



# FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, INC MIDWEST CHAPTER

*AFFILIATIONS:*

THE MINERALOGICAL RECORD  
THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA  
AMERICAN GEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
ROCKS & MINERALS MAGAZINE

**NEXT MEETING:**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2008, INDIANA STATE  
MUSEUM, 650 W WASHINGTON ST, INDIANAPOLIS, 1 PM**



FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY  
MIDWEST CHAPTER  
JOHN BLUE, EDITOR  
16155 SHURMER RD  
STRONGSVILLE, OH 44136

## FIRST CLASS

**FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY**  
**MIDWEST CHAPTER**

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**JANUARY 2008**

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**AMERICAN GEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE**  
**THE MINERALOGICAL RECORD**  
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**ROCKS & MINERALS MAGAZINE**

**OFFICERS 2008**

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***IN REMEMBRANCE***

Marlene Edington

We have lost a good friend. I am very sorry to report that Marlene Edington passed away on December 2. She had been fighting cancer for several months. Marlene and her husband, Ed, were very active in not only the Friends of Mineralogy, but also clubs in both Richmond Indiana and Indianapolis Indiana. Among many other contributions, Marlene was the Editor of our newsletter for several years. We send our sincere condolences to Ed and the family. She will be missed. David Straw

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - DECEMBER 2007**

Thanks to Janet Clifford for chairing the meeting at Cleveland again this year. Also, I want to give a special thank you to Vern Swanson for donating some very nice material to our booth at the Greenfield show, and to Ed and Marlene Edington who prepared material for sale. Paul Schwin organized and manned our booth, selling \$160 worth of material.

Officers for 2008 were elected at the meeting in Cleveland; we have the same people as last year. As this will be my third and final year as President, we will need someone else for 2009.

**Our next meeting will be 1:00 PM, Saturday, Jan. 19 at the Indiana State Museum at 650 W. Washington St., Indianapolis.** The meeting room is TBD at this time, just ask at Information when you arrive. I am looking forward to this as Len Gritzer is preparing a talk on Hematite. At that meeting we will probably discuss accepting the proposed list of guidelines for field trips as published in the last newsletter. If you have any suggested changes for the list, please let me know.

Please send your dues for 2008 in to our Treasurer, Lorraine Wright, at 1505 S. Randolph St., Indianapolis, IN 46203. It is \$15 plus \$10 for each additional family member who wishes to join.

Dates for the next few meetings after January are: March 1 – Richmond, IN show, May 3 – Cincinnati OH show, May 31 – Columbus, OH show.

Happy Holidays everyone, see you later.

Dave Straw

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 3, 2007**

The November meeting of the Midwest Chapter was called to order at 3:30 PM in the Cleveland Museum of Natural History by Janet Clifford as requested by the absent president, Dave Straw. The minutes of the September meeting, since they had not been distributed, were read aloud and accepted. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$1,814.86. It will be filed for audit.

Ed Edington reported that Bob Armstrong is healing well. Thanks were expressed to Paul Schwinn, as well as to donors of specimens sold at Greenfield: about \$160 was raised.

During Earth Science Week, Nelson Schaefer displayed at Geofest, and Ernie Carlson displayed at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, as did Janet and Paul Clifford and Anne Cook, who represented the Micromineral Society of the Museum and also the Mineralogical Society of Cleveland.

The chapter's geode symposium was discussed. For those who went, it was very successful, but a number of people, including all those living in the Cleveland area, did not receive the requested information. Several would have gone if they had had same. It was reported that a caravan of 27 vehicles snaked its way. The comment was made that if such caravans were used, all drivers needed good maps for the destinations. Next year's symposium was discussed, with notes from Alan Goldstein. It will be based at Shaker Village in Kentucky, and will include a swap-and-sale time. Those present requested strongly that it NOT CONFLICT in dates with the Micromineral Symposium in Cleveland on Nov. 7, 8, and 9.

(Minutes November Meeting, Cont'd)

The election of officers for 2008 was held. The slate presented was

President: David Straw  
Vice President - Field Trips: Ernie Carlson  
Vice President - Programs: Bob Harman  
Treasurer: Loraine Wright  
Secretary - Ohio meetings: Anne Cook  
Secretary - Indiana meetings: (position open)

There were no nominations from the floor. Cathy Evanoff moved to accept the slate by acclamation. The MOTION PASSED.

The next meeting will be at the Indiana State Museum on Jan. 19. There will be an informal meeting at the Richmond, IN show on Mar. 1. The following meeting will be at the Cincinnati show on May 3, and the one after that at the Columbus show on May 31.

A proposed list of field trip rules was read, and there was general agreement with them. They stated explicitly what our past practice has been.

The meeting was adjourned at 4 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Anne Cook, Secretary

### **SEPTEMBER 22nd FIELD TRIP**

The field trip to the West Branch of the Huron River to collect from the large septarian concretions exposed along the banks of the river in the Late Devonian Huron Shale was quite successful. The trip was held Saturday September 22, 9 am, with seven people attending in addition to Paul Schwin and Ernie Carlson, who led the excursion. Considering the lateness of the date the river water wasn't cold because the previous week had been warm but the river was higher than the usual late summer low levels. We met at Lamereaux Road bridge and waded upstream with 2 canoes about ¼ mile to the first cliff on W side of the river where we collected with heavy sledge hammers mainly from one large septarian concretion. Obtained were three generations of dolomite (I, II, III) along with some good quartz crystals and platy barite. Septarian pyrite nodules 1 to 3 inches across were fairly common also. Al Sicree went up a small creek to the west and came back with some exceptionally nice quartz crystals as well as the three generations of dolomite. Paul also provided nice specimens of dolomite, quartz, barite, calcite and whewellite to the attendees from his personal collection. We headed home about 1 pm, looking forward to another trip next summer.

