



MWF News

**Midwest Federation
of Mineralogical and Geological Societies**

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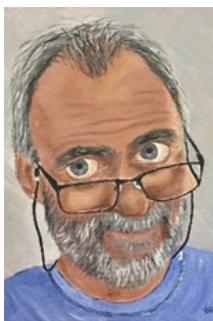


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kevin Ponzio, MWF President

Hello, everyone!

I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your president! I will try to fulfill my duties to the best of my abilities. Please contact me or the rest of the board with not only concerns but ideas that you may feel will improve the MWF experience for everyone.



A special Thank You to the Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society for sponsoring the MWF convention in October. They met us with a warm reception, fun treats and lots to experience in the Springfield, Illinois area. The show had wonderful vendors and great displays. Of course, a number of great bargains were on the silent auction tables.

The banquet was a lot of fun too. Stacks of awards went to the members. MWF bolo ties were available. The burning question that all of you are

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COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES

[Editor's Note: Following are the minutes of the MWF Council of Delegates meeting that was held October 6, 2018, in Springfield, Illinois.]

MWF President David Root called the meeting to order. J.C. Moore gave the invocation. Kevin Ponzio, First Vice-President, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

J.C. Moore welcomed everyone on behalf of Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society. He stressed that everyone should spend some time at the show and visit the concession stand, where he and Donna will be working. The Abraham Lincoln sites in Springfield are very interesting to visit, especially the Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

President Root recognized the MWF past presidents and distinguished guests in attendance. Those included Bernice McCloskey, Sandy Fuller, J.C. Moore, Bob Miller (also former AFMS President), Kathy Miller, Cindy Root, Dennis Westman, David Rich, Tony Kapta. Sandy Fuller was also welcomed as the current American Federation President.

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MICHIGAN ROCKHOUDS WIN MEDALS

Two members of the Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club (Michigan) won medals at the Michigan Region 12 tournament of the Science Olympiad earlier this year.

The Science Olympiad is a national organization that sponsors regional, state, and national competitions, at elementary-school, middle-school and high-school levels. Teams compete in more than twenty events on such topics as Astronomy, Ecology, Forensics, and Rocks and Minerals. Michigan's Region 12 includes three counties in and around Grand Rapids.

James Aidala led Forest Hills Central High School to a first-place win in the Rocks & Minerals event, which helped the school to a second-place overall win in the regional tournament. An article by Sam Noonan in the Forest Hills Central Trend student newspaper quoted James as saying about Science Olympiad, "There, you use all of your harvested knowledge and apply it the best you can to what is in front of you." (That quote, as well as these pictures, were reproduced in the Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club's Arrowhead News,



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

asking, how can I get a MWF Bolo Tie? Check your MWF directory and contact Director of Supplies Andrea Morehead at andy.lucky13@gmail.com.

There is one question that I have asked and others have asked me. What does the MWF do for me? You're probably thinking, uh-oh, here it comes. Are you expecting the normal insurance-and-scholarships response? Or perhaps, the networking capabilities reply? Excellent! I'm glad you still have the newsletter in your hand or on your screen. Yes, to those responses, and so much more.

It is true that for only a few dollars a year you get million-dollar coverage for your events. And with the rising costs of college, a scholarship gift can really help someone starting out.

As for networking capabilities – there are over ten thousand members in the MWF. This means that you have tens of thousands of years of experience at your fingertips! Prepping minerals or fossils, or what polish to use on your cab or tumbled stone? How to solve a geometric puzzle when faceting, or what safety equipment is needed for any of these? All these answers and a multitude more await you! Wow!!! Yikes! I apologize, three exclamation points. I can feel the oxytocin flowing! I may even live longer!

You can too! Get it flowing by joining in on the sharing, volunteering, participating and fun! Remember when you saw your first geode being opened? Or when you finished polishing that first rock you found on vacation? Yes, that is the feeling. Just like a newborn, bright-eyed and full of wonderment.

I've been collecting for 57 years now and I still feel like that to this day! Why, after so many years and rocks? The more I involve myself with the MWF and local clubs, the more I get out of it. Start slow by doing a little at a time, or jump in and let the fun begin!

I can't wait to hear how much fun everyone is having. See you next month!



COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

David then read the list of memorials listing those members who had passed away since the last convention. They included: Paul Good, former MWF President; June Yvonne Shalander – Indianhead Rock Club; Nellie Claxton – Southern Illinois Earth Science Club, Former MWF Scholarship Chair; Bob Cook – Kettle Moraine Geological Society; Mary Bodell – Geology Section of Peoria Academy of Science and LOESS; Ernest “Ernie” Confer – Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral & Geology Society and Ozark Earth Science Club; Bill Rathbun – Sac & Fox Lapidary Club, Wilbert N. Hemken – Show Me Gems and Minerals Club; Stan Jacobs, Ed Enos, Bonnie Church, Sister Jeanne Finske – Michiana Gem & Mineral Society; Sharon Gallagher, Rose Stuekerjergen – Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society, Inc.; Lee Kirby – Past President of MWF, Oakland County Earth Science Club and Flint Rock & Gem Club; Kenny Gillespie – Black Hawk Gem and Mineral Society; Keith Toepfer – Northwest Illinois Rock Club; Duane Parsons – Edwards River Earth Science Club; Al Sicree – Dayton Gem & Mineral Society; Daniel Miller; Gloria Schneider – Midwest Mineralogical Society; Glen Nichols and JoEllen Etnire – Central Illinois Gem & Mineral Club; Roger Kehret – Ozark Earth Science Club; Donna Reese, Rock River Valley Gem & Mineral Society; Joanne Kluessendorf, curator of the Weis Earth Science Museum; Johanna Blowers, Northwest Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society; Evelyn Green (also Akron Mineral Society) and Bill Bandy from Summit Lapidary Club; and Olga DeKok – Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club. A moment of silence was observed in their honor.

Cindy Root, Parliamentarian, reviewed the rules of the meeting.

The minutes of the MWF Council of Delegates Meeting from May 5, 2017, held in Brainerd, Minnesota, had been in the MWF Newsletter and copies were available on the table. J.C. Moore moved to approve the minutes. Barbara Sky seconded the motion, which carried.

