

MWF News

Midwest Federation
of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

June 2018 - Issue No. 573

Web Site - www.amfed.org/mwf

Member of the American Federation of
Mineralogical Societies



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

David Root, President

On May 5th I presided over the Midwest Federation Executive Committee Meeting as President.

This was the first time I have attended an MWF meeting as the guy in charge, and it wasn't as bad as I had feared. At least I thought it went pretty well, and whether or not that perception is correct, I'm sticking with it.



I would like to thank the Kalamazoo Geological & Mineral Society for hosting us. President David Haas and all the hardworking club member volunteers were most gracious; they even extended an invitation to the MWF delegates to attend their club banquet Saturday evening free of charge.

And they put on one heck of a show! This year they have nearly doubled the size of the show compared to past years, and I hear that attendance jumped about 35% over last year. They are attributing

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Donna Moore, Secretary

[Editor's Note: The MWF Executive Committee meeting was held May 5th in Kalamazoo, Michigan.]

President David Root called the meeting to order. He turned the meeting over to 1st Vice President John Donker for the **State Directors' portion of the meeting**. Julia Donker was present representing Michigan. Sharon Marburger was present representing Nebraska.

Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa had no reports. Julia Donker had a written report in the packet for Michigan. She added that they had a club that didn't pay to join the MWF in 2017, but they had rejoined in 2018. There is also a new club, White River Rock, Gem, and Mineral Club from Whitehall, Michigan.

Dennis Westman had sent a written report for Minnesota. He noted that the Minnesota Mineral Club had outstanding attendance at their show in October. He credited a Facebook presence with a lot of the increase.

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BULLETIN EDITORS' AIDS

Sharon Marburger,
Bulletin Editors' Aids Chair

Congratulations to all the editors who entered the 2018 Bulletin Editors' Contest this year. There was a nice selection of entries.

Several editors have asked about the results of the MWF competition. Yes, the American Federation has already posted the results of the national competition. That is because their convention was very early this year. The MWF Convention will be held in October in Springfield, Illinois. Traditionally, the results of this competition become known at the Awards Banquet or Editors' Breakfast during the MWF Convention. Holding with that tradition, the results of the MWF competition will be announced at the Awards Banquet in Springfield.

I know it is difficult to wait so long to find out how you did in the competition. However, there is an old saying that states, "Good things come to those who wait."

I hope to see you competing editors at the convention in Springfield. I would love to hand your award(s) to you directly, rather than mailing them. Make the effort to be there so you can receive your well deserved recognition before your peers.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES, CONT.

(Continued from page 1)

Sharon Marburger reported that Nebraska is doing well. The Lincoln club had record attendance. There is a new club in Omaha. The Columbus club is more active. Several of their members attended the show in Lincoln and asked a lot of questions.

North and South Dakota had no report. A written report was included from Ohio. The Ohio State Director, Tom Kottyan, was a dealer at the Kalamazoo show. A written report was also received from Allison Conrad for Wisconsin. There was not much discussion concerning the State Director reports except a general consensus that Facebook and other online sources are helping get the word out about our shows.

David called the meeting of the MWF Executive Committee to order. J.C. Moore gave the invocation. Kevin Ponzio led the Pledge of Allegiance.

David introduced the MWF Past Presidents who were present, including Jim Marburger, J.C. Moore, Cindy Root, Tony Kapta, and David Rich. He then read the list of those **members who had passed away since the last meeting**. Those included 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 PV's Rocks; 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; Gloria Schneider - Midwest Mineralogical Society; Glen Nichols - Central Illinois

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES CONTINUED — COMMITTEE REPORTS A-D

(Continued from page 2)

Gem & Mineral Club. A moment of silence was observed in their honor.

Cindy Root, Parliamentarian, reviewed the rules of the meeting as listed on the back of the agenda.

Minutes of the MWF Executive Meeting held October 14, 2017, in Springfield, Missouri had been published in the MWF Newsletter and copies were available with the reports on the table. David Rich moved to accept the minutes. Marge Collins seconded the motion, which passed.

A printed copy of the Treasurer's report had been sent by Sandy Fuller. As AFMS President, she was attending the South Central Federation Convention in Texas. J.C. Moore moved to accept the treasurer's report. Cindy Root seconded the motion, which passed.

John Donker reviewed the State Directors Meeting, stating that two directors were present. Others had sent written reports.

Kevin Ponzio asked for **reports from the Permanent Committees.**

Archaeology – No report.

Boundaries – Assistant Allison VanKnocker had heard of no issues.

Bulletin Editors Aids – Sharon Marburger, outgoing chairman, reported she is hoping to be replaced. 2018 had lower numbers of entries than normal, but a good return on awards from the AFMS. She said she will do the contest again if she isn't replaced.

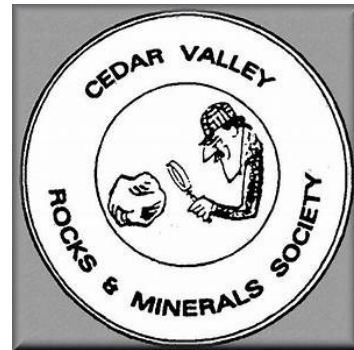
Club Rockhound of the Year – A new chairman is needed. Donna Moore described the job this person needs to do.

Credentials – Tony Kapta reported that we had fifteen members of the MWF Executive Committee, including three or more officers, present, so there was a quorum.

