

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

February, 2020



SOUTHEASTERN - MICHIGAN

Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society

2020 OFFICERS

President: Diane Kuzara (734) 675-5237
Vice President: Pat Rutkowski (313) 291-5861
Recording Secretary: Lori Haam (313) 562-5097
Treasurer: Doris Snyder (313) 291-2133
Corresponding Secretary: Julie Knechtges (734) 444-9151
Liaison Officer: Peter Kuzara (734) 675-5237

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Club Services: Ana Ferguson
Door Prizes: Mike Bomba
AFMS Scholarship: Pat Rutkowski
Field Trips - Mike Bomba/Gary Slominski
Education: Dave Hendershot
Historian: Tom Morris
Michigan Material: Tom Morris
Membership: Ana Ferguson
MMLS Scholarship: Velma Bradley
Program Coordinator: Mike Bomba
Property – Storage: Gary Slominski
Sunshine Reporter: Velma Bradley
Refreshments: Gary Slominski
Web Site: Stacey Harper

ACTIVITIES

2020 Banquet: Dan Gumina
2020 Club Picnic: Stacey Harper
2020 Swap: Lou and Cindy Talley
2020 Super Swap: Bill Barr / Tom Morris
2020 Auction: Dwayne Ferguson

The Rockpile Staff : Editor Peter Kuzara,
email: Kuzara1126@gmail.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 Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor,
MI 48180

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

STUDY GROUPS

Lapidary: Workshop at Frank Konieczki's
Bead Study: Diane Kuzara
Mineralogy: Bill Barr at David Esch's
Wire Study: John Lindsay

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
Diane Kuzara 2015 - 16
Dan Gumina 2017 - 18

From The President's Desk:

Greetings fellow rockhounds! I want to share a bit of new information with you all. We are moving our November Auction to a new location, a much larger facility than where we are now. I have sent some of our guys along with Dwayne, our Auction

chairman (who also is responsible for finding our new location) to check it out and they all agreed we should move the auction there. Thank you, Dwayne! A new Auction flyer is in the works and will be available shortly for distribution.

I recently saw the list of members who have not yet paid their 2020 dues. We had 3 months of reminders in the Rockpile that dues were due and now our treasurer has to send out reminder postcards causing additional postage costs to the club. Please folks, if you haven't yet paid your dues for this year do so now. Happy Valentines Day!

Thank You to a Member Segment: This month's special "Thank You" goes out to Velma Bradley. Velma joined MMLS way back in November, 1983. She has been our Sunshine Chairman for years and is also our Scholarship Chairman over the last several years. Unfortunately, Velma's health keeps her away from most meetings but does all she can from home for us. One thing I will always remember about Velma...back in the days when she was able to come field tripping with our group, she always brought her portable TV set to watch the "soaps" and kept us all filled in on what was going on-we love you, Velma-thanks from us all for what you do for MMLS!!

Diane

Program: February 18, A dvd "Collectable Carbonates" by Dr. Carl Francis, retired curator of the Harvard Museum.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Jim Davis and Ed Smith.

WIRE WRAP CLASS Anyone interested in a class for wire wrap please contact John Lindsay for dates, time and more information.

NOTICE TO STUDY GROUPS IF THERE IS A CHANGE IN YOUR MEETING TIME OR PLACE, PLEASE LET THE EDITOR KNOW!!!!

Our Club Activities

Feb. 3rd, 17th, 19th, 2020 Lapidary Work Shop
2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening. Frank Konieczki 734-323-2218 **PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM TIME AND DATE.**

Feb. 6 & 20, 2020 Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm.
Diane Kuzara, 734-675-5237.

Feb. 14, 2020 Board Meeting at the Kuzara's at 7:30pm. **Rockpile Deadline.**

Feb. 18, 2020 General meeting will be held at the DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 WICK RD., TAYLOR at 7:30pm.