Sandy Fuller had printed copies of the treasurer’s report. She said this was year-to-date with not quite a month to go. Revenue would not be added to, but it looked good for the year. She knew there would be some convention and end-of-year expenses, but there should be plenty to cover those and still come out in the black. Any remaining from fiscal 2018 will be added to the net operating amount. Previously she had money in CD’s, but had moved the money to money markets where a bit more interest is being earned. J.C. Moore moved to approve the treasurer’s report. David Rich seconded the motion, which passed.

John Donker briefly summarized the State Directors’ meeting from the morning. Six states had directors or representatives present. Dennis Westman from Minnesota, Deb and George Coursey as well as assistant Susan Stanforth from Illinois, Julia Donker from Michigan, Barbara Sky from Missouri/Arkansas, David Rich from Ohio, Bob and Kathy Miller from Indiana were present. Written reports had been sent by Allison Conrad for Wisconsin as well as Tom Kottyan and his assistant Joyce Kish from Ohio. Reports said attendance at shows is increasing, clubs with youth and younger people are growing. Membership is gaining. It was a very productive meeting.

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DEADLINE CALENDAR

MWF Bulletin Editors’ Competition deadline: **Nov. 15, 2018**. See page 10, or contact Sharon Marburger, mamamar7880@outlook.com.

MWF Website Contest entries: **Nov. 15, 2018**. See page 10, or contact Dave Fanger, rockfanger@gmail.com.

MWF Dues & Insurance and Calendar of Events forms are both due **Jan. 15, 2019**. See pages 6-8, or contact Sandy Fuller at mwftreas@rockbiz-biz.

MWF All American Club yearbooks deadline: **Jan. 15, 2019**. See page 10, or contact Mary Ann Rich at email address MAFR43@hotmail.com.



COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES, CONT. (COMMITTEE REPORTS)

(Continued from page 3)

David asked First Vice-President Kevin Ponzio for reports from the Permanent Committees.

Archaeology – Skeeter Kish sent a written report.

Boundaries – Bob Miller had sent a written report that no boundary issues had arisen. He had nothing to add at the meeting.

Bulletin Editors' Aids – Donna Moore reported that the awards for 2018 would be handed out at the banquet. Sharon Marburger had asked to step down from this chairmanship, but agreed to carry through for the 2019 Bulletin Editors Contest because of the early deadline. Kreigh Tomaszewski, Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club, reminded clubs to be sure their editors are members of SCRIBE.



A.k.a. the Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors, a group specifically for editors of mineral-society newsletters.

Club Rockhound of the Year – No report. Steve Shimatzki had asked to be replaced, but agreed to finish up 2018.

Conventions and Shows – J.C. Moore said he would have information in the Convention Reports.

Credentials – Tony Kapta announced there were 18 members of the executive committee, including at least three officers, and 19 club delegates, so there was a quorum. He thanked all the delegates for traveling to the meeting.

Director of Supplies – Andrea Morehead reported that all the supplies were listed on the MWF website. She had a printed list available at the meeting. She had a sampling for sale. There were damaged directories available if anyone wanted them.

Directory and Calendar of Events – Sandy Fuller told about a snafu with the mail service in the delivery of the directories this year. It was resolved, but there were damaged copies available for the taking at the meeting.

Education – No report.

Endowment Fund – Alan Hukill had sent a treasurer's report. Sandy Fuller also showed MWF tote bags, from which the proceeds were going to the Endowment Fund.

Environment and Legislation – This position needs a new chairman.

Geology – Dr. Cordua is writing articles for the newsletter.

Historian – Cindy Root had a written report.

Insurance – No report.

Junior Activities – No report.

Lapidary – David Root had a written report. He added that he had received a question for the first time by e-mail.

Long Range Planning – No report.

Membership – Jim Marburger had a written report that he had not received any new inquiries.

Merit Awards – J.C. Moore reported there were no entries in this year's contest, likely due to the early deadline for entries. This year also will have an early deadline of January 15. He said the yearbooks are a lot of work for the clubs. But a nice yearbook could be a benefit to entice new members for the club.

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COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES, CONT. (COMMITTEE REPORTS)

(Continued from page 4)

The last couple of years there have only been a couple of entries.

A new chairman has agreed to head this committee and the contest. She is Mary Ann Rich from the Summit Lapidary Club. Her address is 1166 Broadview, Tallmadge, OH 44278. Her e-mail is MAFR43@hotmail.com. Her cell phone is 330-715-8866.

Mineralogy – No report.

Newsletter – The deadline for the November issue had been moved to October 10th to allow for convention news to be included.

Paleontology – A new chairman for this committee was appointed. She is Debbie Hamilton from LOESS in Springfield, Illinois. Her address is 115 Circle Drive, Springfield, IL 62703. Her email address is crinoidqueen@gmail.com. Andrea Morehead offered to be an assistant.

Program Competition – Cindy Root had a written report. She added that she is going to push for people to enter competition.

Program Requests – Pat Powers had a written report in answer to a query as to what type of media the programs were that were being borrowed. By far, the DVD's were being borrowed more often than videos. No slide programs had been borrowed since 2015. There had also not been any new programs added since 2015. That was a concern.

There was a short discussion as to whether clubs have the equipment to show DVD programs. It was noted that video projectors have come down in price a lot. There was also a concern about if clubs aren't borrowing from the MWF library, where are they getting program material. A big concern is copyright infringement since many videos are not allowed to be shown to groups even if no fee is charged.

The decision was made by the Executive Committee to discontinue holding slide programs in the library. The 227 carousels will be recycled. The slides themselves will be returned to the club or individual author(s) if they can be found. Those that the authors cannot be found will be sold on future Silent Auctions.

Some club representatives mentioned they are taking programs off the internet. They were cautioned to make sure they were compliant of copyright laws.

Donations to the library would be much appreciated, but the programs must be original or able to be shown to groups for educational purposes.

It was also suggested that links to information could be shared for programs. Any new ideas, and especially any new programs, would be greatly appreciated.

Program Review – No report. If anyone has a suggestion for commercially made programs to add to the library, contact Jim Travis, Program Review Chairman, so the video can be reviewed.

Public Image – Regina Kapta had a written report highlighting use of Facebook and other social media to “advertise” local shows. She noted that both Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society and Minnesota Mineral Club had seen outstanding results from using social media to keep the public interested in attending their shows. She reported that Facebook is connecting to younger families. It is helping get more young people involved.

One site that has been used successfully is SpinGo.com, which was incorrectly mentioned in the minutes of the spring meeting as SpinFo.com.