Convention & Show Advisory – J.C. Moore reported that positive comments had been received about the 2017 convention in Brainerd, Minnesota. It was well attended. Everyone seemed to enjoy the field trips. He thanked the Cuyuna Rock, Gem & Mineral Society for hosting.

The 2018 Convention will be in Springfield, Illinois, hosted by the Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society. Packets are here for those attending, and the rest will be mailed out as soon as can be arranged.

The 2019 Convention will be in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on March 23-24, 2019. This is hosted by the Cedar Valley Rocks and Mineral Society. It will be a combined MWF and AFMS convention.



Logo of the hosts of the 2019 AFMS/MWF Convention, from cedarvalleyrockclub.org.

2020 will be hosted by Livingston Gem & Mineral Society in Howell, Michigan in September.

2021 is open so far. There has been some interest from a club in Wisconsin.

Hosting is not a major ordeal unless the club chooses to make it so. J.C. would be glad to talk to any club about what is necessary. Donna Moore put in a plug for coming to Springfield, Illinois for the Friday trip to Funk's Prairie Home. The mineral museum of the late Lafayette Funk is outstanding to see. He was a former president of the MWF.

Director of Supplies & Information - No report.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES CONTINUED — COMMITTEE REPORTS D-P

(Continued from page 3)

Directory & Calendar of Events –Martha Miss had sent word the directory is being printed. It will be mailed out as soon as it is ready.

Education – No report.

Endowment Fund – E Bear was present at the meeting. He had been in Cuba, Illinois and had just returned from the AFMS Convention in North Carolina. He even got to see the Atlantic Ocean on that trip.

Environment & Legislation – No report. This position needs a new chairperson.

Geology – No report. Dr. Bill Cordua continues to write articles for the newsletter.

Historian & Archives – Cindy Root reminded members the historical information is available on the cloud. All has been scanned into pdf and can be used, with credit given to the original source. All the directories, newsletters, old minutes, lots of pictures, newspaper articles, and even a couple of books have been added.

Insurance – David Root introduced and welcomed the new Insurance Chair, Chris Ivancic from Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Junior Activities – No report.

Lapidary Arts – David Root said he had nothing new to report.

Long Range Planning – No report.

Membership – Jim Marburger reported he had sent information to four clubs about joining the MWF. Three of those clubs had joined.

Merit Awards – J.C. Moore reported that no entries were received for the All American Club Contest this year. The early deadlines because of the early AFMS Convention affected the contest participation. He stressed that people need to read the newsletter. The

dates were in an article there. Cindy Root agreed to put a link to the contest information, which is on the AFMS website (www.amfed.org). A new chairman is needed for this committee.

Mineralogy – Kevin Ponzio had nothing new to report.

Newsletter – No report. There will be no newsletter in July and August. The deadline for the September issue is August 1.

Paleontology – No report.

Program Competition – Cindy Root reported she has not received any entries for a while. Marge Collins suggested that if clubs are having live speakers, they should record their presentations (with permission) and send the Power Point to Cindy Root for program competition. She mentioned that some clubs are saying they do not have the equipment to show the DVD's at a meeting. J.C. Moore said he had purchased a small portable projector that was pretty reasonable in price for the use of his club. It does not need to be connected to a computer, but can be. His club is able to show the programs on a blank wall.

Program Requests – No report.

Program Review – Jim Travis reported several programs are being looked at. If anyone has a suggestion for a program for the library, please let him know.

Public Image & Courtesy – Regina Kapta reported that Facebook and other online media are having a big positive effect on attendance at some of our shows. She said her small club, which has a limited budget, had a record attendance a year ago. They started e-mailing this year in mid-February, again in mid-March, and two weeks ahead for their April show. They were reaching 500 e-mail addresses. They also did a Facebook ad for \$25 which reached 6,700 people. She mentioned SpinGo.com, an online press release and online calendars. For \$35 they could pick an area to reach. They knew almost 12,000

(Continued on page 5)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES CONTINUED — COMMITTEE REPORTS P-W

(Continued from page 4)

viewed the e-mail and 267 people clicked on the ad. So, she encouraged the use of online sources to help with advertising our shows. Donna Moore added that the Minnesota Mineral Club had greatly increased their attendance and felt it was largely due to e-mail and Facebook.

Publications – No report.

Safety & Field Trips – David Rich mentioned the article in the newsletter about the man who passed away as a result of lung disease attributed to his lapidary hobby. The man had stressed using a dust mask every time rocks are ground or worked with. David said the 3M P95 dust mask is the one recommended. It is available at Harbor Freight among other sources. He stressed to be sure to wear a mask, dust can be in the water spraying up from the grinding process. Silica dust can cause silicosis, a disease caused by inhalation of crystalline silica dust (according to Wikipedia). David stressed that members need to wear gloves, glasses and MASKS.



*One of the 3M
P95 particulate
respirators.
Photo from
3m.com.*

Scholarship – Marge Collins had a written report. She added that she had written an article for the newsletter stressing living tributes, so the whole club can celebrate with the honoree, and the honoree can enjoy the adulation. The MWF has been one of the most generous to contribute to the AFMS Scholarship Fund. The people who have been honored are now listed in the Directory.

Silent Auction – For the convention in Springfield, Illinois, the MWF bid sheets need to be on colored paper (any color) to keep them separate from the club bid sheets, which will be white. The MWF bid sheet will be on the website and can be downloaded from there. Donations for the auction can be brought to the meet and greet at the show site on Friday evening or to the meeting first thing on Saturday. It is most helpful to have the bid sheets filled out and attached or included with the donations.

