

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 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  
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  
Diane Kuzara 2019 -2020  
Dan Gumina 2021 - 2022  
Mike Bomba 2023 -



**President Message:** Hi you all. Hope everyone is well rested and doing well because you know March means warmer weather is on the way and our annual Spring Swap is coming right up March 29th . Special thanks to Lou Tally for setting this up again this year. I'm sure that a lot of us have cabin fever by now and would love to get outdoors again. We have the MWF convention in Nebraska ,, and the Michigan Gem and mineral Society show March 14-16th at the American One Event Center 128 W Ganson rd. Jackson Mi. Lots of fun stuff coming up. Don't forget to pay your Dues if you haven't already . The Club relies on them to keep the club going. Thanks Big Mike you're awesome president !

**March Program:** A video of the second half of prehistoric predators of the past. From the Discovery Channel.

**Welcome New Member**  
Cindy Alsobrooks

**LOOKING FOR A NEW EDITOR!**

Yes we are looking for one of our club members to become our Rockpile editor. Our present editor has had the job for the last 10 years. The editor was 84 years old in July and would like to retire. This job could be taken on by two people. Diane helps me with the Rockpile. If you are interested and want to know how we put the Rockpile together let me know. This does not mean you have to do it the same way.

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.**

**52<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL METRO ROCK SWAP MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup> 2025**  
**Hosted By The Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society**  
**10 AM. To 5 PM. At ST. John's Lutheran Church 13115 Telegraph Rd., Taylor, Mi.**  
**FREE ADMISSION**  
**For Table Reservation and Information call 734-837-8920**

**Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</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.

**Mar. 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Bead Study group** will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm. Diane Kuzara 734-675-5237.

**Mar. 18<sup>th</sup> April Rockpile deadline.**

**Mar. 18<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting** will be held at the Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor at 6:30 pm.

**Mar. 18<sup>th</sup> General Meeting** will be held at the Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor at 7:30 pm.

**Mar. 20<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. 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.

### Sister Club Events

**Mar. 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Roamin Club Annual Auction**  
March 1·11:00am – 6:00pm Vista Tech Center,  
Schoolcraft College Contact Clarence Sterling, (248)  
884-0431, 18600 Haggerty Rd, Livonia, MI.  
tripodsfrommars@gmail.com www.roaminrockclub  
.weebly.com

**Mar. 14-16—JACKSON, MICHIGAN:** Annual show; Michigan Gem & Mineral Society Rock, Mineral, Fossil, and Gem Show; American One Event Center - Jackson County Fairgrounds, 128 W Ganson; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; ; contact Sally or John, (517) 522-3396; Email: saltoosal2@yahoo.com; Website: mgmsrockclub.com

**Mar. 29-30—CANTON, OHIO:** Annual show; Stark Country Gem & Mineral Club; Stark County Fairgrounds, 305 Wertz Ave; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5 contact Susan Waltz, susanrocks53@gmail.com or Kris Malone, kjlmalone@aol.com; Website: www.facebook.com/StarkCountyOhioGemandMineralClub/

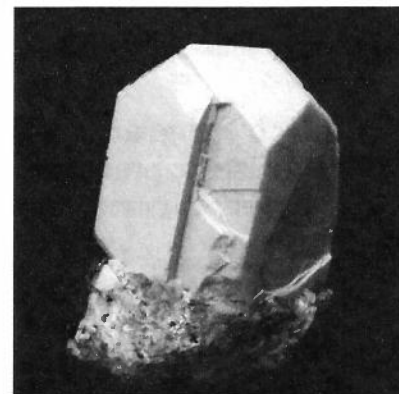
**Apr. 10-12—WYOMING, MICHIGAN:** Annual show; Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club; Rogers Plaza Town Center, 972 28th Street Southwest; Thu. 9:30-9, Fri. 9:30-9, Sat. 9:30-7 contact Kreigh Tomaszewski, (616) 243-5851; Email: kreigh@gmail.com; Website: http://indianmoundsrockclub.com/

**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

### Michigan Minerals Beginning With the Letter O: Orthoclase $KAlSi_3O_8$

Orthoclase, or orthoclase feldspar (endmember formula  $KAlSi_3O_8$ ), is an important tectosilicate mineral which forms igneous rock. The name is from the Ancient Greek for "straight fracture", because its two cleavage planes are at right angles to each other. It is a type of potassium feldspar, also known as K-feldspar. The gem known as moonstone (see below) is largely composed of orthoclase.



Color: Colorless, Greenish, Greyish Yellow, White, Pink

Hardness: 6 on the mohs scale.

