



Clay Center Micro's – John Rakovan 2014

***Friends of Mineralogy -
Midwest
March - April 2023
Newsletter***

Treasurers Report

2/12/2023 Treasurer Report

Currently 55 members have paid dues for 2023. If you have any questions about your status, please call or email me at the address below.

You may sign up by printing and mailing the registration form or by registering and paying online.

[Chapter Membership \(fommidwest.org\)](http://fommidwest.org)

The transaction is processed via PayPal and we do not store your credit card data.

We have \$11,129.45 currently between our Bank and PayPal accounts.

I have completed our 2022 state and federal filings and am preparing the 2021-22 audit package now. Frank Konieczki has agreed to complete the audit.

Jeff Spencer – Treasurer

Friends of Mineralogy Midwest Chapter

Treasurer@fommidwest.org

513-476-2163

**Friends of Mineralogy, Inc. Midwest Chapter
Annual Business Meeting Minutes- December 11, 2022
Virtual & Teleconference Meeting**

Liaison Officer Randy Marsh, who served as the meeting chair, welcomed those who attended the meeting.

Called to order by Liaison Officer Marsh at 1:11 PM, after declaring a quorum. Eight members were present during the meeting. The following officers were present: Randy Marsh, Liaison Officer; Reggie Rose, Field Trips/Safety Officer; Jeff Spencer, Treasurer; Frank Konieczki, Secretary. Additional attending members were: Clyde Spencer, past president; Johan Maertens; Tom Bolka, newsletter editor; Ken Bladh, past president.

The following items/topics were presented and discussed:

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Liaison Officer Marsh asked if any corrections to the May 21, 2022 meeting minutes that were published in the July-August 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. (Bladh/JSpencer/P).

Approval of Annual Business Meeting Agenda:

The agenda outline was presented to those in attendance. Officer Marsh asked if there were any comments or proposals for changes to the agenda. No changes were recommended, and the motion introduced to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

Officer Reports:

Secretary: No formal report.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Jeff Spencer stated that there has been \$2,016.00 income in 2022, including \$455 in donations. The expenses for the year were \$995. The current account balance has increased by \$1,021. Jeff will soon submit a comprehensive report. He noted that seven members have already submitted 2023 dues. Treasurer Spencer noted that members can either pay their dues by mail or by paying using the link on the website. The online payment vendor is PayPal, but members do not need a PayPal account to pay their dues. There were 81 registered members in 2022. Sadly, two longtime members, John Medici and Ann Cook, passed away in 2022. National has refunded our chapter for overpayment of National dues.

Liaison Officer: Liaison Officer Randy Marsh noted that communications with National have been relatively quiet over the last several months. Randy is a member of a committee that is working to realign National's vision and goals. A survey was sent to FM members. FM National has planned a symposium to be held in conjunction with the Tucson shows next year.

Field Trips/Safety Officer: Field Trips/Safety Officer Reggie Rose indicated he had drafted changes to the field trip guidelines for review by the officers. Jeff Spencer noted that he could not open the document that Officer Rose distributed on 12/10/22. Reggie observed that there were several problems with field collecting



compliance and etiquette during the Genoa trip. First, one person of a four-person group who signed up for the trip did not show, but also did not cancel their reservation with the Field Trips/Safety Officer prior to the trip. Second, the same three members arrived late and delayed everyone's entry into the quarry. Last, there were three members who were still working on a pile of rocks while everyone else had already packed and were ready to exit the quarry. Reggie indicated the last is inexcusable because it is disrespectful to the hosts(s), and such behavior could result in denial of future access to a site. He also indicated that there were several collectors who signed their onsite training paperwork before the quarry host described the site's rules & hazards. Jeff Spencer advised the attendees that he thought this may have been tied to a lack of pens and the layout of the training room, rather than willful neglect or not being attentive. Jeff noted that some members' poor planning for field trips and rule violations pertaining to trips cannot be the norm. Jeff suggested that the field trip guidelines and field trip announcements should be reviewed and updated, as necessary. Reggie noted that 2022 brought a return to more collecting opportunities, specifically trips to South Rockwood, Danville, Marblehead, Williamsport and Genoa. The only regular site we were unable to visit was Auglaize. Both New York open houses have been discontinued by the former hosts.