Uniform Rules – Jim Marburger reported he is starting to work on this committee. J.C. Moore went to the AFMS Uniform Rules meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina. The only change for this year is a new category for beading. Competitive exhibits have not been a very big deal in our federation, but he is hoping more people might consider competing. The criteria and rules are listed on the AFMS Website. Six people went through the judge's training from the MWF. There are rules in each category. It is not as bad as many previously thought. The criteria are spelled out, presentation is important, and labeling is important. Anyone interested can contact him about entering.

Website – Cindy Root reported that we have a Facebook page, which members must apply to join. They contact her or Tom Whitlatch. The website is updated as well as can be until the new directory is completed. We are still getting club information. She is missing the April newsletter. She plans to take off the oldest five years of information and put it on the cloud. She will be keeping three years of newsletters on the website.

Website Contest – Cindy Root reported she will put a link to the AFMS forms for the website contest as well as the merit awards forms. She reminded members to send her an e-mail if they find something wrong on the website. She stressed that everyone needs to check their club pages and send her photos and show flyers, etc. they would like added to their club's page. Also, she reminded clubs that if she cannot read their dues form, the information does not get put on the website.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES CONTINUED — OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

(Continued from page 5)

Old Business: Sharon Marburger reminded David she had suggested a couple of people who might take her position as Bulletin Aids Chairman.

New Business:

Report from the AFMS – Donna Moore had copies of the minutes of the business meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina for anyone who was interested. J.C. Moore reported that the item affecting our federation the most at the AFMS meeting was that formerly clubs were told the AFMS meeting had to be held on Thursday when there was a combined federation and AFMS convention. At this meeting, it was agreed that if the club had a two-day show, and Uniform Rules agreed, the AFMS meetings could be held on Friday instead of Thursday, as in the past. This might help some delegates avoid the expense of an extra day of hotel and meals, and even taking off work.

Diamond Dan's Mini Miner Monthly – In the past the MWF offered to pay for e-mail subscriptions for clubs who wished to have a subscription to the Mini Miner Monthly for their juniors and who paid their dues on time. The publication had ceased being published, but is now being offered again. J.C. Moore moved the MWF should pay for an e-mail subscription for any club that wished to receive it and paid their dues on time. This would begin in 2019. Cindy Root seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.



Diamond Dan, then and now. From diamonddanpublications.net.

Two new clubs had applied for membership in the MWF: The White River Rock, Gem and Mineral Club in Michigan and the Brown County Rock & Mineral Club in Indiana. David Rich moved to accept both clubs. J.C. Moore seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The President of the Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society, David Haas, thanked the MWF members for coming to their show. He noted the club was on a record-setting pace in attendance this year. Next year will be their 60th show and they plan to pull out all the stops. He noted it is important to have good volunteers to put on a good show. The club had invited the MWF members attending the meetings to be their guests at the banquet on Saturday evening. He noted they had a few extra tickets left if anyone could stay who had not signed up.

Donna Moore brought up that the MWF used to sell t-shirts with the MWF logo on them. Now we had an opportunity to order MWF tote bags, which could be sold with the profits going to the MWF Endowment Fund. She showed a sample bag that members thought would sell well. Cindy Root said when we go to conventions, the MWF could set up a table and sell these bags, which would be good publicity for the MWF. Regina Kapta moved to investigate the sale of the bags, and order them if the price was reasonable. The proceeds would go to the MWF Endowment Fund. J.C. Moore seconded the motion, which carried.

The next meeting of the MWF Executive Committee will be on Saturday, October 6, 2018, at Springfield, Illinois.

E-Bear was again auctioned off with the winner having the privilege of taking him home. Sharon Marburger was the winning bidder, so E-Bear was going back to Nebraska. He will be auctioned off again in Springfield, Illinois. Proceeds from his auction always go to the MWF Endowment Fund.

J.C. Moore moved to adjourn the meeting. David Rich seconded the motion. David Root declared the meeting adjourned.

EXEC COMMITTEE RECEIVES REPORTS FROM STATE DIRECTORS & PERMANENT COMMITTEE**STATE DIRECTOR REPORTS****Michigan Clubs, by John Donker**

Our clubs have started their spring and summer shows. Many shows have been well attended. Dealers have been doing very well. Clubs are preparing for summer field trips, picnics, and summer field trips and summer tailgate sales. Michigan Clubs give out scholarships to college geology students for further education and summer camp.

DO NOT MISS GREAT EVENTS!

Minnesota Clubs, by Dennis Westman

The Minnesota Mineral Club had their annual 2017 show in October. Normally around 1,000 visitors attend. Here is one of those good news/bad news situations.

The good news was that the attendance was 4,000. Younger members' involvement in the club's Facebook page and other social media meant that attendance was beyond any expectations. No one expected such a great turnout.

The bad news was, how does a club handle such an increase? The club lets kids build a rock collection, sand art, and other crafts. When four times as many boxes are being built as there were the year before, it is scramble time. Luckily there was a shopping center and grocery store within a short drive. There was some major maneuvering by club members, but everything worked out.

The power of Facebook and the computer is amazing. The Minnesota Mineral Club is prepared for next year. If you have a club of older members, get some of your grandchildren to help using Facebook. This is second nature to them. It might be the best thing you ever did.

