

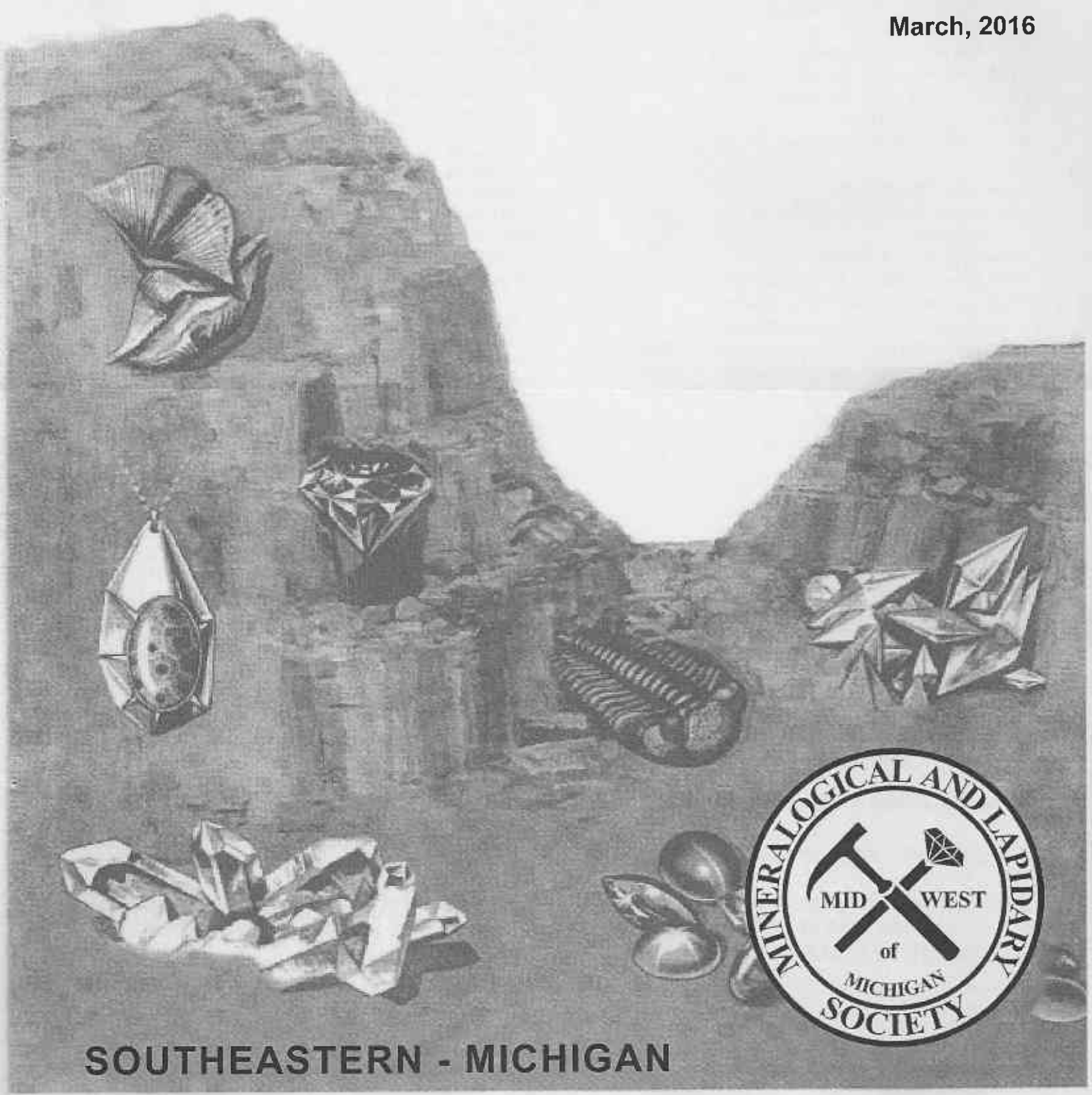
THE

# ROCKPILE

Official Publication of the Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society

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

March, 2016



SOUTHEASTERN - MICHIGAN

# Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society

## 2016 OFFICERS

President: Diane Kuzara (734) 675-5237  
Vice President: Dan Gumina (313) 766-8944  
Recording Secretary: Julie Knechtges (734) 444-9151  
Treasurer: Doris Snyder (313) 291-2133  
Corresponding Secretary: Julie Knechtges  
(734) 444-9151  
Liaison Officer: Peter Kuzara (734) 675-5237