Newsletter Editor Tom Bolka did not have a formal report.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Annual member dues were discussed, and there was a question about the impact of inflation and if National dues may be increased. Treasurer Jeff Spencer observed that previously approved annual dues had typically been based on expenses and the overall financial health of the chapter. After brief discussion, those present agreed that the current dues amount of \$20 per individual was appropriate. Jeff indicated that there is an online registration fee of \$1, so paying dues online would cost \$21. A motion was brought to set the 2023 annual dues at \$20 by mail and \$21 online and it passed unanimously (Maertens/JSpencer/P).

The nomination and election of officers was discussed. All current officers (Randy Marsh, Jeff Spencer, Reggie Rose and Frank Konieczki) had previously indicated they would be willing to continue in their current roles for the coming year. Liaison Officer Randy Marsh opened the floor for nomination requests, either to serve or to nominate another member to serve. Reggie Rose nominated Johan Maertens for any officer position for which he would be willing to serve; however, Johan politely declined the nomination for 2023, suggesting that he might be available to be on the slate next year. There were no other floor nominations, so the proposed slate of officers placed on the ballot was: Reggie Rose, Field Trips/Safety Officer; Jeff Spencer, Treasurer; Randy Marsh, Liaison Officer; Frank Konieczki, Secretary. The floor was closed for nominations. A motion was made to elect the list of current officers as the officers for the coming year, and the motion was unanimously approved (CSpencer/Maertens/P).

Safety training was also discussed. Ken Bladh asked if there was going to be a training meeting next year, and if so, what the proposed training site was. Randy Marsh indicated that a training session would be scheduled, and that he would contact Scott Kell to determine a training date. Ken Bladh offered to check availability at

Wittenberg, and Johan Maertens indicated he could investigate the possibility of Miami University as an alternate location.

For the Good of the Order:

Past Midwest Chapter president Clyde Spencer indicated the quarry supervision is the ultimate authority for all aspects of the field trip. He offered an example- he and several other collectors at Genoa obtained permission from the onsite supervisor to go to the east side of the quarry to collect before proceeding to that area. Clyde also indicated that the club has purchased hand-held radios for communications between FM field trip leaders. He stated a vehicle was rendered immobile on the Marblehead trip by a large rock underneath its chassis, but when a radio was used to attempt to notify the field trip leader, in a different part of the large quarry, that several people might be delayed in exiting, there was no response to the radio transmission. He suggested that the radios could be delegated to specific members, and he also suggested that a protocol for quarry communications/mobile radio transmissions be developed to ensure effective radio communication. Johan Maertens indicated he has relevant experience from a former position, and he volunteered to assist with developing a protocol.

Treasurer Jeff Spencer suggested that the field trip guidelines be included in field trip announcements, as well as possibly having members sign the guidelines to confirm they agree to abide by the field trip rules.

Jeff Spencer noted that the Michigan Mineralogical Society (MMS) recently sent an inquiry to FM Midwest officers to inquire about allowing MMS members to attend FM field trips as guests. The current officers discussed the matter prior to the business meeting and agreed that welcoming MMS members to apply for FM membership if they would like additional field trip access would be the most appropriate course of action, as there are typically limits on the number of attendees. It was noted there are already some members from Michigan clubs who joined FM Midwest specifically for field trips/access to quarries. Clyde Spencer clarified the matter by noting that there is an existing mechanism in FM Midwest rules to allow a one-time, single guest, but that would be most commonly used for a person such as the president of FM National, a member of a related geological organization, etc., not for a group. Clyde Spencer also noted that the chapter insurance only covers members.

Field Trips/Safety Officer Reggie Rose asked about the possibility of having a committee assembled to work on field trip related issues and asked who could be on the committee. Clyde Spencer indicated that there is already a reference to a fieldtrip committee in the FM Midwest Constitution, and that the work done by the appointed committee would be subject to approval by the Executive Board.

