Friends of Mineralogy Inc. Midwest Chapter Newsletter

Volume 40, Issue 6 November + December 2025

Pride from member collections.

Calcite from Williamsville Quarry (Hendrickson Quarry), Butler County, Missouri

Johan Maertens collection number 00T1.
All images by Johan Maertens ©

**Calcite from Williamsville Quarry (Hendrickson Quarry), Butler County, Missouri.
Johan Maertens collection and image.
75 mm field of view**

The illustrated specimen from the Williamsville Quarry consists of a complex aggregate of multi-generational calcite crystals developed on a dolomitic matrix. Prominent euhedral scalenohedral calcite crystals are perched upon an earlier generation of fine druzy calcite, producing a well-defined paragenetic sequence. The druzy calcite coats a dolomite host, consistent with the carbonate-dominated mineralization typical of southeastern Missouri.

The Williamsville Quarry, located northwest of Poplar Bluff on the southeastern margin of the Ozark Uplift, is one of several southern Missouri localities noted for producing so-called “pagoda” calcite crystals, particularly in Butler and Reynolds counties. The calcite crystal habits from Williamsville are strikingly similar to those recovered from the Eminence Quarry near Eminence, Shannon County, Missouri, where calcite occurs in association with the Eminence and Potosi Dolomites.

This close morphological correspondence suggests comparable physicochemical growth conditions within these stratigraphically related carbonate units. CONTINUED Page 4

Highlights

- *Calcite, Missouri*
- *Field Trips*
- *Caldwell Stone Quarry, KY*
- *2026 symposium*
- *Constitution amendment 2020*
- *Luminosity Calcite, Brushy Creek Mine*

The newsletter is published bi-monthly.
Contact and submissions vie E-mail at newsletter@fommidwest.org

From the Newsletter Editor

2025 came to a close.

Friends of Mineralogy Midwest's 2025 principal activities were field trips.

I was unable to attend most FM MW scheduled trips this year. Thank you to Auggie Howe and Ed O'Dell for coordinating the on-site activities. Volunteers like you keep the chapter going.

I encourage you to share your discoveries with our community. Whether it's a new find, a memorable story, an event you attended, or even just a photo of your favorite specimen, we'd love to include it in our newsletter. Your contributions will help keep our collective passion for mineral collecting vibrant and engaging.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Johan Maertens at Caldwell Stone Quarry, KY. 2025

Get Involved: Your Contribution Matters!

Inspired by the famous equation "E=MC²," we believe that our Existence as a thriving organization depends on Member-engagement and Two-Way Commitment. For this to work, we need your active involvement!

Commitment is key. We rely on members to stay connected with officers and committee chairs, while it's equally important that our leaders respond promptly to your inquiries. To keep things running smoothly, we need members who are ready to answer the call for action and step up in leadership roles.

The Friends of Mineralogy needs fresh energy, new ideas, and passionate individuals to help us grow. There are several open leadership positions, and it's crucial that we fill them with dedicated volunteers like you. Just as a body needs all its parts to function—arms, legs, back, and heart—our organization thrives when we all contribute. Together, we can build the resources we need, from insurance to training to credibility, that allow us to enjoy and advance our shared passion for mineralogy in ways no individual could do alone.

This is your opportunity to make a real difference. Help shape the future of the Friends of Mineralogy and take an active role in our community. Whether you have leadership experience or a passion for helping others, there's a place for you here. Ready to volunteer? Reach out to an officer

This Newsletter is published six times a year by the Friends of Mineralogy Midwest Chapter for digital distribution to members in good standing.

Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Friends of Mineralogy. We reserve the right to decline any submission judged to be inconsistent with FM-MW's purpose or not in keeping with the sensitivities of its membership.

Contributions of articles and photos are welcome: Articles may be edited for style, clarity, and length. The newsletter assumes no responsibility for lost material. SUBMISSION DEADLINES: the 15th of every evenly numbered month, for each issue.

Guidelines for Newsletter Submissions: E-mail preferred (written material accepted); clearly state that the submission is intended for publication in the Newsletter; send photos as color, high resolution email attachments.

Send all submissions and suggestions to

newsletter@fommidwest.org

Field Trips

Field trip details are communicated by email to members.

