



# MWF News

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Member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Tony Kapta, President

Finally! I think we can safely say that winter is over in Central Illinois, at least at the beginning of May when this letter is being composed. That may not be the case in the more northern reaches of the MWF. Take hope that the end of winter is near for you, also.

There have been many shows around us for the last two months already. I am just sorry I cannot afford the money and/or time to travel to each and every show. That would be great. I hope you all had a great show.

I am going to continue the history of the MWF this month as it has seemed to stimulate some interest in learning what has gone on in the MWF over the years. As I have stated before, this will help us to plan for the future.

These quotes come from the MWF's 50th Anniversary Book, put out by the MWF at its 50th convention. This history was compiled by the people who put this book together, one of whom was Diane Dare, a past president of the MWF, among many other positions in the MWF and AFMS. We have these people to thank for putting together the history of the MWF.



### Brief History of MWF (1960 – 1975)

#### 1961

A jade gavel was accepted by Ben Hur Wilson on behalf of all past presidents, then given to President Mortenson. (Tony's note - I am currently in possession of that same gavel.)

The MWF had over 100 clubs, and the Council was told a permanent Archives was needed. Chairman Fred Rentzel had completed a CONVENTION GUIDE BOOK, and in the new UNIFORM RULES, fossils were still under "Educational."

A Program Aids brochure was proposed, and the PALEONTOLOGICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ILLINOIS was at the proofreading stage.

#### 1962

A new DIRECTORY was ready for the March 31 Executive Committee meeting in Milwaukee, with a new format that included a "Calendar of Events," letters from MWF and AF Presidents, and a federation history.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### JUNE

- 7 MONROE CITY, MO.** Gem City Rock Club's Annual Show; Boudreaux Visitor Center, Mark Twain Lake, Rt. J; Sat. 10-4; Contact Jeanne Smith, 573.439.5890, jsmith45@marktwain.net.
- 7-8 KALAMZOO, MI.** Michigan Geology and Gemcraft Society's 9th Annual Rockhound Weekend; Western Michigan University, Rood Hall near W. Michigan Ave. and Rankin Ave.; Sat. 9-5; Sun. 9-4; mgags.org.
- 7-8 MANSFIELD, OH.** Richland Lithic & Lapidary Society's Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show; Richland County Fairgrounds, Arts and Crafts Building, 750 N. Home Road; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Contact: Tom Kottyan, 419.562.1152, www.rlls.webs.com.
- 7-8 SPRINGFIELD, MO.** Ozarks Mountain Gem & Mineral Society's Rock Swap; River Bluff Cave, Missouri Institute of Natural Science, 2327 W. Farm Rd. 190; Sat. 8-5, Sun. 10-4; Contact: Eddie Maples, 417.725.3001.
- 13-15 PARK HILLS, MO.** Mineral Area Gem & Mineral Society's Missouri Mines Rock Swap; Missouri Mines State Historic Site, 4000 State Hwy. 32; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4; Contact: Boneta Hensley, 573.760.0488, mojellybean63@yahoo.com.
- 27-29 BEDFORD, IN.** Lawrence County Rock Club, Inc.'s 49th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Show; Lawrence County Fairgrounds; Fri. 10-6:30, Sat. 9-6:30, Sun. 10-4; Contact: Dave Treffinger, 812.295.3463, lawrencecountyrockclub.org.

### JULY

- 18-19 MINOCQUA, WI.** Lakeland Gem Club's Annual Show; Lakeland Union High School, Highway 70; Fri. 10-6; Sat. 9-5; Contact: Ron Zimmer, 715.614.1080; rzimmer@charter.net.
- 19-20 MOOSE LAKE, MN.** Carlton County Gem & Mineral Club's Show "Agate Days"; Moose Lake High School; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Contact: Gary & Jennifer Pitoscia, 218.724.1894, pitosciajg@charter.net; or Gene & Carol Risdon, 218.879.3968, carolannrisdon@gmail.com.

### AUGUST

- 2 ISHPEMING, WI.** Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club's Annual Show; Ishpeming Elks Club Hall, 597 Lake Shore Dr.; Sat. 9:30-4:30; Contact: Ernie Johnson, 609.228.9422, ejohnson@nmu.edu, ishpemingrockandmineralclub.org.

