

FRIENDS of MINERALOGY *Midwest*



A very nice calcite micro from the Danville field trip

May 2022, Caldwell Stone – Johan Maertens

Chapter Newsletter for July – August 2022

Treasurers Report

--Mid-Year--

2022 is a “restart” year for us. The chapter currently has 77 members. This number is down significantly from 2020/21 when we had 99 members. We have restarted safety training and field collecting so far this year. I believe our greatest challenge now is electing a full slate of officers this fall and restarting our symposium program. This is a great opportunity to contribute. Please let us know if you are interested or have questions.

At the May meeting, we voted to amend the bylaws to eliminate the requirement for a signed membership form. We had the website certified and you may now securely complete the form and pay dues with Paypal, credit or debit card on-line. Two members have already used the website to register. Purchase of security certificates for the website cost \$27.80 and is good for 2 years.

We had a credit of \$328.00 with FM National from dues we paid in 2020 prior to the covid moratorium. In April, I applied \$244.00 of the credit to 61 members' dues (\$4.00 per member). National issued a check to us for the remaining \$84.00.

We currently have \$9,489.57 in the chapter treasury.

Jeff Spencer - Treasurer

Friends of Mineralogy, Inc. Midwest Chapter
Meeting Minutes- May 21, 2022
Sharonville Convention Center
Sharonville, Ohio

Appointed Chairperson and past President Clyde Spencer welcomed those who attended the meeting.

Called to order by Meeting Chairperson Clyde Spencer at 4:33 PM, after declaring a quorum. Six members were present for the meeting. The following officers were present: Jeff Spencer, Treasurer; Reggie Rose, Field Trips/ Safety Officer. Frank Konieczki, Secretary, attended by telephone. Members Mike Royal and Greg Brown also attended the meeting.

The following items/topics were presented and discussed:

Old Business:

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

A request for corrections to the March 13, 2022 meeting minutes that were previously published in the May-June 2022 newsletter were necessary. No changes to the minutes were suggested or adopted by the attendees. A motion was requested and made to accept the minutes as published, and the motion was passed by unanimous vote. (Royal/Rose/P).

New Business:

Officer Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Jeff Spencer stated that there are currently 74 members. The income for 2022 has been \$1,514.00 to date and expenses have totaled \$879. Yearly national dues/insurance and website expenses both are paid. No additional expenditures are foreseen for the current year.

Jeff summarized the proposed online registration process that was previously discussed in the March 13, 2022 Officers' meeting and was subsequently published in the FM Midwest May-June 2022 newsletter. Treasurer Spencer indicated he has drafted an online application form that would be completed by members, who would then provide online payment through PayPal. He added that members would enter their information on the application, but it does not include a field for a physical signature, so the bylaws would have to be amended to allow for this process to proceed without a physical signature on the application. He advised the attendees that there would also be a \$52.00 annual fee associated with obtaining an SSL certificate that confirms the FM Midwest website is secure. After brief discussion and a motion to vote (Royal/Brown), two separate motions were introduced. First, a motion to amend the bylaws so that no hand-signed copy will be required to register with Friends of Mineralogy, Midwest Chapter was introduced and passed unanimously (JSpencer/Royal/P). Note: the language to be changed is in the FM Midwest Constitution (Article IV, Section 3). The second motion to approve an annual \$52.00 payment for an SSL license was introduced, and it passed unanimously (JSpencer/Rose/P).

Field Trips/Safety Officer:

The most recent information about the new requirements for additional safety equipment/PPE at Marblehead was included in Field Trips/Safety Officer Reggie Rose's recent e-mail messages. The new requirements are vehicle-mounted flags, reflective tape on the front, back and sides of vehicles, and a flashing light mounted on the vehicle roof. Reflective



tape has been purchased and will be provided by the organization, but members must purchase their own flag and flashing light to be admitted to Marblehead. Randy Marsh was the person who purchased the reflective tape, and there was brief discussion regarding reimbursement; however, owing to Randy's unavailability to confirm the items purchased and their cost, Clyde suggested waiting until a later date to consider the matter. Jeff Spencer noted that other quarries in Ohio may have their own specific safety equipment requirements. Jeff also stated we should allow an hour prior to the Marblehead trip to outfit the vehicles with the aforementioned safety equipment, since this is the first time it will be required.

