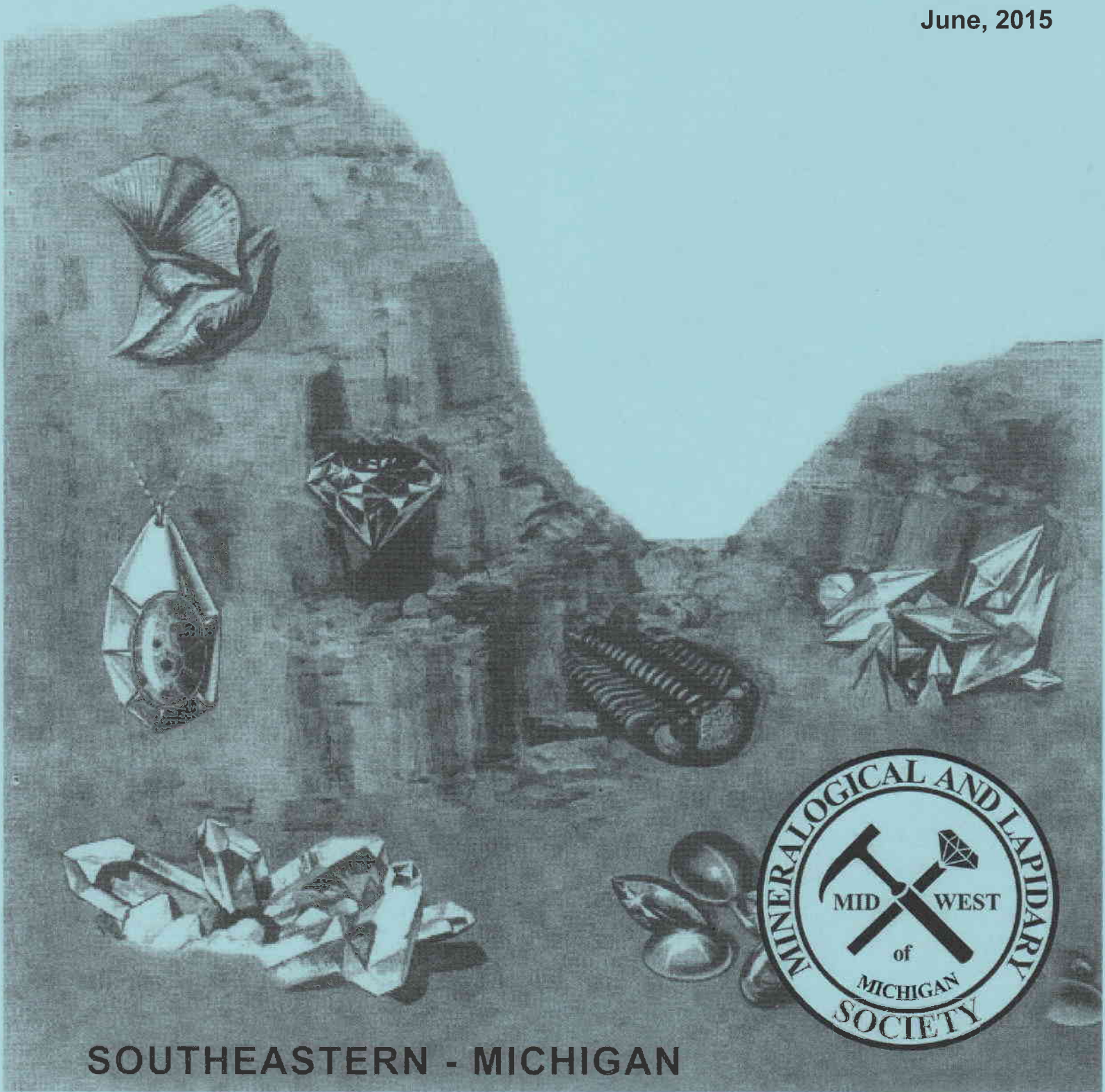


THE ROCKPILE

Official Publication of the Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society

AFFILIATED WITH • MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES • AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

June, 2015



SOUTHEASTERN - MICHIGAN

Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society

2015 OFFICERS

President: Diane Kuzara (734) 675-5237
Vice President: Gary Slominski (734) 379-3294
Recording Secretary: Edie Esche (734) 771-5269
Treasurer: Doris Snyder (313) 291-2133
Corresponding Secretary (Temp) Dan Gumina
(313) 766-8944
Liaison Officer: Leonard Swisher (313) 841-1606