Ohio Clubs

Following are individual reports that were submitted by several Ohio clubs:

Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club: Stephen Shimatzki stepped up again as treasurer for the Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club (TGRC). The TGRC is struggling with the new ownership of the Toledo Botanical Gardens (TBG), where their workshop and storage are located. The TBG was recently taken over by the Lucas County Metro Parks division of the City of Toledo. Rents have been raised, services have dropped and they have basically stated that since we don't fit into the traditional offerings of a park – we won't let the public come in and use our equipment or take the public out on rock trips if they are not members and covered by our insurance, etc. – that we may need to make plans to leave. TGRC has started a committee to determine our options and time frame to relocate. The Toledo club is starting to ramp up for its September show. This year it will be September 7th to 9th. Details will be posted on the TGRC website, www.rockyreader.com, soon.

Summit Lapidary Club, by Becky Koscsó: The beginning of the year brought new officers. Our new Treasurer is Nancy Halloran. Becky Koscsó was voted in as President. Summit Lapidary Club is having a great year. We held our Spring Gemboree in April. The Spring and Fall Gemborees are our main fundraisers and everyone in the club participates to make them a success. A minimum of four hours volunteer time is required at each Gemboree to remain a member in good standing. Several classes are taught every month by SLC. We also have an open torch time monthly for anyone who has completed Beginning Silver. We have a metalsmithing competition annually with cash and membership awards. This year we plan a cabochon-cutting contest with similar awards. We have a Holiday Party in December and are planning a Summer Picnic in July. We have a club sponsored "Big Dig" at Flint Ridge in Ohio. This is a great opportunity for new members to experience rockhounding first hand.

Richland Lithic & Lapidary Society, by Tom Kottyan, Ohio MWF State Director: Tom Kottyan has again stepped up in service to the club as President, and Pam Kottyan has once again graced the club with service as the Treasurer. We are looking forward to our show in June at the Richland County Fairgrounds

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CONVENTION'S SHOW PROMISES FUN

Carole Harp, Secretary,
Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society (Illinois)

[Editor's Note: The Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society will be the hosts of the MWF's annual meeting in Springfield, Illinois, on October 6th and 7th. See also Tony Kapta's article on this page and the registration form for club delegates on the next page.]

In this article, I would like to take you on a tour through the Lincoln Orbit Earth Sciences Society's gem, mineral, and fossil show. This year we are very excited to have two special exhibits.

The first exhibit is "Prehistoric Predators." We are planning on having a 12-foot-tall short-faced bear skeleton, a giant ground sloth skeleton, a fossilized alligator, a saber tooth tiger skull, an American lion skull, and more. The second special exhibit is "Elegant Elmwood." If you aren't familiar with the minerals from the Elmwood Mine in Tennessee, they are beautiful calcite, sphalerite, and fluorite specimens. If any of you have some specimens you would like to showcase in the special exhibit, please contact me ASAP at the info listed below. Even if it's just a single piece, we would be happy to feature it in one of our club cases. We also have multiple member exhibits and there will be competitive displays this year.

Fluorite with sphalerite on barite, from the Elmwood Mine. Photo from minclassics.com.



Now, on with the rest of the show. We have 17 dealers selling a huge variety of minerals, fossils, jewelry, and carvings in every price range. There is something for everyone here so you're sure to walk away with at least one, if not several, new additions to your collection.

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MWF CONVENTION DELEGATES SOUGHT

Tony Kapta, MWF Credentials Chair

The Midwest Federation's 78th Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual 2018 show of the Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society October 6th and 7th, 2018. The show will be held at the Illinois State Fairgrounds, 801 E. Sangamon Avenue, Springfield, Illinois.

The Council of Delegates Meeting will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2801 West Street in Springfield. Each member club/society is entitled to one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate to represent them, although each club is only entitled to one vote.

On the next page is a Delegate Registration form that needs to be filled out and then signed by the President of your club. This form was also mailed to each club with the convention packet and will be available on the MWF website. The form on the website can be typed out on your computer, printed, signed by the President of your club and mailed to me, Tony Kapta, 1483 E. Wood Street, Decatur, IL 62521, or scanned and emailed to me at cigmc@comcast.net.

This is your club's chance to send a representative to the annual meeting and vote on the business which will be before the members of the MWF. This also allows your delegate to report back to the club on what business was discussed during the meeting. Last, it allows your club to be represented at an MWF function and give your delegate an opportunity to meet the representatives of other clubs and the Officers, State Directors and Committee Chairs of the MWF. There is also the added benefit of being able to attend a great gem, mineral and fossil show.

These are important points to consider for all MWF clubs, and I urge you to carefully consider sending a representative from your club to the MWF Annual Meeting. I realize that the trip is a financial burden, as it is to me as well as all of the people who have been gracious enough to donate their time and money to take care of the business of making the MWF work for you, the clubs. Helping other clubs is as important a part of having a club as any of the other things that we do. Hope to see you there!



MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES
COUNCIL MEETING
DELEGATE REGISTRATION
Saturday October 6th, 2018

The Midwest Federation's 78th Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual show of the Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society October 6th and 7th, 2018. The show will be held at the Illinois State Fairgrounds, 801 E. Sangamon Avenue, Springfield, Illinois. The Council of Delegates Meeting will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2801 West Street, Springfield, Illinois. Each member club/society is entitled to one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate* to represent it.

The MWF Council of Delegates Meeting will convene Saturday, October 6th at 1:00pm, with the delegate registration beginning at 12:00 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall. 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 MWF President David Root and MWF 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 a Delegate. Guests are invited, but will not be able to vote.