Feb. 20, 2020 Mineral Study group will meet at Dave Esch's house, 227 Barton Shore Dr., Ann Arbor Mi. At 7:30pm. **David Esch, 734-665-5574.**

Mar. 2nd, 16th, 18th Lapidary Work Shop
2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening. Frank Konieczki 734-323-2218 **PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM TIME AND DATE.**

Mar. 5th & 19th Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm.
Diane Kuzara, 734-675-5237.

Mar. 13th Board Meeting TBA 7:30pm
Rockpile Deadline

February 2020

Mar. 17th General meeting will be held at the DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 WICK RD., TAYLOR at 7:30pm.

Mar. 19th Mineral Study group will meet at Dave Esch's house, 227 Barton Shore Dr., Ann Arbor Mi. At 7:30pm. **David Esch, 734-665-5574.**

Mar. 28, 2020 48TH ANNUAL METRO ROCK SWAP, Hosted by the Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society. At the St. Johns Lutheran Church, 13115 Telegraph Road, Taylor, MI. For table reservation and information call 734-837-8920

Sister Club Events

Feb29-Mar 1: LIVONIA, MI The Roamin Club Annual Auction. Sat 11 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 6 pm. Schoolcraft Community College, 18600 Haggerty Rd., Livonia. Contact: Todd Gall (248) 345-0676; roaminrockclub.weebly.com

Michigan Mineral Beginning with the

Letter K: Kyanite Al_2SiO_5

Kyanite, also spelled cyanite, also called **disthene**, **silicate mineral** that is formed during the regional metamorphism of clay-rich sediments. It is an indicator of deep burial of a terrain. Kyanite occurs as elongated blades principally in gneisses and schists, and it is often accompanied by garnet, quartz, and mica.



Picture from Internet

Hardness: Kyanite often occurs in long, bladed crystals. These have a hardness of 4.5 to 5 along the

length of the crystals and 6.5 to 7 across the width of the crystal

Color: Blue, white, gray, green, colorless

Occurrence: Genesee County and Marquette County
From the Internet: Geology.com , Britannica.com and The Mineralogy of Michigan by E.Wm. Heinrich

New York State Gemstone: Garnet



Official State Gem of New York. The wine red garnet was designated the official state gem of New York in 1969. Barton Mines in the Adirondack Mountains of New York is the world's largest garnet mine, mining mostly industrial abrasive grade garnet (used for

polishing glass and metal), but gemstone quality garnet is found occasionally. From the Internet

This bone-eating dinosaur was constantly losing its teeth

By Kat Eschner 11/29/2019

Majungasaurus never needed dental work. If it had tooth problems, it just had to wait a couple of months. A new study of the carnivorous dinosaur who lived during the Late Cretaceous period, about 70 million years ago, demonstrates that it grew a whole new set of teeth about every two months.

That's the fastest replacement rate of any carnivorous dino identified to date.



These guys shed teeth all over. Bleached Rice

Majungasaurus lived in what is now Madagascar, in a world populated by giant crocodylians with heads shaped like toilet bowls, long-necked herbivorous sauropods, and hundreds of birds. "It was a fairly harsh environment at times," says paleontologist Andrew Farke of the Alf Museum of Paleontology, who was not involved in the study. Late Cretaceous Madagascar had pronounced wet and dry seasons, leading to periods of feast or famine. Somehow, in this world, it made sense to lose your teeth every two months—at least for Majungasaurus. Stony Brook University, where the paleontologists who discovered Majungasaurus worked in the 1990s, boasts a huge collection of the dinosaur's teeth (and a 21-foot-long replica skeleton in the lobby of its administration building). That plentiful array allowed researchers to get CT scans of 52 individual teeth and 15 Majungasaurus jaw pieces containing chompers, which showed them how the teeth formed and how they fit into the mouth. But it didn't show them how long they took to grow—for that, they had to physically take apart 19 of the teeth they'd scanned. "You cut it the same way a jeweler would cut a gem," says study author Michael D'Emric, an Adelphi University biologist.

