



Mid-Ohio Mineral and Fossil Club

The LITHNICS

Volume 60 Issue 4

October 2022

THE LITHNICS



A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF
THE MID-OHIO MINERAL AND FOSSIL CLUB
MANSFIELD, OHIO



CURRENT OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Tom Kottyan
VICE-PRESIDENT..... Jim Baumgartner
PAST PRESIDENT Bill Byrley
RECORDING SECRETARY..... Pat Everly
TREASURER Pam Kottyan
TRUSTEES..... Pam Lauer until 12/31/2021

CURRENT COMMITTEE CHAIRS

DOOR PRIZE Pam Kottyan
EDUCATION Tom Kottyan
FIELD TRIPS
GORMAN CENTER LIAISON Tom Kottyan
HISTORIAN Jason Larson
HOSPITALITY Joel Likins
MEMBERSHIP Pam Kottyan and Jason Larson
SHOP Walt Upchurch
SHOW Tom Kottyan and Jason Larson
SPECIAL INTERESTS Mike McCullough (Classes)
VIDEO/BOOK LIBRARY Carolyn Kelly
LITHNICS EDITOR Bryan Summer
1290 Fairview Ave
Galion, OH 44833
bryansummer1@gmail.com

OUR CLUB

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Mid-Ohio Mineral and Fossil Club, is to create an interest in and study of the earth sciences and all lapidary arts and to afford an opportunity to share knowledge and working techniques with others.

MEETINGS:

General club meetings are at 7:00 pm on the first Monday of the month at:

Gorman Nature Center, 2295 Lexington Avenue, Mansfield, Ohio.

If the first Monday falls on a holiday we meet one week later.

Visitors are always welcome.

Special Interest Group (Classes) meetings are held September through May at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of the month. See Special Interest Chair, Mike McCullough.

CANCELATION OF A MEETING

If for any reason the club officers feel that a meeting should be canceled you will be notified by email as soon as possible. If Mansfield schools are closed so are we. If for any reason you don't feel safe to drive to a meeting, please, please stay home.

Annual dues are:



Adults	\$ 15.00
Children under 16	\$ 5.00
Family	\$ 20.00

Dues are due Jan. 1st of every year. Whether you join in January, December, or any month in between, the cost is the same. Everyone's dues are due again the next January 1st .

LITHNICS: Our quarterly newsletter.

Permission is hereby granted to use any original **LITHNICS** articles, whole or in part, as long as proper recognition is noted with the reprint.

Club members are encouraged to make contributions to the LITHNICS.

Contact: Bryan Summer (bryansummer1@gmail.com)

The Mid-Ohio Mineral and Fossil Club

Message from the President Tom Kottyan



Fellow Club Members,

Fall is my favorite season. I love the cool days and nights but it is a great reminder that Winter will be here soon and I have to kick it in gear to get those outside jobs done. For me it is getting the minerals and fossils that have been collected inside. Most minerals will not take the cold temperatures and will fracture internally. Most bulk rock for cutting into some lapidary form is Quartz based, so they withstand the Winter temperatures quite well. But the cautionary tale is better to be out of the weather, especially the freezing and thawing, than take the chance. Better to be safe than sorry. The non-quartz based cutting material will not weather the cold very well.

