

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

May, 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: Gary Slominski
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
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

THE PREZ SEZ:

Hello Rockhounds

So now its May, where has this year gone? Time waits for no one. The Spring Swap was a success for most of us. We all should be proud of our attendance and participation in our club activity.

I would also like to thank Mike Bomba and Tom Morris for their help and contribution, with their strength and determination we brought closure to our deal with the Kalamazoo club (regarding our sale of club cases). We acquired at least 10 passes for their upcoming show so its in our best interest to show up and support their show!

Believe in the club and we can do great things together!
 Dan

***Death Leaves a heartache no one can heal
 Love leaves a memory no one can steal.***

Ardeana Roberts lost her daughter, Diane, after a rare illness she has been fighting for many years in April. Our condolences to Ardeana and her family from all the members of MMLS.

May Program: The May program will be a video "I Dig Fossils" a real life adventure. A field trip to Mazon Creek.

Board Meeting Summary for March 17, 2017

Meeting called to order at 7:44 PM.
 A motion was made to accept the February 17, 2017 meeting minutes as corrected, motion carried.
 Treasurer's report February 28, 2017 motion to accept was made and carried. March program "Rockhounds the Movie" by O. Dennie and T. Kent. April will be A fossil request was made so next month the first choice will be "1 Dig Fossils" by Mazon Productions,
 21 minutes and "Burgess Shale Impressions of Life"

by British Columbia, Canada, 45 minutes. Next Board Meeting April 14 at 7:30 pm location to be announced. Meeting adjourned at 8:39.
 Submitted by Julie Knechtges Secretary.

General Meeting Summary March 21, 2017

Motion was made to accept the February 21, 2017 meeting minutes as corrected, motion carried.
 Treasurer's report for February 28, 2017 motion was made to accept and carried. T-shirts quote 2 sided logo \$15.76 each, 1 sided logo \$12.01 with additional cost for size 2XL \$2.00, 3XL \$3.00, 4XL \$4.00, 5XL \$5.00. I will be taking orders through the June General Meeting and will get ordered over the summer to have available at the September General Meeting for use during the Oct SuperSwap. April program will be one of two choices
 "1 Dig Fossils" by Mazon Productions, 21 minutes and
 "Burgess Shale Impressions of Life" by British Columbia, Canada, 45 minutes. Stacey Harper sent VP Diane Kuzara an email advising she boosted the March Swap ad on Facebook a couple of week ago, spending \$20 to boost the ad for the entire month up to the day of the Swap. This resulted in page views going up 100%, reader reach up 129%, post engagements up 205%, page likes up 100% and video views up 100%. Stacey redirected inquiries to web page, added a link to Facebook and answered several emails regarding the swap directing 2 people directly to Lou. A motion was made and carried to reimburse \$20 to Stacey.
 A motion was made to adjourn meeting at 8:14 pm, motion carried. Summarized by Secretary Julie Knechtges.

CLUB T-SHIRTS FOR SALE!!!

During February's General Meeting we discussed MMLS club event T-shirts. Secretary Julie Knechtges will be taking orders and payment for shirts from now through the June General Meeting, they will be available for pick up during the September 2017 meeting. During the February meeting 22 people were interested in ordering. The below pricing is based on 22 shirts being ordered. If less than 22 shirts are ordered costs may go up, if more than 22 shirts are ordered costs may go down. The T-shirt description is: all black with black and white logo - small logo on front and large logo on back of shirt.

Cost \$15.76 per shirt, sizes up to extra-large, see below add the extra charge below for sizes over an XL:

Size 2XL add \$2.00

Size 3XL add \$3.00

Size 4XL add \$4.00

Size 5XL add \$5.00

Thank you, Julie Knechtges

Email Address Update

Velma Bradley: dvjbradley@comcast.net

Mary Lou Williams: m157williams@gmail.com

Email Correction for new member;

David B. McCulloch

15831 Humphrey St.

Southgate, MI 48195

Tel. 313-643-3861

Email foamer3@hotmail.com

PLEASE CORRECT YOUR DIRECTORY!

Welcome New Members!

Jeff and Bonnie Wheeler

4626 Woodland Lane

Sylvania, OH 43560

Tel. 419-824-4125

Email b86fiero@buckeye-express.com

Todd Gall

40965 Oppollo

Northville, MI 48167

Tel. 248-348-5093

Email Fossiliferous4862@gmail.com

Debra McCulloch

15831 Humphrey St.

Southgate, MI 48195

Tel. 734-282-9694

Email debmcculloch@outlook.com

PLEASE ADD TO YOUR DIRECTORY!

