



MWF News

Midwest Federation
of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

March 2017 - Issue No. 560

Web Site - www.amfed.org/mwf

Member of the American Federation of
Mineralogical Societies



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Tom Whitlatch, President

Well, another month has flown by and all the big shows in Arizona have come and gone. I hope those of you that got to go had a great time and found some treasures while you were there.



This month I will continue with what might help your club to make your show great, not only for you, but for the people who come to enjoy it. Their enjoyment began when they came through the door. Now it is up to you to keep them there, for both the dealers and your club.

Remember to mix club displays, demonstrators, and dealers when designing the floor plan. By doing so, everyone gets a slice of the "pie" and your visitors won't get bored. If the club runs the show as a business, and lays out the floor plan accordingly, your show can be profitable to all.

(Continued on page 8)

BULLETIN EDITORS' AIDS

Sharon Marburger, Bulletin Editors' Aids Chair

Editing. It is what we editors do. The question is, how much editing should we do?

Almost all of us have trouble getting our club members to write for our newsletters. It goes with the territory. I continually hear, "I don't know how to write an article," or "I don't want to sound dumb." I understand this because I don't believe I am very good at writing. I'm a whiz at making what someone else writes sound better, though.

I have made it my practice to encourage others to write for the newsletter by suggesting they write of their experiences as if they are telling the story verbally. Once the words are down, they can edit the article themselves or they can send it to me "to fix." I get submissions to my newsletter from people who tell me to work my "magic." They trust me to fix their

(Continued on page 2)

WHAT'S INSIDE?

AFMS Judges Training Seminar	6-7
Annual Meeting Plans.....	4
Annual Meeting Delegates Form.....	4-5
Bulletin Editors' Aids.....	1

I Am a Rock.....	2
Invitation to Exhibit.....	6
President's Message	1
Upcoming Events	3



MWF OFFICERS

President: Tom Whitlatch
1147 Staub Court NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
319-551-3870
whitlatcht@gmail.com

1st VP: David Root
1051 Meadow Lane
Jenison, MI 49428
616-498-4699
d-root@comcast.net

2nd VP: Kevin Ponzio
Post Office Box 44
Plymouth, WI 53073
920-980-6413
earthprospect@frontier.com

Secretary: Donna Moore
25235 N. State Route 97
Cuba, IL 61427
309-789-6501
mwfsecretary@gmail.com

Treasurer: Sandy Fuller
8845 Grange Boulevard
Cottage Grove, MN 55016
651-459-0343
mwftreas@rock-biz.biz

I AM A ROCK (BUT NOT AN ISLAND)

Chris Goin

I like to think of myself as a very elaborate rock.

Everything we are we get from the earth. Most of the minerals our bodies need are found in igneous rocks. We get our strong bones from minerals like calcium, found abundantly in calcite, dolomite, and limestone. Potassium is important for nerves and muscles and is found in syenite, granite, mica and feldspar.

Sodium is required for proper fluid balance and is a major element in all igneous rocks, such as basalt, limestone, and dolomite. Magnesium is required to make protein; therefore, it is needed for strong bones and a strong immune system. It is found abundantly in quartz, feldspar, and mica. Phosphorous is also required for strong teeth and bones and is in limestone, mudstone, chert and dolomite. Chloride maintains fluid balance and stomach acid for digestion. It is abundant in granite and basalt. Sulfur is required to build protein and is found in pyrite, galena, sphalerite, and gypsum.

There are also many micro-minerals in our bodies. Iron is needed for strong blood and is found in hematite, goethite, and magnetite. Zinc has a wide range of use from boosting the immune system to taste perception. It can be found in lead, silver, copper, and

I AM A ROCK, CONTINUED

sphalerite. Other trace minerals include iodine, selenium, copper, manganese, fluoride, chromium, molybdenum, nickel, silicon, vanadium and cobalt.

As you can see, I'm a rockhound at heart (and liver, and kidneys, and stomach and. . .).

BULLETIN EDITORS' AIDS, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

worst grammar and spelling errors. As editor, that is my job.