### AUGUST - cont'd

- 8-10 HANCOCK, MI.** Copper Country Rock & Mineral Club's Annual Show; Hancock Elementary School, Bridge Street; Fri. 1-8, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-3; Contact: Norm Gruber, 906.228.6764, ngruber@charter.net, www.ccrmc.info.
- 9-10 RICE LAKE, WI.** Northwest Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society's Annual Show; Youth Expo Building, Barron County Fairgrounds, Hwy. 48 North; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Contact: Roy Wickman, 715.357.3223, rktswick@chibardun.net or Dave Skrupky, 715.986.2547, dskrupky@centurytel.net.
- 16 STEVENS POINT, WI.** Heart of Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society's Swap Meet; Parking Lot behind Applebee's, 5609 U.S. Hwy. 10; Sat. 10-5; Contact: Sandy Brandl, 715.344.3889, stoniesz@charter.net, www.fromtherockroom.com.
- 15-17 ST. LOUIS, MO.** Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Club's Annual Show; Machinist Hall Auditorium, 12365 St. Charles Rock Rd., Bridgeton; Fri. 3-8, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Contact: Willis Smith, 314-521-8896 or Robert Morse, 636-462-4423.
- 22-24 SOUTH BEND, IN.** Michiana Gem & Mineral Society's Annual Show; St. Joe County 4-H Fairgrounds, 5177 S. Ireland Rd.; Fri. 2-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Contact: Marie Crull, 574.272.7209, musicman0311@gmail.com.
- 23 MT. PLEASANT, WI.** Racine Geological Society's Rock Swap; Bartlett Youth Foundation, 1120 N. Stuart Rd.; Sat. 10-5; Contact: Bonnie Bolster, 262.634.8815, bnw3@sbcglobal.net, rgs-wi.tripod.com.
- 23-24 PEORIA, IL.** PAS Geology's Annual Rock and Mineral Show; Grand Hotel, 4400 N. Brandywine Dr.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5; Contact: Jim Travis, 309.645.3609, boatnick@aol.com, www.pasgeology.com.

### SEPTEMBER

- 5-7 GREENFIELD, IN.** 500 Earth Sciences Club's Annual Show; Hancock County 4-H Fairgrounds, Apple Street; Fri., Sat., Sun. 10-6; Contact: Cheryl Hamilton, 317.897.6639, clhamilton1951@gmail.com.
- 5-7 TOLEDO, OH.** Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club's Annual Show; Stranahan Theatre Complex, 4645 Heatherdowns; Fri. 2-8, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Contact: John Capuano, 419.882.1733, jscapuano@yahoo.com, www.rockyreader.com.

## 2014 AFMS JUDGES TRAINING

by Martin Dougherty, Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club Member  
(among others)

Dee Holland, AFMS Judges Training Chair, invited Linda and me to take part in a roving judges' seminar in Ogden, Utah for the Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society's annual show April 10 -13, 2014. There were 20 people in attendance from seven different states and four federations.



Two years ago, 2012, the training was in Reno, Nevada at the Reno Gem and Mineral Society's annual show, and before that, the classes were held in Wild Acres, North Carolina.

Linda and I have been "Learning Judges" for the last three years at the California Federation of Mineralogical

Societies' annual events, helping the more qualified judges, who have attended previous training, record the scores for the competition displays and learn the process of scoring a display.

Jay Bowman, currently the AFMS Uniform Rules Committee chairman, was our instructor for two full days of reading the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies' Uniform Rules 8th Edition binder, with Dee Holland assisting. Jay has been teaching this class for many years and his experience and dedication is well known on this subject.

Friday and Saturday were spent studying and asking questions; Sunday the new judges and learning judges (you have to do 2 separate installments to become a full judge), were at the show to use newly acquired skills to judge several club cases. We were split into groups of three and were given three displays to evaluate and score. We spent a couple of hours on the cases and felt that we did okay with our scoring. Some of the group have been doing this for a long time; some of us were fairly new. Everyone helped one another and we really enjoyed learning new things.

The feedback from the Golden Spike club members has been rewarding. The consensus was that they all enjoyed the experience from their perspective also.

There is still time to enter your competition case for the 2014 MWF Convention in Des Moines, Iowa. The deadline is October 1. Let's see your cases at the Convention!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - CONT'D

*(Continued from page 1)*

The National Gem & Mineral Exposition, a combined MWF/AFMS convention, was hosted by Des Moines (Iowa) Lapidary Society from July 27 to 31 at Veteran's Auditorium. AFMS met on Thursday, adopted the H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) program, installed William de Neui as President, and raised dues to 10¢ per person. The AFMS Uniform Rules were used for the first time in the Midwest at this show.

MWF Council representing 135 clubs met Friday. The Paleontology Chairman offered a 14-page list of books for children/beginners, and Ellis Courter distributed a "PROGRAM PLANNERS MANUAL AND FILM GUIDE" which listed over 750 films on earth science topics. Revised Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws were adopted, including a change from four Regional to Ten State Vice-Presidents, and increased dues to \$250.

### 1963

MWF now had 140 clubs (8,599 members) and each club had been sent the Paleontology Committee's bibliography, INFORMATION ON GEOLOGY OF THE MIDWEST AND ELSEWHERE.

At the MWF Council Meeting, they elected the first MWF Honorary Member, June Culp Zeitner, and also the second, Joseph Phetteplace.

### 1964

The AFMS Scholarship Foundation Incorporated became official March 18, with William de Neui as Treasurer. The MWF DIRECTORY listed 150 clubs, with over 9,000 adult members.

