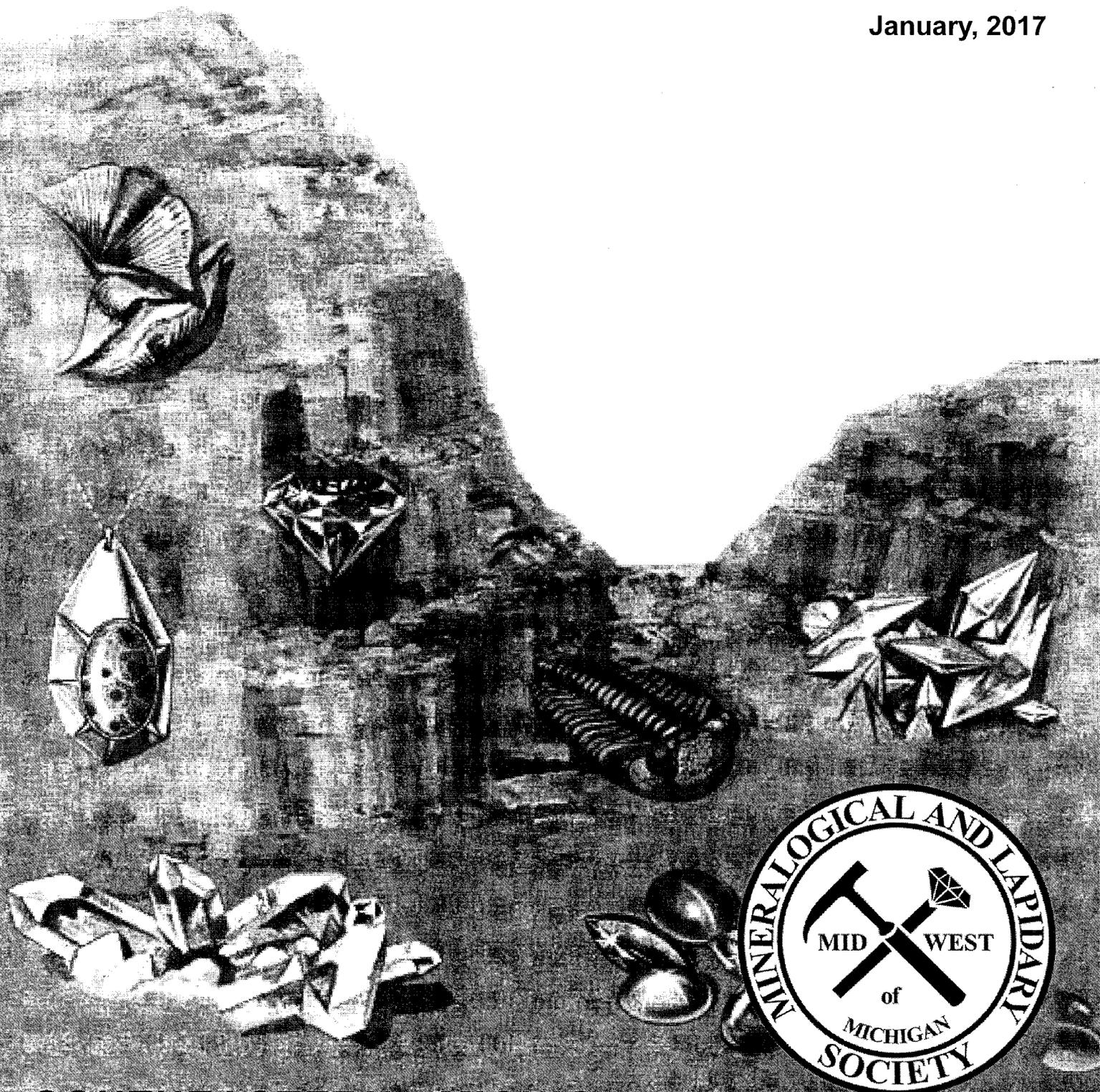


THE ROCKPILE

Official Publication of the Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society