The status of FM field trips for 2022 is: Auglaize (no outside visitors allowed in 2022); Danville (has taken place); Genoa (yes, date TBD); Marblehead (yes, summer date TBD); South Rockwood (yes, June); Walworth (no information to date); Williamsport (yes, late summer).

For the Good of the Order:

Chairperson Spencer advised those present that Dr. John Rakovan has accepted a position at New Mexico Tech. His departure from Miami University may impact the chapter. If the FM Midwest Mineralogical Symposium is renewed, it is possible that a new host site will be needed.

Field Trips/Safety Officer Reggie Rose stated he will provide ordering information for Marblehead PPE to members.

A motion to adjourn was entered and passed. (Brown/Royal/P).

Meeting adjourned: 5:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Frank Konieczki, Secretary

Quarry Travel Guide

Field Trip Locality: Great Lakes Aggregates – Sylvania Minerals

Address: 5690 Ready Road, South Rockwood, MI 48179

Date of Trip: Saturday June 25, 2022

Time of Field Trip: 8:30 am – 1 pm; check-in from 8:00 – 8:30 am

Between 8:00 & 8:30 am we can get dressed, sign in and check any HHAs and MSHA certificates that need checked. This will prepare us for our on-site training.

Travel Time from Designated Point:

Total Time: 3:18 (from Grove City, OH; exit 100 on I 71)

County: Monroe

Age of Rock: Upper Silurian and Lower Devonian

Rock Units: Exposed in descending order:

From the Lower Devonian: Sylvania Sandstone, the Bois Blanc and the Garden Island formation

From the Upper Silurian: Raisin River Dolomite

Minerals Present: Fluorite (clear to brown), Calcite (yellow nailhead), Celestite (white to blue), Quartz (drusy on chert)

Training Required: MSHA

Quarry Location: From exit #26 of I 75 in Michigan, drive 0.2 miles off of the exit ramp – then turn right toward Ready Road on Huron Drive, 0.8 mile later turn right onto Ready Road. 0.3 mile later turn right toward the quarry office, 0.2 mile later you will arrive at the quarry office of great Lakes Aggregates, Sylvania Minerals.

At the recent meeting at the Cincinnati GeoFair, a motion was approved to amend the by-laws to facilitate on-line registration and payment. Our website has received security verification and certification and I have completed the form and Paypal payment service integration.

If you have not yet registered for 2022, here is another option for you. Follow the link at the page below. You may pay via a credit or debit card without needing a Paypal account.

<https://www.fommidwest.org/registration-forms/>

Please contact me if you are unsure of your current status or if you have questions or difficulties.

Jeff Spencer – Treasurer

Important Notice! When a field trip is announced.....

Reminder, all field trip participants must sign up with Reggie Rose to participate on field trips and not just show up at the site. Failure to do so may result in their being sent back home. Offenses will be tracked by the Chapter officers and may lead to disciplinary action up to and including termination of Chapter membership.

All pictures below provided by Johan Maertens



Caldwell Stone - Calcite



Caldwell Stone - Fluorite micro



St. Paul - Pyritized shell



Geofair - Jeff Spencer Showcase

Quarry Travel Guide

REQUIRED FOR THIS TRIP.....all vehicles entering the quarry must be equipped with reflective tape, and LED amber flashing light and safety flag.

Field Trip Locality: Lafarge – Marblehead, OH

Address: 831 South Quarry Road, Marblehead, OH 43440

County: Ottawa

Date of Trip: Saturday July 09, 2022

Time of Field Trip: 8 am – 1 pm; check-in from 8:00 am - 8:30 am

Between 8 and 8:30 am we can check in, sign in if needed, get dressed, check MSHA certificates and HHAs if needed, and pass out reflective colored tapes. This will ready us for our on-site training.

Clubs Attending: Friends of Mineralogy Midwest (FM)

Rock Units Exposed: units exposed are the Detroit River Group and Columbus Limestones

Age of Rock Units: Devonian (geology by Joe Vasichko)

Specimens Present: minerals: calcite (scalenohedral), barite (platy and cream colored), fluorite (mostly deep purple, some brown); also marcasite crusts, sulfur, sphalerite; and possibly fossils.

Training Required: MSHA collectors eligible. Collectors not eligible for this trip are those who are new to FM and have not been MSHA trained in the last year.