Occurrence: Dickson and Marquette Counties  
From the internet Wikipedia

### Egyptian Jasper

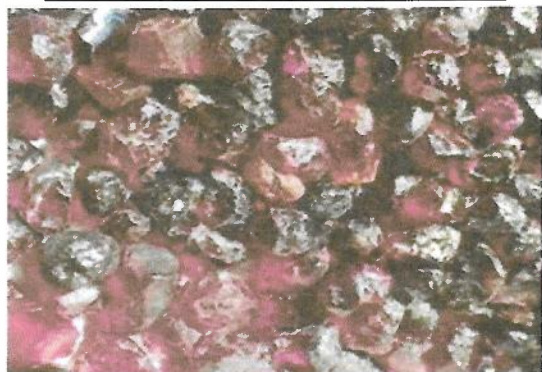
A brown variety jasper (brown alternating with black stripes - Egypt) or red (blood-red, flesh red, yellow, brown - found in Baden), originally described from Egypt.



Picture by Science Photo Gallery  
From the internet mindat

We always talk about January's Gem  
Garnet, but what about .

### Garnet's Industrial Uses



Garnet's industrial uses are one of the reasons garnet mining is booming. Garnet has become a bona fide industrial commodity because it is a nearly perfect industrial abrasive. In just the past 15 years, annual world mine production has quadrupled to 1.2 million metric tons of refined garnet concentrate worth \$340 million dollars.

The word "garnet" refers to a group of complex silicate minerals with similar crystalline structures but diverse chemical compositions. Garnet's general chemical formula is  $A_3B_2(SiO_4)_3$ , with "A" representing such divalent metallic ions as calcium, magnesium, ferrous iron, and manganese, and "B" representing trivalent ions like aluminum, chromium, ferric iron, and manganese. In certain rare garnets, the "B" cation can also include vanadium, titanium, or zirconium ions.

Many of the 14 garnet-group members form mutual solid-solution series. The most familiar and abundant of these garnet minerals are almandine, pyrope, spessartine,

grossular, andradite and uvarovite. Garnet-group-members vary widely in color, but only slightly in hardness, density, and index of refraction.

### Differences in Mineral Behavior

Under the severe stresses of abrasive use, garnet and quartz behave quite differently. Both have a conchoidal fracture and no cleavage, but quartz's tetrahedral atomic structure makes it the tougher and more durable mineral. Quartz breaks into rounded grains of the type found in the world's dune fields and beaches. Garnet grains, however, do not become rounded; they break into sharp-edged bits that retain their abrading efficiency.

Quartz sandblasting agents can be used but once and cannot be recovered. But garnet mediums, with their significantly greater density, are easily recovered by inexpensive, hydraulic separation or "retain their sharpness, they can be reused many times.

Garnet also has important health-related advantages. Quartz sandblasting agents create airborne dust of fine silica particles which, when inhaled, form silicic acid. Over time, silicic acid literally petrifies delicate lung tissues and greatly impairs pulmonary function. This debilitating industrial disease, called silicosis, can be fatal. Although garnet sandblasting agents also create airborne dust, it is non-toxic.

The petroleum industry uses huge amounts of garnet sandblasting agents to clean compacted mud and silt from drill pipes and well casings. Garnet powder and grit is also used to polish optical lenses and metal, and as a media in filtration systems for water and industrial liquids. A rapidly growing use is as the abrasive agent in water-jet cutting, which eliminates the need for flame cutting in many manufacturing operations.

The United States consumes 17 percent of world garnet production, but mines only three percent. In 2017, domestic garnet production amounted to 38,000 tons of refined garnet concentrate worth \$11 million. While garnet gemstones are also mined commercially, their quantity and value are minuscule compared with those of industrial-grade garnet.

From The Gem News 1/25

### **A Good Idea Built to Last – The Gem Scoop**

**By Jennifer Haley, AFMS Historian**

In April 1961, Ernest Estwing of the Estwing Mfg.Co. of Rockford, Illinois, makers of

**World-Famous**

Rock Picks and Sportsman's Axes, introduced his invention called the Gem Scoop. This same scoop is still sold today. Back in the day it sold for only \$7.50. Today, the same scoop or updated version sells for up to \$65.

What is fun to note, is the thought that went into creating the actual scoop so many of us have carried with us. The idea for it came from three rockhounding friends from different parts of the country who each wished for a particular type of tool to assist them on field trips.

One woman friend from Arizona wished for a tool to use for chasing snakes away while collecting and for grabbing specimens from under prickly cholla cactus and other precarious spots. An Idaho friend wished for a good climber's tool. Another friend wished for a scoop that would help him get specimens out of the water in Lake Superior. All three friends thought that a cane type tool would be very effective for what they needed.

After listening to his friends, Ernest spent the winter of that same year inventing and manufacturing the scoop. It was created to be the ideal tool collectors in every region of the country would want to have. The Gem Scoop was and is an ideal tool for its many uses....