Publications – Sandy Fuller reported that writing publications seems to no longer be timely. What we need is to get technology resources. She proposed that we disband the Publications Committee and start a new technology-based committee. This would help educate how we can communicate the

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DUES AND EVENTS FORMS ARE HERE! (AND ARE DUE JANUARY 15TH)

Sandy Fuller, MWF Treasurer

The 2019 Midwest Federation forms for RENEWING CLUB MEMBERSHIPS are now available on our website (www.amfed.org/mwf) and in this issue of the Midwest Federation News. Look for them! Meanwhile, please alert club officers to collect information for the forms.

One important piece of information needed is the total number of individual adult and youth members during the year completed in 2018. These figures are used for dues and insurance calculations. The rationale is that your total membership, by the end of the year, is usually about the same, so you always pay the current year dues based on your past experience. The treasurer needs this information **before January 15** so our insurance can be activated on time.

Please provide a roster of current officers, including preferred mailing addresses, phone numbers and email address. If handwritten, please ensure that letters and numbers are legible. If an individual does not want this information published on the website, follow the directions on the form to indicate this. However, please provide all contact information so we can actually reach you and not some unattended phone or email. This year you may include a list of additional officers who would like to receive the MWF News and Mini Miners Monthly via email. You must provide the name, position and email address for these individuals.

Clubs who renew on time can receive email subscriptions to the juniors' publication Mini Miners Monthly. There will be a verification of the email addresses and the need to complete an online agreement form before the subscriptions can begin.

Use the EVENTS form to submit details of upcoming shows and events during the coming year. You may include a flyer, printed on white paper, as additional information. If this information is submitted with the dues, we will make sure it gets to the website, newsletter and directory coordinators. If it is submitted later, or separately, it is more likely to get overlooked.

Finally, and probably most important to many, the 2019 membership rates are the same as before. Our MWF Endowment Fund supports our special projects, helping to keep dues consistent from one year to the next. Dues are \$2.00 per adult and \$.50 per youth.

Insurance will stay the same for 2019. Our current rate is \$4.50 per individual to be covered by the policy. Clubs that submit their dues on time (postmarked no later than January 15, 2019, may take a 25-cent-per-member discount. Include **all** members when computing your insurance premium.

Remember, the Federation insurance policy will cover groups of clubs jointly sponsoring shows or events **only if all** of the sponsoring clubs are current Federation members and all of the sponsoring clubs purchased Federation insurance. Requests for insurance for jointly sponsored events must include a list of all sponsoring clubs.

Questions about these forms or dues? Call Sandy or Martha at 651-459-0343, or email Sandy at MWFtreas@rock-biz.biz. Direct insurance questions to Chris Ivancic at 260-433-2699 or Ivancic.chris@gmail.com.

December Issue Submission Deadline Is Nov. 7th!



Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies Annual Dues, Insurance and Club Contact Information

(Use INK! Please print, type or complete form on-line. Submit original.)

CLUB NAME _____ **STATE** _____

2019 Club Dues (Use membership figures from year completed in 2018)

Number of Adult Club Members _____ X \$2.00 = \$ _____.

Number of Youth Club Members _____ X \$0.50 = \$ _____.

Do you want MWF Membership Cards? ___ Yes ___ No

2019 Club Insurance (Optional, but if chosen, must pay for all members)

Total number of club members _____ X \$4.50 (\$4.25 for qualifying clubs*) = \$ _____.

(*Renewals postmarked by January 15, 2019 receive a discounted insurance rate of \$4.25 per member)

Total Dues and Insurance Remitted: \$ _____.

(Make check payable to Midwest Federation)

FORM, DUES, INSURANCE PAYMENT, & EVENTS LISTINGS are DUE by JANUARY 15, 2019

Mail to: MWF, c/o Sandy Fuller, 8445 Grange Blvd., Cottage Grove, MN 55016

Club Contact Information for Mailings, Directory & Website

Please provide mail and email addresses that are checked regularly. Place an asterisk (*) in front of each email, phone and address that should not be listed on the MWF website.

President _____ **Email** _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Secretary _____ **Email** _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Treasurer _____ **Email** _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Liaison _____ **Email** _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

CLUB BULLETIN NAME _____

Editor _____ **Email** _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

CLUB MEETING PLACE _____

DAY & TIME _____

Club Website/Facebook _____ **Club Email** _____

Please send the MWF Directory and Official Federation Mail to (indicate E of email, P for snail mail):

Choose one only > ___ President ___ Secretary ___ Treasurer ___ Liaison

Please use separate sheet to list additional officers (name, position, email) who would like to receive federation newsletter and juniors materials via email.



Calendar Of Events Listing Information

For Publication In MWF Directory, Website & Newsletter

(Use INK! Please print, type or complete form on-line. Submit original.)

CLUB NAME _____ STATE _____

Show Chair _____ Email _____

Event Type: __Annual Show, __Rock Swap, __Other _____

Dates: _____ Days/Times: _____

Facility/Location Name: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____

EVENT CONTACT INFORMATION (This will be published!)

Contact Person's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Club _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

ADDITIONAL EVENT:

Event Type: __Annual Show, __Rock Swap, __Other _____

Dates: _____ Days/Times: _____

Facility/Location Name: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____

EVENT CONTACT INFORMATION (This will be published!)

Contact Person's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Club _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

**** Please include event listings for January, February, March and April 2020. ****
Mail completed form with your dues. Questions? Call 651-459-0343

DEADLINE FOR DIRECTORY INFORMATION IS JANUARY 15, 2019

REMEMBER, this information, including contact information, will be published in the MWF Directory, posted on the MWF website, and listed in the MWF News.



BULLETIN EDITORS' CONTEST WINNERS

Following are the winners of the MWF 2018 Bulletin Editors' Competition. Congratulations to all!

NEW EDITOR

Honorable Mention **The Show Me Geode.** Show Me Gems & Minerals Club (MO), Ming Zhu, Editor.

SMALL BULLETINS

1st Place **The Strata Data.** Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (IN), Michele Yamanaka, Editor.

2nd Place **The Pick and Dop Stick.** Chicago Rocks and Minerals Society (IL), Rachele Best, Editor.

LARGE BULLETINS

1st Place **Rock Pickings.** Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society, Lisa Morris, Editor.

2nd Place **The Conglomerate.** Michigan Mineralogical Society, Dawn Niedermiller, Editor.