Field trips

Sylvania Minerals (July 11, 2026)

To offer a field trip you can organize, contact the Field Trip Chairperson or a FM MW officer (see below).

For your education, watch Collector Safety Training videos by Scott Kell on YouTube. See FM-MW newsletter Volume 39 Issue 2.

FM-MW Fieldtrip Requirements

1. Be a FM-MW Member in good standing to participate.

2. All field trips are weather dependent per decision of quarry supervisor.

3. Field collecting is physically demanding! All trips require at least an average level of physical fitness!

4. Quarry trips require members to be at least 18 years old, and fully comply with the FM-MW field trip guidelines posted on https://www.fommidwest.org/field-trip-guidelines/

Complete and sign the Waiver of liability and hold harmless agreement for activities (including field trips) of the Friends Of Mineralogy – Midwest Chapter Inc.

After receiving the announcement, sign up for the field trip by email to the acting Field Trip Coordinator.

MSHA Hazard Training

ALWAYS bring your **certificate of training Mining Safety and Hazard** with you to all quarry field trips.

If you did not complete Hazard training , or you lost your certificate or if you are new to the club, then you can **take the online safety training course**.

To sign up and receive instructions about the online course, contact Craig Kramer at craigwkramer@gmail.com with the following information in your email:

- club affiliation
- full name
- address
- telephone number

Website for test : https://edpuzzle.com

If you have taken the class before online .go to test website. Top right click Log In. Select **I'm a student**

Enter user name and Pass Word

Rock and Mineral Shows, Clubs, Rock Shops, Mineral Museums can be found using the Internet www.rockandmineralshows.com;

https://xpopress.com/show/exposearch;

https://www.mindat.org/museums/;
https://www.mindat.org/shows.php?frm_id=searcher&cform_is_valid=1&current=1&country=1&su

Friends of Mineralogy Inc. - Midwest Chapter

OFFICERS

President *– Vacant*
Vice President Programs *– Vacant*
Field Trips/ Safety Officer *– Johan Maertens*
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Treasurer *- Jeff Spencer*
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FM Liaison Officer *- Vacant*

COMMITTEES

Membership *- Vacant*
Newsletter *- Johan Maertens*
Webmaster *- Jeff Spencer*
Nominating Committee *- Vacant*
Audit Committee *- Frank Konieczki*

CONTINUED from Page 1.

The quarry exploits the Gasconade Dolomite, a high-magnesium carbonate rock of Early Ordovician age (approximately 485–470 Ma). This unit is composed predominantly of calcium magnesium carbonate and represents one of the basal formations of the Ozark carbonate platform. Mineralization at the locality is dominated by dolomite and quartz, which constitute the most commonly collected species. Calcite occurs less frequently, while goethite (commonly as limonitic alteration products) is encountered only sporadically.

The “pagoda” calcite habit refers to stacked, stepped calcite crystals composed of multiple superimposed growth stages, producing a tiered morphology reminiscent of East Asian pagoda architecture. These specimens commonly display pronounced growth zoning, expressed as alternating layers of colorless to white calcite and zones tinted red or orange by iron (hydr)oxide impurities. Although informal trade names such as “Mercedes-Benz,” “poker chip,” or “nail head” calcite are sometimes applied in the commercial market, these descriptors lack crystallographic significance and are not used in scientific classification.

In the Williamsville material, large, colorless to translucent scalenohedral calcite crystals rise from the drusy base and are partially to completely overgrown by later epitaxial rhombohedral calcite. In some cases, early scalenohedra exhibit surface coatings of orange to reddish iron (hydr)oxides. When subsequently enclosed by later calcite growth, these coatings create the visual effect of internal phantoms, providing clear evidence of episodic crystal growth and changing geochemical conditions during mineralization.

To share a pride of your collection, share pictures with specimen and locality descriptions with Johan Maertens.

2026 Dues

Annual dues currently are $20.

Dues are for calendar year January 1st through December 31st

Dues should be paid by January 15th

Dues must be current to participate on FM MW activities.

To register for membership you have 2 options for payment.