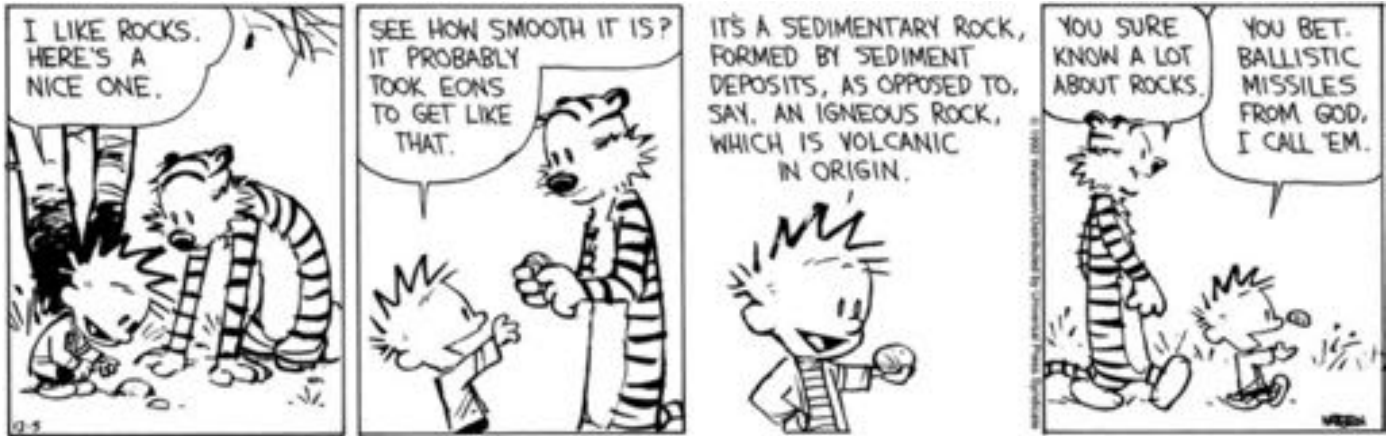
I think that if you attend our club meetings, this is a prime opportunity to ask questions about the identification of minerals, fossils, and cutting material. Ask questions about collecting locations around the United States or possible tools and tips for those locations. We have a wealth of collecting knowledge from our more experienced members. Our experienced members love to help. Ask them questions and learn from them. Remember, we all started out at the same level. Have a great Fall season.

Tom Kottyan

Mid-Ohio Mineral and Fossil Club President

Upcoming Meetings – all meetings are at the Gorman Nature Center at 7:00 pm
Continue to watch for information about future meetings in your email.

- Monday, October 3 7:00 Meeting Gorman Nature Center
- Monday, November 7 7:00 Meeting Gorman Nature Center
- Monday, December 5 TBD Christmas Dinner
- Monday, January 9 7:00 Meeting Gorman Nature Center



2022 Successful Rock Show

Mid-Ohio Mineral and Fossil Club
GEM, MINERAL, JEWELRY,
BEAD, & FOSSIL SHOW
“NATIVE COPPER & COPPER MINERALS”
 JUNE 11 + 12, 2022
 Saturday 10 - 6 and Sunday 11 - 5





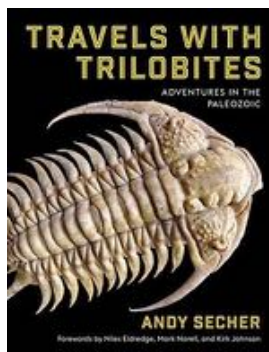
Richland County Fairgrounds - Fairhaven Hall
 750 North Home Road, Mansfield, OH

2023 Mid-Ohio Mineral Show June 10 - 11

Show Theme: Trilobites



Five Places to See Trilobites in the United States



In a new book, fossil collector Andy Secher takes readers on a worldwide trek of trilobite hotspots

Jennifer Nalewicki

Smithsonian Magazine
Travel Correspondent
June 8, 2022

Andy Secher remembers the first time he came face to face with a fossil. He was seven years old and riding the school bus when the bus driver showed him and the other students a specimen that he had unearthed during a weekend dig in Upstate New York.

“I was fascinated,” Secher says. “And after that, I was kind of hooked.”

Hooked is an understatement. Fast forward to adulthood and Secher has amassed a personal collection of some 5,000 fossils, which he houses inside his 1,650-square-foot Manhattan apartment. His passion for fossils, and specifically trilobites—extinct hard-shelled marine invertebrates that existed during the Paleozoic Era, a time period that stretched around 289 million years—led him to a career as a field associate in paleontology at the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH). There, for the past 15 years, he has been co-editor of the museum’s popular Trilobite website.

“I often joke that I have the largest trilobite collection on the Upper West Side,” Secher says. (The fact that the world-renowned museum, with its thousands of specimens, is less than a half-mile walk from his apartment makes the quip all the more humorous.)