WIRE WRAP CLASSES

Anyone interested in a study group for wire wrap pleased contact John Lindsay for dates, time and more information

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.

May 1st, 15th & 17th Lapidary work shop 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening.

May 18th Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown, Mi at 7pm.

THE ROCKPILE

May 2017

Volume LXI

Issue 5

May 12th Board Meeting and Rockpile Deadline.
TBA.

Catholic Elementary School, 3165 Washington Ave,
St. Joseph. Contact Nancy Wolff, (269) 983-4900;
nancyswolff@hotmail.com

May 16th General meeting will be held at the
DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 WICK
RD., TAYLOR at 7:30pm.

**June 2nd, 3rd & 4th STATE LINE GEM &
MINERAL SOCIETY'S SHOW.** Fulton County
Fairgrounds inside the Junior Fair Building, 8514
SR108, Wauseon, Ohio 43567. For information
Sherm Kardatzke sakardatzke@mcom.com
Tel. 517-673-5487 or Glenda Gafner
ggafner@frontier.com Tel. 517-403-6310.

May 18th Mineral Study group will meet at Dave
Esch's house, 227 Barton Shore Dr., Ann Arbor Mi.,
at 7:30pm.

June 1st 15th Beadstudygroup will meet at the
Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown, Mi at 7pm.

**I have recently been diagnosed with
AAADD—Age Activated Attention Deficit
Disorder.**

*from Cyberspace. Anonymous, of course. via SCRIBE
2013 DVD*

June 5th, 19th & 21st Lapidary work shop 2009
W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm.
Fee is \$2.50 for each evening.

T his is how it goes...

I decide to do work on the car, start to the
garage and notice the mail on the table. OK, I'm
going to work on the car...

BUT FIRST, I'm going to go through the
mail. Lay car keys down on desk. After discarding
the junk mail, I notice the trash can is full. OK, I'll
just put the bills on my desk....

BUT FIRST I'll take the trash out, but since I'
m going to be near the mailbox., I'll address a few
bills.... Yes, Now where is the checkbook?
Oops... there's only one check left. Where did I put
the extra checks? Oh, there is my empty plastic cup
from last night on my desk. I'm going to look for
those checks...

BUT FIRST I need to put the cup back in the
kitchen. I head for the kitchen, look out the window,
notice the flowers need a drink of water, I put the cup
on the counter and there's my extra pair of glasses on
the kitchen counter. What are they doing here? I'll
just put them away...

BUT FIRST I need to water those plants. I
head for the door and... Aaaagh! someone left the TV
remote on the wrong spot. Okay, I'll put the remote
away and water the plants...

BUT FIRST I need to find those checks.
END OF DAY: Oil in car not changed, bills still
unpaid, cup still in the sink, checkbook still has only
one check left, lost my car keys, And, when I try to

June 15th Mineral Study group will meet at Dave
Esch's house, 227 Barton Shore Dr., Ann Arbor Mi.,
at 7:30pm.

June 16th Board Meeting and Rockpile Deadline
TBA.

June 20th General meeting will be held at the
DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 WICK
RD., TAYLOR at 7:30pm.

Sister Club Events;

May 5-7—KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN: Annual
show; Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society,
Kalamazoo County Expo Center; 2900 Lake Street.
Contact Jerry VanNocker, (269)-979-3348; e-mail:
jervannocker@comcast.net; Web site:
KalamazooRockClub.org

May 6-7: SHARONVILLE, OH Cincinnati Mineral
Society Annual Show. Sharonville Convention
Center, 11355 Chester Rd., Sharonville. Contact Jim
& Judy Budnik, (513) 575-1990; wisoh@msn.com

May 20-21: ST. JOSEPH, MI Blossomland Gem &
Mineral Society Annual Show. Lake Michigan

May 2017

figure out how come nothing got done today, I'm baffled because...

I know I was busy all day.

From The BackBenders Gazette 10/16

Hint to Try

The secret of hiding fractures in a cab with epoxy is to shape the stone and semi polish it. Heat the stone to 200 degrees in an oven. Mix the epoxy and apply it to one end of the crack and work toward the outside of the cab so that the air in the fracture is driven out and the resin now replaces it. You will notice that the epoxy becomes very fluid when it touches the hot stone, and it flows right in the crack. Put the stone back into the oven for 20 minutes for the epoxy to harden. Scrape off the surplus and proceed with your final polish The Rockpile 9/1987



American Made: Leland Blues

By Rachel L. Best, The Pick & Dop Stick. First place winner 2015 AFMS Adult Articles Contest.