Gertrude Hannen was made an Honorary Member, Ben Hur Wilson named Honorary President, and the AFMS

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - CONT'D***(Continued from page 3)*

Code of Ethics was adopted. Many By-Laws changes were approved: officers' terms to begin November 1 instead of after the election.

**1965**

MWF, now 165 clubs, 10,596 members, celebrated its 25th year at the "Silver Jubilee" convention in Evansville July 29-August 1.

The AFMS Scholarship fund had reached \$15,000 and the first grant was given. Dr. Richard Pearl selected a student to receive \$300 a year for two years.

**1966**

With 172 clubs (almost 11,000 members), MWF was second largest regional federation in size, but the largest contributor to the Scholarship fund. The Scholarship grant would be \$400 for each of two years for this year's student.

Uniform Rules were on two sheets of paper, and an EXHIBITOR'S MANUAL was available.

The Lapidary Committee chairman reported progress on cabochon donations for a brooch/pendant depicting "Our Mineral Heritage," to be given to the U.S. First Lady at the 1967 National Show in Washington D.C. All fifty states would be represented on the jewelry, to be displayed at the Smithsonian.

**1967**

Scholarship grants had increased to \$500, and MWF received a 100% plaque.

The "Mineral Heritage" Brooch, with 158 gems, had been presented to Mrs. Lyndon Johnson on June 1.

The MWF's Merit Awards program was being adopted by AFMS (to be called "All-American Club Awards").

**1968**

In an effort to better serve the 201 clubs (12,970 adults, 808 juniors) of MWF, President Zeitner established or reactivated many committees by the Fall meeting on November 9 in Madison, Wisconsin. Chairmen were encouraged to appoint assistants, and in some months, the Newsletter consisted of two sheets (four sides) of information.

**1969**

By-Laws revisions were approved, and included adding a Second Vice-President, changing Historian from an elected to an appointed position, establishing a

Nominating Committee, and changing "State Vice-President" to "State Director."

**1970**

A new OPERATIONS MANUAL describing duties and functions of each committee and officer was ready for the April 11 meeting in Iowa City.

The list of LAPIDARY MATERIAL NAMES was finally approved by AFMS and released.

MWF had reached 200% in the AF Scholarship fund and five students received two-year grants of \$500 per year.

**1971**

MWF membership was over 16,800 adults in 225 clubs.

Flags and displays from each MWF state were featured at the show entrance, arranged around a five-foot revolving globe with crystals spilling from its top.

Dr. Richardson was the AFMS Scholarship Foundation Honoree and selected six students (including the first woman) to each get two-year grants of \$750 per year.

**1972**

On March 21, the I.R.S. finally granted educational status 501(c)(3) to MWF.

At the AF Silver Anniversary celebration, MWF clubs led the way in donations of cabochons for the Smithsonian collection, providing 375 of the 1,300 stones.

MWF welcomed its 250th club, Owensboro (Kentucky) Mineral & Fossil Club.

**1973**

MWF clubs received the first BULLETIN EDITORS NEWS in January.

EARTH SCIENCE, the Midwest Federation's official magazine for nineteen years, had a new owner, in Colorado, and at the April 7 meeting in Morton Grove, Illinois, the relationship was ended.

Two issues of BULLETIN EDITORS NEWS had come out, and MWF reached 300% in the Scholarship Fund.

**1974**

Lincoln (Nebraska) Gem and Mineral Club hosted "A Mammoth Event," combined MWF/AFMS show, June 13-16. And it WAS huge, with over 750 exhibits seen by

*(Continued on page 5)*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - CONT'D

(Continued from page 4)

almost 50,000 visitors. The largest crowd in postal department history, 3,000 people attended first-day-of-issue ceremonies for the Mineral Heritage Stamps. Over 200 people enjoyed the Editors Breakfast, 600 were at the banquet.

The MWF's 255 clubs had 16,419 adult and 1,744 Junior members.

### 1975

The Geology Committee presented plans for a two-week geology/camping trip in the Keweenaw area and along Lake Superior's north shore from July 26 to August 9.

Seventy-four (74) clubs had entered the MWF Merit Awards competition.

The "hottest" gift for Christmas was -- the Pet Rock!

These are my picks from the history of the MWF as presented at the 50th anniversary. If anyone has any other information that they think should go into the 75th anniversary edition of the History of the MWF, please contact me and we will make sure to get it into the next edition.

As you can see, we have come down from the heydays of rockhounding in the 70s, but that just means we have something to aim for in the future.

Our convention is coming up in October, so now is the time to start preparing for that. This will be the last newsletter until September, so I have included the Delegate form for the convention in this issue. Even though it is not due for some time, you can still fill it out and send it in now so that it will be taken care of. Come to the convention and be involved with making the history of the MWF. You can help to make the MWF the best that it can be.

## 2014 MWF SCHOLARSHIP HONOREE

by Jim Marburger, 1st Vice President

I am pleased to introduce Arsen Chantooni as the 2014 Scholarship Honoree, whose name was submitted by the Des Moines Lapidary Society.