1. You may print the form and mail it with your $20.00 payment

2. You may pay on-line ($21.00) through our website with a credit/debit card or PayPal.
You do not need a PayPal account to use a credit card. Our website has received security verification and certification.

Access membership information using this link or scan the QR code

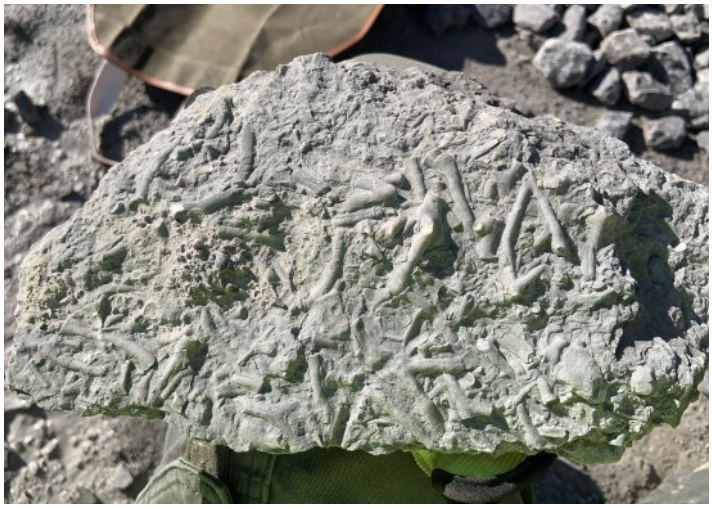
FM MW visits Caldwell Stone Quarry, KY—October 2025

By Johan Maertens

Images: Steve Boney

What a day! On Saturday, October 11, our Friends of Mineralogy Midwest crew headed down to the familiar Caldwell Stone Company Quarry in Danville, KY, for a day of serious geological exploration. While this multi-generational family-owned gem was recently acquired by the Rogers Group, we have some fantastic news: the family secured a commitment from the new execs to keep the gates open for us collectors! Of course, that comes with a high premium on safety, but it means the minerals are still within reach.

Our local mineral guru, Danny Settles and FM MW onsite coordinator Ed O'Dell, kicked things off with a warm welcome before we tackled our MSHA site-specific safety training. Remember, folks: safety gear isn't just a fashion statement—it's our ticket to the vugs! Under the new protocols, we've traded "drive-up collecting" for a bit more of a hike, convoying to a quiet corner of the quarry away from the heavy machinery. But let me tell you, the legwork was worth it.



Bryozoans.
Caldwell Stone Company Quarry, Danville, KY

We spent the day scouring limestone rip-rap piles for vugs—those magical little cavities where minerals precipitate out of solution. The geochemistry of Danville did not disappoint! Our members pulled specimens, including fluorite, barite, and chert, plus some very cool fossils. The stars of the show, however, were the gorgeous brown scalenohedral calcite crystals and some pyrite nestled within calcite groups.

Chert. Caldwell Stone Company Quarry, Danville, KY

A massive shout-out to Danny Settles, ed O'Dell and the entire Caldwell Stone/Rogers Group team for keeping things running like a well-oiled machine. It's these kinds of partnerships that allow us to keep studying the incredible mineral diversity of our region and keep the hobby alive. We're already dreaming of

the next "dig"—see you at the next outcrop!

Baryte. Caldwell Stone Company Quarry, Danville, KY. Steve Bonney image.

Friends of Mineralogy 2026 symposium

By Johan Maertens

FM MW member Johan Maertens will be a speaker at the FM-TGMS-MSA Tucson Mineral Symposium: with theme **Red, White and Blue – Celebrate the Spirit of Minerals**
On Saturday, February 14, 2026
At the Tucson Convention Center, Tucson, AZ

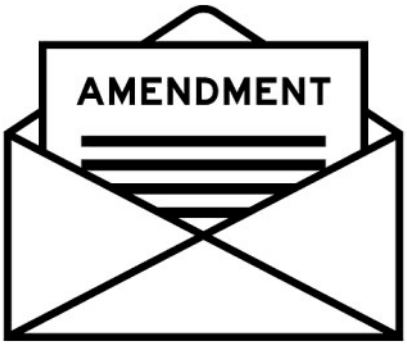
The forty-fourth Mineral Symposium, held in conjunction with the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show®, is co-sponsored by the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society®, the Friends of Mineralogy, and the Mineralogical Society of America.