So, what is it about trilobites that make them different from other fossils? For Secher, the answer is simple. In his book he writes, “Even at a very early stage in the history of life on our planet, the trilobite design had already proven to possess a certain degree of evolutionary perfection.” Add to that the fact that there’s such a variety of specimens out there, resembling everything from what he describes as a “hydrodynamic spaceship” to “nothing more than a primordial meatloaf,” and it’s easy to see why collectors like Secher are thirsty for trilobites.

More recently, Secher added another bullet point to his résumé with the release of his book *Travels with Trilobites: Adventures in the Paleozoic*, which takes readers on a journey to some of the best places around the world to see these ancient arthropods, from museum collections to quarry fossil beds.

Travels with Trilobites: Adventures in the Paleozoic

Andy Secher invites readers to come along in search of the fossilized remains of these ancient arthropods. He explores breathtaking paleontological hot spots around the world—including Alnif, Morocco, on the edge of the Sahara Desert; the Sakha Republic, deep in the Siberian wilderness; and Kangaroo Island, off the coast of South Australia—and offers a behind-the-scenes look at museums, fossil shows, and life on the collectors' circuit.

Treasure Hunter Unearths 2.38-Carat 'Frankenstone' Diamond

Adam Hardin discovered the impressive brown gem at an Arkansas state park

Sarah Kuta

Smithsonian Magazine
Daily Correspondent
May 6, 2022



For more than a decade, diamond-hunter Adam Hardin has been searching for valuable gems at Crater of Diamonds State Park in Arkansas—with some success. But though he's found and sold some diamonds there, he's never hit it big.

On April 10, that changed when he made the find of his life: A 2.38-carat brown diamond, his first topping two carats and the largest found at the park in Murfreesboro, Arkansas, so far this year. Hardin nicknamed his precious stone "Frankenstone" because "it has a pretty and kind of not-so-pretty look to it," he said in a statement issued by the park.

The shiny, coffee-colored gem is roughly the size of a pinto bean, according to the park. It's round, with some crevices and inclusions, a gemology term that means there's some material trapped inside from when the diamond formed.

When he made his big find, Hardin was searching for diamonds in the East Drain portion of the park's 37.5-acre search area using a technique known as wet-sifting, which involves using multiple screens with different mesh sizes to wash away loose soil and separate particles. Heavier material falls to the bottom of the screen, including—sometimes—diamonds.

Gem and mineral miners like Hardin flock to this park in southwestern Arkansas because of its explosive geological past. Roughly 100 million years ago, a volcanic pipe erupted and, in the process, created an 81-acre crater. During the eruption, molten material called lamproite carried debris from the Earth's mantle, including diamonds and other gems, to the surface.

Today's Arkansas treasure-hunters are following in the footsteps of people like John Wesley Huddleston, aka "Diamond John," who found the first recorded diamond in the Natural State in August 1906.

As historian Dean Banks writes in the Encyclopedia of Arkansas, Huddleston was "the first person outside South Africa to find diamonds at an original volcanic source," and became "the controversial subject of numerous folk tales" along the way.

After Huddleston discovered diamonds on his farm, prospectors and tourists flocked to the area, finding diamonds of all shapes and sizes. A man from Dallas discovered the 15.33-carat white "Star of Arkansas" diamond, while a woman from Irving, Texas, found a 3.11-carat white diamond that looked like the profile of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

In 1971, the state voted to designate the crater a state park, but continued to allow visitors to search for—and keep—gems they found there.

All told, the park estimates that miners have unearthed more than 75,000 diamonds there since Huddleston's first find in 1906. Visitors find, on average, one or two diamonds each day within the park's bounds, and park officials say that 260 registered diamonds have been discovered so far in 2022.

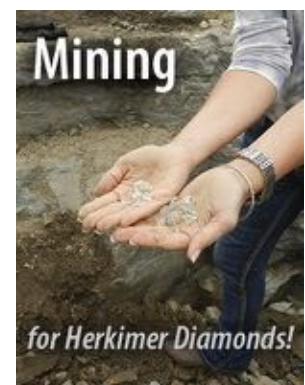
Park-goers don't have to register their diamonds with the park, but many do because they get a card of authenticity in return, reports Greta Cross for the Springfield News-Leader.