-Excerpt from AFMS Newsletter-February 2025

From The Strata Data 2/25

**Speed Demons of the Sea** Judith Washburn of

LOESS, June 2006 Crinoids, invertebrate sea animals that are relatives of starfish and sea urchins, once achieved such abundance and

diversity in the world's seas that paleontologists sometimes refer to the period 350 million years ago as the "Age of Crinoids." Today only two main forms of crinoids remain. The stalked crinoid spent most of its time sitting and catching food with its flower-like, feathery arms that have earned it the nickname "sea

lily." Some crinoids are attached permanently to the sea floor or some other object by means of a root system called a "holdfast." Scientists have known for decades that some crinoids move - but just barely. They had been clocked at speeds no greater than 0.6 meter per hour.

From T-Town Rockhound 8/24

## Lapidary Work Safety Involves Equipment, Clothing, and Organization

### Lapidary

David Rich, MWF 2nd Vice President and Chair, MWF Safety & Field Trips Committee

Lapidary work, involving the cutting, grinding, and polishing of stones, requires meticulous attention to safety to prevent accidents and health hazards. Whether you are a hobbyist or a professional, adhering to safety protocols is crucial.

1. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)  
N-95 Masks: Always wear an N-95 mask when working with lapidary machines to protect yourself from inhaling fine stone dust and oil mists. These particles can be harmful to your respiratory health over time.  
Safety Glasses: Protect your eyes from flying debris and fragments by wearing safety glasses at all times. This is especially important when using grinders, saws, and polishers.
2. Appropriate Clothing Avoid wearing loose clothing, jewelry, or accessories that could get caught in machinery. Opt for fitted clothing and secure long hair to prevent entanglement in moving parts.
3. Equipment Handling Lapidary Grinders and Polishers: Ensure that all machines are properly maintained and in good working order. Check that guards are in place and functioning correctly. Always use the appropriate wheel or disc for the material you are working on, to avoid accidents.  
Trim Saws: Before using a saw, inspect the blade for any damage or wear and replace it if necessary. Use a steady, controlled motion when feeding the stone into the blade, and never force the material through.
4. Workspace Environment  
Keep your work area clean and organized to reduce the risk of accidents. Ensure that all tools and materials are stored properly when not in use.

Maintain proper ventilation to minimize the buildup of dust, fumes, and oil mists. Consider using an exhaust system or working near a window to improve air circulation.

By following these safety guidelines, you can minimize risks and ensure a more enjoyable lapidary work environment.

From the MWF News 11/24

## Safety Matters – Terribly Toxic Treasures by

Ellery Borow

Reprinted from the May 2016 A.F.M.S.

### Newsletter

Tightly tucked toward the top of our trinket trunks are treasures too toxic to touch, tempting us though as they tease our thoughts. Yes, it is true! Tossed throughout our treasure trunks are things that are toxic to the touch and taste, even in this totally tantalizing, yet tranquil, task of teaching there are terrors taxing my task.

Well, enough of these terrible, Thesaurus taxing “t’s”. The message this month is a mention that there are dangers lurking among our mineral treasures and what to do about that. Think for a moment, if you will, about the chemical compositions of some of the minerals we collect – autunite, arsenopyrite, cinnabar, betafite, thorite, cuprosklodowskite, malachite, even beach shells for the jewelry we make have within them chemistries that, under certain conditions of working, handling, or storage, can present concerns about their part in maintaining our health. Think of the conditions in which we find our mineral treasures – conditions that hide biting, stinging insects, or rash-causing plants, or offer precarious physical conditions which may impact ones health.

Our hobby is associated with great joys but also has within it certain dangers with which we should exercise substantial care and caution. There are minerals that should not be touched with bare hands and fingers. There are minerals that should not be worked dry. There are minerals that produce slivers that, oh so easily, penetrate the skin. There are minerals of a radioactive nature as well. Each of those situations requires certain protective measures. We encounter many specimens of fauna and flora along the way as we walk to our favorite collecting localities. Many of those same fauna and flora are ones which bite, sting or scratch us. Some

things just lay in wait to dig into our delicate hides, or scratch and tear us. We don't usually encounter hiding tigers or crouching dragons on our trips but those pesky little eight and six legged things sure can mess with our enjoyments.

What is a body to do to protect oneself? Glad you asked. We have a hobby based on sharing, giving, and teaching! Most of the hobby's enthusiasts out there, ones I've met over the years, follow those practices in all ways. There are folks in our clubs who have all manner of experiences with our hobby's related dangers and hazards. What I would like to offer here is a thought for your consideration. I would like to offer a suggestion that we encourage our members with the most experience to share, give, and teach not just about their knowledge with rocks, minerals, and fossils, but, also share, give, and teach what they have learned about being safe – safe mineral handling, safe storage, safe caring and feeding of our treasures, safe traipsing on quarry roads, safe avoidance of biting insects and so on. I'd like to broaden the sharing approach of our hobby to all things safety. Indeed, if your club does not have a safety coordinator, I would recommend your investigation of the benefits to your club with having a dedicated safety person. And, if you already have such a dedicated person in your club, I applaud your forethought! If you have a safety coordinator making safety a fun, interesting, and a learning experience, you are well ahead of the safety curve!