Presentations feature red, white or blue minerals – worldwide localities, geology, mineralogy, crystallography, cause of color, and geochemistry.

Friends of Mineralogy Midwest Constitution amendment 2020

By Johan Maertens

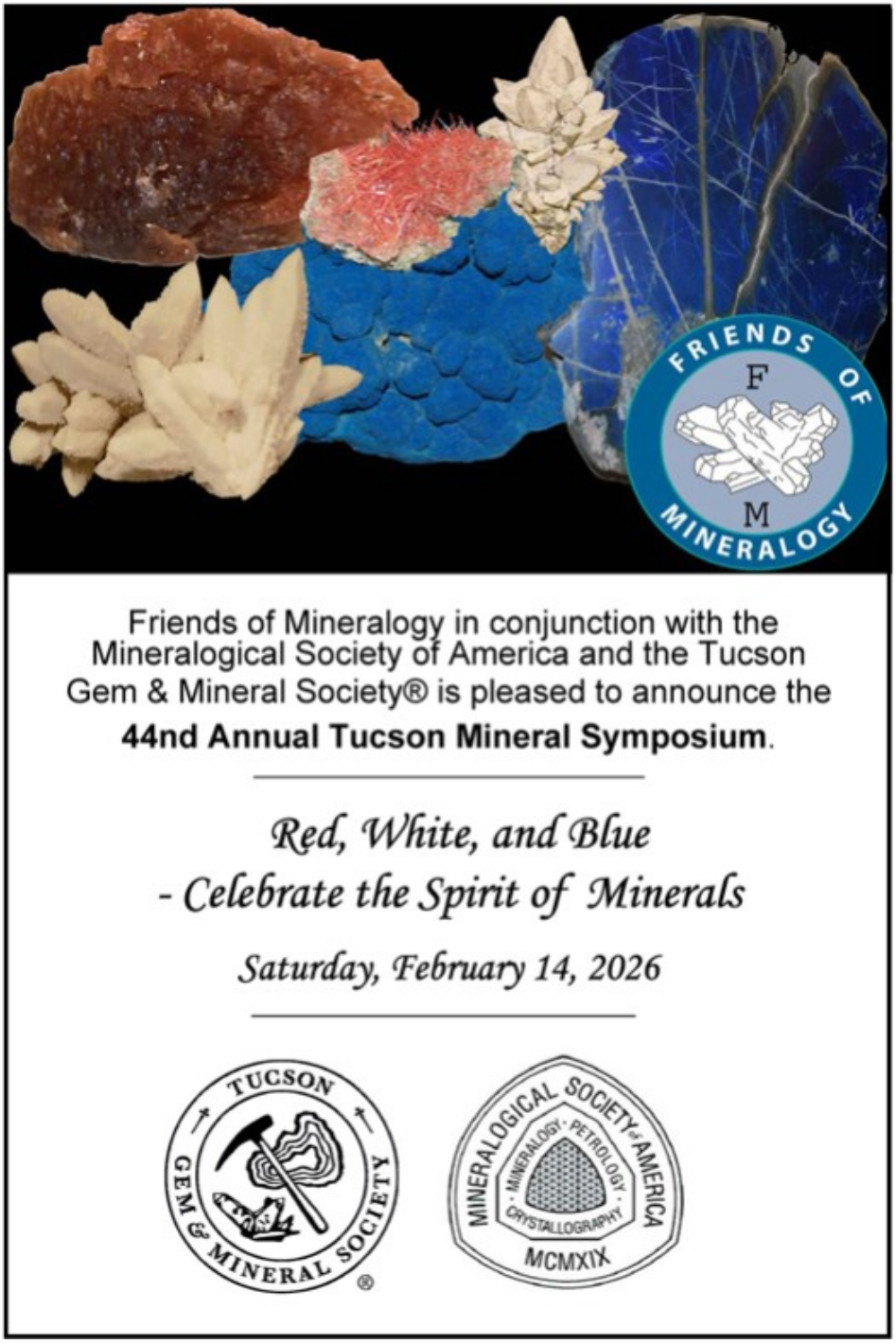
The following **Friends of Mineralogy Inc. - Midwest Chapter Constitution amendments** to Articles V, VII, and VIII were developed to improve administrative clarity, align duties with current practice, and ensure the effective functioning of the Chapter. The amendments were voted, approved and the motion passed by unanimous consent during the November 14, 2020 annual membership meeting.
The Constitution was amended accordingly and submitted to the State of Ohio Secretary. The updated Constitution and By-laws are now available via the Friends of Mineralogy Inc. - Midwest Chapter website.