The largest diamond ever found at the park is known as "Uncle Sam," a 40.23-carat white diamond with a pink cast discovered in 1924. Visitors find diamonds in a variety of colors, but the most common are white, brown and yellow, per the park.

What miners do with those gems once they've uncovered them is totally up to them. Hardin has opted to sell his prized "Frankenstone" and buy a car with the proceeds, reports CNN's Forrest Brown. He plans to keep digging, mostly for bragging rights in a friendly competition with another park-goer.

"One of the other guys and I have been going back and forth, seeing who can find the biggest diamond," Hardin said in the statement. "I found a big one, then he got a 1.79-carat, and we were joking about who would find the next big diamond and be 'king of the mountain.' As soon as I found this one, I had a feeling I had him beat. Now he's trying to find a bigger one, but I'm planning on staying on top."

—World Famous—
HERKIMER
DIAMOND MINES





Our Club's Craft Program

Our Club has had three craft classes recently. Our crafts program is headed up by Joyce Kish, Nancy Matthews, and Bryan Summer. We are planning to start classes again in September at Gorman Nature Center. Our May class was a presentation on Rock Identification with Tom Kottyan.



Wire wrapping projects created at our recent Club Crafts Classes.

Ohio Rockhound

A useful website focusing on Ohio minerals, including collecting sites.

1. Mark J. Camp, **Roadside Geology of Ohio** (2006).
2. June Culp Zeitner, **Midwest Gem, Fossil, & Mineral Trails: Great Lakes States** (Rev. ed., June 1999 – first published in 1955).
3. June Culp Zeitner, **Midwest Gem Trails: Field Guide for the Gem Hunter, the Mineral Collector, and the Tourist** (3d. Rev. ed., 1964 – originally published in 1956).
4. James Martin Monaco & Jeannette Hathway Monaco, **Fee Mining & Mineral Adventures in the Eastern U.S.** (2d ed. 2010).
5. Kathy J. Rygle & Stephen F. Pedersen, **Northeast Treasure Hunter's Gem & Mineral Guide** (4th ed. 2008).

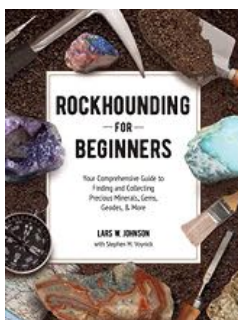
Amazing YouTube Videos

All of the featured videos this month are by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources

1. Ohio's Scenic Geology by Ohio DNR
2. Ohio Flint by the Ohio DNR
3. Geology of Raven Rock Arch by Ohio DNR
4. Ohio State Symbols - Isotelus by Ohio DNR
5. Ohio Rocks Resources by Ohio DNR
6. Ohio Rocks Fossils by Ohio DNR
7. The Geologist Toolkit by Ohio DNR
8. Kelly's Island Glacial Grooves



Geology Books for Beginners



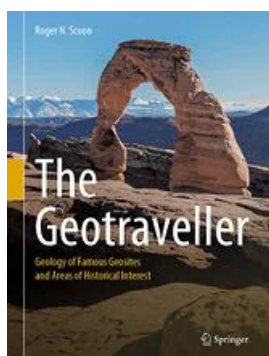
Rockhounding for Beginners - Your Comprehensive Guide to Finding and Collecting Precious Minerals, Gems, Geodes, & More
by Lars W. Johnson and Stephen M. Voynick

Go on an outdoor treasure hunt and enjoy all nature has to offer with this field guide to rockhounding. Perfect for anyone headed out on an adventure!