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

January, 2017



SOUTHEASTERN - MICHIGAN



Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society

2017 OFFICERS

President: Dan Gumina (313) 766-8944
Vice President: Diane Kuzara (734) 675-5237
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: Ana Ferguson
Door Prizes: Mike Bomba
AFMS Scholarship: Pat Rutkowski
Local Field Trips - Mike Bomba/Gary Slominski
Summer Field Trips - Bill Barr
Education: Dave Hendershot
Insurance:
Historian: Tom Morris
Michigan Material: Tom Morris
Club Publicity:
Membership: Ana Ferguson
MMLS Scholarship: Velma Bradley
Program Coordinator: Mike Bomba
Property – Storage: Leonard Swisher
Property – Meetings: Leonard Swisher
Sunshine Reporter: Velma Bradley
Refreshments:
Web Site: Stacey Harper

ACTIVITIES

2017 Banquet:
2017 Swap: Lou and Cindy Talley
2017 Super Swap: Bill Barr / Tom Morris
2017 Auction:

**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

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

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

Happy New Year

January Program: Will be a video from the 40th Rochester Mineralogical Symposium! Called Big Fish River and Rapid Creek by Ian Nicklin. It will be a two part program, first half in January and the second part in February Mike Bomba

I MUST APOLOGIZE FOR THE USPS

If you received your December Rockpile late it was not the fault of the Rockpile Staff. All Rockpiles were mailed in November. I was clearing snow from my driveway this past week when the mail truck pulled up and asked me if sent out our newsletter the Rockpile, yes I replied. She went on to explain that the Trenton Post Office got back a whole slew of Rockpiles with a label stating unable to deliver. The Trenton Post Office did not know why so they removed the sticker sent them out again. I hope everyone got the Rockpile and no one was inconvenienced.
Editor Pete

Board Meeting Summary for Nov11, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:45 PM. A motion was made to accept the October 14, 2016 meeting minutes as corrected, carried. Treasurer's report October 31, 2016 motion to accept was made and carried. November program is from "The Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art" was not sent the second request was received. 50 MMLS Club Show cases waiting for pick up date. Volunteers were thanked for the October auction. March Swap flyers are available to hand out. Discussion took place on helping the Salvation Army as bell ringers for this holiday season. December program will be the Christmas party. Next Board Meeting December 20 at the Kuzara house 7:30 pm. Meeting adjourned at 8:59 PM. Submitted by Julie Knechtges Secretary.

General Meeting Summary Nov 15, 2016

Minutes of the November 15, 2016 meeting were approved. The Treasurer's report For October 31, 2016

was approved. November program "Minerals of Morocco". December program is the annual Christmas party. Sylvania, OH field trip fossils found nice specimens. To volunteer at the Salvation Army for bell ringing or other services call 734-282-0930 extension 100 or online at www.ringbell.org. Scholarships are being worked on to send to colleges in January. Auction volunteers were thanked. Nominating committee and those present unanimously elected new officers for 2017 being sworn in during the December general meeting. A motion was made to adjourn meeting at 8:06 pm, carried.
Summarized by Secretary Julie Knechtges.

NOTICE TO STUDY GROUPS IF THERE IS CHANGE IN YOUR MEETINGS PLEASE LET THE EDITOR KNOW!!!!

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**

ATTENTION MEMBERS: The study groups with more than one night in the month, dates will be listed together.

January 2nd & 16th & 18th 2017 Lapidary work shop 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening.

January 4th 2017 Wire Wrap Class, call John Lindsay for details.

January 5th & 19th 2017 Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown, Mi at 7pm.

January 13th 2017 Board Meeting, The Rockpile deadline TBA at 7:30pm.

January 17th 2017 General meeting will be held at the DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 WICK RD., TAYLOR at 7:30pm.

January 19th 2017 Mineral Study group will meet at Dave Esch's house, 227 Barton Shore Dr., Ann Arbor Mi., at 7:30pm.

February 1st Wire Wrap Class, call John Lindsay for details.

February 2nd & 16th Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown, Mi at 7pm.

February 6th, 15th & 20th Lapidary work shop 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening.

February 16th Mineral Study group will meet at Dave Esch's house, 227 Barton Shore Dr., Ann Arbor Mi., at 7:30pm.

February 17th Board Meeting and Rockpile Deadline TBA

February 21st General meeting will be held at the DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 WICK RD., TAYLOR at 7:30pm.