Arsen has been a member of the Des Moines Lapidary Society and the Central Iowa Mineral Society since the fall of 1979. He has been very active in these and several other now defunct clubs. He has been THE go-to person for rock and fossil identification and is a masterful analytical chemist who applies his skills to his hobby with great fervor. In 2009, Arsen became an Honorary Member of the Central Iowa Mineral Society.

He was a 1950 graduate of Roosevelt High School in Des Moines, Iowa where he was President of the Science Club. He received a BS in Chemical Technology and Botany in 1955 from what was then known as Iowa State College (now Iowa State University).

Professionally, Arsen was very involved with the design of public waterworks facilities. He also worked as a paid researcher at Iowa State and invented the Automatic Constant Volume Dialyzer, which he patented. Arsen has been quite active in his field, assisting in many controversial and high profile cases regarding environmental contamination. He also does research in mathematics, programs computers, teaches computer at the senior centers, and does artwork such as watercolor & pencil drawings, computer artwork, and makes cabochons.

Arsen has co-authored books, including "Pennsylvanian Geology of the Saylorville Dam



Emergency Spillway after the Floods of 93"; and for the "Geological Society of Iowa, Guide book 52, April 22, 1990" entitled *A.M.A.T.E.U.R (A Marmaton, Amateur-led Trek to Exposures Unexplored near the Raccoon River)*.

Arsen has lived in Des Moines all his life, and all but two years in the same turn of the century home. He has never married.

Arsen's love of rocks and fossils began as a young child when the family yard and nearby railroad tracks and sand bars became the hunting ground. In the late 1960s, when rock-hounding was welcomed in state parks, he expanded to collecting around the state, sharing what he found with park staff. Now Arsen is usually among the first to locate a specimen on field trips. He not only finds them, he can tell you exactly what it is he found.

Arsen is, above all, a scientist, which he defines as "a funny person that sticks his nose into the details and keeps working. He is never satisfied with the job he is doing. He notices all the defects and is a perfectionist."

## WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE UNIFORM RULES, JUDGES TRAINING

by Tony Kapta, President

Whenever there is a Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies (MWF) convention, there are opportunities to display your collections at the show. When you set up a display, you can elect to have your display be a competitive display, which will then be judged and given an award according to the judge's assessment of the display. This is a good way to help you improve your display. You can also enter your display at the next American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) convention and have it judged there.

Not long ago, each Federation had their own set of rules for competitive exhibits, which made competition hard when moving from federation level to the national level of competition. Now, all the federations and the AFMS have exactly the same rules for competition. These rules are what are known as the Uniform Rules.

If you would like a copy of these rules, they are available online for download at the AFMS website, and I believe you can get a hard copy from the MWF director of supplies.

The MWF has a Uniform Rules chairman who currently is Barbara Sky. If you have any questions about the uniform rules, you can contact her and she will answer your question. A uniform rules meeting is held at each AFMS convention where they discuss any changes that have been recommended to the rules and vote on if the current rules need to be changed.

Anyone who judges competitive displays has to be trained. There are judge training seminars in various parts of the country every year but, so far, they have all been far from the MWF area of the country. Last year, the MWF did not have a judge for a competitive display at our convention, so it could not be judged. To remedy this, the MWF is going to sponsor a judge's training seminar this year in St. Louis, Missouri.

This seminar will be held during the Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs, Inc. show in St. Louis Missouri, on August 15th to the 17th. The show will be located at the Machinists Hall Auditorium, 12365 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, Missouri. The seminars will be located at a motel near the show.

If you would like to attend the seminar and become a judge or to just learn about the rules for competitive displays, please let me know at [cigmc@comcast.net](mailto:cigmc@comcast.net) or 309-830-6516.

## CLUB ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR NOMINATING INFORMATION

By Lee Herrera, Chairman

Below is the Rockhound of the Year data request list for anyone submitting a club member for the Rockhound of the Year award. Each club can submit a nomination every year. The award is given to an individual in their club, and not a competition between clubs.

The following information is required:

1. The person's name as it will appear on the award, the club's name, and location of the club, for example, West Suburban Lapidary Club, Elmhurst, Illinois.
2. The accomplishments that warrant why this person should receive this nomination.
3. The name and address where the award is to be sent, not necessarily the recipient. Include phone number and e-mail address in case of questions.
4. The year the award is for.
5. The date you would like to receive the award (optional), e.g., annual awards ceremony, Christmas party, etc.

## 2014 CONVENTION SILENT AUCTION

By Ed Dvorak, Silent Auction Chairman

Just a reminder about the "EONS EXPOSED!!" show and convention coming up in October at Des Moines, Iowa. The silent auction to benefit the MWF will be held at the Awards Banquet on Saturday, October 18, and we need donated specimens.