After sectioning the teeth very thinly and mounting each section on a slide, he says, it's possible to look under a microscope and see the tooth rings, which represent a specific rate of growth—just like the rings of a tree. Previous research has demonstrated that one line represents one day of growth in most dinosaurs. "We basically used our many cut-up teeth as stand-ins for the ones we saw in the jaws," says D'Emric. By doing some math, they could estimate how long it would take the teeth in the jaws they scanned to form. The results suggest that Majungasaurus cycled through chompers every two months, which is double the next-closest rate previously seen in carnivorous dinosaurs. This speed parallels what we've seen in herbivorous dinosaurs, says D'Emric. Scientists think those creatures went through teeth fast, at least in part, because they were grinding up lots of fibrous plants. Carnivorous dinosaurs, on the other hand, tore into the relatively soft meat of other animals. He and his colleagues think that Majungasaurus must have eaten bones,

which would have created a similar level of wear-and-tear.

If the thought of losing your teeth every two months is giving you the creeps, don't panic: Majungasaurus wasn't shedding the kind of built-to-last hunks of bone found in human adults. "[The dinosaur's] teeth individually are not very durable and are low quality," says D'Emric. They don't have much enamel, for instance, which is the hardest (and hardest-to-grow) part of modern mammalian teeth. Dinosaurs took a use 'em and lose 'em approach, just like crocodiles and alligators still do today. That's why Stony Brook was able to amass such a huge collection of Majungasaurus teeth in the first place, says D'Emric: They left a lot of them lying around. Those scattered dino teeth still have plenty left to teach us, says Farke, and studying them could tell scientists a lot about how the creatures lived. "Teeth are one of the most fundamental ways by which an animal interacts with its environment," he says. "If you want to live, you've got to eat."

Farke says the Majungasaurus study, which also looked at smaller samples of teeth from two other carnivorous dinosaurs, is a good start. But to truly understand what was going on in the mouth of this animal millions of years ago, and how it lived, he says more research, as always, is needed. "I think the authors did a good job of collecting as big a sample as they could," he says. "But the picture always gets more complex when you get more things added in."

From the internet Popular Science

The History of Birthstones & How They Came to Be

by Ross Sedawie

<https://sedagems.com/blog/gemstone-information/history-of-birthstones/>

Of the gifts of jewelry a woman receives throughout her lifetime, a birthstone pendant or ring is typically one of the very first. Birthstone jewelry is incredibly popular and always a top gift for birthdays, Mother's Day and other gift-giving holidays. But where did this tradition begin? Why do we associate a specific gemstone with each month of the year?

Origin of the 12 Stones

Eastern and Western cultures have different ideas of how birthstones came to be. In the Western tradition, birthstones evolved from a story in the Bible, from the book of Exodus. The prophet Moses decreed that a breastplate should be made for Aaron, the High Priest of the Hebrew people. That breastplate featured twelve gemstones to represent the twelve tribes of Israel. The stones used in the breastplate differ depending on the translation and were not standardized until the eighth or ninth century.

In Eastern culture, birthstones are much more closely tied to astrology and the signs of the zodiac. The Hindu culture creates an astrological chart for each person at the time of his or her birth. It includes constellations, the sun and the moon as well as the planets. This chart recommends specific gemstones the person should wear to safeguard themselves throughout life.

Matching Stones to Months

So how did gemstones go from representing tribes of people or individual birth dates to representing months? In the Middle Ages, it became common for people to wear a different stone each month of the year, a custom that eventually evolved to wearing a single stone to represent the month of an individual's birth. The Eastern and Western traditions intermingled during this time. The Eastern tradition of stones protecting the wearer came to the West, and people began to believe their birthstone protected them or strengthened one of their natural attributes.

The stones that represented each month varied widely based on religious tradition and culture. In 1912, the Jewelers of America met in Kansas and created a standardized list. While some gems have been added to the list, the basics remain the same in America. In 1932, the British National Association of Goldsmiths met and created its own list. It is very similar to America's list but has some extra stones that can be substituted for some of the months.