March 25, 2017 45th Annual Metro Rock Swap Hosted by the Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society. At St. Johns Lutheran Church, 13115 Telegraph Road, Taylor, MI. For table reservations and information call 734-837-8920

Member Update:

Rich Williams new cell phone number 901-230-8384

For Sale

Three Sets Of Waddle Display Cases Available

Each set consists of a top and a base unit. Top case is 36" W x 14" D x 30"H. Base unit is 36" x 14"W x 40"H. Each case is framed in wood, has glass sliding

doors, glass on top, sides and bottom with mirrored backs. Glass shelves included. If interested please call 1-313-291-5861 for a look see.

NEWS FROM ALAA

Paleontological Resource Act has been resurrected. If this act is passed and made into law it will restrict fossil collecting on federal lands. Most BLM lands will be open to casual collecting for invertebrate or plant paleontological resources, petrified wood being one of them. Restrictions are the amount you can collect (25lbs. Per day per person and a 100 lbs in a year). Collecting on NPS or FWS land are only by permit only. These restrictions only apply to federal public lands. NPS stands for National Park Service and FWS stands for Fish and Wild Life Service or Federal Work Study. This does not apply to state owned land or private property.

If you would like to receive a copy of this email I will forward it to you. It might be wise to inform your Representative and Senator in Washington, DC how you feel about this new attempt to restrict collecting.

Theft of gold specimens

The ALAA notified us that gold specimens valued at thousands of dollar were stolen at a rock and gem show in Santa Ana, California back in the beginning of November. There is a reward for their recovery.

From the Editor: My two cents. I am writing this just before Christmas and I hope everyone got what they wanted from Santa Claus. One thing I am happy about is all the exchange bulletins I get from our sister clubs where I can get many interesting articles to share with our members. Diane and I have been in this club since 1975 and lot of things changed and some activities are gone. It would be great to get them back. It would probably help our membership if they were re-instituted. Pete

Carnelian

Hexagonal – trigonal crystal system

Composition SiO₂ (silicate)

Hardness 7

A blood - red to reddish - orange translucent variety of chalcedony, carnelian is also occasionally called cornelian. Its coloration is due to the presence of iron oxide, and it can be uniformly colored or banded. Strongly banded material is known as carnelian agate. Scotland, Brazil, India and Washington State are among the localities that produce finer quality carnelian. Freshly mined carnelian especially Indian material, is often placed in the sun to change brown tints to red. Carnelian was once thought to still the blood and calm the temper. Conversely, it was also said to give the owner courage in battle, and help timid speakers to be eloquent. From The Living Stones Dec. 2016

Eilat Stone

Excerpted from WireSculpture.com by Layla Palmer, 9-20-13 and from www. Eilatstone.com

Eilat Stone is the national stone of Israel. In the 10th century BCE, the time of Solomon, some of the most extensive copper mines from this period existed in the kingdom of Edom which extended from the Dead Sea to the Gulf of Aquba (Gulf of Arabia). The Edomites were mostly nomadic people who lived in tents and also mined copper from the Timna mines which are located near the city of Eilat. The Edomites were known to have had many conflicts with the Israelites, and it is thought that King Solomon may have been able to either exert influence or form a trade agreement for the copper located within the mines. In addition to copper being mined at Timna, a beautiful stone made of malachite, azurite, chrysocolla and turquoise was found as a secondary copper mineral. The stone was named after the city closest to the mine, Eilat in an area known as “King Solomon's Mines” which was named by American archeologist Nelson Glueck. Eilat stone has also been found in tombs and archeological sites dating from this same period.

Eilat, or “King Solomon's Stone,” looks like an artist took blue, green and gray paint then swirled it together forming beautiful patterns set in stone. Its unique combination of the green malachite (copper

carbonate) and the blue azurite (copper silicate) creates an unbelievably rich intriguing range of colors which makes it one of the world's most beautiful stones. Eilat stone is found in the Timna mining district and within one other mine along the Red Sea which has been played-out. Though similar stones have been found in Arizona and Africa, only the Eilat stone from Israel contains chrysocolla specific to the region and can be called “true” or pure Eilat stone.

Israel today encompasses much of the kingdom of Edom with the mines and the city of Eilat being at its Southern tip. King Solomon's Stone is also becoming more and more difficult to find due to the mine at Timna flooding and the designation as a national park and archeological site. Since the stone is really only found in this one area, the supplies are dwindling and prices are climbing.

From the Living Stones 12/16

First Fossilized Dinosaur Brain Found



A 133-million-year-old fossilized dinosaur brain — the first found — was initially picked up in 2004. It's shown next to a two-pence coin, which is slightly bigger than a penny. Credit Jamie Hiscocks
Paleontologists have uncovered what they believe to be the first ever fossilized brain tissue from a dinosaur.