3rd Place **Ozark Earth Science Club News.** Ozark Earth Science Club (AR), Madelyn Anderson, Editor.

ORIGINAL ADULT ARTICLES – ADVANCED

1st Place **Diamonds: Tradition, Tricks and the Truth,** by Heath Shive, Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (IN).

2nd Place None

3rd Place **Hiking Through the Geological Wonders of the Catalina Mountains of Tucson, Arizona,** by Antonio Peso, Chicago Rocks and Minerals Society (IL).

JUNIOR ARTICLES – UNDER 12

1st Place **Emeralds,** by Paris Pugh, Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (IN).

WRITTEN FEATURES

1st Place None

2nd Place None

3rd Place None

4th Place **Eclipse!** by Michele Souder, Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (IN).

5th Place **Mistakes Along the Way,** by Rachele L. Best, Chicago Rocks and Minerals Society (IL).

6th Place **A Georgia Field Trip – July 2017, Part Two,** by Marilyn Russell, Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (IN).

ADULT POETRY

1st Place None

2nd Place **The Miners' Ballad,** by Antonio Peso, Chicago Rocks and Minerals Society (IL).

WEB RESOURCES FOR ROCKHOONDING

Dave Fanger, Webmaster, Minnesota Mineral Club
From the MMC Rock Rustler's News, April 2018

Several people have asked about web resources to help them prepare for successful rockhounding trips. Here are some examples:

The Rock and Mineral Shows website tells about rock shows, clubs, mineral/mining museums, geo sites and rock shops with an interactive map. It doesn't have all of the info you want, but could be a good starting point.

The Mineral Resource Data System (MRDS) is a U.S. Geological Survey collection of reports describing mineral resources throughout the world. Included are deposit name, location, commodity, deposit description, geologic characteristics, production, reserves, resources, and references. Follow the instructions on the site to pull mine data into Google Earth and start exploring. First select what counties (or state) to pull the data from. Files are big, so don't pull too many. Using Google Earth you can see if a mine is active or inactive and what minerals were mined there.

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GO FOR THE GOLD IN THREE MWF COMPETITIONS!

BULLETIN EDITORS' COMPETITION

Sharon Marburger, Bulletin Editors' Aids Chair

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 15, 2018

The 2019 MWF Bulletin Editors' Competition is approaching fast. **Due to the American Federation Convention being held March 23-24, 2019 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the deadline is extra early. Eligible entries include December 2017 through November 2018.**

The 2019 Bulletin Contest packet contains the forms and instructions needed to enter your club's bulletin and the work of your authors. The packet is posted on the MWF website, <http://www.amfed.org/mwf/Federation/contests.html>. See the website for explicit instructions, or review the article found in the September issue of the *MWF News*.

To enter your bulletin:

Submit two copies of the February 2018 bulletin.

Attach the proper score sheet with the required information to each of the copies.

If your bulletin did not have a February issue, submit the nearest one before February.

To enter anything other than your bulletin:

Submit two copies of each selection.

Attach the proper score sheet with the required information to each of the copies.

If the author is a junior member, be sure to include the age of the author at the time of the publication so that the entry may be judged appropriately.

The BEAC Chair will accept either emailed submissions or those sent via U.S. mail. Email your PDF entries, no later than November 15, 2018, to the BEAC Chair at mamamar7880@outlook.com. Mail paper entries, postmarked no later than November 15, 2018, to the BEAC Chair:

Sharon Marburger
P.O. Box 64
Hickman, NE 68372-0064

For confirmation of delivery, include your email address or a self-addressed, stamped postcard.

Please direct your questions to Sharon Marburger, 402-429-3323, email address mamamar7880@outlook.com.

I look forward to reading your submissions!
Good luck!

ALL AMERICAN CLUB AWARDS

JC Moore, Former Merit Awards Chair

At the 2018 Midwest Federation Convention in Springfield, Illinois, Mary Ann Rich of Tallmadge, Ohio was appointed Chairperson for the All American Awards program. All entries for the contests should be submitted to her by **January 15, 2019** at:

Mary Ann Rich
1166 Broadview
Tallmadge, OH 44278

The entry requirements and all forms are available on the American Federation web site, www.amfed.org.

MWF 2019 WEBSITE CONTEST

David Fanger, MWF Website Competition Chair

Please participate in the upcoming 2019 web site contest! The MWF Website Contest is accepting applications through **November 15, 2018**. This contest is open to all MWF clubs in good standing. Participating in the contest helps each club improve its website through benchmarking. Each club is held to at most one entry. Contest rules and a submission form are on the AFMS 2019 Web Site Contest page, amfed.org/web/website_contest.

The top two MWF web sites will qualify for the national contest in February. Please have your club's webmaster contact Dave Fanger at rockfanger@gmail.com with any questions.

COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES, CONT. (COMMITTEE REPORTS)

(Continued from page 5)

information we need to. The Executive Committee recommended a by-laws change to be voted on at the 2019 Convention next March.

Safety and Field Trips – David Rich had a written report stressing use of gloves in various aspects of our hobby. The OSHA website at www.osha.gov has an extensive article explaining the types of protective gloves.

*Like these guys, maybe.
Picture from
GeoTools.com.*



Scholarships – Marge Collins had a written report concerning recent donations. She noted that donations are down significantly, despite the upturn in the economy. They were better ten years ago when the economy was in a slump. Donations need not be large, even \$5 per person would be great. Small donations on a regular basis are good. She suggested making living memorial donations to recognize people in the club that have contributed a lot while they are still living. Often we tend to only donate when a member passes away.

Silent Auction – Susan Stanforth had a written report. She said the silent auction is the best place to get rocks and minerals.

Uniform Rules – Barbara Sky, who is now Jim Marburger's assistant, had a short written report since Jim was not able to attend the meetings.

Website – Cindy Root had a written report. She reported that she has some changes to make. She encouraged clubs to check their club page for corrections or updates needed. Your show flyer can be added to your page. If there is something wrong on your page, it is your own fault if you don't tell her to fix it. We all make mistakes, but need someone to point out any errors so they can be fixed. If your club has a website or a Facebook page, send it to her so she can add a link to your page.

She noted you can join the MWF site, but you must join by asking. She or Tom Whitlatch must approve and add you. She urged members to join us (MWF) on Facebook! Her suggestion for adding your show flyer was to send her a flyer on white paper, so when she scans it, it will show up better. She will scan the flyer and make a link so people can print a .pdf of your flyer.