The Birthstone Meanings

The significance of gemstones can be traced back to the earliest records of human history. Each gemstone has a tradition of meaning that endures today. Here are the birthstones, the months they represent and their myriad meanings.

Garnet - This deep red gemstone represents the month of January and the sign of Aquarius. It is most commonly known for properties of protection. Garnet is often carried to safeguard travelers or to ward off nightmares and can also mean wealth and success. It is also one of the only gemstones that does not have variants in different cultures – January is always represented by garnet.

Amethyst - Well known for its crystalline beauty, amethyst represents February and the sign of Pisces. It has the positive qualities of courage and clear thinking and is said to eliminate stress and promote communication. Because of the purple color, amethyst beads and gemstones have historically been associated with royalty and wealth.

Aquamarine - This gem gets its name from its seawater blue color. It represents the month of March. No doubt because of the beautiful, clear color, it is known to represent purity. It is often used in healing rituals of both the body and relationships.

Bloodstone - An alternate birthstone for the month of March and the official stone for the sign of Aries, bloodstone is also known as a healing stone. Many people carry it for health and long life, and it is therefore often known as a good luck charm in competitions.

Diamond - Easily the most popular gemstone outside the realm of birthstone meaning, diamonds represent love. People born in the month of April get to claim this sparkling stone as their own. It is the strongest and hardest of the gemstones, so in addition to love, it can mean eternity and indestructibility.

Emerald - This bright green gem represents the month of May and the sign of Cancer. Like the diamond, it is also associated with love though it carries the further meaning of fertility. More modern meanings attributed to the stone are wisdom and patience.

Pearl - Another jewel popular outside of birthstone culture is June's pearl. Since the time of Ancient Greece, pearls have represented purity. Pearls are also known as the traditional jewel for a 30th wedding anniversary, as well as the stone associated with sincerity.

Moonstone - June is gifted with a second beautiful stone, the moonstone. Generally, this gem means hope, though it is said to have stronger pull over

February 2020

women than men. Wearing moonstone beads is believed to enhance feminine intuition and provide protection, especially during pregnancy and childbirth.

Ruby - Though most stones have months and Zodiac signs that align closely, rubies represent July and the sign of Capricorn – nearly opposites! Ruby is known as the king of gems and has many different meanings, including love, health and wisdom. Wearing a ruby is said to bring good luck.

Peridot - Sometimes called an “evening emerald” due to the light green color, Peridot is the birthstone for August. By itself, it symbolizes strength, but when set in gold, it is also said to protect from nightmares. Peridot is also the traditional 16th wedding anniversary gem.

Sapphire - The rich blue color of sapphire is another color traditionally associated with royalty. The lucky people born in September get to wear this beautiful gemstone as their birthstone. It represents wisdom and was historically used to protect against poison.

Opal - Its unique, shifting colors are the reason an opal is named as it is – derived from the Greek word “opallios,” which means to see a change of color. The opal is the birthstone of October — rather fitting in climates where the leaves change color this time of year. It represents faithfulness and confidence and was traditionally worn to protect eyesight.

Topaz - The first birthstone for the month of November is the golden topaz. It also symbolizes the sign of Sagittarius. Its meaning across all cultures is straightforward: love and affection. As a derivative of this meaning, it is said the stone can improve the sweetness of the wearer’s disposition.

Citrine - A second golden gemstone represents November babies, the citrine. It is known as the stone of abundance, promoting prosperity and helping both to attain and maintain wealth and all good things.

Turquoise - December is represented by one of the oldest stones in human history — used by ancient shamans and warriors. Turquoise is a good luck charm that is said to keep away evil spirits and generally protect the wearer.

Tanzanite - A newer stone in popular history, tanzanite is a secondary birthstone for December that was used by ancient cultures. It is said to bring truth, wisdom and dignity to the wearer and was used by ancient cultures as a pathway to the spiritual realms. Whether you prefer to honor a birth month or a sign of the zodiac, there is a gorgeous gemstone to represent you and your loved ones. No matter your

spiritual tradition, these gems are a meaningful reminder of the special days of your life.

