

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

April 2025



SOUTHEASTERN - MICHIGAN

# Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society

## 2025 OFFICERS

President: Mike Bomba (313) 381-8455  
Vice President: Dan Gumina (313) 766-8944  
Recording Secretary: Andrea Rinker (734) 755-2570  
Treasurer: Doris Snyder (313) 291-2133  
Corresponding Secretary: Andrea Rinker (734) 755-2570  
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  
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

2025 Banquet: Andrea Rinker  
2025 Club Picnic: Stacey Harper  
2025 Swap: Lou and Cindy Talley  
2025 Super Swap: Bill Barr  
2025 Auction: Dwayne Ferguson

The Rockpile Staff : Editor Peter Kuzara,  
email: [Kuzara1126@gmail.com](mailto:Kuzara1126@gmail.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

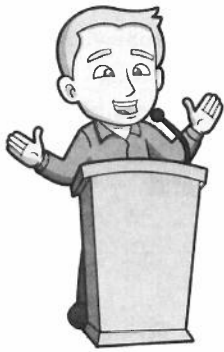
## STUDY GROUPS

Lapidary: Workshop at Frank Konieczki  
Bead Study: Diane Kuzara  
Mineralogy: Frank Konieczki

## 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 1966-6  
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  
Elsbeth 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  
Diane Kuzara 2019 -2020  
Dan Gumina 2021 - 2022  
Mike Bomba 2023 -

**President Message:** Happy Easter everyone.



We had 4 of us come out to our Cranbrook field trip and we had a great day for it. Cranbrook did not disappoint. What a great Rock and Mineral collection with a section on fossils and much more. As the weather gets warmer out I will be looking forward to our field trip to the Sylvania Aggregates Quarry in May. And of course our annual

Spring Swap. Come to the meeting for more information. Thanks to everyone for supporting and helping this club to grow.

President Mike

**April Program:** Will be a video. A PBS Nova program “Treasure’s of the Earth, Power.”

**Welcome New Members:**

Ian Sutton  
Jeanne Hoing

**STILL LOOKING FOR A NEW EDITOR!** Editor Pete

**Looking for a new Program Chairman.**

If interested and want to help check with Mike Bomba he will inform you what is required.

**Dates to Remember!**

**Before traveling a great distance call to make sure the meeting is still going on! If it gets very cold I know the lapidary work shop meeting is canceled because of insufficient heating.**

**Come Join Us, Come Join Us!!!**

*Please join the club for our Annual Banquet, Saturday, May 3, 2025 at the Hungarian Rhapsody Restaurant, 14315 Northline Rd., Southgate, MI 48195.*

*We held the Banquet here last year and it was most enjoyable, with authentic, home cooked food and plenty of desserts.*

*Anticipated cost is \$22.00 per person with the club paying for non-alcoholic beverages and the gratuity. Doris Snyder, our treasurer, is taking reservations. For more information, contact Banquet Chairman, Andrea Rinker, at [foothealer@gmail.com](mailto:foothealer@gmail.com). We need at least 25 people to attend. Guests are welcome.*

**Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> 2025 Bead Study group** will meet at the Kuzara’s, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm. Diane Kuzara 734-675-5237.

**Apr. 7<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> Lapidary Work Shop** 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi. 7pm. To 10pm. Space is limited so please call Frank Konieczki 734-323-2218 before attending.

**Apr. 17<sup>th</sup> Mineral Study Group** will meet at the West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St., Ann Arbor at 7:30 PM. Contact for the group is Frank Konieczki 734-323-2218.

**Apr. 15<sup>th</sup> May Rockpile Deadline.**

**Apr. 15<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting** will be held at the Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor at 6:30 pm.

**Apr. 15<sup>th</sup> General Meeting** will be held at the Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor at 7:30 pm.

**May 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> Bead Study group** will meet at the Kuzara’s, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm. Diane Kuzara 734-675-5237.

**May 7<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> Lapidary Work Shop** 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi. 7pm. To 10pm. Space is limited so please call Frank Konieczki 734-323-2218 before attending.

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**May 20<sup>th</sup> June Rockpile deadline.**

**May 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting** will be held at the Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor at 6:30 pm.

**May 20<sup>th</sup> General Meeting** will be held at the Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor at 7:30 pm.