Website Competition – There is a new chairman for the MWF, David Fanger from the Minnesota Mineral Club. The AFMS also has a new chairperson, Darrell Watkins from the Northwest Federation.

Kevin turned the meeting back over to David Root.

Conventions – J.C. Moore reported that there was a good turnout for the 2017 MWF Convention in Brainerd, Minnesota.

This year we are in Springfield, Illinois. He urged everyone to go to the show as well as visiting some of the Abraham Lincoln sites in town.

In 2019 we will meet in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on March 23-24. Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society will be hosting the AFMS as well as the MWF. The AFMS meetings will be on Friday, with Uniform Rules on Thursday evening. Packets were available in limited quantities. Information will be on the MWF website soon.

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COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES, CONT. (CONVENTIONS, OLD & NEW BUSINESS)

(Continued from page 11)

The Livingston Gem and Mineral Society of Howell, Michigan has invited us to join them at their show in Howell, Michigan for the 2020 Convention. Ed Oller from the club said their club is growing and growing. They now have 250 members. Their show will be the third weekend in September. The weather should be beautiful. There are eight golf courses in the area if anyone wants to take advantage of that.



*Like Chemung Hills Golf & Banquet Center in Howell.
Photo from chemunghills.com.*

J.C. Moore noted that he has a schedule for several years in advance. A Wisconsin club has expressed interest in 2021, but they were in a new venue this year, so wanted to feel that out. Another club has also expressed interest in hosting a future convention. He noted it is better to make a commitment early. He remembered the year his local group had to host at the last minute because no one would host. He stressed that we (MWF) don't want you to change your show at all. We need a facility for the meetings and awards banquet. Expenses for the most part should be recouped. If the club wants to subsidize part of the meal expense, that is fine, but certainly not necessary. He and Donna will help in any way they can with the plans.

David Root gave a pop quiz – "When are club dues due?" The answer is January 15. He noted that is only three months away. This year any club with juniors who pay their dues on time will be eligible to receive The Mini Miners Monthly by email. Details

will be forthcoming. Diamond Dan had ceased publication for a while, but is back to doing the monthly newsletter aimed primarily at juniors. Sandy Fuller reminded members that the MWF Endowment Fund interest pays 25 cents per member of the insurance for all clubs that pay dues on time. In answer to what should a member do if they lose their MWF card, she said to contact her for a replacement. The November issue of the MWF Newsletter will have the club renewal and calendar forms.

Old Business

Members were reminded to buy MWF tote bags and bolos.

It was noted that anyone contacting any of the officers or other MWF Chairmen, to please mention the club name and state. Sometimes you assume we know who you are talking about.

AFMS News – Sandy Fuller, President, said she is asked why we (MWF) are a member of the AFMS. Her answer is because together we can make all of us better. The AFMS creates and administers the tools to pursue to be better. Being here today we want to work together to make all our clubs better.

New Business

Convention Packets – Typically the host club prints over 200 copies of the packet so the secretary can mail them to the clubs as well as all members of the Executive Committee (Permanent Committee Chairmen, State Directors, Past Presidents). The question has come up as to whether we should continue to print and mail these packets or can the information be put on the website for people to download and print as needed? Some of the other federations are not printing and mailing their packets. Various thoughts were expressed from the fact that some of our members do not have computers or use them in any way, a letter could be sent to the clubs to notify them the information is on the website, a postcard could be sent to the clubs, some clubs email their newsletter but still have members who need to

(Continued on page 13)

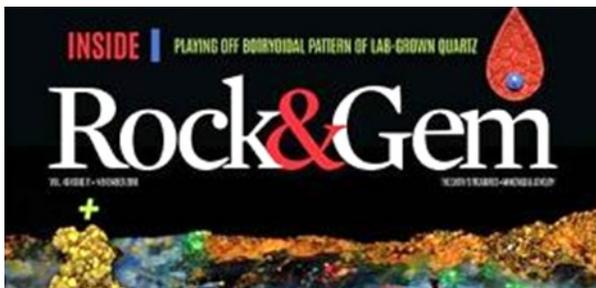
COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES, CONT. (NEW BUSINESS, ADJOURNMENT)

(Continued from page 12)

receive them by mail, and have the MWF email the packets to the clubs and Executive Committee Members.

There was a question about who receives the packet and other information from the MWF in each club. Donna Moore, Secretary, noted that each club indicates on their dues form which officer or other club member is to receive any MWF mail, although some clubs do not check that information. Many clubs do not provide a club email address or even an address for any members, so emailing will not always reach anyone in the club. Marge Collins suggested if people don't want their email public to make up another address and use it for such purposes.

It was decided to have information in the newsletter and a proposal at the convention in the spring. It was tabled for the time being. The overall consensus at the meeting was that the packets should be emailed.



Rock & Gem is the official magazine of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

David Root noted that Rock & Gem magazine wants to use articles from our newsletters. The discussion indicated that might not go along with our policy of what you submit to the MWF does not go any further. David said anything used by Rock & Gem would need to be fully credited, and our logo is not to be used. Article use can be coordinated with Valerie J. Meyers, Newsletter Editor, acting as the MWF liaison.

Rock & Gem also needs club information by September. They are completely redoing their club information section. Each club needs to submit their

information to Rock & Gem directly. They will not receive any club information from the MWF. Members were reminded if they do not want their information on the MWF website, there is a box to check so it won't be used. If this is not checked, the information will be put on the website. It will still go in the directory. We (MWF) need contact information for the officers of the club so we can reach them if necessary.

J.C. Moore reminded members he had raffle tickets for the AFMS Endowment Fund Drawing to be held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa next March 23. They can be purchased by mail at 25235 N. Illinois Highway 97, Cuba, IL 61427. They are \$5 each and \$20 for five. One of the big things funded by this fund is the junior badges for the Future Rockhounds of America program.

Susan Stanforth auctioned off E-Bear for the privilege of where he will spend the next few months. The winning bidder was David Shorter from the Summit Lapidary Club, but he consented for a side trip to Camp Pendleton with Dee and Ron Sharf from LOESS and West Central Illinois Rock and Mineral Club.

Barbara Sky moved to adjourn the meeting. Sandy Fuller seconded the motion. The motion carried, and David Root adjourned the meeting.

MICHIGAN ROCKHOUNDS, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 2)



September issue.) Going on to the state tournament, Forest Hills Central's team placed sixth among 60 teams.