Quarry Location: Directions will vary, depending where you live. If you are coming from other areas, find your path to Route 2 and the Bay Bridge/Bay View exit.

Directions from Central Ohio: From 23N north of Columbus, exit from Route 23 at the Waldo exit; here you will pick up route 98 N; 98 N goes into Bucyrus; take Route 4 N out of Bucyrus to Route 2 W; after 3 exits (Bay Bridge, Bay View) you will cross Sandusky Bay; once across the bay you will be on Marblehead Peninsula - take the first exit after you cross Sandusky Bay and head east (right) onto Bayshore Drive; Bayshore Drive leads you to Quarry Road. The quarry is at 831 S. Quarry Road. A fully detailed map of the last part of this route is in the Universal Map (of) Ohio Road Atlas - it is magazine-sized and available at Walmart for \$10. It divides Ohio into 59 sections.

A note on ground conditions: This quarry has a tendency to take on water and evaporation is a slow process after winter snows or a rainy weather stretch. As far as keeping one's feet dry for this quarry, years ago I saw another FM member with steel toe, calf-high rubber boots. They are available at Walmart for \$25 and TSC for \$50. They will keep your feet comfortable as well as dry.

4th Central US Micromineral Symposium (CUSMS) September 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, 2022



*Caldwell Stone Company
Fluorite (3.5 mm on edge)
Associated with Calcite, and Dolomite
Photograph and collection Johan Maertens ©*

When: Based on the overwhelming response we received from our initial query, it appears everyone is looking forward to getting together this fall for our first micro-mineral gathering and symposium in over two years. Thus, we are pushing ahead with formalizing the planning for this event. *Our 2022 Central US Micro-Mineral Symposium (CUSMS) will take place over Labor Day Weekend, Thursday, September 1st through Saturday, September 3rd, 2022.*

Where: This event will be held in Danville, Boyle County, KY, at the meeting facilities of the Boyle County Public Library, located in Historic Danville, in beautiful Central Kentucky. For your reference the following is the location of the library as well as a hyperlink to their website:

Boyle County Public Library
307 W. Broadway Street
Danville, KY 40422.
(859) 238-7323
www.boylepublib.org

Meeting Room Facilities: (*Heart of Danville Community Room, maximum occupancy 106*): Wireless Internet, audio system, PC laptop, ceiling-mounted screen, data projector, speakers, DVD player, portable dry-erase board, located adjacent to galley kitchen with refrigerator, sink, and microwave. Each participant will have a 6-foot table for microscope set-up and electrical power will be supplied to each table. Please bring your own extension cords or power strips if needed. The library also has free parking available. Although the meeting facility is located on a lower level of the library, an elevator is provided so access should not be a problem.

General Schedule: Thursday, September 1st a collecting field trip will take place, weather permitting. At this point, it is anticipated we will visit the Caldwell Stone Company quarry, located in Danville, literally minutes away from the library meeting facilities. Later that afternoon and early evening, we will have access to the meeting facility for set up.

Friday and Saturday, September 2nd and 3rd, will be the formal symposium session filled with plenty of viewing time, specimen swapping and combing through shared material from the give-away tables. All attendees are urged to bring your extra specimen material to share among the other attendees. As in the past, we have had a well distributed mix of attendees from across the central and eastern region of the US and Canada therefore I expect there will be a good variety of material to view and pick from.

Throughout the two sessions we will also set aside approximately 30 - 45 minutes each morning and afternoon for attendee program presentations of interest to mineral and micromineral enthusiasts. At this early date, we have two attendees who have offered to present. If anyone has a presentation they would like to provide, please let us know and we will gladly consider adding it to the schedule. Additional information on the proposed programs will be provided at a later date.

Cost for the Meeting Facilities: As mentioned above, the Boyle County Public Library has meeting facilities we will be utilizing. During normal business hours, use of these facilities is at no charge. Although if we have food in the meeting area (lunch, drinks, snacks and etc.), a \$25 fee will be assessed for cleaning the room once we have concluded. Also, if we choose to extend our time in the library, past the normal operating hours, there will be an additional fee of \$25 per hour to allow library personnel to remain after hours. It is expected these additional fees will be absorbed by our local club, although we may have a donation jar set up to help with these fees, if needed.