1.**Officers may also serve as Committee Chairpersons**
The original Constitution already allowed officers to chair committees, but the revised wording clarifies and reaffirms this practice. This reflects long-standing operational reality and ensures flexibility in staffing committees.

2. Renaming and redefining the Vice President role
The former structure included a First Vice President with responsibility for programs and a Second Vice President. Under the proposed revision:

- The title is standardized to **Vice President**.
- The role is defined as **administrative**, focusing on assisting the President and presiding when needed.

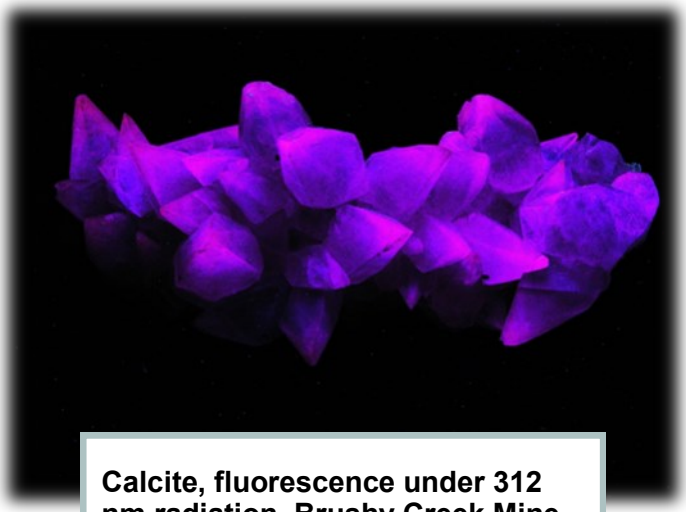


Responsibility for programs is moved to a **Programs Committee**, which aligns with how many educational nonprofit chapters operate and distributes the work load more effectively.
This change formalizes a clearer division of labor and removes ambiguity about program responsibilities.

3. Elimination of the Second Vice President position
The Second Vice President position has not been consistently used in recent years and is no longer needed under the updated organizational structure. Responsibilities formerly associated with this office are redistributed to the Programs Committee, Field Trip Committee, and Vice President as appropriate. Removing this position streamlines the officer structure without reducing functionality.

4. Creation of a new Field Trips/ Safety Officer
A dedicated **Field Trips/Safety Officer** is added as a voting member of the Executive Board.
This reflects the Chapter's continuing emphasis on safe and well-organized field activities. Concentrating safety and field-trip oversight in a single officer ensures clearer accountability, better risk management, and more consistent coordination with committees.

5. Updates to the Duties of Officers and Committees
Associated changes in Articles VII and VIII adjust the descriptions of officer duties and committee responsibilities to reflect the new organizational structure, especially the shift of program planning to the Programs Committee and the formal addition of the Field Trips/Safety Officer.



Calcite, fluorescence under 312 nm radiation. Brushy Creek Mine, Reynolds County, Missouri.

Calcite. 12 ×13 × 6 cm. Brushy Creek Mine, Reynolds County, Missouri.