Liaison Officer Marsh thanked all attendees for attending the meeting.

A motion to adjourn was entered and carried without opposition. (CSpencer/JSpencer/P).

Meeting adjourned: 2:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Frank Konieczki, Secretary

2023 Mine Safety Training Courses

To enter mines to attend collection field trips, in addition to on-site training required at the mine on the day of the trip, collectors in our Midwest region attend mine safety training courses. Quarry hosts appreciate our effort to attend training beyond their on-site instruction.

The following classes are or will be available to you as collectors. Whatever choice you make for your class, make sure you sign up via email with the contact person listed. Showing up without signing up is not courteous nor is it acceptable.

One more act of courtesy would be nice. So, you do not miss any important points during the course, turn your cell phone off.

The first three listed classes are live sessions. The fourth listing below is an on-line course option if you cannot attend one of the first three classes.

SATURDAY MARCH 04, 2023 1 pm - 6 pm MANSFIELD, OHIO
MID OHIO MINERAL AND FOSSIL CLUB

Gorman Nature Center
2295 Lexington Avenue
Mansfield, Ohio 44907
contact:
Mansfield Club Field Trip Chairman
Tom Kottyan
themineralhouse@netzero.net
419-562-1152

SATURDAY MARCH 25, 2023 9 am - 2 pm SPRINGFIELD, OHIO
FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, MIDWEST

Koch Hall - Wittenberg University
5 West Campus Drive
Springfield, Ohio 45504
contact:
FM Liaison
Randy Marsh
marsh.rg@pg.com
513-515-7890



FRIDAY APRIL 07, 2023 8 am - 2 pm
(tentative)

COLUMBUS, OHIO

COLUMBUS ROCK & MINERAL SOCIETY

Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR)

2045 Morse Road

Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693

contact:

Mine Safety Training Course Creator Craig Kramer

craigwkramer@gmail.com

614-214-5779

BEGINNING IN EARLY FEBRUARY 2023

AT HOME

On-line mine safety training course.

contact:

Mine Safety Training Course Creator Craig Kramer

craigwkramer@gmail.com

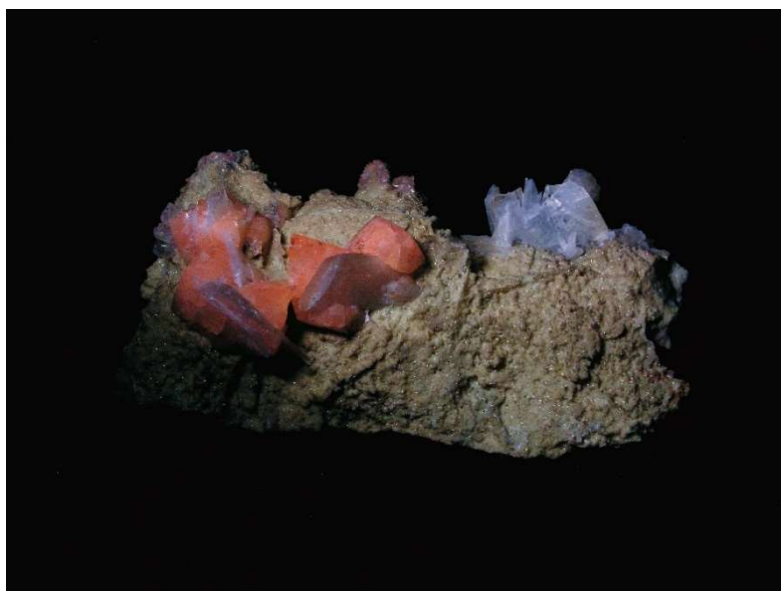
614-214-5779

Phosphorescent Effects Using a Vivitar 283 Flash Unit

by, Calvin Harris

Introduction

This paper explains how using a Vivitar 283 photographic flash unit can cause phosphorescence in certain calcite and celestine specimens. In particular, specimens featured in the article, "*How Ultraviolet Radiation Reacts with Calcite and Celestine from Maybee, Michigan*", were reexamined. This paper supplements the article published in the Friends of Mineralogy-Midwest, January-February 2023 newsletter. The effects identify specific inorganic activators in calcite and are consistent when organic activators are found in minerals such as calcite and celestine. Complete specimen information is found in the paper previously mentioned.