I always ask my authors if they want me to make corrections. I send a proof back for their approval if they want one. I am not changing their story, I am helping them to make it better. That is what editors do; fix grammar so the meaning is clear, correct typos, and give the author a feeling of accomplishment so they will write for the newsletter again.

Of course, one would never change an author's writings without permission. More than likely you know your author and you would be gentle with any constructive criticism. You would also know which author wants no changes whatsoever to their writing. Always be polite and respectful and, in turn, you will be respected.

If your authors send you articles via electronic means, reply to them so they know you actually received their contribution. Just a simple "received" is all you need. It takes about 5 seconds to put their minds at ease.

As for content, make sure you follow your organization's rules. There are subjects that some clubs do not want published in their newsletters. If a complaint is received, it is best to take it to your Board of Directors to decide.

Don't forget that the Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors (S.C.R.I.B.E.) is out there. If you are not yet a member, consider joining (<http://scribe.rbnet.net>). This organization has many resources for us to use. Utilize what is available to you and you will "up" your editing game.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date and Time	Organization	Place	Contact
March 3 Fri 7:30-9	Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club (auction)	United Church in Christ social hall, 4200 Lake, Robbinsdale, MN	Sandy Fuller, mwftreas@rock-biz.biz
March 3-5 Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 11-4	Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society	Wayne County Fairgrounds, 861 N. Salisbury, Richmond, IN	Judy Burton, jleeburton@woh.rr.com
March 4-5 Sat 11-6, Sun noon-6	The Roamin Club (silent auction)	Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, MI	Clarence Sterling, cw.sterling@sbcglobal.net
March 10-12 Fri 10-8, Sat 10-7, Sun 10-5	Greater Kansas City Association of Earth Science Clubs	KCI Expo Center, 11730 NW Ambassador, Kansas City, MO	Bruce Stinemetz, brucestinemetz@att.net
March 11 Sat 6-9	Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society (silent auction)	St. Peter's United Church of Christ gym, 8013 Laramie, Skokie, IL	Jeanine Mielecki, jaynine9@aol.com
March 11-12 Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5	Geodeland Earth Science Clubs	Ballroom, Student Union, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL	Ed Wagner, loesseditor@gmail.com
March 11-12 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4	Kettle Moraine Geological Society	Washington County Fair Park, 3000 Highway PV, West Bend, WI	John Rettler, johnrettler@gmail.com
March 24-26 Fri 4-8, Sat 10-7, Sun 10-5	Rock Hobby Club of Greater St. Louis	Machinists Hall, 12365 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, MO	Roy Hurlburt, hurlburtr@juno.com
March 25 Sat 10-5	Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society (rock swap)	St. John's Lutheran Church, 13115 Telegraph, Taylor, MI	Lou Talley, Ltalley1970@gmail.com
March 25-26 Sat 9-5, Sun 9-4	Badger Lapidary & Geological Society	Craig Center Building, County Fairgrounds, 1301 Craig Avenue, Janesville, WI	Debbie Wehinger, jdrules3@gmail.com
March 25-26 Sat 8:30-6, Sun 9:30-5	Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society	Hawkeye Downs Expo Ctr, 4400 6 th Street SW, Cedar Rapids, IA	Marvin Houg, m_houg@yahoo.com
March 25-26 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4	Earth Science Club of Northern Illinois	Dupage County Fairground, 2015 Manchester, Wheaton, IL	John Good, esconi@hotmail.com
April 1 Sat 10-3	Rock River Valley Gem and Mineral Society (demos and displays)	North Suburban Library, 6340 N. 2 nd Street Loves Park, IL	John Wood, gotwood63@gmail.com
April 1-2 Sat 9:30-5, Sun 10-4	Des Plaines Valley Geological Society	Leisure Center, Des Plaines Park, 2222 Birch, Des Plaines, IL	Lois Zima, 847-298-4653
April 1-2 Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5	Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club	Lancaster Event Center, 4100 84 th Street, Lincoln, NE	Jayne Beer, JBeer60070@aol.com
April 6-8 Thurs & Fri 9:30-9, Sat 9:30-8	Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club	Roger's Plaza Town Center, 28 th Street at Clyde Park, Wyoming, MI	Kreigh Tomaszewski, kreigh@gmail.com
April 8 Sat 9-2	St. Croix Rockhounds	Valley Creek Mall, Weir Drive at Valley Creek Road, Woodbury, MN	David Rusterholz, d.b.rusterholz@uwrf.edu
April 8-9 Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5	Columbus Rock & Mineral Society	Northland Performing Arts Center, 4411 Tamarack Blvd., Columbus, OH	Craig Kramer, craig.kramer@wowway.com
April 8-9 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4	Fulton County Rockhounds	Donaldson Community Center, Wallace Park, 250 S. Avenue D, Canton, IL	George Coursey, 70georgecoursey@gmail.com
April 8-9 Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4	Neville Public Museum Geology Club	Green Bay Ramada Plaza, 2750 Ramada Way, Green Bay, WI	Randy Phillips, bay45@hotmail.com
April 8-9 Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5	Southern Illinois Earth Science Club	City of Marion Pavilion, 1602 Sioux Drive, Marion, IL	Mike Chontofalsky, chontofalsky@att.net