**Sister Club Events**

**Apr. 10-12—WYOMING, MICHIGAN:** Annual show; Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club; Rogers Plaza Town Center, 972 28th Street Southwest; Thu. 9:30-9, Fri. 9:30-9, Sat. 9:30-7 contact Kreigh Tomaszewski, (616) 243-5851; Email: kreigh@gmail.com; Website: <http://indianmoundsrockclub.com/>

**Apr. 26-27—CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO:** Annual show; Akron Mineral Society & Summit Lapidary Club; Emidios Expo Center, 48 East Bath Road; Sat. 10-6; contact Evelyn Tryon, (330) 673-9664; Email: Gemboree76@gmail.com

**Apr. 26-27—TROY, OHIO:** Annual show; Miami County Gem & Mineral Club; Miami County Fairgrounds, 650 N. Co. Rd. 25A; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; contact Dewey Buck, (937) 308-3012; Email: deweybuck12@gmail.com; Website: [mcgamc.org](http://mcgamc.org)

**May 2-4—KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN:** Show and sale; Kalamazoo Geological Society; Kalamazoo Expo Center, 2900 Lake Street; 45+ dealers, silent auction, kids activities, geode cracking, daily door prizes, something for everyone; contact Rick Berner; Email: (269)-217-6568; Website: [kalamazoorockclub.org](http://kalamazoorockclub.org)

**May 3-4—TOLEDO, OHIO:** Show and sale; Northwest Ohio Rockhounds; St James Lutheran Church, 4727 Sylvania Ave; ; Free Kid's Activities Rock Identification, Geode Cracking, Fossils, Minerals. Slabs, Rough, contact Suzanne Shimatzki, (419) 376-2650; Email: [sshimatzki@gmail.com](mailto:sshimatzki@gmail.com); Website: <https://www.facebook.com/NWORockhounds/>

**Michigan Minerals Beginning With the Letter P: Pyrite (FeS<sub>2</sub>)**



Pyrite is a brass-yellow mineral with a bright metallic luster. It has a chemical composition of iron sulfide (FeS<sub>2</sub>) and is the most common sulfide mineral. It forms at high and low temperatures and occurs,

usually in small quantities, in igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks worldwide. Pyrite is a brass-yellow mineral with a bright metallic luster. It has a chemical composition of iron sulfide (FeS<sub>2</sub>) and is the most common sulfide mineral. It forms at high and low temperatures and occurs, usually in small quantities, in igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks worldwide.

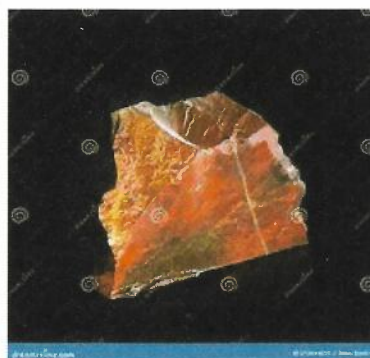
Color: Brass Yellow

Hardness: 6 to 6.5 on the mohs scale.

Occurrence: Alger, Alpena, Antrim, Baraga, Branch, Calhoun, Clare, Dickinson, Eaton, Gogebic, Gratiot, Houghton, Huron, Iron, Jackson, Keweenaw, Marquette, Monroe, Newaygo, Ogemaw, Ontonagon, Presque Isle, Saginaw, Washtenaw, and Wayne Counties.

From the Internet Wikipedia

**Russian Jasper**



Red Beautiful Jasper Mineral Crystal From Orsk, Ural, Russia. Photo from the internet Dreamstime photo.com

**Scientists discover a beautiful blue new Mineral called Petrovite.**

It's not just a pretty face. The mineral could find a use in next-generation rechargeable batteries



The world of minerals is just as wild as the world of animals when it comes to discovering new specimens.

A research team led by crystallographer ( crystal specialist) Stanislav Filatov at St. Petersburg University found a lovely new entry into the world of minerals: Petrovite. Petrovite is a beautiful to look at, but it could also help inspire advancements in next-generation batteries.

The bright blue mineral comes from a wild place: a volcanic landscape formed by major eruptions in the 1970s and the 201 0s in the Kamchatka Peninsula of Russia. "This territory is unique in its mineralogical diversity. In recent years, researchers have discovered dozens of new minerals here, many of which are one of a kind a-kind in the world," the university said in a statement on Tuesday

The mineral is named for another St. Petersburg University crystallographer, Tomas Petrov. The team published a study on petrovite in the journal Mineralogical Magazine earlier this year.