Please cut out this form and return it to:
Credentials Chairman Tony Kapta
1483 E Wood St, Decatur IL 62521
217-233-1164, email cigmc@comcast.net
Before September 1st, 2018
(DO NOT send this form to the show registration committee)
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PROMPTNESS

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 MWF 78TH ANNUAL MEETING :

DELEGATE _____

ADDRESS _____ EMAIL _____

ALTERNATE _____

ADDRESS _____ EMAIL _____



UPCOMING EVENTS

| Date and Time | Organization | Place | Contact |
|---|--|---|--|
| May 26-27 Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5 | Chicagoland Gems & Minerals Association | County Fairgrounds, 525 S. Randall Road, St. Charles, IL | Marge Dobrofsky, adams9104@sbcglobal.net |
| June 1-3 Fri 12-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-4 | State Line Gem & Mineral Society | County Fairgrounds, 8514 SR 108, Wauseon, OH | Glenda Gafner, ggafner@frontier.com |
| June 2 Sat 10-4 | Gem City Rock Club | Boudreaux Memorial Visitor Center, Route J south of Clarence Cannon Dam, Monroe City, MO | Jane Huelsmeyer, jhuelsm@gmail.com |
| June 2-3 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4 | Coulee Rock Club | Omni Center, 255 Riders Club Road, Onalaska, WI | Allison Conrad, rockinbabe@acegroup.cc |
| June 8-10 Fri & Sat 9-6, Sun 9-4 | Mineral Area Gem and Mineral Society | Missouri Mines Historic Site, 4000 State Highway 32, Park Hills, MO | Boneta Hensley, mojellybean63@yahoo.com |
| June 9-10 Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5 | Richland Lithic and Lapidary Society | Arts & Crafts Bldg., County Fairgrounds, 750 N. Home Road, Mansfield, OH | Tom Kottyan, TheMineralHouse@netzero.net |
| June 22-24 Fri 10-6:30, Sat 9-6:30, Sun 10-4 | Lawrence County Rock Club | County Fairgrounds, US Highway 50, Bedford, IN | lawrencecountyrockclub.org |
| June 29-July 1 Fri 2-6, Sat 9-6, Sun 9-3 | Osage Rock & Mineral Club | Community Center, 309 E 2 nd Street, Eldon, MO | Steve Rudloff, Srudloff@fastmail.com |
| July 10-15 , 10-7 | Lake Agassiz Rock Club, panning for gold | Red River Valley Fair, 1805 Main Avenue West, West Fargo, ND | Chris Patenaude, LakeAgzRC70@yahoo.com |
| July 14 Sat, 9-5 | Flint Rock & Gem Club rock swap | Club classroom, 11350 N. Saginaw Road, Clio, MI | Bill Wendling, bwrockbarn@centurytel.net |
| July 14-15 Sat 9-5, Sun 10-3 | Carlton County Gem & Mineral Club | Riverside Arena, 20 Earl Ellens Drive, Moose Lake, MN | Dan & Lynn Svercl, danlynnsunrisefarm@yahoo.com |
| July 14-15 Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4 | Indian Head Gem & Mineral Society | Frederic High School, 1437 Clam Falls, Frederic, WI | Roy Wickman, 715-357-3223 |
| July 20-21 Fri 10-6, Sat 9-5 | Lakeland Gem & Mineral Club | Commons, Lakeland Union High School, 9573 Highway 70 West, Minocqua, WI | Ron Zimmer, rzimmer@charter.net |
| July 28 Sat 9-2:30 | Sioux Empire Gem and Mineral Society rock swap and sale | Jack Fox Park, north of courthouse, Canton, SD | Harlan Hoogeterp, hhogeterp@iw.net |
| Aug. 10-12 Fri 1-8, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-3 | Copper Country Rock & Mineral Club | Houghton Elementary School, 302 W. Jacker Ave., Houghton, MI | Norm Gruber, show@ccrnc.info |
| Aug. 11-12 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4 | Northwest Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society | Youth Expo Bldg., County Fairgrounds, Highway 48 North, Rice Lake, WI | Dave Skrupy, dskrupy@centurytel.net |
| Aug. 17-19 Fri 2-4, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5 | Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs | Machinists Hall, 12365 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, MO | Robert Morse, rmorse@centurytel.net |

September Issue Submission Deadline Is Aug. 8th!