Echo Oliver led her team from Wyoming High School to a fourth-place medal in the Rocks and Minerals event at the regional tournament. She has been affiliated with the Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club for several years.



STATE DIRECTORS' REPORTS: OHIO

By Joyce Kish, Assistant State Director

Three of the clubs in Ohio returned surveys asking about their clubs and activities. These were the Akron Mineral Society ("Akron"), the Stark County Gem and Mineral Club ("Stark"), and the Summit Lapidary Club ("Summit").

How many paying members?

Akron: 82

Stark: 57

Summit: 154

How many juniors do you have?

Akron: None

Stark: Four

Summit: 20

List your club activities for the year.

Akron: We have an extensive mineral collection and continue to add more minerals. We sponsor a \$600 scholarship for a member every year to continue their education in rocks and minerals. We have classes. We have a covered-dish dinner, the club supplies main dish for every meeting. We do field trips for collecting, museums and other shows. We own equipment for gem identification and offer classes for identifying them.

Stark: Programs on minerals, buy/trade/sell, rockhound bingo, field trip programs.

Summit: The club sponsors a field trip to Flint Ridge. They pay a backhoe operator to dig for us. Summit Lapidary is sponsoring a trip to Arkansas with partial compensation to the members. We have cabochon cutting and silversmithing contests with money prizes. We also sponsor other field trips to museums and other shows.

List your junior activities for the year.

Summit: Field trips to Flint Ridge, various classes based on the Geo Jr manual, one craft at each meeting. Special speakers from NASA, and local professors.

When do you meet, and the location?

Akron: 244 Chestnut Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Stark: First Tuesday every month at Stark Park's Sippo Clubhouse, Canton, Ohio.

Summit: The Summit Lapidary Club meets at the Quirk Center, 1201 Grant Ave, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. The Juniors meet at 244 Chestnut Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls. We own our building and sponsor classes at Chestnut Boulevard.

Do you have a show or conference, and what are the dates?

Akron: We participate in two shows on the fourth weekend of April and October.

Stark: We have a show every spring, next one is March 30 and 31, 2019.

Summit: We have two shows per year, one the fourth Saturday of April, and one the fourth Saturday of October.



*Ohio flint, the state's official gemstone.
Photo by James St. John on Flickr, via statesymbolsusa.org.*

How many vendors participate in this show?

Akron: 32

Stark: 10-11

Summit: 32

How many people visit your show?

Akron: 2,000

Stark: 700-800

Summit: 2,203

List other benefits to the members or outside people.

Akron: Our members do presentations for schools and other clubs.

Stark: Field trips, picnic, Christmas buffet, mixture of experienced and inexperienced rockhounds.

Summit: We do demonstrations during our show of various classes. We offer gem identification for the public by a certified gemologist.

STATE DIRECTORS' REPORTS: WISCONSIN

By Allison Conrad, State Director

Social Media: Facebook here I come! My main mode of communicating with MWF officers, committee chairs, clubs and the rockhound community has always been through email, which lends some privacy when needed and allows for documents/pictures to be attached easily and forwarded. My club, Coulee Rock Club of La Crosse, has a Facebook club group and I have been on the page but not active. Recently I started receiving pressure from my adult children to activate my Facebook account and get caught up with the times. Seems the only way I can get pictures of my grandchildren are through their posts or on their pages, so I took the leap!

WHAM! I was hit with friend requests, messages, pictures, birthday notifications, invitations, and all kinds of notices started coming into my email account whenever anyone posted anything that was linked to me. It was pretty overwhelming, but I can see the benefit of this type of interaction in real time. My first message was from David Rich, asking about my plans for joining everyone at the MWF annual meeting held in conjunction with the annual 2018 show of the Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society. Thank you, David, for being someone I knew as the first person to get me started using Messenger. It didn't seem so scary after that.

For clubs, Facebook is a great marketing and publicity tool with features for setting your club up as a group and then posting your club's show and other events with posters and pictures of past shows which quickly get circulated to other clubs and your friends and family. I'm still a Facebook newbie, so for those of you who are old pros, keep up the good work promoting your clubs. Be sure to send your website address or Facebook club group page link to Cindy Root, d-root@comcast.net, so she can post it with your other club information.

Club Shows: Sounds like shows are very successful this year, the dry spell must be over. I have received feedback from clubs about the younger generation getting more involved and excited about the hobby, which is really great to hear. Those of you who

are MWF members and vendors at club shows, I commend you on all the hard work and planning it must take, from traveling to the show locations and hauling in your treasures to setting up and taking down. Many times I have witnessed vendors at the shows answering questions from young children about a rock or something at your booth, and the patience and time you take with them. These children are or will be potential junior rockhounds. Your interaction with them just might be the one that sparks their passion for pursuing the hobby which results in their family joining a club which is our mission, so very important. Our shows are the primary venue for educating our youth on geology and promoting the hobby, and if it weren't for all of you who put in your time and passion to be vendors at our shows, there wouldn't be any shows. Kudos to you and keep up the good work!



Galena, the state mineral of Wisconsin. Photo by Rob Lavinsky, iRocks.com, via Wikimedia Commons.

As always, anyone is welcome to send me your club show and event flyers and newsletters, and I will be happy to help advertise your show or other club events by forwarding them on: rockinbabe@acegroup.cc.

Field Trips and MWF Insurance: I love field trips, as most of the rest of you do! If there are ever questions from your club members or private land owners regarding what is covered or not through the MWF insurance coverage, you can review the insurance policy and read through the FAQs on the MWF website. If more information is needed or you still have questions, you can reach out to Chris Ivancic at MWF, phone number (260) 433-2699 or email address Ivancic.chris@gmail.com.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE REPORTS, ARCHAEOLOGY TO PROGRAM REQUESTS

Archaeology

by Skeeter Kish, Committee Chair

Questions in North American archaeology are still very controversial. Who were the first Americans? Where did they come from and when did they arrive? In the quest for these answers, many important papers, early dated sites and theories on early population are being produced by professional archaeologists. Many of the old theories are being challenged.

Early dates and artifacts are being found under the Clovis layers in eastern North America at sites such as Meadow Croft in Pennsylvania and Cactus Hill in Virginia. Some archaeologists feel that the dates and style of artifacts (Solutrean culture style point) show a migration across the Atlantic from Spain, Portugal, and France, before Clovis. Scientists and archaeologists are currently divided as to who, when, and where the first people populated North America. Evidence from the next excavations may prove or change these theories, as archaeology is an evolving science.