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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

## ACTIVITIES

2016 Banquet:  
2016 Swap: Lou and Cindy Talley  
2016 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 Urban 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](mailto:dpkuzara@peoplepc.com), 734-675-5237

MMLS website – [www.mmls.us](http://www.mmls.us) Email - [rockhounds@mmls.us](mailto: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 Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor, MI 48180

**GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME**

## The President's Corner

Here are two new dates to add to your calendar. First mark October 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> (Saturday and Sunday) 2016, we have a brand new club event! A two day Super Swap ( we might change the name before then ) to be held at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Belleville. We will be getting out fliers with pertinent information ASAP. Bill Barr is heading up the committee for this event. Please offer your help if you can. Bill is in the directory. Watch for more information forthcoming soon. The contract has been signed and the deposit has been paid. This is an event that is going to take the place of the show we had to give up. Let's make it a success!

### This will not replace our March Swap!!!

Also mark Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> for our next Annual Auction. We will hold that event at the Democratic Club where we have our general meetings. Auction Chairman, Dan Gumina is always accepting donations for the auction and we always need help for setup, tear down, selling at the sales tables, and this year, we will need someone to take care of the jewelry sales tables. Help is also needed at the storage unit to transport rocks & equipment for the auction.

See You All There,

Diane

## Board Meeting Summary

### January 15, 2016

Minutes of the December 11, 2015 meeting approved as printed. Meeting called to order at 7:37 PM. Treasurer's report was approved as read. Program Director/ Door Prizes Mike Bomba reported tonight is a program , a fossil movie "Teeth, Jaws, and Claws." February needs someone to run the program "Red Cloud Mine" by Less Presnyk, as Mike will not be able to attend. March program is Lori Ackerman will demonstrate Gem Tree making and those who attend will be able to create one of their own. Discussion was started about how to bring in new members and hold the interest of current members.

Discussions were started about selling the show display cases and create room in the storage unit. Summarized by Julie Knechtges, Secretary

## General Meeting Summary

### January 18, 2016

Minutes of the December 15, 2015 meeting was approved. The Treasurer's report For November 30, 2015 was approved. Mike Bomba reported January fossil movie "Teeth, Jaws, and Claws." Mike is planning February, but will not be able to attend. February needs someone to run the program "Red Cloud Mine" by Less Presnyk. March program is Lori Ackerman who will demonstrate Gem Tree making while attendees create their own. Some of tonight's door prizes were donated by Henry Porter. Historian Tom Morris received more historical boxes from Treasurer Doris Snyder. Possible upcoming field trips were discussed and more news in future. Scholarship applications have been mailed. March 19<sup>th</sup> Swap still has tables available. A motion by Peter Kuzara, to accept the 2016 budget and seconded by Tom Morris was made and passed.

Summarized by Julie Knechtges, Secretary

### March Program:

Hands on demonstration of Gem Tree making by our own member Lori Ackerman.

## REMEMBER OUR SWAP IS COMING UP MARCH 19<sup>th</sup>.

Public is invited, free admission and parking, The hours are 10 am to 5 pm at St. John's Lutheran Church, 13115 Telegraph Rd., Taylor, MI.

**Sad News!** Our condolences to the Slominski family for the passing of Janet's father.

### Email Address Update

Jay Ross: Rossjay202@gmail.com

**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****March 2, 2016 Wire Wrap Class, Call John Lindsay for details****March 3, 2016 Bead study group** will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm Mi. at 7:30pm.**March 11, 2016 Board Meeting and Rockpile Deadline.** Will be at Kim Osborne's, 15088 Sibley Rd., Riverview at 7:30pm.**March 7, 2016 Lapidary work shop** 2009-W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening.**March 15, 2016 General meeting** will be held at the DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 WICK RD., TAYLOR at 7:30pm.**March 16, 2016 Lapidary work shop** 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening.**March 17, 2016 Bead study group** will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm Mi. at 7:30pm.**March 17, 2016 Mineral Study Group** will meet at Dave Esch's house, 227 Barton Shore Dr., Ann Arbor,**March 19, 2016 MMLS 44<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL METRO ROCK SWAP** at St. John's Lutheran Church,

13115 Telegraph Rd., Taylor, MI. 10am to 5pm. For table reservations and information call Lou Talley at 734-837-8920.

**March 21, 2016 Lapidary work shop** 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening.**April 4 Lapidary work shop** 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening.**April 6 Wire Wrap Class, Call John Lindsay for details****April 7 Bead study group** will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm Mi. at 7:30pm.**April 15 Board Meeting and Rockpile Deadline. TBA****April 18 Lapidary work shop** 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening.**April 19 General meeting** will be held at the DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 WICK RD., TAYLOR at 7:30pm.**April 20 Lapidary work shop** 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening.**April 21 Bead study group** will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm.**April 21 Mineral Study Group** will meet at Dave Esch's house, 227 Barton Shore Dr., Ann Arbor.**Maybe it's true** life begins at fifty.. But everything else starts to wear out, fall out, or spread out.