Purists may turn up their noses, but I'll admit not every specimen in my rock collection was created by nature. The industrial processing of ores has created some unique by-products that are quite alluring.

Cabochon of Michigan from Leland Blue



A Cabochon cut from Frankfort Green



A chunk of Leland Blue

Slag is a glass-like by-product consisting of ash, impurities, bits of iron, and flux left over after a desired metal has been separated from an ore through smelting. The raw ore is heated within massive *blast* furnaces to the point of melting to separate it from the impurities. Because of the difference in density of the

materials, the slag floats on top and can be drawn off before the purified metal is poured into ladles for ingot casting.

When northern Michigan was a hub of industry supplying our nation's cities with steel for buildings and railroads during the late 19th circa 1870 - 1900, the Leland Lake Superior Iron Company of Leland, Michigan was operating an iron smelting plant on the shores of Lake Michigan. Tons of slag was produced by their operations that had to be disposed of, and this was done in the cheapest and easiest manner. It was dumped into Lake Michigan.

This slag by-product that was unceremoniously dumped into the lake more than a century ago is some of the most beautiful foundry glass that can be found. Now named Leland Bluestone, it varies in color like the sky varies in color throughout the day- all shades of blue, from light to dark, to shades of green, purple, and steel gray. The color is derived from a combination of factors that cannot be readily reproduced. High grade charcoal used to create the intense heat needed to reduce the ore to pig iron was made from beech and maple hardwoods of the region that are now long gone. This intense heat, a local limestone flux, and the impurities of the ore such as metal oxides, silicon dioxide, and various other compounds, produced the unique hues of Leland Blues.

Just south of Leland is the town of Frankfort which also had an iron foundry that produced slag, except the main color of Frankfort's slag was green with shades of purple and gray. The Frankfort foundry buried and dumped their slag in Betsie Bay and it was also used along railroad tracks in the region as a stabilizer.

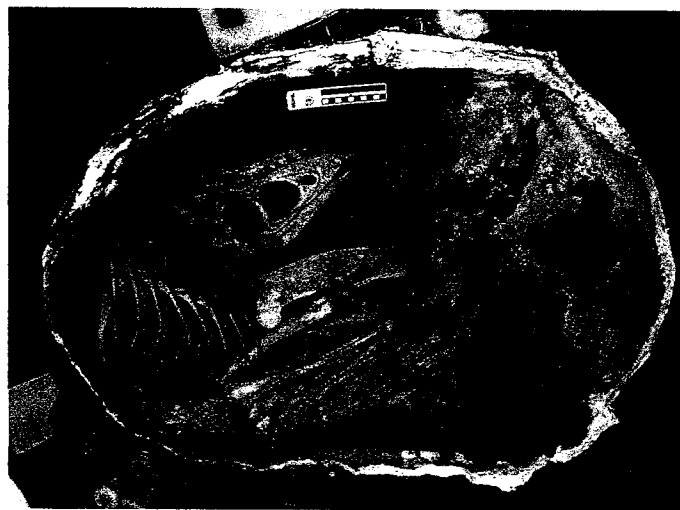
Just south of Leland is the town of Frankfort which also had an iron foundry that produced slag, except the main color of Frankfort's slag was green with shades of purple and gray. The Frankfort foundry buried and dumped their slag in Betsie Bay and it was also used along railroad tracks in the region as a stabilizer.

Now, more than a century later, Leland Blues

and Frankfort Greens are considered a treasure on the shores of the Leelanau Peninsula, drawing rockhounds from across the country to seek out man-made stones. Who would've thought a Victorian-era industrial waste product would be so sought after by collectors and lapidary artisans?