The fossil, which looks like a mere pebble, was found in East Sussex, England, by an amateur fossil hunter in 2004. Using a scanning electron microscope, a team of researchers from Britain and Australia performed a forensic examination of it. They discovered that the fossil contained, blood vessels and capillaries, as well as tissue from the cortex, the outer layer of the brain, and the meninges, which is the membrane that helps keep the brain in place.

“The unusual aspect of this is the way the soft tissues, which are so fragile and 133 million years old, have actually been preserved,” said David Norman, a paleontologist at the University of Cambridge and author of the study published Thursday by the Geological Society of London. “It’s not the entire brain — it’s just remarkable preservation of soft tissues you wouldn’t expect to have preserved.”

The researchers think that some time during the Early Cretaceous Period, a massive herbivorous dinosaur similar to an Iguanodon fell into a shallow swamp or bog. There, its head quickly became buried beneath the sediment. As it stewed in the stagnant, acidic pool, minerals began to replace the soft tissue in the cranium, preserving it for millions of years. Ttilobites by Nicholas St. Fleur 10-27-16 by way of the New York Times 10-28-16

The Merit of Metals - Modern Silver

Excerpted from the G and S Metals blog

With the affordability of silver, the shift in consumer tastes towards handmade and personalized products, and more casual attire in the workplace, the popularity of silver jewelry has surged. This increase in popularity for silver jewelry has been met with an increase in innovative jewelry designs in both traditional silver alloys and newer silver alloys like argentium®.

.925 Sterling Silver The most widely known silver alloy is sterling silver. Sterling silver is any silver alloy containing 92.5% pure silver, with the remaining 7.5% being other metals, most frequently entirely copper. Most sterling silver pieces will be hallmarked or stamped with “Sterling” or “925” to indicate that they’re sterling silver, and any piece presented as sterling silver that is not stamped should fall under heavy scrutiny. By US law, any piece marked “sterling” or any abbreviation or imitation of “sterling” can not overstate the actual fineness of the piece by more than 4 one thousandths in portions of jewelry that are free of solder or base metals, and can not have a divergence of greater than 10 one thousandths fineness for the entire quantity of silver, including any solder and alloy of inferior fineness.

.935 and .960 Argentium® Silver

With modern metallurgical techniques, new silver alloys have been introduced to the market. These new silver alloys address issues encountered with sterling silver, like firescale and poor tarnish resistance. One

of the most exciting new silver alloys is argentium® silver, a proprietary silver and germanium alloy. The inclusion of germanium into a silver alloy has provided many tangible benefits to jewelers using Argentium®, especially higher tarnish and firescale resistance due to a self-replenishing layer of germanium oxide that forms on the outside of Argentium® alloys. If Argentium® silver is ever overpolished or overworked by a jeweler this layer of germanium oxide can be replenished by heating the jewelry in a 300°F(149°C) oven for three hours. Another benefit of Argentium® is the ability to fuse it to other Argentium® as well as high karat (18K or higher) gold.

.999 Fine Silver Fine silver is not as common as sterling silver in jewelry, but is still available in round wire, sheet, and bezel strip. Fine silver is also often referred to as “three nines” pure and can be represented by a 999stamp. For investment purposes it is common to see “four nines” purity on silver bars, coins, and other forms of bullion. The term “fine silver” is not a protected term in the United States, unlike “sterling silver,” but all marks, stamps, etchings, brands or printed words or numbers on a product that are intended to represent the fineness of silver are regulated by the Federal Trade Commission, and cannot deviate by more than four one-thousandths of the actual fineness of the silver. While “fine silver” is not a protected term in the United States, it’s always best to accurately report the metal purity of your pieces to your customers.

Silver-Filled Silver-filled material is another metal resulting from an increase in metallurgical knowledge. Consisting of sterling silver bonded onto a base metal core through heat and pressure, silver-filled metal is an inexpensive metal that provides the look, and working characteristics of sterling silver but at a more inexpensive price. Silver-filled is also more durable than standard plated silver pieces, as the outer layer of sterling silver is either 5% (for silver filled marked 1/20) or 10% (for silver filled marked 1/10) of the total weight of the product, whereas silver plated material is typically anywhere between 5 and 25 microns thick (a micron is 1/1000 of a millimeter.) There are currently no stamping or purity requirements for silver-filled unlike there are for gold filled. However, for consistency, it is probably best to maintain the

same nomenclature in use for gold filled if you work in both. From Living Stones 5/16

FROM THE INTERNET!!!!