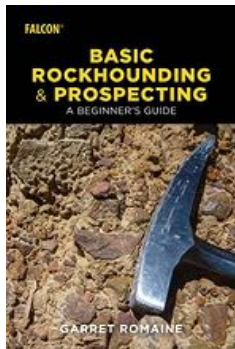
Gemstone and Crystal Properties
by Inc. BarCharts

Identify 135 of the most sought after and popular gemstones, minerals and crystals through photos and descriptions of color variety, luster and transparency range. Scientific and metaphysical properties of each gemstone plus significant meanings or historical uses, or how it is formed.



The Geotraveller: Geology of Famous Geosites and Areas of Historical Interest by Roger N. Scoon

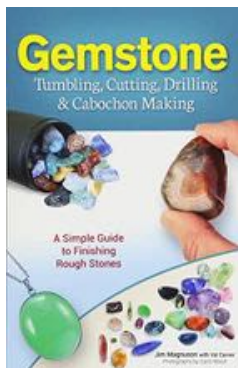
This book describes famous geosites and historical localities in national parks and conservation areas from North America, East Africa, and Europe. The geosites include iconic landforms associated with active volcanoes, canyons, glaciated landscapes, natural rock monoliths, and rifts.



Basic Rockhounding and Prospecting: A Beginner's Guide

By Garrett Romaine

A Beginner's Guide to Rockhounding, Gem Collecting, Gold Prospecting, and Fossil Hunting



Gemstone Tumbling, Cutting, Drilling & Cabochon Making: A Simple Guide to Finishing Rough Stones

by Jim Magnuson

Gemstones are naturally beautiful, but you can make them glisten and shine. This beginner's guide covers all the techniques you need to know: tumbling, cutting, face polishing and more. By following the authors' simple approach, you'll create finished stones worthy of displaying, selling or making into jewelry.



© Brian Crane

Interesting Web Sites

1. Mineralogy4kids
 - a. <https://min4kids.org>
2. Minerals by Name
 - a. [http://www.galleries.com/Minerals By Name](http://www.galleries.com/Minerals_By_Name)
3. Ology - the science website for kids from the American Museum of Natural History
 - a. <https://www.amnh.org/explore/ology?channel=earth>
4. Fascinating Geology for Kids
 - a. <https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/geology-for-kids/>
5. Geology for Elementary Schools
 - a. <https://study.com/academy/topic/geology-for-elementary-school.html>
6. Elementary School Science
 - a. <https://www.elementaryschoolscience.com/lesson-plan-intro-rocks-minerals>

Upcoming Events and Rock Shows – (Ohio and close to Ohio)

Check the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical + Geological Societies for Calendar Updates

All show dates may be affected by the Corona Virus

October

- October 7 - 9 Warren, Michigan Annual Show. Detroit Mineralogical Society. (Detroit Show)
Macomb Sports & Expo Center, Bldg P, 14500 E. 12 Mile Rd., Warren, MI
- Oct. 14 - 16 Danville, Indiana Annual Show. American Gem + Mineral + Jewelry Show
Hendricks County Fairgrounds, 1900 E Main St. Danville, Indiana
- Oct. 14 - 16 Three Rivers Gem + Mineral Society.
County Fairgrounds, 2726 Carrol, Fort Wayne, IN
- Oct 15 - 16 South Charleston, WV Annual Show. Kanawaha Rock and Gem Club
South Charleston Community Center, 601 Jefferson Road, South Charleston WV
- Oct. 21 - 23 Mason, Michigan Annual Show. Central Michigan Lapidary + Mineral Society
Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 East Ash Street, Mason Michigan
- Oct 22 - 23 Cuyahoga Falls, OH Annual Show. Summit Lapidary Club.
Emidios Expo Center, 48 E Bath Rd, Cuyahoga Falls, OH

The Midwest Federation of Mineralogical + Geological Societies

You can check out all the Shows and Events in our Midwest Region (Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska) at the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical + Geological Societies [Web Site \(https://www.mwfed.org\)](https://www.mwfed.org)





The U.S. Geological Survey Youth and Education in Science (YES) Team.

Revamped their web presence to better assist with online and home learning.