Boundary

By Robert Miller, Committee Chair

As usual, there hasn't been any activity for the Boundary Committee. We will be at the meeting as we are coming as delegates for our club. Probably most will think we are "strangers." Looking forward to seeing everyone again.

Lapidary

By David Root, Committee Chair

The database of people who are willing to help others in various aspects of the lapidary hobby still exists, for those interested.

Membership

By James Marburger, Committee Chair

Since the last meeting no inquiries have been received.

Program Competition

By Cindy Root, Committee Chair

The MWF has not had anyone participate in the program competition in the past year.

Program Requests

By Pat Powers, Committee Chair

So far for 2018, there have been six requests for material – four DVDs and two VHS tapes. For 2017 there were 22 requests – 20 DVDs and two VHS tapes.

Clubs generally have been requesting information on stones and specimens found in our MWF region like fluorite, Keokuk geodes, and Kentucky agate. There is some interest in caves and caverns. Generally, videos regarding lapidary arts are not requested. Videos on dinosaurs and volcanoes are also not requested.

There have not been any requests for any slide projection material for at least five years. Since the MWF does not catalog these programs on the website or in the directory, I am recommending that this material be removed from the library. I realize that some elder members in the MWF were authors of this material. If these authors would like their efforts returned, I can handle that request. I would like this idea to be presented at the MWF conference. If removal of this material is agreed on, I will submit notification in the MWF newsletter to get the word out about closing out this material. Running a notice for four months should be adequate to let everyone know.

For everyone's information, the last time there was a substantial addition to the library was January 2015.

Please remember that, when requesting library material, you need to submit your request by email to slnewsletter@aol.com or through the U.S. mail to 18270 Buccaneer Drive, North Royalton, Ohio 44133. I mail material out on the 1st and 15th of the month. Material must be mailed back with the specified insurance requirements and returned promptly after usage.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE REPORTS, SCHOLARSHIP TO WEBSITE**Scholarship****By Marge Collins, Committee Chair**

Thank you again to everyone who has made a donation since the Convention last May in Minnesota. Because that was relatively early in the year, this list of donations appears to be about average – however, the number of donations and dollars received in 12 months is lower than recent years.

Twice donations have been lost in the mail this year. Fortunately, none of the checks was presented for payment. One has been reissued but the others have not as of this date.

Please consider “Living Memorial” donations to honor members who have earned special recognition!

All donations, small or large, are welcome – and needed to keep up the “donations-to-grants ratio.”

No club reached a new cumulative thousand-dollar level to receive a certificate at the convention.

Please see this year’s Scholarship Contributions Report on the next page.

Silent Auction**By Susan Stanforth, Committee Chair**

As you know, we are joining up with LOESS to run our fabulous auction together. I hope to see a wonderful turnout at the auction. You will find great value and great fun at this auction. To have a successful auction, we need club members to 1) bring donated items to the Meet & Greet Friday night; 2) look for me – I’ll be at the host hotel; 3) take your items to auction area. To keep everything squared away, please use bid sheets on website but print in different color other than white. LOESS club will use white bid sheets; MWF will use colors. And I will have bid sheets available, so look for me.

This is my fourth year of organizing the Silent Auction and I have been very pleased to be part of it. THANK YOU!!!!!!

Historian & Archives**By David Root, Committee Chair**

MWF documents and picture are still being maintained on the cloud. Anyone wishing to have access to these materials should contact me at d-root@comcast.net.

Website**By Cindy Root, Committee Chair**

The website has been updated. If you find something that should be changed, please contact d-root@comcast.net.

WEB RESOURCES, CONT.

(Continued from page 9)

As an example, you can look up old mines near the Prineville, Oregon annual rock show. By clicking on the mine you will find out if it was exploratory vs. working, and what type of minerals were mined. In general, you would do more research on mines that interest you, probably at MINDAT.

Flyover Country is a mobile app developed by the University of Minnesota with National Science Foundation funding. “Learn about the world along the path of your flight, hike, or road trip with GPS tracking. Offline geologic maps and interactive points of interest reveal the locations of fossils and georeferenced Wikipedia articles visible from your airplane window seat, vehicle, or hiking trail vista.” While its first intended use was for travelers looking out their airplane windows, the app has the ability to be used on long car trips.

And don’t forget to utilize the vast resources at MINDAT with Google Search before your trip. Find mine locations near where you are going and see images of minerals that others found at a given site. Sometimes it is best to use Google to find the pages on MINDAT once you know the area you are in. Example – Google the words “Keokuk geode Iowa MINDAT,” and it takes you to a summary page.



SCHOLARSHIP FUND CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT

SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS FROM 2017 CONVENTION TO 2018 CONVENTION In Order Received

Donations	Club and Notes	Participation	Cumulative
\$ 75.00	West Central Illinois Rock & Mineral Club. Memorials honoring John Huston, John Washburn, and Judy Washburn.	3,800%	\$1,471.00
275.00	Moore, credited to West Central Illinois Rock & Mineral Club. Memorials honoring John Blue, Chet Coleman, John Huston, John Perona, Charlene Reidenbach, John and Judy Washburn, Tom Weisner, Bill Zackary.	4,400%	1,746.00
30.00	Collins, credited to Blossomland Gem & Mineral Society (MI). Memorials honoring Bob Beauvais and Lillian Nadeau.	1,700%	478.00
94.00	Southern Illinois Earth Science Club annual gift.	3,000%	1,751.00
35.00	Parma Lapidary Club (OH). Memorial honoring Jan Widiger.	400%	431.00
100.00	Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club (NE).	2,700%	2,886.00
200.00	Dayton Gem & Mineral Society (OH). Memorial honoring Al Sicree.	5,600%	3,213.00
90.00	Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society (MI). Percentage of auction profits.	4,800%	6,218.00
20.00	Collins, credited to Blossomland Gem & Mineral Society (MI). Memorial honoring Nellie Claxton.	1,800%	498.00
50.00	Sky, credited to Show Me Gems & Minerals Club (MO). Memorials honoring Nellie Claxton and James Hurlbut.	1,200%	479.00
50.00	Sac & Fox Lapidary Club (IA). Memorials honoring Daniel Miller and Bill Rathbun.	900%	392.00
10.00	Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society (MI). Memorial honoring Gloria Schneider.	4,800%	6,228.00
20.00	Collins, credited to Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society (MI). Memorial honoring Katy Brown.	4,800%	6,248.00
100.00	Mineralogical Society of Cleveland (OH).	6,400%	947.00
65.50	Southern Illinois Earth Science Club annual gift.	3,000%	1,817.00
200.00	Dayton Gem & Mineral Society (OH). Memorial honoring Charlie Stubbs.	6,100%	3,413.00
25.00	Sky, credited to Rockwood Gem & Mineral Society (MO). Memorial honoring Izzie Burns.	1,600%	311.00
25.00	Sac & Fox Lapidary Club (IA). Memorial honoring Eugene Copeland.	900%	417.00
150.00	Diane Dare, individual donation. Memorial honoring Jack Dare, and Living Memorials honoring Joe and Nellie Claxton and Mike Chontofalsky.		
<u>100.00</u>	Sports Car Club of America, Western Michigan Region. Memorial honoring Bob Beauvais.		
<u>\$1,714.50</u>	TOTAL		