Phyllis Diller

**Other Club Events**

March 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> The Roamin Club annual auction  
Sat 11am to 6pm, Sun 12 noon to 6pm. Schoolcraft  
Community College, 18600 Haggerty Rd., Livonia,  
Mi. Contact: Todd Gall (248) 348-5093

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Jackson, Michigan  
Michigan Gem and Mineral Society, annual show  
Jackson County Fairgrounds, 200 W. Ganson St.  
Contact Sally Hoskings at 517-522-3396

April 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Stark County Gem and Mineral  
Club, Stark County Fairgrounds, 305 Wertz  
Ave.NW, Canton Ohio. Information contact Barry  
Hicks, 330-868-4047 or [ke8goe@frontier.com](mailto:ke8goe@frontier.com)

April 7<sup>th</sup> thru 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral  
Club, Roger's Plaza, Clyde Park & 28<sup>th</sup> St.,  
Wyoming, MI. Information Kreigh Tomaszewski,  
616-243-5851 or [kreigh@gmail.com](mailto:kreigh@gmail.com) or  
[www.indianmoundsrockclub.org](http://www.indianmoundsrockclub.org)

April 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Fulton County Rockhounds, Donald  
Community Center, Wallace Park, 250 S. Avenue  
D, Canton Ohio, Information George Coursey,  
309-368-2947 or course [farms@gmail.com](mailto:farms@gmail.com)

April 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> Akron Mineral Society & Summit  
Lapidary Club, Emidio's Sons Expo Center, 48 E.  
Bath Rd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. Information Bob  
Powers, 440-237-6170 or  
[akronmineralnews@aol.com](mailto:akronmineralnews@aol.com)

April 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> Brukner Gem and Mineral Club,  
Miami County Fairgrounds, Duke Lundgard Bldg.,  
North County Rd. 25A, Troy, Ohio. Information  
Judy Burton 937-339-1966 or  
[jleeburton@wohrr.com](mailto:jleeburton@wohrr.com)

**From the Editor: My two cents.** I was told  
by the Liaison Officer to keep it short this month.  
So here it is, see you all at our swap.

**Liaison Officer (Pete)** The editor received this  
email and I decided to pass it along.

Dear Fellow Rockhounds

It has been brought to my attention that our  
membership is looking for more interaction with  
other rockhound organizations by organizing such  
things as field trips, Swapnics, basically getting to  
know other rock hounds.

We wish to extend an invitation to your  
members to attend our "in house" Rock  
Extravaganza on April 19, 2016, and our annual  
"ROCK-A-RAMA" May 14 and 15, 2016. We  
would like to coordinate and share these and your  
events as many Clubs in the Midwest Federation as  
possible. You can call or text me at 440-213-1153.  
Our Club's Website is: [parmalapidary.com](http://parmalapidary.com) . You  
can email us at [Parma\\_lapidary@yahoo.com](mailto:Parma_lapidary@yahoo.com). Or like  
and follow us on Facebook.

Sincerely,

Susan Zaborowski President Parma Lapidary Club

### **The following was passed along by the ALAA**

Dear MWF Editors, below is the ALAA excerpt for  
February, 2016.

**Will Rockhounds Still Have Access to Graveyard  
Point, McDermitt, Texas Springs, Davis Creek,  
etc.?**

The following sentence comes from the ALAA  
board minutes of October 24: "The sage grouse  
issue is still with us and that alone could shut down  
the lion's share of the West." The issue is that sage  
grouse and their nesting areas have to be protected,  
and federal regulators are now discussing which  
activities will be allowed on land that is considered  
sage grouse habitat (10 million acres). Will they  
allow camping in these public areas? Hiking?  
Rockhounding? As of now, rockhounding is NOT  
considered a recreational activity that will be  
allowed on these lands. Below are two paragraphs  
from a long letter that past ALAA President Shirley  
Leeson wrote to BLM officials in DC:

“Many of the areas that will be impacted are located in SW Idaho, SE Oregon and N Nevada, but also SC Idaho and NE Nevada. They include: Gravepoint Point, Texas Springs, McDermitt and Davis Creek, long-time rockhounding locations known throughout the US and internationally. But they are only the well-known areas, there are hundreds more. What is the economic impact on those small towns close by, and USFS and BLM camping grounds that won't be used any longer, with these areas closed to casual collecting?”