Please be safe, and think safety. Also, please mind those legless critters as well, after all, we all have a place on this Earth and we need to be mindful about sharing it with them. Please be safe, and think safety. Also, please mind those legless critters as well, after all, we all have a place on this Earth and we need to be mindful about sharing it with them.  
From Rock Trails 4/16

## 10 Most Deadly Rocks and Minerals

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.

### 10 Coloradoite

Coloradoite is a recently discovered crystalline mineral originating in magma veins. The mineral is a mercury telluride compound formed when mercury fuses with tellurium, another extremely toxic and rare metal. Coloradoite therefore poses a doubly toxic threat to anyone daring to handle it. The combination of the two elements poses the risk of serious poisoning if carelessly handled. If heated or chemically altered, deadly vapor and dust is released by this strange mineral. Interestingly, the mineral may be mined for its tellurium content. Tellurium minerals may combine with gold, but were previously not recognized. In a strange twist of fate, the streets of Kalgoorlie in Australia were mined in a bizarre gold rush after the realization that gold-bearing tellurides had been used to fill potholes.

**9 Chalcanthite** Seductive blue chalcanthite crystals are composed of copper, combined with sulfur and other elements and water. This arrangement turns copper, which is required by the body but toxic in excess quantities, into an extremely bio-available crystal. In another words, the copper becomes water soluble, and may be assimilated in great quantities by any plant or animal, rapidly weakening it and then killing it by shutting down body processes. Chalcanthite should never be taste tested by amateur scientists for salt content, or an extremely serious overdose of copper could result. Just releasing crystals of the blue mineral has killed entire ponds of algae, and posed great environmental threats. Because of the incredible beauty and rarity of chalcanthite, an enterprise dedicated to growing artificial crystals and passing them off as genuine specimens for sale has developed within the geological community

**8 Hutchinsonite** Thallium is the dark twin of lead. This thick, greasy metal is similar in atomic mass but even more deadly. Thallium is a rare metal that appears in highly toxic compounds consisting of rather strange combinations of elements. The effects of thallium exposure are even more peculiar, and include loss of hair,

serious illness through skin contact and in many cases, death. Hutchinsonite is a hazardous but dramatic mixture of thallium, lead and arsenic. The three poisonous metals form a lethal mineral cocktail that should be handled only with great caution. Hutchinsonite was named after John Hutchinson, a prominent mineralogist from Cambridge University. The mineral is found in mountainous regions of Europe, most frequently in ore deposits

**7 Galena** Galena is the principle ore of lead, and forms glistening silver cubes with almost unnaturally perfect shapes. Although lead is normally extremely flexible, the sulfur content of galena makes it toll on workers and amateur researchers who are exposed to it. Contact with specimens may lead to lead dust exposure, while workers in mines face a high risk of poisoning from contact with the mineral and the deadly dusts released through production. Once extracted, the lead content from this mineral poses environmental and health threats during treatment and extraction. Galena has a cubic fracture, and if hit with a hammer, the crystal will shatter into multiple smaller replicas of its original shape. Minerals 6 through 1 will be next months Rockpile Taken from Rock Trails 5/16



**Happy**

**Saint Patrick's  
Day**

**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 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/mw1/index.html](http://www.amfed.org/mw1/index.html) American  
Lands Access Association: <http://amlands.org>

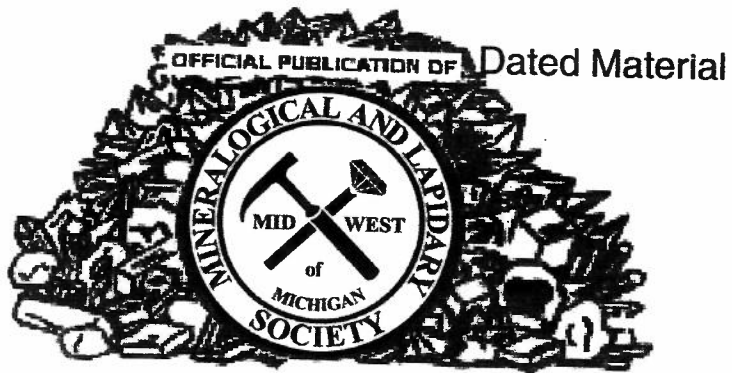
American Federation:  
[www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

### **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