Method

The Vivitar 283 photographic flash unit is a device that generates a brief and intense burst of ultraviolet radiation and a considerable amount of visible light. It is very portable and available at low cost. The advantage to the mineral collector investigating mineral luminosity is its ability to produce a highly visible red-orange *flash* or brief intense phosphorescence in calcite. *Flash* occurs when divalent manganese (Mn^{+2}) and co-activator, divalent lead (Pb^{+2}) are present in sufficient quantities. Currently, the specific ultraviolet wavelength emitted by this device has not been determined. It is very likely shortwave, which is known to cause *flash* using conventional ultraviolet sources.

Additionally, phosphorescence produced by this device is likely due to the presence of organic activators such as fulvic acid and humic acid. This is indicated by the pastel color response seen in certain carbonate and sulfate minerals. Spelunkers or cave explorers have noted for some time that phosphorescence occurs when photographing speleothems with flash bulbs. This photographic accessory is a precursor to the modern electronic flash unit. The discharge from flash unit is brief and the phosphorescence is weaker than using ultraviolet lamps, which provide long exposure times needed for observation.

In practice, the flash unit is typically battery powered and used at its manual setting for maximum output. The head of the unit can be adjusted 90° from the horizontal. The user holds the unit like a TV remote control. Testing must be done in a dark setting. The flash unit is placed 2-3 inches from the specimens. The user's eyes should be closed until the discharge is completed, then opened quickly to observe *flash* and phosphorescence. *Flash* can be generated by rapidly moving an ultraviolet lamp across a specimen. This method can be problematic because of the possibility of collision between the two objects. Using the Vivitar 283 flash unit has an advantage because the device and specimen are stationary, which eliminates the possibility of damage. Being stationary improves viewing because of an even dispersal of radiation and makes optimal photographic techniques and results possible.

Results

Specimen A	Calcite: No <i>flash</i> or phosphorescence.
Specimen B	Calcite: No <i>flash</i> exhibited; Celestine: Bright, white phosphorescence.
Specimen C	Calcite: Exhibited <i>flash</i> . Celestine: Moderate-bright, bluish-white phosphorescence.
Specimen D (Obverse)	Calcite exhibited <i>flash</i> ; Celestine: bright white phosphorescence.
Specimen D (Reverse)	Celestine: No phosphorescence.

Discussion

While a conventional ultraviolet lamp can be used to generate *flash* and phosphorescence, the author prefers the Vivitar 283 because it produces *flash* with optimal visibility and has a low cost. This device can produce phosphorescence, but conventional ultraviolet sources are better suited because they can provide long exposure times.

The results vary among the specimens, which indicate different mineralogical conditions existed during mineral development.

Determining the ultraviolet wavelength produced by the Vivitar 283 flash unit will improve our knowledge of phosphorescence by enabling a comparison of results produced by known ultraviolet wavelength values.

Selected References

Bostwick, Richard C. The Fluorescent Mineral Hobby. Ultraviolet Light and Fluorescent Minerals. 1995. Thomas S. Warren, Publisher, p. 118.

Boyer, Mark. Flash and BIP: First in a Series on Franklin Collector's Jargon. The Picking Table, 52(1): 16. Spring 2011.

Harris, Calvin. Does the Formation of Spleothems Serve as a Model for Other Minerals with Organic Activators? UV Waves, Newsletter of the Fluorescent Mineral Society, 43 (6): 4-9. Jan./Feb. 2013.

Harris, Calvin. Flash Photography has Double Meaning. MWF News, newsletter of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Sciences, Issue No. 598:11-12, Jan. 2021.