Petrovite is particularly interesting because it's a bit of an oddball in its composition and structure. "The mineral consists of oxygen atoms, sodium sulphur and copper, which form a porous framework," the university said. "The voids are connected to each other by channels through which relatively small sodium atoms can move.

This means petrovite could be useful as a component of sodium ion batteries, a type of rechargeable battery that could become an affordable alternative to the lithium ion batteries common today.

Petrovite is particularly interesting because it'

Petrovite was born in a fiery place in the wild, but Filatov said researchers could look into synthesizing a compound with its same structure in a lab for use in battery development . That would be quite a journey from a volcano to powering gadgets in people's homes.

Taken from Michigan Gem News 5/23

## **10 Most Deadly Rocks and Minerals Continued from the March Rockpile.**

We often wonder if the Earth beneath our feet could swallow us up. The truth is more insidious. Drop that rock you just picked up . . . you could get poisoned. This list details the ten most toxic and potentially deadly minerals that crystallize in the Earth's rocks, presenting a dangerously

deceptive array of stony beauty. These rocks don't have to be thrown to hurt you.

### **6 Asbestos**

#### ***Chrysotile and Amphibolite***

Asbestos is not a man-made product, but one of most terrifying minerals on the planet. Where other minerals act as toxins through their chemistry and sicken victims of accidental poisoning, Asbestos conducts full scale mechanical sabotage on the human lung. Asbestos is a fully natural category of minerals composed of silica the most abundant of Earth's hard elements, iron, sodium and oxygen. Asbestos deposits consist of aggregates of thousands of tiny, fibrous crystals that can become airborne and lodged in the human lung. Carcinogenic effects occur through persistent irritation of the lung tissues, leading to scarring. Asbestos formations can also be uncovered among any set of silica rocks, warranting caution when exploring. Strangely, natural weathering leads to natural distribution of asbestos in Earth's atmosphere. As a result, many humans carry some asbestos fibers in their lung

### **5 Arsenopyrite**

Arsenopyrite is fool's gold, but with a difference. One would not just be a fool to mistake it for gold. Equally foolish would be a decision to pick up this mineral on a hike at a quarry, and proceed to use your hands to put trail mix in your mouth. Arsenopyrite is arsenic iron sulfide, which is the same type of mineral as pyrite (fool's gold, iron sulfide), but with a heavy addition of arsenic. If one attempts to heat or in any way alter the mineral, a strong garlic odor of arsenic will be produced as lethally toxic, corrosive and carcinogenic vapors are released. Just handling the mineral brings one into contact with unstable sulfuric arsenic salts. Interestingly, arsenopyrite may be identified by striking a specimen with a hammer. The powerful garlic odor of arsenic can be briefly detected as the sparks fly.

### **4 Torbernite**

Torbernite is the mineral from hell. The prism shaped green crystals form as secondary

deposits in granitic rocks, and are composed of uranium. Formed through a complex reaction between phosphorous, copper, water and uranium, the stunning crystal displays have seduced many mineral collectors into taking a sample for a shelf collection. If the uranium decay from a pocket sized Chernobyl were not enough, lethal radon gas capable of causing lung cancer slowly releases from these hot rocks. This is one crystal to leave alone. Torbernite can occur in granite, so your stone countertop just might contain traces of torbernite. The bright green crystal blooms were used by prospectors as indicators of uranium deposits.

### 3 Stibnite

Stibnite is antimony sulfide, but it looks like silver. For that reason, the huge, shining metallic crystals of this unstable compound were once fashioned into magnificent eating utensils. But the sword shaped crystals bore the powers of death to those who used them. Stibnite's antimony laced crystals killed a number of people before it became known that use of the mineral was causing food poisoning of the worst kind. Even in collections, stibnite samples should be handled with great caution to avoid poisoning. Hand washing is advisable after any contact. Mines near Oksaku in Japan have produced the best stibnite crystals in the world, measuring up to a foot in length. Many stibnite samples have the appearance of a miniature steeple.