Luminosity of a Calcite Specimen from Brushy Creek Mine, Reynolds County, Missouri.

by Calvin Harris

Specimen and all images by Calvin Harris

Introduction

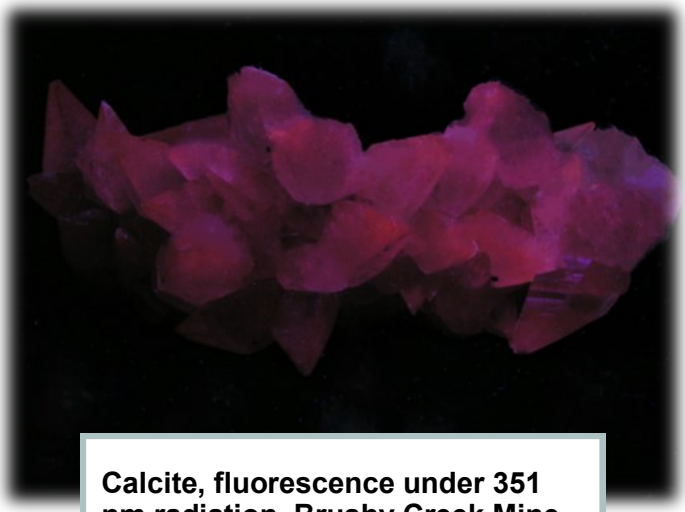
This essay is concerned with describing the fluorescence and brief high intensity phosphorescence (BIP) of a calcite specimen from Brushy Creek Mine, Reynolds County, Missouri. It also supplements existing references about calcite luminosity from this location.

Geological Setting

The Brushy Creek Mine is a Mississippi Valley Type (MVT) deposit, whose location corresponds to 37°32’ 17’’N, 91°7’42’’ in Northwestern Reynolds County. It is owned by Doe-Run Company and is well known for collectable scalenohedral calcite crystals, some showing phantoms. The mine is situated in the Viburnum Trend District, Reynolds County, Missouri. MVT deposits are epigenetic, where low temperature (50°-200°C) saline solutions infiltrate limestone or dolostone strata.

Specimen Description

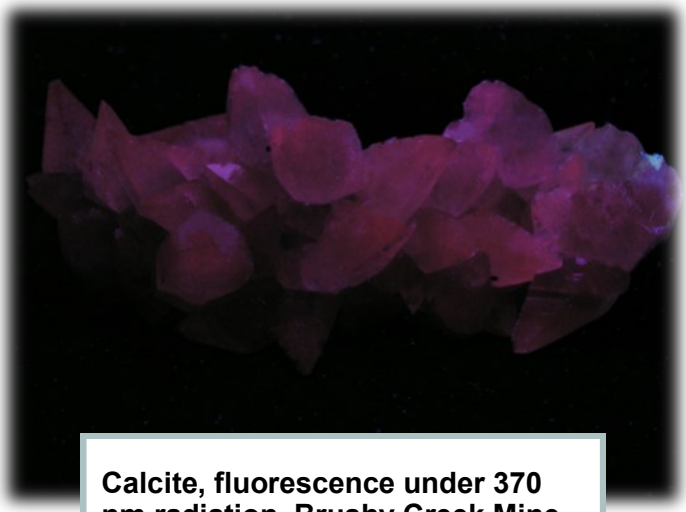
The studied specimen consists of several well-developed, colorless, translucent, scalenohedron calcite crystals situated on one edge of a dark-gray dolostone matrix. The crystals range from 0.5cm to 6cm tall. Overall, the specimen measures 12 ×13 × 6 cm.



Calcite, fluorescence under 351 nm radiation. Brushy Creek Mine, Reynolds County, Missouri.

Methods

Four different ultraviolet radiations, shortwave (254nm), mid-wave (312nm), longwave (351nm) and longwave (370nm) were used for evaluation. Battery-powered portable units manufactured by UV SYSTEMS, INC., were the sources of the radiation. The units were placed 3-4 inches from



Calcite, fluorescence under 370 nm radiation. Brushy Creek Mine, Reynolds County, Missouri.

the specimen for observation. A Vivitar 283 photographic flash unit was used to generate BIP or brief intense phosphorescence. The flash unit was discharged at full power, some 2-3 inches from the specimen.

Results

Wavelength (nm)	Fluorescence
254	Low intensity, crimson color.
312	Moderate-low intensity, violet color lower sections, magenta color terminals; terminals slightly brighter than lower sections.
351	Similar to 312 nm radiation
370	Very low intensity, crimson color
Flash unit	Moderate-intensity, red-orange color.