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Club Services: Lynda & Don Baker
Door Prizes: Mike Bomba
AFMS Scholarship: Pat Rutkowski
Field Trips – Local: Bill Barr
Field Trips: Bill Barr
Education: Dave Hendershot
Insurance:
Historian: Dolores Swekel
Michigan Material: Tom Morris
Club Publicity:
Membership: Lynda & Don Baker
MMLS Scholarship: Leonard Swisher
Program Coordinator: Mike Bomba
Property – Storage: Leonard Swisher
Property – Meetings: Leonard Swisher
Sunshine Reporter: Velma Bradley
Refreshments: Janet Slominski
Web Site: Stacey Harper

ACTIVITIES

2015 Banquet:

2015 Swap: Lou and Cindy Talley

2015 Auction: Dan Gumina

STUDY GROUPS

Advance Lapidary:
Basic Lapidary:
Bead Study: Diane Kuzara
Faceting:
Mineralogy: Dave Esch
Paleontology:
Wire Study: John Lindsay
Silversmithing: Don Brown

PAST PRESIDENTS

Robert Ellison (interim) 1956
Louis Cox 1957
Robert Heldenbrand 1958-59
Ralph Gamble 1959-60
Fred Miller 1960-61
Bert Smart 1961-62
Leo Nieman 1963
Nicholas Rothenthaler 1964-65
Robert Fedoruk 1966-67
John Good 1968-69
Cecilia Duluk 1970
Stanley Franczak 1971-72
E. Donald Stinnett 1973-74
Ralph Goniea 1975-76
Norman Hanschu 1977-78
Thomas Gibbs 1979-80
Harry Nagy 1981-82
Elspeth Gibbs 1983-84
Loretta Franczak 1985-86
Roland Snyder 1987-88
Jay Ross 1989-90
Tom Morris Jr. 1991-92
Diane Kuzara 1993-94
Bill Orban 1995-96
Glenn Swain 1997-98
Bill Peach 1999-2000
Diane Kuzara 2001-02
Cecilia Duluk 2003-04
Russ Ranker 2005-06
Dick DePodesta 2007-08
Rich Williams 2009-10
Leonard Swisher 2011-12
Mike Bomba 2013 - 14

The Rockpile Staff : Editor Peter Kuzara, dpkuzara@peoplepc.com, 734-675-5237

MMLS website – www.mmls.us Email - rockhounds@mmls.us

General Club meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on every third Tuesday of the month (except July and August)
at the Southgate Civic Arena, 14700 Reaume Parkway, Southgate, Michigan
GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

IMPORTANT NOTICES:

WE ARE MOVING! BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER WE WILL BE MEETING AT THE DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor.

Use the door on the east side of the building that is marked "OFFICE" and turn right when you go through that door. Same room as our auction is in.

MMLS MEMBER NAME BADGES

Are available to order from Don Baker, email and address is in the directory. Please contact Don for more information.

BIG DRIVEWAY SALE June 20, 2015 at the Kuzara's.

MMLS IS SELLING SURPLUS

MATERIAL. We will have lapidary equipment, lapidary rough and mineral specimens.

At 20281 Thomas, Brownstown, Mi. 48183
10am to 5pm. For further information email:
dpkuzara@peoplepc.com or tel. 734-675-5237

The President's Corner

Visiting other club shows: As a lot of you know, Pete and I demonstrate at other club shows. We both have been trying to get idea's as to why they have such successful shows and what we can do to bring back our own club show and make it as successful as the last two shows we went to, namely the Jackson and Kalamazoo shows. The one thing that stands out in both cases is that they make their shows "Family Oriented". that means they have plenty of areas assigned for the youngsters to do rocky-related things, like hand polishing Petoskey stones, digging for gems and rocks in a sand-box, making small gem trees and other things while the

parents take in the show! Both clubs have their show at their local fairgrounds. Maybe we should look into ours out near Belleville off I-94. I noticed both clubs have a nice group of junior rock hounds that help work (with an adult) those tables, and the kids have ball doing these things. The other thing that stands out they do lot of advertising- Kalamazoo had at least 4 billboards around town. We even seen an advertisement for the show on a local restaurant sign that we had breakfast at on Saturday morning! I think we can take some of these fine ideas and put them in practice at our own show when we get things moving once again, don't you??? We need our junior rock hounds as much as we need our adult members.