I found this timely, because today I was in a store that sells sunglasses, and only sunglasses. A young lady walks over to me and asks, "What brings you in today?"

I looked at her, and said, "I'm interested in buying a refrigerator." She didn't quite know how to respond.

Am I getting to be that age?

I was thinking about how a status symbol of today is those cell phones that everyone has clipped onto their belt or purse. I can't afford one. So I'm wearing my garage door opener.

I was thinking about old age and decided that old age is when you still have something on the ball, but you are just too tired to bounce it.

When people see a cat's litter box they always say, "Oh, have you got a cat?" Just once I want to say, "No, it's for company!"

Employment application blanks always ask who is to be called in case of an emergency. I think you should write, an ambulance.

The older you get the tougher it is to lose weight because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement

Did you ever notice: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are XL.

Continued on page 6

NOTICE DUES ARE DUE

Dear MMLS member:

It's that time again when you are asked to renew your membership for the year (2017) in the Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society. (Membership runs from January through December each year.)

May we ask your cooperation by renewing now. Doing so will ease our Treasurer's job, save the cost of an extra mailing and assure your receipt of The Rockpile without interruption. just use the handy Membership Renewal Form. Complete the form, enclose your check made payable to MMLS and mail to our treasurer:

Doris Snyder

9728 Pardee

Taylor, Mi. 48180

It's that easy! If you would like your membership card mailed to you, please include a SASE.

Midwest Mineralogical Lapidary Society Adult Dues: \$15.00

Juniors (under age 18) \$1.00

Yes I wish to renew my/our membership in MMLS for 2017 and continue to receive The Rockpile

Names(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Email address _____

Enclosed is my check payable MMLS for \$ _____

Dues paid after December 31st is subject to a \$3.00 Reinstatement fee. Add to your check.

Would you like your Rockpile sent to you by email?

Yes No

DO IT TODAY BEFORE YOU FORGET!!!!

The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so he can tell when he's really in trouble..

Did you ever notice: When you put the 2 words 'The' and 'IRS' together it spells "Theirs"

Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Some people try to turn back their "odometers." Not me. I want people to know 'why' I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

Ah! Being young is beautiful but being old is comfortable.

Lord, keep your arm around my shoulder and your hand over my mouth.

May you always have Love to Share, Cash to Spare, And Friends who Care.

The "Morphs" by Bob Rush

A pseudomorph occurs when an original mineral such as aragonite or barite dissolves and is replaced by another mineral such as quartz. If a mineral such as aragonite or barite that has grown in a cavity or fracture is coated by a new such as agate or quartz as a film, preserving the shape of the original mineral it is called an encrustation epimorph (meaning "outer form"). The coated mineral (aragonite or barite) is called an endomorph (meaning "inner form"). If the endomorph later dissolves away leaving hollow cavities they are known as perimorphs.

From MMS Conglomerate 11/16, CMS Tumbler 11/16, via The Quarry, 9/16, From MLMS Ghost Sheet 9/16

Happy New Year

This Space kept blank on purpose.

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

American Federation: www.amfed.org

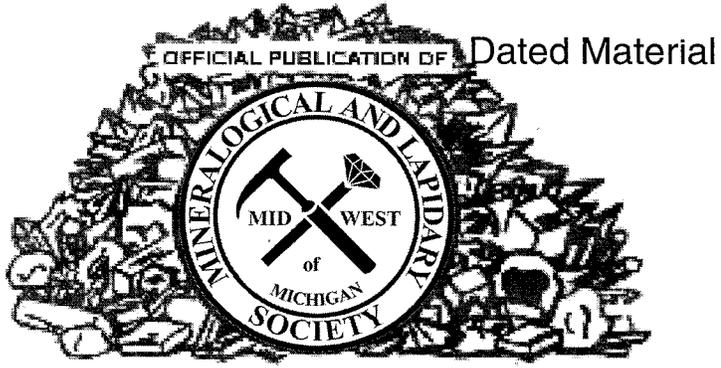
American Lands Access Association: <http://amlands.org>

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



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



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Dated Material

STAMP