UPCOMING EVENTS

| Date and Time | Organization | Place | Contact |
|--|---|---|---|
| Aug. 17-19 Fri 12-7, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5 | Michiana Gem & Mineral Society | Esther Singer Bldg., 4-H Fairgrounds, 5117 S. Ironwood Road, South Bend, IN | Joshua Klosinski, jklos9@yahoo.com |
| Aug. 18 Sat, 10-5 | Heart of Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society rock swap | Parking lot behind Applebee's, 5609 US Highway 10, Stevens Point, WI | Sandy Brandl, stoney@tds.net |
| Aug. 6-12 | Copper Country Rock & Mineral Club | Keweenaw Week Field Trips on the Keweenaw Peninsula in Michigan | Norm Gruber, show@ccrmc.info |
| Aug. 25 Sat, 8-4 | Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society | Grounds of the Eau Claire Expo Center, Lorch Avenue, Eau Claire, WI | Paul Tubbs, bizpam1@gmail.com |
| Aug. 25-26 Sat 9-6, Sun 9-4 | Ozark Earth Science Club | Baxter County Fairgrounds, 1507 Fairgrounds Drive, Mt. Home, AR | Sharon Waddell, 417-274-8712 |
| Aug. 25-26 Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5 | Geology Section, Peoria Academy of Science | East Side Centre, 1 East Side Drive, East Peoria, IL | Jim Travis, boatnick@aol.com |
| Sept. 7-9 Fri & Sat, 10-7, Sun 10-4 | 500 Earth Sciences Club | Hancock County Fairgrounds, 620 Apple, Greenfield, IN | Cheryl Hamilton, clhamilton1951@gmail.com |
| Sept. 7-9 Fri 2-8, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5 | Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club | Stranahan Exhibit Hall, 4645 Heatherdowns, Toledo, OH | Steve Shimatski, sjs132@gmail.com |
| Sept. 14-16 Fri 10-8, Sat 10-7, Sun 11-5 | Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club | Soccer Stop Sportsplex, 5 River Hills Drive, Holland, MI | Sue Goedert, sonbeams2000@yahoo.com |
| Sept. 15 Sat, 9:30-4 | Rock River Valley Gem & Mineral Society rock swap | Odd Fellows Lodge, 6219 Forest Hills, Rockford, IL | Duane Cushing, tcde78@comcast.net |
| Sept. 15-16 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4 | Livingston Gem & Mineral Society | Hartland Educational Support Center, 9525 E. Highland Road, Howell, MI | Ed Oller, 810-241-8801 |
| Sept. 21-23 Fri & Sat 9-5, Sun 9-3 | Mozarkite Society of Lincoln | Mike Hare Memorial Field, Cole Camp, MO | Karl David Parsons, mozarkiterocks@gmail.com |
| Sept. 22 Sat, 9-1 | Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society rock swap | Parking lot, St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7211 Oakland Drive, Portage, MI | Dennis Guy, dguy3@charter.net |
| Sept. 28-30 Fri & Sat 9-5, Sun 9-3 | Tri-State Gem & Mineral Club | Joplin Mineral Museum, 504 Schiffer- decker Ave., Joplin, MO | Chris Wiseman, jmc-cwiseman@sbcglobal.net |
| Sept. 29-30 Sat 10-5, Sun 11-4 | Grand Traverse Area Rock & Mineral Club | Cherryland VFW Hall, 3400 Veterans Drive, Traverse City, MI | Pierre LaFoille, Pals0210@gmail.com |
| Sept. 29-30 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4 | Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society rock swap | Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk, Belleville, MI | Bill Barr, wbarr@umich.edu |
| Sept. 29-30 Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4 | Oshkosh Earth Science Club | Sunnyview Expo Center, 500 E. County Road Y, Oshkosh, WI | Ann Voges, hankemps@milwpc.com |
| Oct. 6-7 Sat & Sun, 9-5 | Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral & Geology Society | Community Center, 5 Municipal Drive, Jacksonville, AR | John Schoeneman, schoeneman@hughes.net |
| Oct. 6-7 Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5 | Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society (LOESS) | State Fairgrounds, Orr Building, 801 Sangamon Ave., Springfield, IL | Ed Wagner, loesseditor@gmail.com |
| This will be the show held in conjunction with the MWF annual convention. | | | |
| Oct. 6-7 Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5 | Nebraska Mineral and Gem Club | Westside Middle School, 8601 Arbor, Omaha, NE | Bruce Sturges, bsturges@yahoo.com |



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECEIVES REPORTS, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 7)

in Mansfield, as we have a great dealer base and the show continues to grow each year.

Akron Mineral Society, by Steve Shimatzki, Assistant Ohio State Director: President JoAnn Harrison is listed incorrectly on the Akron Mineral Society Contact page on the MWF website. The correct email should be: joajoa2003@yahoo.com. By the time you read this, AMS' April Gemboree show will have already happened.

Wisconsin Clubs, by Allison Conrad

Club Shows: Fortunately, clubs are doing great jobs marketing and promoting their shows; unfortunately, we have individuals that look at our shows as opportunities to steal. The Badger Lapidary and Geological Society experienced that this year. Please have as many watchful eyes as you can at your shows. Anyone looks suspicious or is actually seen stealing, your club should have immediate steps in place to follow to assist vendors and have specific club members on hand to question and apprehend the individual(s), as well as reporting the incident to local authorities.

A few ideas: Consider investing in trail or video cameras and point them towards vendor booths during the day and/or activate them for lockdown. Place signage where it can be easily read entering and leaving the venue stating, "Facility is under video surveillance." Make sure venue is not unlocked before a club member can be onsite. Check to see that the venue has been completely cleared (including vendors and venue personnel), before lockdown and consider having at least two people stay at the venue overnight. If anyone else has ideas you would like to share to deter sticky fingers, I would be happy to pass them on to clubs. Please remember to send me your club show flyers and newsletters and I will be happy to help advertise your show or other club events: rockinbabe@acegroup.cc.

Social Media: Facebook pages continue to be the biggest social networking site of choice with the largest number of users, although slowing down

somewhat. Whatever form of social media you choose to use to promote your club and club events, please be sure to not post personal information about yourself or anyone in your club, i.e., "In case anyone is trying to reach me, I will be out of town the next three months at the Tuscan Rock and Gem Show." This could be an open invitation to individuals who do not have your best interest at heart, but do have an interest in collection.

Be sure to send your website address or Facebook page links to Cindy Root, d-root@comcast.net, so she can post it with your other club information. By now all Wisconsin clubs should have checked their club information on the MWF website to make sure it is all correct.