Diane

. The Minutes of the April 17th Board Meeting...Briefly Summarized Call to order at 7:30pm by Diane Kuzara, President. Meeting at the Baker's home. Minutes of the last meeting read and Tom Morris made a motion to approve, seconded by Leonard Swisher. Approved.

Treasurer's report read and approved.

Correspondence: Midwest & American Federation News letters were available to read.

Rockpile: There is a sign up sheet up sheet out for those wanting an E-copy.

Liason: Leonard Swisher reported that two collecting locating in Pennsylvania are closed.

Rockport State Park in Alpena allow a 25 pound collecting limit per person

Scholarship: The deadline is May 29th.

Membership: The Baker's have a person to make name tags for us. They will they will be about \$3.00, deadline for ordering is May 30th. There are two reinstatements and two new applicants for membership.

New Business: Diane reported Leonard Swisher will give a June program on flag etiquette. There will be a sign up sheet for those not requiring a reminder about the new meeting place at the Democratic Club in Taylor for the September meeting.

Cont'd next page

We will need to come up with plans soon for next year's swap or show as they take a long time to plan. Also we will have a driveway sale for machinery and bulk rocks.

Next Meeting is May 15th at 7:30pm at Kim Osborne's home. All members are welcome at board meetings. Meeting adjourned at 9:04pm. By Diane Kuzara, President

Submitted: Edie Esche Recording Secretary

The Minutes of the General Meeting April 21th Briefly Summarized:

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm by Diane Kuzara, President. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Treasurer's Report read and approved.

Committee Reports:

Website: Rockpile is on our website at MMLS every month.

Membership: Mile Coultier and Tony Pomponio were presented for membership. Also, Jessica Ranker and Jackie Presson for reinstatement.

Approved welcome all.

Programs: May 19th will be Patty Rice on Amber. Patty needs 10 volunteers to model the jewelry. She will have her book available for sale.

New Business: There will be a special meeting at the Kuzara's on May 12th at 7:30pm to decide what to do about having a show, second swap or a mega swap. Also, workers for these events are needed. Let Diane know if you will attend and your input on these events. Meeting move - there will be a mass mailing on late August or early September about the move to the Taylor Democratic Club. There is a sign up sheet for those not needing the mailing. Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm by Diane Kuzara, President.

Submitted by Edie Esche Recording Secretary

The June Program:

Leonard Swisher is giving a short program on flag ettequite followed by a 16 minute video on thumbnail specimens.

Little treasures, collecting and competing by Dr. James Hovran.

Dates to Remember

Contacts for study groups

Bead study, Diane Kuzara, 734-675-5237

Mineral study, David Esch, 734-665-5574

Wirewrap, John Lindsay, 734-604-8561

**Lapidary work shop, Frank Konieczki
734-323-2218**

Sliversmithing study group meeting is cancelled until further notice

June 1 Lapidary work shop 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm.
Fee is \$2.50 for each evening.

June 3 Wire Wrap Class, Call John Lindsay for details

June 4 Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm

June 12 Board Meeting at the Kuzara's', 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7:30pm.

June 16 General meeting will be held at the Southgate Civic Arena, 14700 Reaume Parkway, Southgate, MI at 7:30 pm.

LAST MEETING AT SOUTHGATE ARENA!

June 18 Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm

June 18 Mineral Study Group will meet at Dave Esch's house, 227 Barton Shore Dr., Ann Arbor, Mi. at 7:30pm.

June 20 MMLS Surplus Rock and Equipment Sale at the Kuzara's driveway 20281 Thomas, Brownstown, MI. Saturday 10am to 5pm.

July 2 Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm

July 16 Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm

August 6 Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm

August 20 Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm

August 14 Rockpile Deadline for September issue

September 2 Wire Wrap Class, Call John Lindsay for details

September 3 Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm

September 7 Lapidary work shop 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening.

September 11 Board Meeting and Rockpile Deadline.

September 15 General meeting will be held at the **DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 WICK RD., TAYLOR** at 7:30pm.

September 17 Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm.

September 17 Mineral Study Group will meet at Dave Esch's house, 227 Barton Shore Dr., Ann Arbor, Mi. at 7:30pm.