Sources: "Leland Blue, A Way of Life in Northern Michigan," My North, <http://mynorth.com/2014/08/leland-blue-a-way-of-life-in-northern-michigan/> "From the Rubble, Polishing a New Gem in Frankfort," The Betsie Current, betsiecurrent.com/index.php/from-the-rubble/ "Bluestone Bonanza," Leelanau Enterprise, <http://www.leelanau-news.com/?=node/5842>
From the AFMS Newsletter 4/17

Featherweight Relative of the T. Rex Is Found



By NICHOLAS BAKALAR MAY 9, 2011

Researchers working in the western Gobi Desert in Mongolia have discovered the almost complete skeleton of a tyrannosaurid dinosaur that was less than 3 years old when it died, younger and smaller than any previously known. The animal, *Tarbosaurus bataar*, is the closest relative of *Tyrannosaurus rex*, the predator that lived at the same time in North America.

In life, the specimen weighed less than 70 pounds, compared with the six-ton weight of a full-grown

T. bataar, the researchers report in *The Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*. The researchers were able to determine its age by microscopic examination of one of the leg bones, which reveal periodic pauses in growth, similar to the rings of a tree trunk.

The skulls of adult tyrannosaurids have extremely strong bones, especially those of the jaw, capable of tremendous twisting and bending forces. But the juvenile's skull bones are more delicate, its teeth much thinner and its jaw much weaker. This suggests that a young T. bataar would be more likely to take its prey by stealth and speed rather than the overwhelming power its parents could use. In other words, T. bataar changed its diet as it matured, unlike some other predatory dinosaurs.

"This is one of the clearest pictures we have of these dinosaurs," said Lawrence M. Witmer, a professor of paleontology at Ohio University and the senior author of the study. "It gives us the best glimpse into the changing lifestyles of these animals as they grew."

In life, the specimen weighed less than 70 pounds, compared with the six-ton weight of a full-grown T. bataar, the researchers report in *The Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*. The researchers were able to determine its age by microscopic examination of one of the leg bones, which reveal periodic pauses in growth, similar to the rings of a tree trunk.

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the changing lifestyles of these animals as they grew." From the internet via New York Times Co.

Quartz Inclusions

by Paul E. Desautels

from Agatizer, 8/1989 via *The Rockytier* 10/1989,
via *The SCMFS Newsletter* 5-6/2015

When the Seven Dwarfs placed Snow White in a crystal casket to preserve her, they were duplicating a long-established natural process. Almost every time nature grows a crystal, she encases in it a variety of objects called inclusions. They are scientifically important because they are evidence of the temperatures, pressures, composition, and other characteristics of the environment in which the mineral is found. Not only solids, but liquids and gases are often trapped during crystal growth. The difference between the white, opaque variety of quartz called "milky quartz" and the clear glassy variety called "rock crystal" is caused by multitudes of tiny bubbles of liquid trapped in milky quartz. Frequently, the inclusion will be more than one kind, each called a "phase." One of the most amazing sights to see under a microscope is the two-phase inclusion of a tiny bit of carbon in Herkimer Co., New York. The carbon can be seen jittering around in an erratic dance, bombarded by the ever-moving liquid molecules. This is called the Brownian Motion after Robert Brown, the botanist, who first reported it in 1827. FROM THE BACKBENDERS GAZETTE 10/16

Did you know:

The world first shopping mall (Northland Mall) opened in the Detroit suburb of Southfield in 1954. Newspapers from overseas as well as this country wrote that it would never catch on.

The first soft drink, (Vernor's Ginger Ale) was introduced by a Detroit Pharmacist, James A. Vernor, in 1866. Note: there were several 'elixirs' on the market at that time including what later would be called Coca Cola. These contained alcohol, whereas Vernor's didn't. Thus the name 'soft' drink. From the Internet

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/mwfi/index.html

American Federation: www.amfed.org

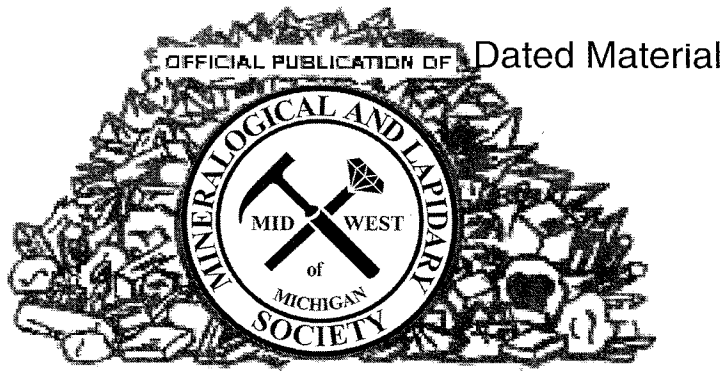
American Lands Access Association: <http://amlands.org>

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