Ernie Carlson

### **EARTH SCIENCE EVENING, CLEVELAND**

On Friday October 19, 5:30-7:30 pm, Earth Science Evening was held at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Different earth science organizations from the region had tables with displays preceding Friday evening's Explorer Series lecture which started at 7:30 pm. Midwest Chapter FM had a display of Ohio minerals and Indiana geodes, the latter thanks to Nelson Shaffer, which was manned by Ernie and Ruth Carlson and was quite successful as many FM membership forms were handed out.

**MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 2007 MEETING, GREENFIELD, IN**

Joel Vicary presented a very interesting talk on birthstones.- Treasurers report - Current balance is \$2281.33. \$100 sent to National FoM for American Geological Institute. - Need to send dues to National FoM. - There was a report on Bob Armstrong; he had been discharged to therapy.- Nelson Shaffer will set up a FoM display at the Geofest show at the IN State Museum in Oct.

-There was a discussion about Ernie Carlson setting up a table at an event at the Cleveland Museum on Oct 19.- Thanks to Nelson Shaffer for his input to the National newsletter.- Discussion about helping Paul Schwin at the booth he has set up at Greenfield to benefit the club.

- Ernie Carlson has field trips planned to the Graymont Dolime quarry at Genoa, OH on Sept 15, and to a Huron River location in Ohio on Sept 22 (with the Dayton Club).

- Discussion of setting up a list of regulations for field trips. Dave Straw to write preliminary list.

- Nelson reported on the upcoming symposium to be held Sept 29-30. A signup sheet was passed around.

- Discussion of elections to be held at the next meeting in Cleveland.

- Upcoming meetings – Nov 3, 2007 at the Micromounters' symposium in Cleveland- Jan, 2008 Indiana State Museum (date TBD) - March 1, Richmond, IN show- May 3, Cincinnati Show- May 31, Columbus, OH show

- There being no further business, we adjourned.

Submitted by Dave Straw

**RUST MINERALS**

Iron oxides are extremely common minerals. Even people who don't collect minerals own many examples. Collecting trips to the famous iron ranges (the Cuyuna Range near Brainard, MN, the Mesabi Range, Hibbing and Virginia, MN, or the Gogebic Range near Hurley-Ironton, WI & MI) turn up many fine specimens of iron oxides - primarily hematite ( $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ) and goethite ( $\text{FeO}(\text{OH})$ ).

Hematite gets its name from the Greek word for "blood" and was described as a mineral as early as 325 BC. It is often as red earthy masses. Some hematite is steel gray to black and can be very sparkly. Nearly black, platy or sparkly material is called "spectacular hematite". Hematite also forms stalactitic, botryoidal (bubbly) or reniform (kidney-like) masses made of parallel groups of skinny radiating crystals. Some long coarsely fibrous hematite breaks in splintery masses known as "needle ore". Goethite gets its name from the German philosopher and poet Goethe, who in addition to writing such monumental works as Faust, made studies in geology and mineralogy. I've heard goethite pronounced many ways. I prefer pronouncing it "Gerthite". Fortunately for written articles such as this, it doesn't matter how you pronounce it - it's always spelled the same. Goethite usually forms yellow, brown or orange earthy masses. It can also form very dark brown coatings of drusy crystals known as "velvet ore". It can be stalactitic, botryoidal to reniform massive with radiating coarsely fibrous crystals. Caution: these crystals can give one nasty splinters.

The best way to tell these two minerals apart is to use a streak plate. Hematite will give a dark to cherry red streak (powder) when rubbed across a piece of unglazed porcelain. Goethite will give a yellow, yellow-brown or orange-yellow streak.

Limonite is a general term given to earthy mixtures of iron oxides, mostly goethite. Limonite's streak depends on the proportion of hematite to goethite present in the mixture.

(Rust Minerals, Cont'd)

Despite all the iron in them, neither mineral is magnetic. If your samples are magnetic, it is probably because there is black magnetite (Fe3O4) present. Magnetite gives a black streak. When intermixed with hematite or goethite, it will darken their streak.

Occasionally one will find black crystals, botryoidal masses or earthy material that is not magnetic but does give a black streak. These are likely manganese oxides (ie pyrolusite, romanechite, manganite). They are particularly common in the Cuyuna and Gogebic Ranges. Other iron oxides are known, but are rare. Goethite has three relatives that have the same chemical formula but different internal structures. These are lepidocrocite, akaganeite and feroxyhyte. All of these look similar to goethite, and are easily misidentified. They are probably thus more common than is generally thought.

So which iron oxides are forming on the fenders of your car? By Dr William Cordua, U of Wisc, Riverfalls.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

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**FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY-MIDWEST CHAPTER  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

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

Dues should be paid by January 15th

Dues need to be current in order to attend FoM-MC activities such as field trips, symposiums, etc.

Dues: Individual \$15.00 per year, \$10.00 per year for each additional family member.

Send your check to Treasurer Lorraine Wright, 1505 S. Randolph St., Indianapolis IN 46203

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBER NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

COLLECTING SPECIALTIES \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Mineral Dealer? \_\_\_\_\_ Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Members \_\_\_\_\_ Total Remittance \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter via e-mail? YES. NO