Our Sister Club Events

June 13 Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club Summer Super Sale, Wyoming, Michigan for

information www.indianmoundsrockclub.com
Gordon Spalenka at 616-249-0513

August 21, 22 & 23 Michiana Gem & Mineral Society's Jewelry, Gem & Mineral Show. South Bend, Indiana, for information tel. 574-232-8832 or www.MichianaGMS.org

Internet Web Sites of Interest

Midwest Federation:
www.amfed.org/mwfi/index.html

American Federation:
www.amfed.org

From the Editor: In the last three months Diane and I attended the Jackson Show and the Kalamazoo Show. We definitely will remember the Kalamazoo Show, I don't know how they did it but at about noon on Saturday we had an earthquake. The epicenter was near Galesburg about 10 miles from Kalamazoo. It read 4.2 on the Richter Scale, it really shook the building. You may have noticed that I list our sister clubs events under the heading of Sister Club Events, I do this for our members in case they get a little antsy and want to visit a show. I do encourage this. We should show support of our sister clubs. When September rolls around we will be meeting in the Taylor Democratic Club. The program for the September meeting, is called Brag Night. The members show off things they self collected, silver picked (purchased) or crafted. Thus the term Brag Night. It will be great to see what this September will bring. Now remember have a safe summer and see you all in Taylor in September.
Pete

Little Humor: Only Irish coffee provides in a single glass all four essential food groups: alcohol, caffeine, sugar and fat.

By Alex Levine

Vinegar----Not just for Salads

Via The Backbenders Gazette 4/15, from Rocket City Rocks & Gems 6/99, Roc Toc 9/08, The Tumbler 9/14

One way to remove carbonates such as calcite from quartz and amethyst is to cover the specimen with fresh vinegar and allow it to stand over night. Repeat if necessary. Wash and then place crystals in washing type ammonia for 8.5 hours. Remove, rinse very well, wipe, and air dry.

For the gloss finish on tiger-eye, polish once, dry the stone, then put a drop of vinegar on it. Let it stand for a few minutes, and then give it a second polish.

Mother-of-pearl for inlay work can be softened by a soaking in white vinegar. It than can be cut easily.

If you have sore hands from hard rock mining, soak your hands in warm vinegar and water, and the swelling and soreness will disappear.

Dark household vinegar will dissolve epoxy glue by soaking over night.

Heard around the faceting table-- spray vinegar on the lap while polishing with water , or mix 50/50 water and vinegar in your water cup. This lowers the ph, giving a faster and better shine.

POLLUTION

The late Dr. William Pecora, Undersecretary of the Interior, calculated that all of man's air pollution during his thousands of years on earth does not equal the amount of particulates and noxious gases from just 3 volcanoes: Krakatoa, near Java (1883), Mt. Katmai, Alaska (1912) and Hekla, Iceland (1947). He points out that nature's pure water isn't so pure after all. A few examples:

The springs feeding the Arkansas and Red Rivers carry approximately 17 tons of salt per minute.

The Lemonade Springs in New Mexico carry approximately 900 pounds of sulfuric acid per million pounds of water. (This is more than 10

times the acid concentration in coal mine discharges.) The Mississippi River carries over 2 million tons of natural sediment into the Gulf of Mexico each day. The Paria River of Arizona carries 500 times more natural sediment than the Mississippi River- yes, one billion tons of sediment per day.

Lithnics (Dec. 1976) original source unknown via The Rockfinder 3/01

Crushed bones reveal literal dino stomping ground

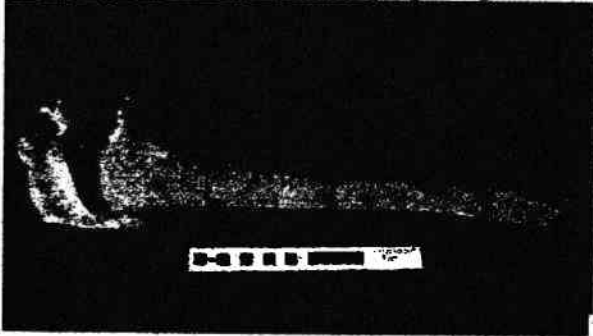
Via News and Views 11/14, via USA Today (via Associated Press)