When you are on field trips this summer, or just checking the local areas, think about collecting some extra specimens for the silent auction. You will no doubt pick up some great specimens for yourself. I ask only that you collect a few more for the silent auction. Since this silent auction will be limited to those attending the banquet, nicer specimens would be appreciated, however, nothing will be refused. If you have no place to store them, please contact me. If you live close to me, I will pick them up, otherwise, they can be mailed via priority flat rate mail. Thank you for your donations. You may call 402.946.3041 and leave a message or e-mail: [ed20649@windstream.net](mailto:ed20649@windstream.net).

**The 2014 Youth Poster Contest  
deadline is extended to July 1.  
Get your crayons working!**

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE FROM THE SPRING MEETING

by Tony Kapta, President

We had the MWF Spring Meeting yesterday and it was great! We could have used some more participants, but we did have a quorum, so we could take care of the business at hand. The minutes of the meeting are published in this newsletter.

Apparently there are some people and clubs who are forgetting about the Code of Ethics that we, as rockhounds, should be following. Please review them at the right.

We were informed that there are people ignoring the first rule of the Code of Ethics as well as the rules of common courtesy, particularly in the State of Michigan copper district in the Upper Peninsula. Most, if not all, of the old mines in the U.P. are located on private property. Because of the trespassing, people who do properly ask permission to collect minerals on these properties are not being allowed back on the areas.

We have all complained about losing areas at which to collect, and we have supported the American Land Access Association to try and help remedy this loss. People who trespass are giving all of us a black eye by ignoring the simple rules of ethics and common sense.

If you are planning a field trip to anywhere, please get permission to collect on that land. If you do not know who owns the land, contact the local rock club in the area and find out if they know who to contact to get permission. If you cannot get permission, DO NOT GO!

We were also told that some of the clubs are being led to these sites by a local guide. If you are using a guide, please make sure that person has written permission to collect on the land in question. As I said before, if you need help, contact a local club.

We are losing areas to collect on way too fast the way it is, and to lose even more because of a careless few ruining it for the rest of us, is not acceptable. Follow the AFMS Code of Ethics and, please, be considerate to all rockhounds and property owners.

## 2015 MWF SCHOLARSHIP HONOREE

If you or your Club would like to nominate someone, or a couple, for the 2015 MWF Scholarship Honoree(s), in recognition of their service to your Club and Community, details are described in the Green Pages of the MWF Directory, on our website [www.amfed.org/mwf](http://www.amfed.org/mwf), or contact David Rich at [birdman035@hotmail.com](mailto:birdman035@hotmail.com).

## AFMS Code of Ethics

- ◆ I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.
- ◆ I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- ◆ I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- ◆ I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- ◆ I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- ◆ I will leave all gates as found.
- ◆ I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- ◆ I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
- ◆ I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- ◆ I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
- ◆ I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- ◆ I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- ◆ I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- ◆ I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- ◆ I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- ◆ I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

## SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES

Material may be e-mailed to Sharon Marburger at [mwf.editor@windstream.net](mailto:mwf.editor@windstream.net), or submitted via the U.S. Mail (see address on page 1). Acceptable e-mail formats include MS Word (.DOC & DOCX), Adobe (.PDF), rich text format (.RTF), or plain text (.TXT). Pictures must be in png, jpg, tiff, or gif format. If e-mailing an article, it may be included within the body of the e-mail message or sent as an attachment. Thank you for your submissions!



## SPRING MEETING MINUTES

by Donna Moore, Secretary

### MWF Executive Committee Minutes May 17, 2014 Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

President Tony Kapta called the meeting to order. J.C. Moore gave the invocation. Jim Marburger led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Tony recognized the following past presidents who were in attendance: Bernice McCloskey, J.C. Moore, Dennis Westman and Sandy Fuller.

Sharon Marburger, who was sitting in for Parliamentarian Cindy Root, reviewed the rules of discussion.

Secretary Donna Moore noted that the minutes of the October 19, 2013 meeting of the MWF Executive Committee in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, had been published in the December issue of the MWF Newsletter. Printed copies were available for reference. David Rich moved to accept the minutes as printed. Barbara Sky seconded the motion, which carried.

Sandy Fuller had printed copies of the Treasurer's report. She reported that we are in reasonably good health. The bond for both her and Alan Hukill, Endowment Treasurer, was higher than previously. This accounted for a higher amount in the Treasurer's expense area. We lost several clubs this year, so there was a decrease in membership overall. J.C. Moore moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Dennis Westman seconded the motion, which carried.

David Rich, 2nd Vice President, reported on the State Director's Meeting which preceded this meeting. Those directors and assistants present included Deb and George Coursey from Illinois, Tom Whitlatch from Iowa, John and Julia Donker from Michigan, Dennis Westman from Minnesota, and Bernice McCloskey representing Wisconsin. David reported they had a good state directors meeting and noted that the state directors are the face of the Federation at the grassroots level. He plans to focus on the youth poster contest.

Jim Marburger took over to ask for reports from the Executive Committee Chairmen.