The new USGS learning from home portal for lesson plans and activities, grades K – 12.

www.usgs.gov

Students of all ages can always tap into the USGS Resources for Teachers for over 140 years of USGS research in the natural sciences in the form of lesson plans and activities, maps, podcasts, online lectures, videos and animations, and much more. Browse thousands of ideas for using these resources in elementary, secondary, university, and informal education settings

Meeting Minutes

July

Tom welcomed everyone to the meeting. July minutes & treasurer's report were given. Bottom line we made approximately \$6,087.04 from the show.

Tom asked if there were any questions regarding the show. Attendance for the show was 973 persons, just under 1,000.

Rob reported on the kid zone which went very well. Several parents commented positively on the kid zone and thanked Rob for the area.

Tom asked if there were any suggestions regarding the show. Deb Likins suggested a layout of the floor plan showing each dealer & what they are selling. Also, placing the layout on Facebook.

Tom noted our display cases were phenomenal. We do have the best cases in the area for shows. He also thanked everyone for their assistance. Next year's theme (2023) is Trilobites. Just in the United States alone there are over 5,000 varieties, and over 40,000 varieties worldwide. Tom has the show for 2023 set for the weekend of June 10th & 11th 2023.

Shop still closed due to meandering Covid issues.

Special interest – Susie reported there is nothing planned for the summer.

Jay Medici sadly let us know his father, John Medici, passed away and let us know the arrangements in Marysville, Ohio. Please keep info off the social media.

Tom also remarked that Skeeter & Joyce Kish sponsored the food on the Friday before the show and we thank them very much.

Club books will be for sale next month on silver smithing, jewelry making, fossil hunting, etc. Rob W made a motion to give the basic mineral & fossil books to the library for kids, second by Joyce K. Motion approved by club members present.

Bryan reported the Lithnics will be coming out & there is a really nice article on Trilobites in the forthcoming edition that will be emailed.

Susie is wearing several pieces of her late mother's, Kay Abram, jewelry.

Our club auction of minerals, equipment, and bulk rock will be this November.

Joyce asked about guests & potential members.

Program for tonight is Skeeter talking & demonstrating the Atlatl.

Door Prize: Jay Medici won an arrowhead knapped from Flint Ridge.

Meeting adjourned for refreshments & program.

August

Tom welcomed members & guests to the meeting and advised of the purchase of books & VHS tapes the club no longer uses. Tom then asked guests to stand & identify themselves. August treasurer's report was read by Pam.. Due to September 5th being a holiday, next month's meeting will be held September 12th.

September program will be given by Lawrence Hull regarding various Lapidary Tricks & Tips. October meeting still to be determined. Professor James St John (OSU-Newark) was sent an email for a potential future program.

Tom noted Jim Baumgartner had a stroke but is doing very well.

Lithnics – Bryan has nothing to add at this time.

Members then shared their own personal finds/buys and where they were found.

Door Prize: Walt Upchurch was the winner this month of a nice pair of pierced earrings made by Joyce Kish & donated for a prize.

Meeting adjourned for refreshments & sharing of their mineral/fossil treasures.

September

Tom welcomed members & guests to the meeting. Secretary's & Treasurer's reports for August were read.

Lithnics – Bryan stated will be coming out in October.

Tom stated there are still VHS tapes for sale in the back. Regarding next year's show (2023), Tom said most of our dealers will be returning. Paleo Joe will be attending our show next year.

Question was asked as to what is a Trilobite. Tom explained & also stated a recent find in Canada measured more than 5 feet.

Lawrence noted Jim Baumgartner has had complications from his stroke and was life flighted to Columbus. He is potentially looking at brain surgery to quelch the brain bleeds. More to follow.

Guests were recognized.

September program tonight will be given by Lawrence Hull regarding various Lapidary Tricks & Tips.

Door Prize: Mike McCullough won a Montana Agate.

Meeting adjourned for refreshments & Lawrence's program.

Don't Forget to Check Out our Website for Club Information
www.rlls.webs.com



The Lithnics

If you have any club news, articles you would like share with members, updates on your committee, etc. please email info to:

Bryan Summer – bryansummer1@gmail.com

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