Harris, Calvin. How Ultraviolet Radiation Reacts with Calcite and Celestine from Maybee, Michigan. Newsletter of the Friends of Mineralogy-Midwest, 38 (1): 3-8. Jan./Feb. 2023.

The Friends of Mineralogy Virginia Chapter has reached out to other FM Chapters across the country to offer a training and community session on their educational and industry programming. FMVA has developed a Rockhounding 101 Course and has all of the materials and syllabus available for chapters who want to integrate this into their groups. The course is on its fourth cohort and continues to bring fresh new leadership and members into FM and also has led to new leadership across traditional clubs in Virginia. FMVA launched its first book last year and has ongoing programs with the mining industry and teacher associations in Virginia which have produced incredible field trips and training opportunities. If you would like to participate in this discussion and learn more about their educational and community outreach programs, contact: friendsofmineralogy.virginia@gmail.com

Friends of Mineralogy Virginia Chapter has also announced that it will be hosting an informal gathering for 2023 at the East Coast Show in Springfield, Massachusetts. They noted that seven of the FM chapters have members and leadership attending the show, and they felt this would be a great way to pull groups together outside of the hectic Tucson scene. If you plan to attend the East Coast Show and would like to participate, please contact FMVA at the same email above.

Thomas N. Hale

Founder, Virginia Mineral Project (VMP)