April Issue Submissions Deadline: March 8th!



PLANS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

Marge Jensen, Convention Chair of the
Cuyuna Rock, Gem & Mineral Society

Plans for the convention are being firmed up, and we look forward to receiving a record number of registrations. Be sure to get yours in early! If, by chance, you don't have a registration form, please contact me (contact information below) and I will make sure you get one.

A block of rooms is being held at the Super 8 in Baxter, 218-828-4288 (5 miles from the show site), as well as the hotel at Grand Casino Mille Lacs, 800-468-3517. It's about 32 miles from the show site but rates are more economical. When making reservations at the Super 8, ask for the block reserved by Cuyuna Rock, Gem & Mineral Society. For Grand Casino Mille Lacs use Confirmation Code MID0504 or Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies.

Previously, I said I would get more information on the shuttle service from MSP Airport in Minneapolis to the Brainerd area. Executive Express can be contacted by phoning 888-522-9899 or 320-253-2226. They make several trips each day.

Arrangements have been made to visit the Croft Mine Park in Crosby on the afternoon of Friday, May 6. The Croft was an underground mine. Please contact me if this is of interest to you. We would like to have a head count. The Milford Mine Park is about four miles north of the Croft. If anyone is interested, we could include this in the tour. The worst mining disaster in Minnesota history occurred at the Milford.

We look forward to seeing you. On Saturday there will be some door prize drawings at the meeting. Prizes will be collectible specimens from the local area, as well as from the Lake Superior area. You might be a winner! (If by chance you win something that just doesn't fit in your collection, you can always donate it for the silent auction.)

Meet 'n' Greet will be at the show site (Crow Wing County Fairgrounds, Curling Club Building) on Friday evening. The Cuyuna Club will furnish a light

(Continued on page 8)

DELEGATES TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

Tony Kapta, MWF Credentials Chair

The Midwest Federation's 77th Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual 2017 show of the Cuyuna Agate and Mineral Society on May 6 and 7, 2017. The show will be held at the Crow Wing County Fairgrounds, 2000 SE 13th Street, in Brainerd, Minnesota.

The Council of Delegates Meeting will be held May 6, 1 p.m., at the clubhouse location, the lower level of Franklin Arts Center, 1001 Kingwood Street in Brainerd. 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.

In this newsletter 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 Tony Kapta, 1483 E. Wood Street, Decatur, IL 62521, or scanned and e-mailed 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. Finally, it allows your club to be represented at an MWF function and give your delegate an opportunity to meet 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.

I urge you to 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 all of the people who donate their time and money to take care of the business of making the MWF work for 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 at the MWF Convention.



MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES
COUNCIL MEETING
DELEGATE REGISTRATION
Saturday, May 6th, 2017

The Midwest Federation's 77th Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual 2017 show of the Cuyuna Agate and Mineral Society, from the 6th through the 7st of May, 2017. The show will be held at the Crow Wing County Fairgrounds, 2000 S.E. 13th Street, Brainerd, Minnesota 56401. The Council of Delegates Meeting will be held at the clubhouse location, Lower Level, Franklin Arts Center, 1001 Kingwood St., Brainerd, Minnesota 56401. Each member club/society is entitled to one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate to represent them. Each club is entitled to one vote. An alternate may vote in the absence of the delegate. Guests are invited but will not be able to vote.