“Rockhounding as a recreational activity does not present a negative impact to the management of sage grouse and is allowed under federal law. We request that rockhounding be identified as a recreational activity in the ROD implementation plans, allowing rockhounds and the public to continue collecting rocks and minerals in sage grouse management areas.”

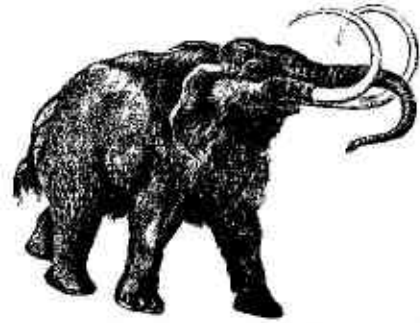
<http://amlands.org/190534.html> has lots more information on this. If you want to write Washington about this, do it soon. If any club members want to read Shirley's letter and the letter I wrote, contact me at [tomnoe2@gmail.com](mailto:tomnoe2@gmail.com).

## The Beast From Chelsea

Mammoth Remains – Chelsea, MI

It was autumn on a farm a few miles outside of Ann Arbor, Mich. Jim Bristle was getting ready to harvest his crop of soybeans and field corn, but first he needed to take care of a drainage problem in one of his fields. Dig a hole, drop in a cistern, lay some drainage tile and pump the water out — simple enough. Except it wasn't to be so simple. While digging, the farmer struck something he'd never seen before. “He found bones, big bones,” said Dr. Daniel Fisher, director of the Museum of Paleontology at the University of Michigan. “These were not cow or horse, and immediately he and his friends went online, began to realize that they probably had a mastodon or a mammoth, and called

the university.”



As it turns out, the farmer had discovered one of the most intact sets of mammoth remains found in Michigan. While the discovery of a mammoth is fairly common — remains are found about two or three times per year — mammoths only represent about a tenth of the large mammal fossils found in the state. What makes this even more astonishing, according to Fisher, is that a find of this magnitude hasn't occurred since the 1940s. Fisher remembers that day on the Bristle farm well. “What was remarkable about the extraction was to see this skull and the tusks rising up out of the ground,” he recalled. “The skull is larger than I can embrace with my stretched arms, and the tusks are almost three meters long.” Beyond the size and relatively intact nature of the remains, of note is the peculiar arrangement and state of the bones that have given rise to strong suspicions among Fisher and his team that ancient humans might have had some association with the specimen. “This is not where animals go to die,” Fisher said of the location, which was rife with sediments that indicated the area was once a prehistoric pond. “The animal was clearly there in pieces. There was the skull and tusks — that was one piece. The jaw was separate. The neck vertebrae were all articulated, but they were well-removed from the animal's head.” Passed on by the way of the internet.

## Turquoise

The name turquoise, from the French expression Pierre torques or Turkish stone, originated in the thirteenth century and describes one of the oldest known gemstones. Turquoise varies in color from

greenish blue through robin's egg-blue, to sky blue shades and its transparency ranges from translucent to opaque. Turquoise is plentiful and is available in a wide variety of sizes. It is most often used for beads, cabochons, carvings and in lays. Although its popularity fluctuates in fashion, it is a perennial favorite in the American Southwest.

SEE MORE AT

[www.americangemsociety.org/december-birthstone#sthash.cMNLsV37.dpuf](http://www.americangemsociety.org/december-birthstone#sthash.cMNLsV37.dpuf)

#### Turquoise History and Lore

Turquoise is one of the world's most ancient gems. Archaeological excavations revealed that the rulers of ancient Egypt adorned themselves with turquoise jewelry, and Chinese artisans were carving it more than 3000 years ago. Turquoise is the national gem of Tibet, and has long been considered a stone that guarantees health, good fortune and protection from evil. The gem's name comes from the French expression *Pierre Turques*, or "Turkish stone." The name which originated in the thirteenth century, reflects the fact that the material probably first arrived in Europe from Turkish sources. Turquoise was a ceremonial gem and a medium of exchange for Native American Tribes in the southwestern US. They also used it in their jewelry and amulets. The Apaches believed that turquoise attached to a bow or firearm increased a hunter's or warrior's accuracy. Turquoise is plentiful and available in a wide range of sizes. It's used for beads, cabochons, carvings and inlays. Although well known to consumers, its popularity in the mainstream jewelry industry comes and goes. The biggest and most permanent market is in the American Southwest. It's also popular elsewhere, among customers who are captivated by that region's mystery and romance, as well as by the blue of its skies.