President, Friends of Mineralogy Virginia Chapter

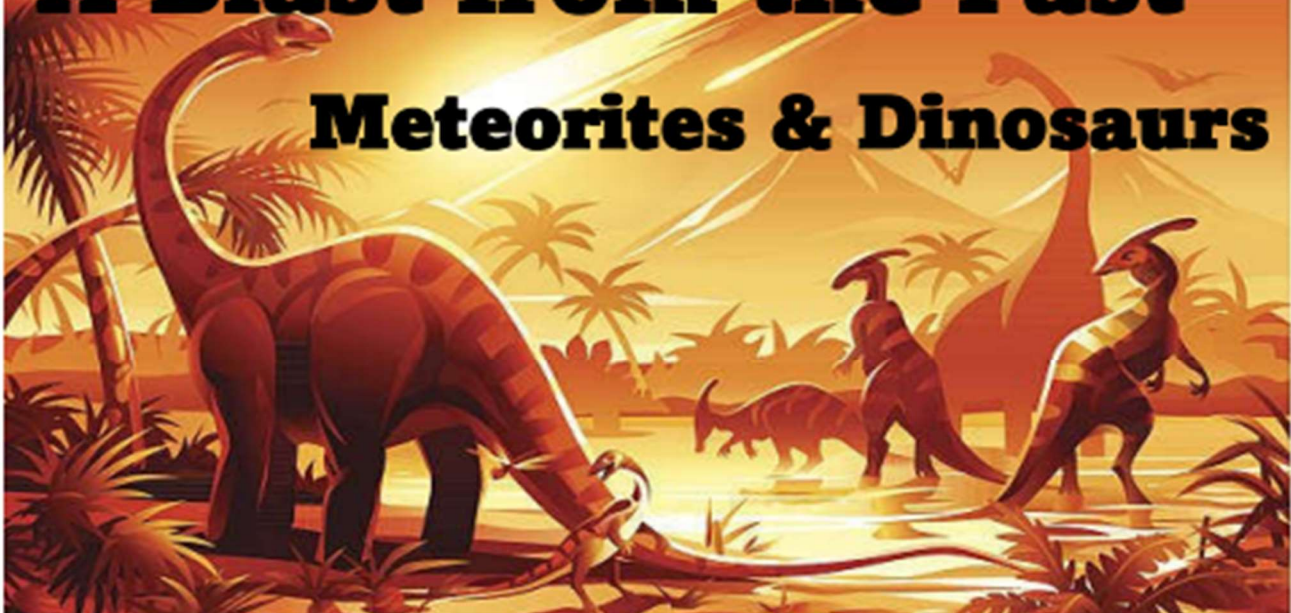
Phone: (540)529-4506

Email: Virginiamineralproject@gmail.com

47th Annual Central Ohio Mineral, Fossil, Gem & Jewelry Show & Sale

A Blast from the Past

Meteorites & Dinosaurs



April 1-2, 2023: Sat. 10 AM-6 PM & Sun. 11 AM-5 PM

Mineral, fossil & gem dealers with treasures for sale from around the world ♦ Silent auctions
Speakers ♦ Lapidary demonstrations ♦ Educational exhibits ♦ Free specimen ID ♦ Gold panning
Door prizes ♦ Just for kids: silent auctions, junior geologist fossil dig, games & activities

Ohio Expo Center-Rhodes Center, 717 E. 17th Ave., Columbus OH 43211

Same location, new building: From I-71 take exit 111, go west. Building on north side of 17th Ave. Parking \$5

Adults (16+) \$7, Seniors (60+) \$6, 2-day pass \$12, Youth (6-15) \$3, Under 6 FREE


FREE: Scouts & 4-H in uniform, Teachers with school ID, Military with ID

Please note: Tickets are available at the door; cash or check only. Credit/debit cards cannot be accepted for admission or silent auction purchases but our vendors can process credit/debit cards.



Sponsored by the Columbus Rock & Mineral Society

We are a non-profit organization and the only family-oriented, educational rock show in Central Ohio that welcomes children. **All show proceeds benefit scholarships for Ohio earth science majors.** We invite you to come and explore the exciting world of geology as a family. Learn more at www.ColumbusRockAndMineralSociety.org.

Dealer contact  **Craig Kramer 614-436-4511 or show-info@ColumbusRockAndMineralSociety.org**

Bring in this flyer for \$1 off adult & senior ticket prices. One discount per ticket.

58th Annual Cincinnati Show GEOFAIR 2023

May 6-7

Sharonville Convention Center

11355 Chester Rd.
Sharonville, OH 45246

Show Theme:

Midwest Minerals &
Fossils



Speakers

Dr. Carl Francis, Maine Mineral & Gem Museum
Marvelous Midwest Minerals

Dr. Collin Sumrall, Tennessee State University
Strange Fossils

Mr. Jeff Scovil, Phoenix, Arizona
Jewels of the Midwest

Dr. Glenn W. Storrs, Cincinnati Museum Center
Fossils of Big Bone Lick, Kentucky

Activities

- Cash Prizes for Best Exhibits
- 50 Retail & Wholesale International Dealers
- Swap Area with Swapper Dollars
- Friends of Mineralogy Meeting
- Mineral, Fossil, and Gemstone ID
- Education Center for Kids, managed by the University of Cincinnati and Miami University
- Over 70 Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Displays
- Fossil Workshop

Information:

www.geofair.com • tehuizing@fuse.net

FM will very likely run a swap table at GeoFair this year. We will be looking for donations of mineral specimens, books or anything else related to mineral collecting” for the table. These items can either be brought to the March 25 safety training with Scott Kell or brought directly to the swap table at GeoFair on the morning of Saturday, May 6.

2023 Officers

President – Vacant

Vice President Programs – Vacant

Field Trips/Safety Officer - Reggie Rose, 4287 Parkmead Dr.
Grove City, Ohio 43123
(614)875-2675 vpfieldtrips@fommidwest.org

Secretary – Frank Konieczki, 50355 W. Huron River Dr.
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(734)-699-3321 secretary@fommidwest.org

Treasurer - Jeff Spencer, 4948 Beechwood Road
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(513)248-0533 treasurer@fommidwest.org

Liaison Officer Randy Marsh, 6152 Old Stone Ct.
Hamilton, Ohio 45011
(513)515-7890 liaisonofficer@fommidwest.org

Fund Raising (Committee Chair) - Vacant

Newsletter (Committee Chair) Tom Bolka, 2275 Capestrano Dr.
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Newsletter published bi-monthly in January, March, May, July, September and November. Please submit all information for publication in the newsletter by the 15th of the previous month.

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.