### 2 Orpiment

The only thing worse than arsenic itself could be a rock made from arsenic and sulfur. The lethal and chemically reactive orpiment crystals are found growing below the surface in mineral formations, often near hydrothermal vents. The colors are seductive, but holding the crystals in your hands may release carcinogenic, neurotoxic arsenic powder. Like cinnabar, the Chinese made extensive use of this mineral, but to far more terrifying ends. Arrows would be rubbed on crushed samples of these stones and then launched to poison the enemy in a rather fancy way to throw a rock. Orpiment is known to give

off a strong garlic smell due to its arsenic content, and may crumble into dangerous powder when exposed to light. The mineral was used as a primary component of ochre paint, and likely poisoned many of the artists who used it.

### 1 Cinnabar

Cinnabar (mercury sulfide) is the single most toxic mineral to handle on Earth. The name of the crystal means dragons blood, and it is the main ore of mercury. Forming near volcanos and sulfur deposits, the bright red crystals signal danger of the worst kind. Cinnabar may release pure mercury if disturbed or heated, causing tremors, loss of sensation and death. In the Middle Ages and late 1700s, being sent to work in Spanish mines containing cinnabar formations was widely considered a death sentence. Cinnabar was widely used in Chinese history for ornamental food dishes, and intricate carvings were created from chunks of it, sometimes at the expense of the artisans. Even more incredibly, some ancient medical practitioners believed cinnabar held healing powers, and prescribed it for certain conditions.

<http://listverse.com/2013/03/07/10-most-deadly-rocks-and-minerals/>

*Taken From Rock Trails 5/16*

## Dealing With the Realities of Show Theft and Counterfeit Money

By Martha Miss

MWF Directory and Calendar Chair

The sad reality is that most shows have to be aware of theft and/or counterfeit bills. Even if a show hires security and/or has volunteers acting as security, vendors and customers need to be vigilant.

These are some suggestions I have gathered over the years from law enforcement, other vendors, customers and show sponsors. If we all work together, we can help keep costs down for the show and vendors. Thieves come in all ages, shapes, sizes, and colors, working individually or as part of a group or family.

## THEFT

Watch the hands – not eyes. While we are all taught to make eye contact when we're talking to a person, don't. Hands steal – not eyes.

Keep scanning your booth even when talking to someone.

Be leery of people carrying an oversized messenger bag, purse, tote, etc. that will let them quickly and easily drop an item inside.

Baggy shirts or sweatshirts with a kangaroo pouch pocket make an easy place to stash an item that wasn't bought.

Be leery of photos being taken without your permission, particularly of a high-dollar item. Thieves are often trying to fulfill a "shopping list" or "post an offering."

Watch other booths as well as your own. The thief is often paying attention to that specific vendor and not paying attention to others who may be watching.

Be wary of people picking up multiple items at a time. They may then set one item back while palming another.

If a group arrives at your booth, be aware that one person may engage or distract you while another of the group goes to a blind spot and steals.

At the end of the show, clear the floor of customers and visitors before vendors and exhibitors begin loading out. End of the show is a high theft time.

One of the best suggestions I'm passing along came from Sandra Gonzales of the company Rocky Mountain Gems & Minerals. Ask vendors to notify the show chair of theft ASAP. Have a pre-determined code phrase that can be announced to alert vendors, show volunteers, and security that a shoplifter is at work, such as "Vendors – it's a great day for crystals" or "Crystal Stone, please come to the admission desk." It's a quick way to let everyone know a thief is at work and to be extra vigilant.

Don't buy from a person wandering around the show trying to sell items – there is a good chance that it is stolen merchandise.

Check with your local law enforcement officers for recommendations on recognizing and discouraging shoplifters. What, if anything, should you do if you witness shoplifting?

## COUNTERFEIT BILLS

The other annoyance is counterfeit bills, most commonly twenties, followed by fifties and hundreds. Whether you are accepting cash as payment or receiving it as change, take a few moments to look at the bills.

Office supply stores sell "counterfeit detecting pens," but these are often worthless because the counterfeiter is bleaching out lower denomination bills and reprinting over them. The pens are designed to identify paper that is not ragstock.