Imagine the gruesome sound of bones snapping as a thirsty 30-ton dinosaur tramples a heap of fresh carcasses on his way to a rapidly shrinking lake. That's the scene revealed by a painstaking analysis of thousands of bones unearthed near Moab, Utah by geologists from Brigham Young University. So far the researchers have identified 67 individual dinosaurs representing 8 species - and they have only scratched the surface of this diverse quarry. Mysteriously, nearly all of the 4,200 bones recovered so far are fractured, as reported in the scientific journal *Palaeo*. "Although enough bones were recovered to assemble several complete dinosaurs, the vast majority of bones are broken to bits and pieces, just pulverized," said BYU professor Brooks Britt, lead author on the study. The researchers reconstructed how the bones got there and why they are in such bad shape. The quarry, located immediately west of Arches National Park. contains dinosaurs of all sizes and ages, indicating a massive die-off event. The location of this dense cluster of bones - near the shore of an ancient lake bed - suggests a drought was the cause. yet the biggest puzzle was the cause of all the fractures. A closer look revealed that most of the breaks were angled "greenstick' fractures that occur in fresh bones. The bones broke before they became brittle. "Some of these bones were almost 5

feet long and they are green, and you really have to work hard to shatter bone that's still green" Britt said. "That means the big boys were stepping on those things. Those would have been audible, big-snaps." The heavy-footed culprits? Huge, plant-eating sauropods and iguanodontids that stomped more than 100 million years ago during the Early Cretaceous Period. Some of the sauropods from this quarry are cousins to the brachiosaurus. The bones are now housed in BYU's Earth Science Museum, which will re-emerge as the Museum of Paleontology during Homecoming weekend. Museum curator Rod Scheetz, a co-author on the study, says the grand re-opening will include the debut of a 9-footlong triceratops skull from Montana.

About the museum

Regular exhibits at the museum have featured dinosaur skeletons of a camptosaurus and an allosaurus, a mural of the Utah-Colorado region in the Jurassic Period and a preparation lab window showing museum personnel preparing fossils.



This shinbone from a Utah Raptor was crushed at the end



This Venenosaurus hip bone is fractured diagonally

a sign that it broke while still fresh.



Another look at the broken bone of the Venenosaurus, a cousin to the Brachiosaurus. The museum - which is popular with families and school groups - is located at 1683 N. Canyon Road in Provo. The museum is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and admission is free.

FROM MICHIGAN MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY CONGLOMERATE 1/15
Kid's Corner

A newsletter feature from our MMS Education Chair, John Peters

A Basic Outline For Mineral Identification

Although nearly 2500 minerals are known to occur within Earth's crust, most are rare, with only about 100 occurring in abundance. Of these 100 minerals, only 15 make up the common rock-forming minerals and only some of the rest have any economic value.

There are 5 essential steps to take in mineral identification.

STEP 1 Determine the luster (metal or non-metal) of your mineral.

STEP 2 Determine the hardness of your mineral. Using a glass plate, see if the mineral scratches it. Be careful making sure the glass is on the table. Do not hold in your hand. Firmly grasp your mineral and draw it over the glass. If the mineral powders, then use your finger nail to feel if the glass is scratched.

Cont'd next page.

Glass has a hardness of about 5.0, so any mineral that scratch the glass

are more than 5.0 on the Mohs Hardness Scale.

STEP 3 Determine whether your mineral is light-colored or dark-colored (non-metals only).

STEP 4 Determine whether your sample has cleavage. Cleavage is a smooth break producing what looks like flat surfaces or faces (usually one, two, three or four) on the crystal.

STEP 5 Use the Mineral Properties table found in a field guide on minerals or use an application online (e.g. at Mineralogy4Kids.org) to determine the properties that fit your mineral and identify your mineral.

Source: www.mineralogy4Kids.org/mineral-identification

Copper is Antimicrobial

The antimicrobial attributes of copper and its alloys are intrinsic and have been exploited for centuries. Egyptians used copper drinking vessels to clean water. The Hippocrates Collection, 460 to 380 B.C., recommends the use of copper for leg ulcers related to varicose veins. Pliny the Elder, A.D. 23 to 79, used copper oxide with honey to treat intestinal worms. The Aztecs gargled with a mixture containing copper to treat sore throats.