UPCOMING EVENTS

Date and Time	Organization	Place	Contact
Oct. 27-28 Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5	Akron Mineral Society	Emidio & Sons Expo Center, 48 E. Bath Road, Cuyahoga Falls, OH	Sandy Shorter, Gemboree@outlook.com
Oct. 27-28 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4	Evansville Lapidary Society	Newsome Community Center, 100 E. Walnut Street, Evansville, IN	Sara Rappee, sararappee@yahoo.com
Oct. 27-28 Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5	Summit Lapidary Club	Emidio & Sons Expo Center, 48 E. Bath Road, Cuyahoga Falls, OH	Gujo Kotch, Gemboree@outlook.com
Nov. 3-4 Sat & Sun, 9-4	Mid-Michigan Rock Club	Chippewa Nature Center, 400 S. Badour, Midland, MI	Debra Young, debiyoung50@yahoo.com
Nov. 3-4 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4	Racine Geological Society	Fountain Hall, 8505 Durand Ave. (Highway 11), Sturtevant, WI	John Lowman, Lowman.John@sbcglobal.net
Nov. 10 Saturday, 10-5	Gem City Rock Club	Community Room, Quincy Mall, 32 nd & Broadway, Quincy, IL	Jane Huelsmeyer, jhuelsm@gmail.com
Nov. 10-11 Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4	North West Illinois Rock Club	Highland Community College, 2998 W. Pearl City Road, Freeport, IL	Brian Green, bgreen57@hotmail.com
Nov. 12 Mon, 7 p.m.	Michigan Mineralogical Society annual auction	Cranbrook Institute of Science, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, MI	Brad Zylman, bzyzman@twmi.rr.com
Nov. 16-18 Fri 3-7, Sat 10-7, Sun 10-5	St. Louis Mineral & Gem Society	Affton White-Rodgers Community Center, 9801 Mackenzie Road, St. Louis, MO	Melissa Perucca, melissa5301@aol.com
Nov. 17-18 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4	Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club	Community Ctr., 4800 Douglas Drive N, Crystal, MN	Martha Miss, martha@rock-biz.biz
Nov. 17-18 Sat. 9:30-5, Sun 10-5	Madison Gem & Mineral Club	Alliant Energy Center, 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way, Madison, WI	Nevin Franke, shows@madisonrockclub.org
Nov. 17-18 Sat 9:30-4:30, Sun noon-4	Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club rock & jewelry open house	Gym, St. James Lutheran Church, 4727 W. Sylvania Ave., Toledo, OH	Michelle Grigore, mgrigoretgrh@gmail.com

ALUMINUM-CONTAINING MINERALS VARY WIDELY

Kreigh Tomaszewski
West Michigan MWF Mineral Study Group

Our current study structure is to look at minerals by elemental composition, working our way through the periodic table. We are coming to the end of our study of aluminum-containing minerals. Aluminum is an important element, being the third most abundant element after oxygen and silicon, and the most abundant metal in the Earth's crust. This has forced us to take our study of aluminum minerals in smaller chunks, since we only have time to look at about couple of dozen specimens in an evening. Recently, it was aluminum minerals that start with the letter S.

The Mineral Study Group likes to learn about the science and practical uses of the minerals we study, but we also want to learn to hand-identify them. We do our homework on the science and come prepared to discuss the mineral(s) of the month, but we also dig through our collections and try come with one or more specimens for everyone to handle.

(Continued on page 20)

Valerie J. Meyers, Editor
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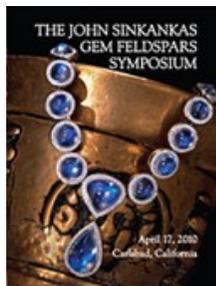
ALUMINUM-CONTAINING MINERALS VARY WIDELY, CONT.

(Continued from page 19)

We started circulating minerals around the table with the inosilicate Sadanagaite, the tectosilicate Sanidine, the phyllosilicate Saponite, the oxide Sapphire, the inosilicate Sapphirine, the phosphate Schoderite and the cyclosilicate Schorl. We had a discussion about the pronunciation of mineral names and discussed the dialects found around the US and in Europe.

Then it was the tectosilicate Scolecite, the phyllosilicate Serpentine (from multiple localities, plus the varieties Ricolite and Verde Antique Marble), the cyclosilicate Siberite (a variety of Elbaite), the nesosilicate Sillimanite, and the phosphate Sinkankasite, which was named after Captain John Sinkankas.

The Gemological Society of San Diego and the Gemological Institute of America present an annual symposium named in Sinkankas' honor.



Sinkankas was a 20th-century innovator in faceting gem stones, author of many mineralogical and gemological books, a dealer in rare geoscience books, mineral artist, mineral collector, and an associate with the Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

We resumed our passing specimens with the tectosilicate Sodalite, the nesosilicate Spessartine, the oxide Spinel (and its blue variety Gahnite that did not glow under long wave), and the nesosilicate Staurolite, which is the state mineral of Georgia and has a white streak. Staurolite typically twins at 60°, but can also do so at 90°.

And for our final lap we had the tectosilicate Stellerite, the carbonate Stichtite, the tectosilicate Stilbite and the phyllosilicate Stilpnomelane.

Meetings of the West Michigan MWF Mineral Study Group are held monthly at the home of Kreigh Tomaszewski; for more information, contact me at kreigh@gmail.com. All West Michigan rockhounds are invited to attend.