Discussion

Interestingly, the intensity of BIP exceeded all fluorescent intensities. 312 nm radiation provided the brightest and diverse results. Similarly, the reaction pattern was approximate to a calcite specimen from the Sweetwater mine also located in the Viburnum Trend District, Missouri. However, the intensities from the Brushy Creek mine calcite specimen were less prominent. The fluorescent and BIP colors were likely caused by trace quantities of manganese and lead.

This paper serves as a starting point for additional study regarding the nature of the luminescent effects described. Knowledge gained from mineralogical studies will help determine the causes of the fluorescent colors and the zoning patterns related to fluorescence.

Selected References

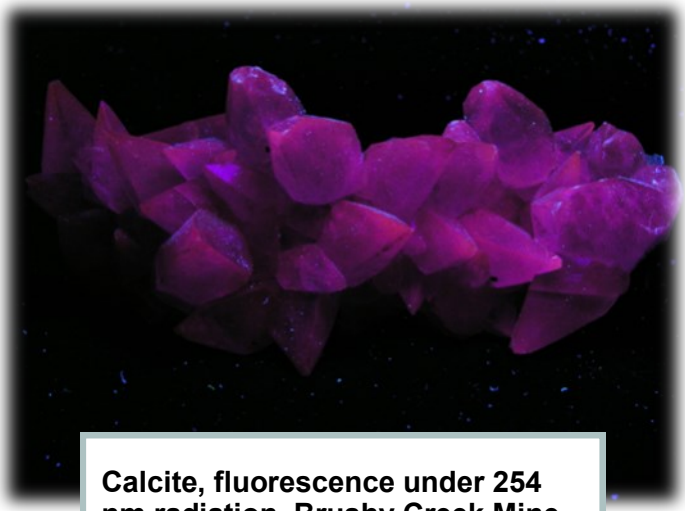
Boyer, M., (Spring 2011) “Flash and BIP” The Picking Table, 52 (1), p. 16.

Mindat.org (November 16, 2024) Brushy Creek Mine, Greeley, Reynolds County, Missouri, USA.

Rakovan, J. (2006) Mississippi Valley-Type Deposits. Rocks and Minerals, 81(1): 69-71

Fisher, J., Ross Lillie, Rakovan J. (2013.) Fluorite in Mississippi-Valley Deposits. Rocks and Minerals, 88(1): 20-45.

Robbins, M. A. (1983) The Collector’s Book of Fluorescent Minerals, New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold Co., p. 261.



Calcite, fluorescence under 254 nm radiation. Brushy Creek Mine, Reynolds County, Missouri.

Treasurer's Report 11/22/2025

by Jeff Spencer

Beginning Account Balance USBank	**$11,018.64**
Beginning Account Balance PayPal	**$1,083.42**
Total Assets 1/1/2025	**$12,102.06**
2025 Dues Paid in 2024 (14 members)	$293.00
INCOME	
2025 dues paid in 2025	$1,090.00
2026 Dues Paid in 2025	$143.00
Total Dues Amt. Received in 2025	**$1,233.00**
Symposium Donations check/cash	$25.00
Symposium Donations PP	$100.00
Total Symposium Donations	**$125.00**
General Fund donations check/cash	$30.00
General Fund donations PP	$177.00
Total General Fund Donations	**$207.00**
Other Fund Raising	$0.00
other income	$0.00
Total Non-Dues income	**$332.00**
Total 2025 Income	**$1,565.00**
EXPENSES	
Web site hosting 1 year	$119.88
Website Security Certificate renewal	$17.00
Insurance Premium 2024	$650.00
National Dues 2024 payment 74 members paid in 2025	$296.00
2025 National dues paid in 2025 67 members	$268.00
Total Disbursements	**$1,350.88**
2025 Balance	**$214.12**
Current Account Balance US Bank & PayPal	**$12,316.18**

Johan Maertens, Editor

Friends of Mineralogy Inc. - Midwest Chapter

8267 Asbury Lane

Cincinnati, Ohio 45243

The Midwest Chapter covers an 8-state region: Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Iowa and Kentucky.

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.

2026 Calendar year
dues are $20 per person.

Membership information at

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

The Midwest Chapter is Affiliated with:

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THE MINERALOGICAL RECORD	https://mineralogicalrecord.com
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