MWF Scholarship Honorary Award 2018: Bernice McCloskey was nominated and chosen as the candidate for the 2018 MWF Scholarship Honorary Award. Bernice recently celebrated her 95th birthday and is still very much actively involved in the education and promotion of geology and all aspects of the hobby. Bernice was the MWF President in 1979-1980. As president, she had many responsibilities connected with the success of the AMF/MWF show in 1980. Bernice has also been the MWF Wisconsin State Director Assistant.

Bernice is a *charter* and *honorary* club member of two MWF Wisconsin clubs, the Kettle Moraine Geological Society (KMGS) since 1960 and Wisconsin Geological Society (WGS) since 1993. In her 58 years with KMGS she has held every possible position of leadership, as well as being the founder of the club newsletter and editor for the first ten years. Bernice has been the WGS delegate at the MWF conventions a number of times and still attends the conventions when she is able to do so. Bernice is the gracious hostess of the WGS Mineral Study Group and holds group meetings every month.

MWF Insurance: From time to time, questions regarding what is or isn't covered under the MWF insurance umbrella have been coming in from clubs. My first line of reference for clubs who have questions

(Continued on page 13)

EXEC COMMITTEE GETS REPORTS, CONT.

(Continued from page 12)

is to first review the insurance policy and read through the FAQs on the MWF website.

**PERMANENT COMMITTEE REPORT
Scholarship Committee, by Marge Collins**

Returning to an abbreviated format for the Spring Report: Eight donations totaling \$1,620.00 were received from September 26, 2018 until April 20, 2018, four from clubs and two from individuals.

The memorial donations honor Al Sicree, Katy Brown, Gloria Schneider, Nellie Claxton, Daniel Miller and Bill Rathbun, and were sent by or credited to Dayton Gem & Mineral Society, Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society, Blossomland Gem & Mineral Society, and Sac & Fox Lapidary Club. Outright donations were sent by or credited to Minnesota Mineral Club and Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society. A detailed list of all donations will be published for the Convention in October. These contributions are sincerely appreciated, as always.

Please note: until two arrived at the last minute, this is the smallest number received in any six-month period for many years! The total amount is substantial because of one very large club donation. Scholarship Treasurer Gene Maggard reported that this past year donations from across the country are significantly lower than usual. If this trend continues to the end of the fiscal year, the Fund will be assessed a fee because donations will be below a specified ratio to grants.

There is no need to wait to make Memorial donations. Why not honor one or more special and active club members – someone who has been exceptionally helpful and generous over the years? A “Living Memorial” is a tribute to valued members and a great excuse for an Appreciation Celebration. Anyone so honored is added to the Scholarship Foundation Donations List in the MWF Directory.

Donations and Memorials payable to AFMS Scholarship should be mailed to the MWF Scholarship Committee c/o Marge Collins, 3017 Niles-Buchanan Road, Buchanan, MI 49107.

ILLINOIS ROCK CLUBS GO TO SCHOOL

Pam Richards, Northwest Illinois Rock Club

The Northwest Illinois Rock Club, Badger Lapidary and Geological Society, and the Rock River Valley Gem and Mineral Society collaborated on educational hands-on displays and presentations recently at Seth Whitman Elementary School in Belvidere. The first-grade teacher, Ms. Leese, requested speakers to enhance her unit on rocks and fossils.

The three clubs provided four learning stations: Fossils, Geodes, Fluorescent Minerals, and Glacial Till.



Pam Richards, Master Naturalist, opens an intact trilobite specimen millions of years old. Photo courtesy of the Northwest Illinois Rock Club.

The students were very enthusiastic handling the tooth of a megalodon (large, extinct shark) and coprolite (dinosaur fossilized dung), opening cracked geodes, and being in the dark with glowing rocks! They learned that our area was once a shallow tropical sea and that they can find fossils and minerals in their own backyards.

Handouts and coloring pages were distributed to the teacher for further review.

If you are interested in a local club you may contact Brian Green, president of Northwest Illinois Rock Club, at 815-745-2228.

WALKING IN THE FOOTPRINTS OF GIANTS AT DINOSAUR STATE PARK, CONNECTICUT

Sue Guirl, Editor of the Glacial Groove,
Columbus Rock & Mineral Society (Ohio)
From the October 2017 issue

In 1966, a construction worker was astonished when his bulldozer revealed large, three-toed footprints during excavation for a new state building in Rocky Hill, Connecticut. Hidden under the gray sandstone, scientists found 2,000 dinosaur tracks dating to the early Jurassic, 200 million years ago. After a decade of study, most of the tracks were buried again for preservation; but 500 dinosaur footprints were covered with a geodesic dome for public viewing. Dinosaur State Park was established so the public could marvel at what is one of the world's largest on-site displays of dinosaur tracks.



Dinosaur tracks on display at Dinosaur State Park. Photo by Sue Guirl.

The largest and most prolific tracks on display at the park were made by Eubrontes, a carnivorous dinosaur so common to the Connecticut Valley that it was selected as the state fossil. While fossil remains of Eubrontes have not been found in the Connecticut Valley, scientists believe that it was a ceratosaur similar in size and shape to Dilophosaurus. About 20 feet long from its snout to its long tail, this mid-size dinosaur was 6 feet tall at the hip, with a long neck rising another 4 to 5 feet to the beast's eye. Weighing in at about 1,000 pounds, it walked on two powerful legs and had stunted forelegs for gripping prey similar to Tyrannosaurus rex.