Field Trip: On Thursday, September 1st, it is currently expected we will be visiting one of Central Kentucky's historically prolific collecting quarries, Caldwell Stone Company. The quarry is located outside of Danville, just 10 minutes from the Boyle County Public Library. The following is a hyperlink to the quarry's web site, specifically to a page featuring some of the more prevalent specimens extracted during its collecting heyday: <https://www.caldwellstone.net/minerals-found-at-csc>. As you may see, the quarry was known for superb specimens of fluorite, barite, sphalerite, calcite, strontianite, marcasite, chalcopyrite, pyrite, among others, during the time when the quarry was working through a now inactive mineralized fault line. These days, collecting is not as prolific as it once was. The fault line that once produced many of the specimens featured on the quarry's web page has long since been mined through. Now days collecting is not quit as prolific, although for the eagle-eyed micro-mineral collector fine specimens can still be obtained.

In late August and early September, the weather in Kentucky is usually dry and pleasant, although it can still be quite warm. However, those of us living here have grown accustomed to the weather sometimes being unpredictable. We have a saying here, *"If you don't like the weather today, wait until tomorrow."* Please come prepared for all possible weather conditions, except possibly snow, although given our recent weather patterns I wouldn't be at all surprised if we did experience a snowflake or two! 😊 Just kidding, but it is always advisable to, "Be Prepared." Most importantly, please bring plenty of fluids with you on the field trip to keep yourselves hydrated. Also, be sure to bring a bag lunch and additional snacks along with you. We will not be exiting the quarry for a noon meal. Lastly, as with any collecting trip, especially to an active quarry, proper personal protective equipment (PPE) will be required. Although a current MSHA Safety Training Certification is not required, all safety regulations are still required to be followed. Safety for everyone must be ensured or nobody is safe.

Presentations: Friday and Saturday we will have an essentially free flowing agenda. We hope to get at least 4 presentations by our group attendees. Please notify me if you wish to give a presentation of interest to the group. As

mentioned above, we will have access to audio/visual equipment so feel free to bring a Power Point Presentation on a USB thumb drive with your presentation material if needed. Please check with us early to ensure there are no compatibility issues with software or equipment. If you wish to present a physical demonstration of some sort, we will attempt to accommodate your needs, if possible. More information relating to the programmed presentations will be provided at a later date.

Lunch and Snacks: Currently, the plan is to have lunch brought into the facility to minimize the disruption to our viewing time. It is expected we will have pizza, sandwiches, and etc. catered to the meeting room. Additionally, everyone is welcome to bring snacks and drinks to share with others throughout the day. A small kitchenette is available adjacent to the meeting area containing a refrigerator, microwave, and a sink for our use if desired. Also feel free to bring an ice cooler if you so desire.

Housing recommendations: For your convenience the following is a hyperlink to listings and contact information for several reasonable hotels close to downtown Danville. For your reference, the Boyle County Public Library is located one block from Main Street in downtown Danville. Many of these hotels are located along the US 127 Bypass, a short distance from downtown.

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-g39320-Danville_Kentucky-Hotels.html

Contacts: Co-Meeting & Field Trip Coordinators:

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Danny Settles, kydiggerdan@hotmail.com

Ed O'Dell, edodell@twc.com

REMEMBER: Now is the time for you to firm up your commitment and get your room reserved!

If you have additional questions, feel free to contact me, or one of the other coordinators. As we get closer to the event date, additional information will be provided to all registrants. Be advised, space is limited and will be on a first come first serve basis. Those who cannot be immediately accommodated will be placed on a wait list should there be any last-minute cancelations.

We look forward to having a great experience and finally gathering again in person. Have a nice summer and I hope to hear from you soon.

Ed O'Dell

edodell@twc.com

859-433-5089

2022 Officers

President – Vacant

Vice President Programs – Vacant

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Chapter Website:

www.fommidwest.org

National Website:

www.friendsofmineralogy.org

Affiliations:

THE MINERALOGICAL RECORD
THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
AMERICAN GEOSCIENCES INSTITUTE
MINERALOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
ROCKS & MINERALS MAGAZINE
MINERAL NEWS
MINDAT

Our purpose is to organize and promote interest in and knowledge of mineralogy; to advance mineralogical education; to protect and preserve mineral specimens and promote conservation of mineral localities; to further 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.

