over any other open positions!!!!!!!

On another subject, there has been a lot commenting to me about the selling of specimens found during good field trip collecting at certain quarries. Not only were many great pyrite nodules found in Indianapolis, but we all know that in 2007 there was a great find of fluorite at Clay Center and in 2008 collecting was great for celestine at Lime City. Many specimens showed up for sale shortly after those finds. As I am not at all opposed to selling field trip found specimens, let me reiterate why the Indianapolis trip specimen sales backfired on us as FoM collectors. It is because the quarry management quickly found out about the sales and WERE OF THE OPINION THAT OUR COLLECTING WAS PRIMARILY FOR OUR COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL BENEFITS and not our personal collections. They were strongly opposed to that. Other quarries might not find out about sales of their mineral crystals or simply not care if we make some money from the sale of their rocks. So, I say once again, be careful; don't put large amounts up for sale for a while after the trip and be careful in doing so. Enough from me so GOOD HUNTING !!

DUES FOR 2011 are due by JANUARY 31 Mail to LEN GRITZER
FRIENDS of MINERALOGY
PO BOX 22581 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46222

Several members reported receiving unwanted emails with political overtones during the recent contentious political campaign season. Unsolicited non-rock collecting emails using FoM member lists will not be tolerated.

REGARDS BOB

FINAL 2010 FIELD TRIP WAS COOL

JOHN Report on today's field trip. : While it was chilly and several sprinkles occurred, the December weather did not interfere with today's field trip to the Harding Street Quarry in Indianapolis. The snow had almost completely melted and about 40 people showed up to collect their famous pyrite nodules in the shale overburden (thought to be pyritized clams). Just as the last field trip, collecting was very good with most everyone going home with several, or more, top quality pyrite nodule specimens.

"Thank you's" go to Reggie Rose and the quarry management and personnel who coordinated every aspect of our outing. Prior to entry, I had a minute of silence in memory of Ernie Carlson. Then I made an announcement about FoM dues and handed out our treasurer, Len Gritzer's, address he uses for FoM correspondence.

Note that if 2011 dues are not paid in a timely fashion, entrance to quarries on future field trips will be in jeopardy. Spot checks of FoM membership lists and current MSHA certificates may occur.

Have a great holiday BOB

IN MEMORIAM
DR ERNEST CARLSON

In 1992, my wife Rose contacted "Ernie" and asked him to attend the American Federation, Midwest Federation Convention and Show in Brunswick, OH to autograph his book "Minerals of Ohio". He spent two days doing so at the show. In 1999 I had the privilege to nominate him for the Midwest Federation Honoree of the American Federation Scholarship Foundation. He selected two Kent State Graduate Students in Geology to each receive A \$4000 scholarship. He was a long time supporter of amateur mineralogists. His student club willingly set up exhibits at area gem and mineral shows and he often invited club members to accompany students on collecting field trips around Ohio. He organized the first symposium of the Midwest Chapter, Friends of Mineralogy in 1998 at the Columbus Rock and Mineral Society Show.

Dr Carlson received his BS at the University of Washington in 1956 and his MS at the University of Colorado in 1960. He received his Ph.D at McGill University, Canada in 1966. He began his teaching career at Villanova University in 1965 and became an Assistant Professor at Kent State in 1966. In 1970-71 he was a visiting Professor at Pahlavi University, Shiraz, Iran and became an Associate Professor at Kent State in 1975. He spent the summers of 1988-1990 doing research at the US Geological Survey Lab in Denver and many summers as a student doing field research in both the U.S. And Canada.

Dr Carlson authored or co-authored over 85 published papers on geological research

Our condolences to wife Ruth who accompanied him on many FoM field trips We will miss his willingness to serve this organization whenever and wherever needed.

By John Blue, Editor. Photo by Jeff Spencer.



Ernie Carlson (l) with member
Stan Esbenschade at Auglaize 2009

FoM GOES WEST FOR A FALL TRIP MORE LIKE WINTER

On December first I received a surprise email from the management of Lehigh Hanson of Indianapolis, Indiana. In the email they told me that they were opening their quarry to host clubs to come for a pyrite hunt. After receiving the FoM email list, I rushed off a mass email to as many FoM members as possible (not all of you have email or working email - to be discussed in our next newsletter). I also emailed members of the Columbus (Ohio) club. Dayton was also invited. In all 31 collectors showed up on Saturday December 11th to hunt for pyrite, representing Dayton, FoM and Columbus. I am sure that everyone there had their thermals on. Despite cool temperatures (and it felt like fall compared to recent weather we are having) and some mixed precipitation, the hardy souls that did show up were treated to a warm reception by the Hanson staff. Though the collecting was not as good as a sunny summer day, an average day in this quarry is like a great day in most other quarries.

What was really impressive about the field trip was reflected by how well organized the Hanson staff was. They had us on-site trained in smaller, manageable groups, made sure that we understood the safety rules, and then defined and managed well the collecting boundaries with road cones and six staff members. In addition, they even had a port-a-potty at the collecting site! Personally, I had a crummy day collecting-wise, but I noticed that most other collectors did pretty well. But enough about my poor collecting abilities. What offset my personally poor job of collecting was the satisfaction

(Winter Trip Cont'd)

I had by knowing that all the other FoM members did well, and three geology majors from OSU led by Prof. James St. John of OSU-Newark were able to experience a day on the hobby-fun side of geology. When I went to OSU, I was never taken on a collecting trip, and that was for over six years as a career undergrad! St. John's students had a great experience. I just hope that they did not leave the quarry with the impression that all quarries are like this, because this particular quarry is the most productive collecting quarry in the Midwest, and maybe the nation. Report by Reggie Rose, Field Trip Chair.

THE WISDOM OF WILL ROGERS & OTHERS

There are three kinds of men. The one that learns by reading. The few who learn by observation. The rest of them have to pee on the electric fence for themselves.

When you give a lesson in meanness to a critter or a person, don't be surprised if they learn their lesson.

It don't take a genius to spot a goat in a flock of sheep.

If ignorance is bliss, why aren't more people happy?

In some countries, the natives practice the strange custom of beating the ground with hatchet-like clubs, and occasionally uttering blood curdling cries. Anthropologists call this a form of primitive self-expression. In our society, it is called "rock hunting".

Ways to kill your organization: 1) Don't rush to pay your dues; 2) Do not volunteer--let the "old reliables" do everything; 3) Take no part in organizational affairs; 4) Never accept an office--it is much easier to criticize;

**FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, MIDWEST CHAPTER
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Dues are for calendar year Jan1 through Dec 31

Dues should be paid by January 15th

Dues must be current to participate in FoM Chapter activities

Annual dues currently \$15 for individual member. \$10 each additional family member

NAME _____

ADD'TL FAMILY MEMBER NAMES _____

ADDRESS _____

Street

City

State

Zip

TELEPHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

Commercial Mineral Dealer? Yes ___ No ___ Company Name _____

CLUB NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL? YES ___ NO ___

TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS _____ TOTAL REMITTANCE \$ _____