Recent independent laboratory testing led the EPA to register copper alloys for their inherent ability to kill 99.9% of the following listed organisms within two hours:

Vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE), Staphylococcus aureus, Enterobacter aerogenes, Escherichia coli O157:H7, Pseudomonas aeruginosa and Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA). No other solid metal surfaces have EPA registration to make public health claims.

Four widely publicized statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimate infections acquired in U.S. hospitals affect two million individuals every year and result in nearly 100,000 deaths annually. Results from a

clinical trial in Birmingham, England, demonstrate that the use of copper alloys on certain surfaces in a busy hospital ward has the potential to reduce microbial contamination compared to non-copper surface.

Source: The Tumbler, March 2015; via The Golden Frog, Feb 2015.

From the Conglomerate 4/15

HINTS & TIPS

One reason for polishing a stone all over, front, back, and edges, is the polish acts as a sealer. It seals and keeps in water, especially opal. It prevents natural corrosion as in Rhodonite, which corrodes to black ore called wad, and helps stop absorption of harmful substances such as perspiration, etc. Polish the back of your cabs by flat lapping on the back of a glass plate or normally.

(Via Gem of the Rogue 8/98 via THE POST ROCK 9/00) . . .

Silicon treated tissues such as those used for eye glasses can be used to remove fingerprints from polished stones.

(From Agate Explorer via THE POST ROCK 9/00)

An aluminum pencil can be used to determine the hardness of stone. The pencil leaves fainter marks on harder stones. A stone harder than 7 will not allow itself to be marked.

(From Agate Explorer via THE POST ROCK 9/00) via T- Town Rockhound 10/00

Two Rockverbs

The finest specimen in the cliff is 5 feet to the left of the last foothold and 10 feet above the base.

The weekend after you discover it, your prize trip location will be featured on the evening news.

By Mel Albright From Mineral Minutes 2/02

See you all in September

THE MIDWEST MINERALOGICAL AND LAPIDARY SOCIETY (MMLS) is an educational non-profit organization founded in 1956. The Society now has more than 200 members and is affiliated with the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Significantly, MMLS has been recognized numerous times by the Midwest and American Federations with first place (gold level) awards in the annual All American Club Awards Program.

PURPOSE: The purpose of The MMLS shall be (1) to promote interest in and increase knowledge in the fields of mineralogy, geology, and paleontology, including lapidary and related arts; (2) to publish articles and information pertaining to these fields; (3) to encourage collections and to display specimens in these fields; and (4) to arrange field trips in support of the interests and activities specified.

GENERAL MEETINGS: the third Tuesday of each month, September through June, 7:30 p.m. at the Southgate Arena, 14700 Reaume Parkway, Southgate Michigan. **GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.**

MEMBERSHIP: Applications for membership can be obtained at any general meeting or from any MMLS member. **DUES:** Entrance fee - \$3.00; annual dues - \$15.00 (adult), \$1.00 (junior) on a year basis. Membership expires each Dec. 31.

ANNUAL EVENTS:

March - Rock Swap and Sale
May - Anniversary Banquet
May - Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show
November - Auction

STUDY GROUPS: Special-interest study groups meet monthly, September through June. No additional fees are involved. Currently the following groups are active:

Advanced Lapidary	Faceting	Paleontology
Basic Lapidary	Wire Study	Bead Study
	Mineralogy	Silversmithing

FIELD TRIPS: Several one day field trips and one longer (one to two weeks) field trips are conducted each year. Mostly, these field trips focus on the collection of mineral and fossil specimens at quarries, mines, and other known collecting sites in the United States and Canada. Field trips are restricted to MMLS members.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND: MMLS has established a scholarship Endowment Fund which provides scholarships to qualified students enrolled in an accredited college or university in southeastern Michigan who have completed at least their junior year and have a major in geology, mineralogy, paleontology or lapidary and related arts.

GEOLOGICAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE: A permanent committee that serves in an advisory capacity to the Geological Survey Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and meets with its staff in Lansing and at the Eddy Discovery Center, near Chelsea, Michigan, on a regular basis.

SEAMAN MINERAL MUSEUM: MMLS has designated the A.E. SEAMAN Mineral Museum at Michigan Technological University, Houghton, Michigan, as its "adoptive" museum, pledging to support it with gifts to the museum's endowment fund and the donation of mineral specimens and services.

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Bulletin Editor Contest Awards

The ROCKPILE