The MWF Council of Delegates Meeting will convene on Saturday, May 6th, at 1:00 p.m., with delegate registrations beginning at 12:00 p.m. at the Franklin Arts Center. The delegate appointed by your club or society will represent your interests, and may bring up pertinent discussions and proposals. However, in order to expedite matters, if your society intends to have its delegate present any special motion at the meeting, please notify the Midwest Federation President, Tom Whitlatch, and the Secretary, Donna Moore, as to the nature of the subject, so that it may be placed on the agenda. This needs to be presented in written form. This should be done at least one month prior to the meeting.

Please fill out this form and return it to:
CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN TONY KAPTA
1483 E. Wood Street, Decatur, IL 62521
217-233-1164, e-mail cigmc@comcast.net
BEFORE April 15, 2017.

(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 77th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MIDWEST FEDERATION:

DELEGATE _____

ADDRESS _____ E-mail _____

ALTERNATE _____

ADDRESS _____ E-mail _____

DATE _____ SIGNED _____, CLUB PRESIDENT



YOU'RE INVITED TO EXHIBIT IN VENTURA...

Jim Brace-Thompson, 2017 CFMS-AFMS Show
Publicity Chair

On behalf of the Ventura Gem & Mineral Society, I invite you to exhibit in this year's national AFMS Show & Convention taking place June 9th through 11th in Ventura, California. Enter either a competitive or a noncompetitive display, or one of each!

Go to the show website at <http://2017CFMS-AFMSShow.com> to access and download entry forms by clicking on "Files and Entry Forms." You'll also find a direct link to the AFMS Uniform Rules manual. The deadlines are May 22 for noncompetitive entry forms and April 30 for competitive forms, so don't delay.

Exhibiting is fun! When displaying at a gem show, we not only get to show off our collections and handiwork but also to learn from others, seeing display techniques, getting advice, sharing tips, and forging bonds of friendship through mutual interests. There is a host of trophies for adult exhibitors, including a special trophy for nervous first-time Novice Exhibitors sponsored by the hosting Ventura society.

Kids entering either competitive or noncompetitive displays can earn the Showmanship badge in our AFMS/FRA Badge Program, and those entering competition can strive for both trophies and the AFMS Lillian Turner Award. Several years ago, Lillian Turner of Bethesda, Maryland, generously donated funds to support an award for the best junior's exhibit at the annual AFMS Show. The award consists of a certificate, a \$100 bond, and a mineral specimen and is presented at the Show Awards Ceremony.

I guarantee that adults and kids who choose to display in Ventura will find the experience both rewarding and fun!

AND LEARN HOW TO JUDGE EXHIBITS, TOO

Jennifer Haley, AFMS 4th VP and Seminar Registrar

There is a lot of excitement about attending the AFMS Judges Training Seminar June 6th and 7th at the Clocktower Inn in Ventura. When it was heard through the grapevine last summer that the seminar was being arranged for 2017, everyone was cheering. The seminar is for judges, exhibitors, and anyone who would like to better understand the AFMS Uniform Rules.

B. Jay Bowman, renowned across the country for his teaching skills in AFMS Judges Training Seminars, is leading the course. Jay's class is two days of classroom study of the AFMS Rules book, and then a day of practice judging on the first day of the CFMS-AFMS Annual Show, Friday, June 9th at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, at 9:00 a.m. in the San Miguel/Anacapa Halls.

The classroom can take up to 50 people, so we hope to see many of you there. The fee for the course is \$25 and includes lunch both days. By taking the seminar you will be able to improve your personal exhibits skills and be able to better assist your home society and neighboring societies in their annual showing of exhibits, with the knowledge you've gained.