Dinosaur State Park is located at 400 West Street in Rocky Hill, Connecticut, just a few miles

south of Hartford. From I-91 take exit 23 and travel east 1/2 mile to the park. Make sure you take in the interesting museum displays that surround the exposed tracks. You can commemorate your visit by making a life-size plaster cast of a dinosaur footprint. The park also offers two miles of hiking trails and an arboretum. For more information, go to dinosaurstatepark.org.

How to Make Your Own Dinosaur Footprint: You will need to bring 1/4 cup cooking oil, rags and plaster of Paris (10 lbs. for a small print, 15 lbs. for a large print; the large prints are deeper and produce a better casting). Hardware stores offer the best prices on plaster of Paris, which you'll find in the paint section. The park provides footprints, buckets and water.



Ranger Carrie checks a footprint mold.. Photo by Sue Guirl.

Start with one of the well-defined dinosaur footprints available in the park's outdoor molding area. Brush off any dirt with the brooms provided. Use your hands to rub cooking oil all over the mold and inside the metal ring. Place the ring around the print and push rags around the outside of the ring to keep the plaster from seeping out of the mold. Using your hands, mix water and plaster of Paris in a 5-gallon bucket until it reaches the consistency of thick cake batter. Everyone in the family will get a turn as this takes a lot of mixing! Quickly pour the plaster mix into the mold. Go view the exhibits as it takes about 30 minutes for the plaster to set and dry. When dry, remove the ring and take your dinosaur footprint home! There's often a ranger in the molding area to help visitors; but if not, follow the step-by-step instructions on the sign.

CONVENTION'S SHOW PROMISES TO BE FUN, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 8)

Take a couple of minutes to watch a few of our amazing demonstrators show off their skills, including silversmithing, gem trees, wire-wrapping, glass fusing, cabochon making, crinoid preparation, amber demonstration, paper quilling on rocks, and hand-turned pens.

Of course we have a large area for kids to help promote an interest in geology and rock collecting at a young age. We have been slowly expanding the activities in this section over the past few years and now offer a spin-'n'-win, fossil dig, touch-and-feel, egg carton mineral collection, a 50-cent table, a geode cracker, and a local maker space with various activities.

Looking for some great minerals at bargain prices? Check out the silent auction tables, one of the busiest areas of our show. But don't wait too long to place your bids; our silent auctions can get quite competitive and someone might beat you to it.

Something new this year: We will be offering live talks throughout the weekend. We don't have a full schedule yet, but one of our dealers will be giving two talks, one on Mazon creek and the other on the Cambrian Explosion.

Finally, be sure to refuel at our concession stand with a BBQ pork sandwich, Italian beef sandwich, hot dog, chips, and a tasty homemade dessert.

I hope you have enjoyed this brief glimpse into our show. We are looking forward to welcoming and meeting all our MWF friends in October. Please contact me at thequirkyquiller@gmail.com if you would like to have an Elmwood specimen in our special exhibit or if you have any other questions. See you there!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

this increase to the use of Facebook advertising. I don't know the details, but I hear that there will be an article on using Facebook coming. Keep checking this newsletter.

We also welcomed two new clubs to the MWF at this meeting: White River Rock, Gem & Mineral Club from White Lake, Michigan; and Brown County Rock and Mineral Club from Brown County, Indiana.

There are a couple other people I would like to thank:

Allison VanNocker from the Kalamazoo Geological & Mineral Society, for stepping up in our time of need.

Chris Ivancic from the Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society in Fort Wayne, Indiana for stepping up and taking on the Insurance Chair job. This is an important job in the MWF and I'm confident we have the right man for it.

So Valerie tells me I get the summer off. Yippee. I hope everyone has a good summer, productive field trips and a few good barbecues. Be safe.

Valerie J. Meyers, Editor
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WISCONSIN CHARTER CLUB MEMBER CHOSEN AS MWF SCHOLARSHIP AWARD HONOREE

Jody Rymaszewski, Asst. MWF WI State Director

Allison Conrad, the MWF Wisconsin State Director, recently wrote: "I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and recognize Bernice McCloskey, who was chosen as the MWF Scholarship Award Honoree for this year. Bernice is a *charter* club member of the Kettle Moraine Geological Society (KMGS) and a member of the Wisconsin Geological Society (WGS)."



*Bernice McCloskey.
Photo from kmgsrocks.com.
For more information
about the Honoree, see
the Wisconsin State
Director's report on page
12.*

The MWF Directory's section about the AFMS Scholarship Foundation explains what the award

means. "Every year since 1972, each of the six participating Federations [in the AFMS] has chosen an Honorary Award Winner (an individual or couple, nominated by a Club in recognition of their "service above and beyond"). It is the 'Honoree(s)' who selects a school (university) and, in full cooperation with that institution, chooses two students to receive scholarship grants. . .

"Grants made by the Foundation are restricted to graduate students who are U.S. citizens, majoring in one of the earth sciences, since our joint interest lies in this field. . . Currently the Fund provides two one-year scholarship grants of \$4,000.00 each year for the six participating Regional Federations."

When I asked Bernice what institution she would choose for the grants, should she be chosen, her reply was, "UWM, of course." The Geoscience department at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee is thrilled to hear they will be receiving these generous AFMS grants for two of their students. The students' names and a photo will be printed in the June issue of the Wisconsin Geological Society's newsletter.