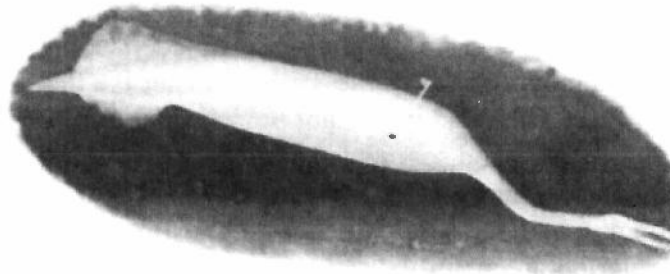
A quick and simple method to check a bill is: Hold it up to the light and look on the right side, there is a watermark (ghost face). The watermark on a five-dollar bill is the numeral 5; on tens, twenties, fifties, and hundreds, the watermark is the face of the president found on that denomination. So seeing the watermark of the numeral 5 on a \$20 bill is not good!

There are other clues to help differentiate real vs. counterfeit currency, such as a fluorescent security thread, color shifting numerals, colored ink, etc. Want to find out more about counterfeit currency? Visit

[www.uscurrency.gov](http://www.uscurrency.gov).

From MWF News 6/2024

## Has the "Tully monster" mystery finally been solved after 75 years?



Invertebrates are animals without spines, while vertebrates have a spine.

**The state fossil of Illinois** is a strange creature with stalked eyes and a long nose-like appendage with teeth, dubbed the "Tully monster." Specimens typically measure just 15 centimeters (about 6 inches), but the tiny creatures sparked a major decades long scientific debate over whether they should be classed as vertebrates or invertebrates. That

mystery may now have been solved, according to a team of

Japanese scientists who claim their 3D scans of a generous sampling of fossils rule out the vertebrate hypothesis

**Francis Tully, an amateur fossil collector** who **discovered the** specimen in 1955 while scouring the **Mazon Creek** fossil beds in Illinois, didn't know what he had found, so he brought it to paleontologists at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago for identification. But the paleontologists there couldn't figure out how to classify it.

The strongest case for classifying Tully as a vertebrate rests on a pair of 2016 papers, one a detailed morphological study, the other focusing on the creature's eye anatomy. Most notably, the authors of the morphological study claimed that Tully had a rod made of cartilage (notochord) similar to a backbone; multiple rows of insect-like stylets or piercing teeth next to the mouth, similar to lampreys; an elongated segmented body with tail fins; and gill pouches.

The 2019 study argued that certain invertebrates (notably octopus and squid) also have melanosomes arranged by shape and size, weakening that element of the pro-vertebrate case. They found that the ratio of zinc to copper in Tully's eyes bore more similarity to the ratios found in invertebrates rather than vertebrates

"We believe that the mystery of it being an invertebrate or vertebrate has been solved," said Mikami. "Based on multiple lines of evidence, the vertebrate hypothesis of the Tully monster is untenable. The most important point is that the Tully monster had segmentation in its head region that extended from its body. This characteristic is not known in any vertebrate lineage, suggesting a non-vertebrate affinity."

While Mikami et al. are confident in their invertebrate classification for the Tully monster, they're more vague about exactly what kind of invertebrate it might have been. One possibility is that Tully was a chordate, a small eel-like marine invertebrate. Alternatively, it could have been some kind of protostome, which encompasses insects and crustaceans just a radically modified version.

Other scientists find the study interesting but

are more cautious about declaring the mystery solved, including paleontologist Victoria McCoy, co-author of one of the 2016 studies arguing for a vertebrate classification, who is now at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. "I was very interested to see the application of 3D imaging techniques to Tully monster fossils," McCoy told Ars. "I was particularly excited to see the 3D reconstructions of the teeth, which really helped clarify their morphology. In general, it is very difficult to interpret the preserved morphology any Mazon Creek organism, including the Tully monster, and these types of 3D imaging methods may help with that."

"However, we are still left with a key set of interpretations," McCoy added. "The Tully monster was a segmented animal, and had W- or V-shaped segments, with proteinaceous teeth and two different morphologies of melanosomes in its eyes. The only phylum that really fits this set of features is the chordates. Within the chordates, the large body size and large complex eyes of the Tully monster are most consistent issues raised in this paper, such as the suggestion that the Tully may have segments in front of its eyebar, do strengthen the case for a non-vertebrate chordate affinity."

From Michigan Gem News 5/23



Happy Easter From The Rockpile Staff



**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/mw1index.html](http://www.amfed.org/mw1index.html) American  
Lands Access Association: <http://amlands.org>

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