For those who want to stay at the inn, we were able to get the best room rates in town for you, along with free parking for guests staying at the Clocktower Inn and for those attending the seminar. Free parking in Ventura is rare, so we are happy we could do this for you.

Deadline for registering for the seminar is April 30, 2017. The registration form is on the next page. For more information for registering at the inn, and for the seminar, please see the link for the AFMS Judges Training Seminar on the calendar of the CFMS website.

April Issue Submissions Deadline: March 8th!



AFMS JUDGES TRAINING SEMINAR

When: Tuesday, June 6, Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Where: Clocktower Inn, 181 East Santa Clara Street, Ventura, Ca 93001

Please fill out the application below and return to:

Jennifer Haley, Registrar
1577 Kenewa St. Ojai, CA 93023

Registration Deadline: April 30, 2017

Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Regional Federation _____

Club/Society _____

Division you are interested in:

Open _____ Minerals _____ Lapidary _____ Jewelry _____ Education _____ Meteorites _____

Fossils _____ Petrified Wood _____ Scrimshaw _____ Beading _____ UV _____

I'm bringing an exhibit for evaluation _____

YOU MUST BRING AN AFMS UNIFORM RULES BOOK, UPDATED TO 2017.

This can be download on the AFMS website. Bring a pen and notepaper with you.

There is \$25 fee per person which includes a lunch on Tuesday & Wednesday.

Checks should be made payable to Jennifer Haley and must accompany the application.

Lunch-check one: T-Rex style (meat eater) _____ or Brachiosaurus style (vegetarian) _____.

CLASS SCHEDULE: Tues & Weds 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. in the Sante Fe Banquet Room at Clocktower Inn.

Evaluation of exhibits begins on Friday, June 9, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Ventura County Fairgrounds,

10 W. Harbor Blvd, Ventura, CA. The Judging Room will be in the San Miguel/Anacapa Halls.

CLOCKTOWER INN: If you would like to stay at the inn, we got the best room rate in Ventura, along with free parking which is also unheard of for Ventura. Another perk, the inn is very close to the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

YOU MUST MAKE YOUR OWN RESERVATION.

The room block is under the name, AFMS.

Complimentary parking for anyone staying at the hotel, and for attendees at the seminar.

\$129.00 Plus tax per room with one bed per night for single or double occupancy.

\$139.00 Plus tax per room with two bed per night for single or double occupancy.

\$100.00 per each additional person up to quad occupancy

\$15 extra for rollaway bed.

Free Breakfast Daily from 7-10 AM, for those staying at the hotel. Free Wifi

Above Rates will apply three days prior to, and three days after the seminar.

The deadline to make your reservation to stay at the inn is May 15, 2017.

Hotel contact: Vicki Samra (Sales) 805-652-0141 vicki@clocktowerinn.com

For more information contact, Jennifer Haley: ladybuglane@napablogger.com or phone: 707-332-3032

See you there! Marion Roberts, AFMS Uniform Rules Chair 2017

Valerie J. Meyers, Editor
Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies
vjmwriter@yahoo.com
Post Office Box 13456
Overland Park, KS 66282-3456

Non Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Fiatt, IL
Permit No. 1

It is MWF policy that its name and logo may not be used for commercial purposes.
Please notify the Secretary of any violations.

PLANS FOR ANNUAL MEETING, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 4)

meal from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm for AFMS and MWF Board Members and Delegates. The banquet on Saturday evening will be at the same location. Meetings will be held at the clubhouse (1001 Kingwood Street, Brainerd) on Saturday.

A member of Cuyuna Rock, Gem & Mineral Club will give a presentation at the Awards Banquet. Matt made an unusual find last summer and will share details with us. He is one of the club's most enthusiastic rockhounds.

Contact me at 218-838-8477 or marjen@crosbyironton.net. I'll be happy to hear from you.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

One of the reasons we work so hard on our shows is to keep the club going, by making money for club needs and scholarships to students studying geology. To make money it takes hard work, and wise spending to keep it.

A great show is not only financially profitable, it can bring new members full of fresh excitement into the hobby. Talk to your visitors about the club and "just ask" them to join you at a meeting. You may be surprised at the response.