From Rock Trails 1/20

Some thing to try

If you wish to save a valuable cabochon containing pits, get a box of artist's crayons from an art supply store. Mix some 330 epoxy, heat under a small lamp until it gets watery, then scrape filings from the crayons to match the desired colors into the epoxy, and mix. Fill the pits with this mixture, let dry until hard, regrind and polish the stone. Nearly any color desired can be had by mixing the various colors of crayons.

- Achates via Rock Rustler's News, July 1992

If your saw has a window, add a few tablespoons of liquid detergent to the oil. It will keep the window clean and you will be able to watch the action.

- The T-Town Rockbound via Rock Buster News, Aug. 1992

The above came from The Rockpile How To Book



Cartoon from Joe Slovak’s Roctoon Book.

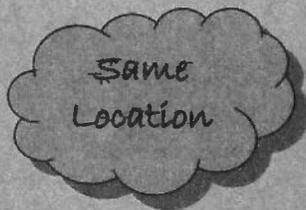
48TH ANNUAL METRO ROCK SWAP

HOSTED BY
THE MIDWEST MINERALOGICAL & LAPIDARY SOCIETY

SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH 2020
10:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

AT

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
13115 TELEGRAPH ROAD
TAYLOR, MICHIGAN



FOR TABLE RESERVATIONS
AND INFORMATION CALL:
734-837-8920

\$15.00 PER 8-FOOT TABLE

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- RELATED BOOKS



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 - \$20.00 (adult), \$2.00 (junior) on a year basis. Membership expires each Dec. 31.

ANNUAL EVENTS:

March - Spring Rock Swap and Sale, Banquet Fall- 2 Day SuperSwap and Sale November Annual Auction
Yearly Picnic

STUDY GROUPS: Special-interest study groups meet monthly, September through June. Currently the following groups are active: Bead Study, Mineralogy, Wire Study is conducted on individual basis.

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 collecting 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, 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.

INTERNET WEB SITES OF INTEREST:

Midwest Federation:
www.amfed.org/mw11index.html American
Lands Access Association: <http://amlands.org>

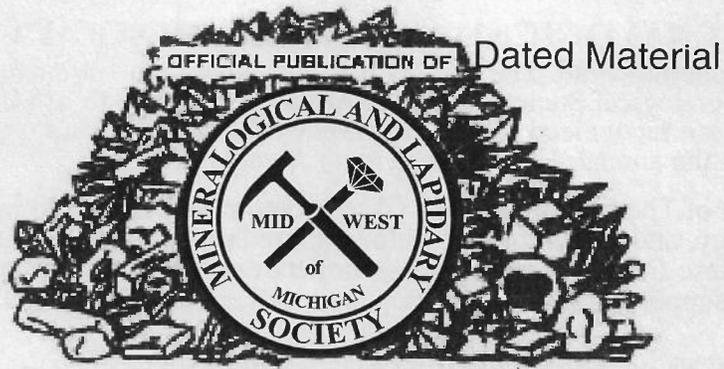
American Federation:
www.amfed.org

The Rockhound's 10 Commandments:

Thou shall not touch thy neighbor's minerals unless he places them in thy hands.
Thou shall not test the strength of crystals by pushing, squeezing or biting.
Thou shall not drop thy neighbor's fossils, for many do not bounce properly.
Thou shall not place thy neighbor's specimens in thine own pocket.
Thou shall not collect at a neighbor's land unless unless thy neighbor knowst he's there.
Thou shall not argue names of minerals too violently; for sometimes thou couldst be wrong.
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.
Thou shall protect thine eyes, hands & feet, so that they mayst enjoy many future field trips.
Thou shall not encroach upon thy neighbor's diggin's, lest thy neighbor's hammer be dropped upon thee.
Thou shall not break uncollectable specimens.

Midwest
Mineralogical and
Lapidary
Society of
Michigan

EDITOR
20281 THOMAS
BROWNSTOWN, MI
48183



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