[www.gia.edu/turquoise-history-lore](http://www.gia.edu/turquoise-history-lore)

-1519 Montezuma, thinking Cortes was Quetzalcoat, gave him god's favorite gem: Turquoise.

-4000BC Turquoise buried in Ancient Egyptian tombs is among the oldest jewelry.

-Ancient Egyptians called turquoise "mefkat,"

which also means "joy" and "delight."

[www.gia.edu/turquoise](http://www.gia.edu/turquoise)

Turquoise articles taken from The Pterodactyl 12/15

### Bench Tips

by Brad Smith

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon.

### Homemade Wax Tools

Save your used X-Acto or scalpel blades for utility work on the bench. They're wonderful for delicate wax work. Use a cutoff wheel or other type of grinding wheel to shape the blades to what you need. For instance, you can carve away excess metal on the spine to make yourself some narrow carving knives that do a great job of detailing small pierced areas of your waxes.

### Bezel Setting Problems

When bezel setting a cab that has rather sharp corners, have you ever had problems pushing the metal down at the corners? It's a common problem often causing a wrinkle in your bezel and a grimace on your face. In order for a bezel to capture the stone, the top edge of the bezel must be compressed and become shorter to lay down onto the stone. With a round or oval stone this naturally happens as you push and burnish the bezel. But when setting a stone with corners, the tendency is to push the long sides of the bezel down first. No compression occurs along the sides, and all excess metal is left at the corners. Compressing everything there is difficult. Often the only way to remove the extra metal at the corner is to make a saw cut and fold the two sides in to touch. If you want a smooth bezel all around the corners, the simple solution is set the corners of the bezel first. Then push in and burnish the sides. In this way, the necessary compression is distributed along the length of all sides and not forced to occur at the corners. With the corners set first, the top edge of the bezel can easily be compressed along the sides.



### Removing a Stone from a Bezel Setting

If you forgot to use dental floss, and you got your stone caught in a bezel, there's one thing you can try before starting to pry. Find some sticky wax or beeswax. Roll it into a pencil-sized cylinder, and stick the end onto the top of the stone. Mold it on well, and yank. But if the stone is really stuck, there are two other tricks—but each has its risks and consequences. The first is to pry open the bezel with a sharp knife blade, being very careful not to wrinkle or tear the bezel. If you try this, make sure to pry gently in several passes around the stone. The last solution is to drill a small hole into the bezel setting from the back side, so you can push the stone out. Note that this does leave a hole, but in some cases, you can use the hole to saw out a design under the stone.

From The Backbender's Gazette Nov. 2015

### Talc by Dave Jacobson

This month we will examine the softest mineral on the Mohs scale, talc,  $Mg_3Si_4O_{10}(OH)_2$  magnesium silicate hydroxide. Massive talc is also known as soapstone which is used for carving. Talc is primarily an industrial mineral. It is the main ingredient in talcum powder but is also used as a filler material in paints, rubber and insecticides. It is resistant to heat, acids and electricity. It is used in industrial applications where these unique properties can be utilized. Talc is a secondary mineral formed by the alteration of magnesium silicates. It is also formed by the exchange of chemical elements by fluid (metasomatism) in impure dolomitic marbles. Some associated minerals include serpentine, dolomite, magnesite, quartz, pyroxenes, olivine, biotite and amphiboles. In the United States talc has been found in many locations along the Appalachian Mountain chain. Talc is quarried in Connecticut, New York and Vermont. Talc is a common mineral and found in many locations in the world.

Talc is in the monoclinic crystal system. Crystals are rare. It is usually found in massive form; also,

foliated, granular, fibrous, compact and waxy. It sometimes replaces crystals and other minerals taking the shape of the replaced mineral in a form called a pseudo morph. Its color is green, gray and white. It sometimes appears silver. Streak is white. It is translucent with a pearly luster. Hardness is 1. Specific Gravity is 2.7 to 2.8. One of the best ways to identify talc is its greasy waxy feel and it's softness. Talc takes it's name from the Arabic talq meaning "mica". This is probably a reference to talc's perfect cleavage in one direction. Talc will sometimes fracture into thin flexible flakes. I used the following reference materials in preparing this article:

A Field Guide to Rocks And Minerals by Frederick H. Pough.