- ◆ Archaeology – Skeeter Kish had no report.
- ◆ Boundaries – Bob Miller had a written report stating there was no activity in the boundary committee.
- ◆ Bulletin Editors – Celia Tiffany reported six bulletins were entered in the contest. The top three and direct

entries had been sent on to the AFMS Bulletin Editors Contest. The results of the MWF Contest will be announced at the MWF Convention in Des Moines, Iowa in October.

- ◆ Cancelled Stamps – Lyle Kugler had no report. Donna Moore announced she had an assortment of bookmarks for sale if anyone was interested. She also offered to take any stamps brought to the meeting.
- ◆ Club Rockhound of the Year – Lee Herrera reported that the September issue of the MWF Newsletter will have two nominations. He wants to work with Webmaster Cindy Root to put the information he would like to see in the nominations on the website. He has a list of five criteria to make up a nomination. Sandy Fuller suggested that Lee write up an article on "how to nominate" in the newsletter.
- ◆ Convention and Show Advisory – J.C. Moore reported that things were progressing well with the plans for this year's convention in Des Moines, Iowa, October 17-19. The 2015 convention in Wheaton, Illinois, at the Dupage County Fairgrounds just outside of Chicago, is being planned. He said he would be at their show over Memorial Day Weekend and would see how things are progressing then. After 2015, no one has offered to host. He noted we don't ask a lot, just a room for meetings and arrangements for an awards banquet. These are the starting requirements. He said anyone could send him an e-mail with any questions about hosting a convention. His e-mail address is [jcmoore3rd@gmail.com](mailto:jcmoore3rd@gmail.com). Jim Marburger is working on a site for the Fall 2015 MWF Executive Committee Meeting.
- ◆ Credentials – Tony Kapta reported that we have a quorum for this meeting.
- ◆ Director of Supplies – Dennis Westman reported that Zoma Olson had resigned the position and he was taking the supplies job back at least until the convention. He had basic supplies with him if anyone needed anything.
- ◆ Directory – Sandy Fuller reported for Martha Miss that Martha had taken out the tan pages because they had not been updated, so were probably no longer valid. She had a reminder that the dues and events forms are published in the November, December, and January issues of the *MWF News*. All forms are sent to the same address. The forms are also on the MWF Website. Clubs can download, fill in and print the forms before putting into the mail. This eliminates the problem of hard to read handwriting.
- ◆ Education – No report.

*(Continued on page 9)*



## SPRING MEETING MINUTES - CONT'D

*(Continued from page 8)*

- ◆ Endowment – Barbara Sironen reported that she had gotten involved in the MWF because of the Nebraska convention in 2013. She is still learning and was waiting for the Endowment Committee meeting following this meeting to have more of her questions answered. \$467 had been added to the principal of the fund since October 2013.
  - ◆ Environment and Legislation – Dean Stone had called in a report that Dean is now living in Laurium, Michigan and is still thawing out from the winter. The Laurium area had a record snowfall this year. He noted that the Eagle Mine near Marquette, Michigan should be producing this summer. Another mine in Gogebic County is underway. Efforts to do copper mining in Minnesota were being explored, but there were a lot of environmental concerns. The boundary waters area is a fragile ecosystem. Permitting is in progress.
  - ◆ Geology – The new chairman, Dr. Bill Cordua., had a written report that he was new to the job, but trying to get things going.
  - ◆ Historian – Cindy Root was unable to attend this meeting, so she and Donna Moore would be transferring the physical records at a future time.
  - ◆ Insurance – Marge Jensen had sent a written report. She emphasized how important it is that the clubs get their renewals completed by January 15 at the latest so the insurance can be in place by March 1. The insurance agent has asked for advance notice of one month when a club requires specific coverage on an item.
  - ◆ Junior Activities – No report.
  - ◆ Lapidary Arts – David Root sent a report stating he is still maintaining a database for anyone wishing information regarding mentors for lapidary assistance.
  - ◆ Long Range Planning – J.C. Moore reported that the MWF needs to communicate clearly to clubs and members that they MUST get permission from land owners before collecting. This has become such a problem in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan that the Copper Country Club and the Seaman Museum are having trouble getting permission for their annual field trips.
  - ◆ Membership – Jim Marburger reported he had sent out an information packet, but had not received anything back.
  - ◆ Micromounts – No chairman and this committee is being considered as a subcommittee of the Mineralogy Committee.
  - ◆ Mineralogy – Kevin Ponzio reported there was nothing new to report.
  - ◆ Newsletter – Sharon Marburger had a written report saying she is always looking for articles to print. She will gladly edit an article if needed.
  - ◆ Paleontology – Chairmanship is vacant.
  - ◆ Program Competition – Cindy Root's written report said one program was entered this year.
  - ◆ Program Requests – Pat Powers' written report contained the number of programs borrowed in 2013 and so far in 2014.
  - ◆ Program Review – No report.
  - ◆ Public Image – Regina Kapta had nothing new to report.
  - ◆ Publications-Sandy Fuller had nothing new to report.
  - ◆ Safety and Field Trips – David Rich stressed the importance of safety equipment when going on field trips. He especially stressed the importance of using safety glasses.
  - ◆ Scholarship – Marge Collins had a written report reviewing donations made to the AFMS Scholarship Fund.
  - ◆ Silent Auction – The silent auction in Des Moines will be held right before the banquet. We will be looking for higher end donations since the auction will be done this way.
  - ◆ Uniform Rules – Barbara Sky's written report indicated there was little new to report.
  - ◆ Website – Cindy Root's report indicated she is updating information as she receives it.
- Dennis Westman, chairman of the Nominating Committee reported that Jim Marburger will run for President, David Rich will run for 1st Vice President, Tom Whitlatch will run for 2nd Vice President, Sandy Fuller will run as Treasurer and Donna Moore as Secretary. The following four candidates will run for two positions on the nominating committee – John Donker (Michigan), Robert Morse (Missouri), Charles Wooldridge (Nebraska) and Julia Donker (Michigan).
- Karen Leibold from the Des Moines Lapidary Society sent a report saying there will be field trips to a gravel pit and another location on Friday before the convention, the host hotel will honor the group rate on Thursday night. All meetings will take place at the host hotel, Sleep Inn & Suites. The banquet will be in the showroom at the fairgrounds. The scholarship honoree will be honored at the banquet.