Mineralogy For Amateurs by John Sinkankus.

Simon & Schusters Guide to Rocks And Minerals.

Gemstones Of The World by Walter Schumann.

The Audubon Society Field Guide To North

American Rocks And Minerals by Charles W.

Chesterman.

Gems, Crystals, & Minerals by Anna S. Sofianides ,

George E. Harlow and George W. Robinson, Ph. D.

Amethyst Galleries Mineral Gallery on the Internet

at <http://mineral.galleries.com>.

Rocks And Minerals by Chris Pellent

Canaveral Moonstone March 2015

Via The Quarry March 2015

**A non-foaming detergent**, such as borax compound will make your grinding wheel cut much faster. Try trisodium phosphate (TSPO), or one of the controlled suds detergents that are designed for automatic washers. Use about one heaping teaspoon of detergent to each five gallons of water that you drip on you're grinding wheel. It helps in your tumbler also, because the foam action tends to hold the grit in suspension, and prevents its from settling. [The Geode 11/99 and 12/99 via Pick and Dop Stick 12/00](#)

**Happy Saint Patrick's Day !!!!**



**THE MIDWEST MINERALOGICAL AND LAPIDARY SOCIETY (MMLS)** is an educational non-profit organization founded in 1956. The Society now has more than 100 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 Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor, MI 48180 **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      November – Auction      Coming is October 2016 our second Rock Swap and Sale!!

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

Basic Lapidary    Advanced Lapidary    Wire Study    Bead Study    Mineralogy    Silversmithing ( Silversmithing is now on hold until further notice.)

**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.

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

### **INTERNET WEB SITES OF INTEREST:**

Midwest Federation: [www.amfed.org/mwf/index.html](http://www.amfed.org/mwf/index.html)

American Federation: [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

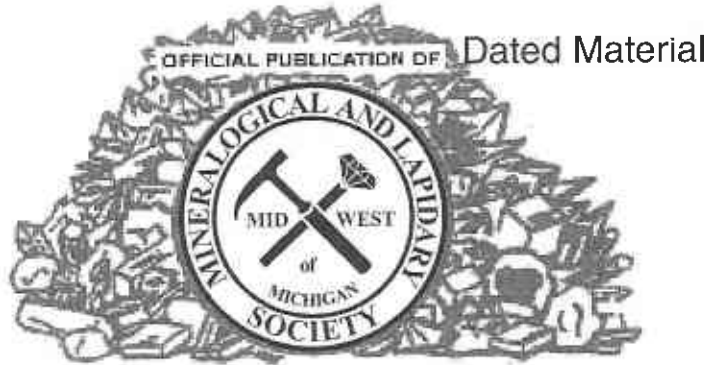
American Lands Access Association: <http://amlands.org>

### **The Rockhound's 10 Commandments:**

1. Thou shall not touch thy neighbor's minerals unless he places them in thy hands.
2. Thou shall not test the strength of crystals by pushing, squeezing or biting.
3. Thou shall not drop thy neighbor's fossils, for many do not bounce properly.
4. Thou shall not place thy neighbor's specimens in thine own pocket.
5. Thou shall not collect at a neighbor's land unless unless thy neighbor knowst he's there.
6. Thou shall not argue names of minerals too violently; for sometimes thou couldst be wrong.
7. Thou shall not climb above thy neighbor's head when on a field trip, lest thou art willing to spend the rest of the day digging him out.
8. Thou shall protect thine eyes, hands & feet, so that they mayst enjoy many future field trips.
9. Thou shall not encroach upon thy neighbor's diggin's, lest thy neighbor's hammer be dropped upon thee.
10. Thou shall not break uncollectable specimens.

Midwest  
Mineralogical and  
Lapidary  
Society of  
Michigan

**EDITOR**  
**20281 THOMAS**  
**BROWNSTOWN, MI**  
**48183**



Address Service Requested

*The ROCKPILE*

Bulletin Editor Contest Awards



- 1993 - 1st Place (Large Bulletin) AFMS
- 1991 - 1st Place (Large Bulletin) MWF
- 1990 - 1st Place (New Editor) AFMS
- 1990 - 1st Place (New Editor) MWF

STAMP

Dated Material

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