*(Continued on page 10)*

## SPRING MEETING MINUTES - CONT'D

*(Continued from page 9)*

J.C. Moore reported that a booklet updating MWF information is being assembled for the 75th anniversary in 2015. He suggested that the historian should collect and archive the information yearly from now on, and supplements could be printed every five or ten years.

Conventions – J.C. Moore reported that things are being readied for the 2014 Convention in Des Moines, Iowa. It looks like we will have a good convention. He stressed again that we don't want clubs to change their show in order to host the federation. Sandy Fuller noted that if you do make changes, it should be a special event similar to the Celebration of Agates in Minnesota in 2012. He will be in Wheaton at the Chicagoland Show talking to them about finalizing plans for 2015.

### Old Business

David Rich reported there are no entries yet in the 2014 Youth Poster Contest. He encouraged everyone to get their juniors to enter before June 1. At the last convention, we voted to fund the youth poster contest, but failed to state the amount and from where the funds would come. David Rich moved that the MWF reimburse the sponsoring club up to \$250 for prizes and \$100 for postage. Kevin Ponzio moved to amend the motion with "to be paid from the Endowment Fund interest when a reimbursement form is submitted to MWF Treasurer." Dennis Westman seconded the motion. Kevin then moved to accept the motion as amended. Dennis Westman seconded the amended motion, which carried.

Slide Program Conversion – It was decided to retire the slides and no longer list them in the directory. However, people can still get them. It was decided to not spend any more to convert the slide programs. Marge Collins is the AFMS Program Chairman. She sent word that the Rochester Symposium was offering programs already converted to DVD to the federations for \$1.66 each. These are normally \$25 each.

It was decided that the DVD programs John Washburn had been offering for a donation to the Endowment Fund would be discussed at the Endowment Committee meeting as to whether we would continue to offer them. It was thought no more funds would be spent to record new programs to offer.

E. Bear had traveled to the meeting with Tom and Julie Whitlatch. He would be going to Des Moines along with the book compiling his travels. J.C. Moore said that E. Bear needed to be sure to go to Chicagoland in 2015. After a short auction, J.C. Moore outbid David Rich for the right

to take E. Bear home. David said he was coming to Des Moines to take E. Bear out to party.

### New Business

Tony Kapta said the officers had voted to do the judges training in the MWF. The Moores, the Roots, and the Kaptas had agreed to take the training. At the last convention, Barbara Sky noted we did not have any trained judges to judge the two cases entered in competition. Tony was going to investigate the possibility of holding the training at the St. Louis show in August if a schedule can be arranged with Jay Bowman who trains the judges. Barbara Sky said there should be enough displays to provide practice judging. She also suggested publicizing the training at the AFMS Convention in Tulsa in July in case anyone else would like to participate.

Lee Herrera suggested that with the loss of club membership, maybe we could piggyback on the television programs currently showing that have an interest in collecting. Tom Whitlatch said the Cedar Rapids club has done that by asking the Gold Prospectors to set up a booth at their show to pan for Iowa gold. He noted the Gold Prospectors Association of America has a national website.

Barbara Sironen asked if the prizes in the poster contest might be specimens of what the students had on their posters. This would make it an educational opportunity with a pre-determined prize. Prizes could also be a mineral, a book or a gift card. J.C. Moore noted that we had proposed an amount and it was up to the sponsoring club to come up with prizes.

J.C. Moore moved to adjourn the meeting. Sandy Fuller said she would be on the show floor if anyone needed a check for expenses. The meeting was adjourned.

## COMPETITIVE DISPLAYS

by Barbara Sky

It is still several months until the MFW convention in Des Moines so you all have time to put together an exhibit for the show! I would like that exhibit to be a competitive exhibit! Remember - a club can enter a competitive exhibit also with at least 5 members contributing. (That means that no one person is doing all the planning and work of preparing the exhibit!) I'll find judges for any cases in competition! As long as I'm not in competition, any other mineral cases can be judged by me with help from a collector, even if not an official judge. COMPETE!!

**MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES  
COUNCIL MEETING  
DELEGATE REGISTRATION  
Saturday, October 18, 2014**

The Midwest Federation's 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the 2014 "Eons Exposed!!!" Show and the MWF Convention, which is sponsored by the Des Moines Lapidary Society & Central Iowa Mineral Society, October 17th thru the 19th, at the Paul Knapp Animal Learning Center at the Iowa State Fairgrounds, 3000 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50317. The Delegates' Council Meeting will be held at the Sleep Inn & Suites, 5850 Morning Star Court, Pleasant Hill, IA, (515) 299-9922. Each member club/society is entitled to one (1) Delegate and one \*(1) Alternate to represent them.

The MWF Council Meeting will convene on Saturday, October 18th, at 1:00 p.m., with delegate registrations beginning at 12:00 p.m. at the Sleep Inn & Suites. The delegate appointed by your club or society will represent your interests, and may bring up pertinent discussions and proposals. However, in order to expedite matters, if your society intends to have its delegate present any special motion at the meeting, please notify the Midwest President, Tony Kapta, and the Secretary, Donna Moore, as to the nature of the subject so that it may be placed on the agenda. This needs to be presented in written form. This should be done at least one month prior to the meeting.

\*Each club is entitled to one vote. An alternate may vote in the absence of the delegate. Guests are invited but will not be able to vote.

**Please fill out this form and return it to the  
CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN  
Tony Kapta  
1483 E Wood St, Decatur IL 62521  
217-233-1164, e-mail cigmc@comcast.net**

**(NOT to the show registration committee) BEFORE October 4, 2014.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PROMPTNESS**



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**MIDWEST FEDERATION DELEGATE REGISTRATION FORM  
PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE TO AVOID ERRORS**

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of your club on this line**

**OF** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City and State on this line**

**HAS APPOINTED THE FOLLOWING DELEGATE TO THE 74rd ANNUAL MEETING OF  
THE MIDWEST FEDERATION**

**DELEGATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**ALTERNATE** \_\_\_\_\_

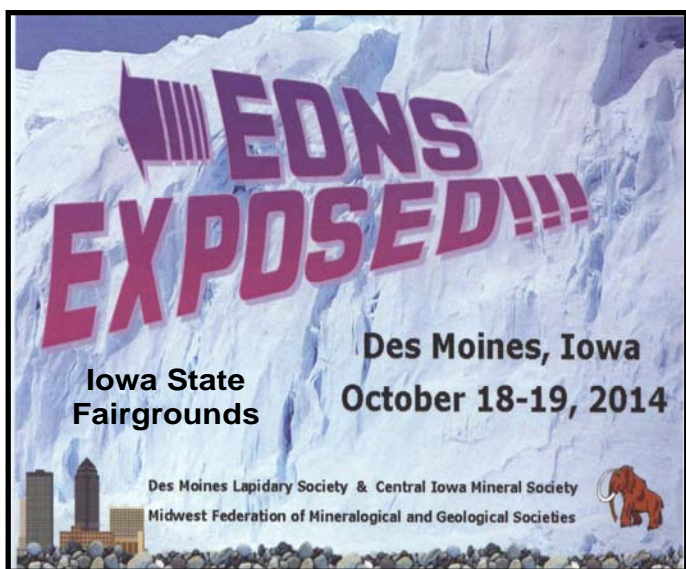
**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **SIGNED** \_\_\_\_\_, **CLUB PRESIDENT**



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## Youth Poster Contest Deadline Extended!

**THEME:** Birthstones  
**ELIGIBILITY:** 1st through 8th grades.  
**WINNERS:** Each grade will have a winner. Ribbons awarded 1st through 4th places; the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will also receive a prize.

### CONTEST RULES:

- \* All entries must be presented on paper 12"x18".
- \* Include name and address, age and school grade of participant on BACK of entry.
- \* No three dimensional posters accepted.
- \* The title may be on front or back.
- \* List the Birthstones and WHY you chose them.
- \* All entries become the property of MWF and LOESS.

**DEADLINE:** Entries must be postmarked by July 1, 2014. Send to: Carole Harp, 9611 Breckenridge Rd., Rochester, IL 62563.

Winners will be announced at the MWF convention on October 18, 2014 at Des Moines, Iowa.

If you have questions contact Carol at the address above, e-mail [thequirkyquiller@gmail.com](mailto:thequirkyquiller@gmail.com) with the subject "Poster Contest", or visit the MWF website, <http://www.amfed.org/mwf>.