

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

November, 2018



SOUTHEASTERN - MICHIGAN

Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society

2018 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

2018 Banquet:
2018 Swap: Lou and Cindy Talley
2018 Super Swap: Bill Barr / Tom Morris
2018 Auction: Dwayne Ferguson

The Rockpile Staff : Editor Peter Kuzara,
email: Kuzara1126@gmail.com 734-675-5237

MMLS website - www.mmls.us
Email - rockhounds@mmls.us

General Club meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on every
third Tuesday of the month (except July and August) at
the Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor,
MI 48180

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

STUDY GROUPS

Advanced Lapidary:
Basic Lapidary:
Bead Study: Diane Kuzara
Faceting:
Mineralogy: Bill Barr
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

November! 2018**The Prez Sez:**

Wow! It's November already and we are rapidly coming to the end of this year. I am writing about events that have passed by already. I'm sure we all had a great time at the SuperSwap. We had a good turnout of members and visitors and have signed up some new members as well and that is a good thing! If you didn't sell much, you weren't ready to part with much.

It's Auction time, on Saturday, November yct_ Please get with Dwayne Ferguson about helping out at the Auction, we need helpers with setup, sales, teardown and with the workday beforehand. His phone number is listed on the flyer and in the Directory as well. See you all at the Auction.

President Dan

Board Meeting September 14, 2018**Summary:**

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm. A motion was made and carried to accept the June meeting minutes. A motion was made and carried to accept the Treasurers report for Jun 1 - August 31 report. A motion was made and carried to delegate registration ballot form for MWF President. A motion was made and carried to approve Bill O'Brien and Tammy Mathews as members. Meeting adjourned at 08:27 pm motion made and carried.

Submitted by Julie Knechtges, Secretary

General Meeting September 18, 2018**Summary:**

Meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm. A motion was made and carried to accept the June meeting minutes. A motion was made and carried to accept the Treasurers report for Jun 1 - August 31 report. A motion was made and carried to delegate registration ballot form for MWF President. A motion was made and carried to approve Bill O'Brien and Tammy Mathews as members. A motion was made and carried to accept sales table proceeds be credited to SuperSwap. Motion was made and carried to

adjourn meeting at 07:50 pm.

Submitted by Julie Knechtges, Secretary

Nominations for Club Officers for 2019:

The chairman of the 2018 nominating committee, Mike Bomba has put forth the following slate of officers for 2019:

President: Diane Kuzara

Vice President: Pat Rutkowski

Treasurer: Doris Snyder

Recording/Corresponding Secretary: Julie Knechtges

Liaison Officer: Pete Kuzara

The election of next year's officers will take place at the November General Meeting.

Please plan to attend.

November Program:

Speaker Larry Atkins will do a program on meteorites. He will have specimens to view.

2018 SuperSwap Report**Bill Barr/Tom Morris**

Both of us, Bill and Tom, want to thank all MMLS members who participated and/or attended our 3rd annual SuperSwap in Belleville on September 29 & 30. A special thanks to those who came out on Friday to help with the set-up and to those who stayed around after the swap was over on Sunday to help tear down. Helping us were Mike Bomba, Ana and Dwayne Ferguson, President Dan Gumina, Pete and Diane Kuzara, John Lindsay, Tom Shipley, Gary Slominski, Leonard Swisher, Dave Thomas, and Don Venier.

This year also featured six excellent displays set up by Mike Bomba, Diane Kuzara, John Lindsay (2 different cases), Bill Barr, and the MMLS Michigan Materials collection set up by Tom Morris. Thank you for bringing such wonderful material to show all who attended. Also a big thank you to Gary Slominski for taking care of the club sales for both days and to Mike B., Dan G., Leonard S., and again

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Gary for all their assistance getting sale materials, show cases, signs, etc., out of and back into our storage area.

A total of 19 members reserved and set up tables with their own material and items for sale or to swap. This was really good participation from our members. Besides our own club tables, two other clubs were represented-Huron Hills and Mt. Clemens. Hope to have more next year. Speaking of next year, the dates for the 2019 SuperSwap are October 5 & 6. Again, thank you!"

Bill and Torn

P. S. Thank you Torn for giving this report on our SuperSwap event!! This is the first time in a long time we have received such a report. Hope to see more of them in the future.

Diane Kuzara, VP.

**MIDWEST MINERALOGICAL AND
LAPIDARY SOCIETY PRESENTS
THE 53rd ANNUAL AUCTION**

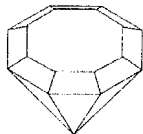
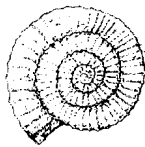
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5th, 2018

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM

FREE ADMISSION!!

**FREE PARKING
THE PUBLIC IS INVITED**

**AT THE
DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR SALES TABLES OPEN
23400 WICK RD. FROM 6:00PM. - 7:00PM.
TAYLOR, MICHIGAN AND DURING INTERMISSION
AUCTION STARTS AT 7:00PM**



**AUCTION ITEMS MAY INCLUDE:
MINERALS
LAPIDARY MATERIAL
JEWELRY ITEMS
FOSSILS
BOOKS RELATED TO HOBBY
AND MUCH MORE!**

**For more information contact: Mary Fergin
Phone: 313-550-9809 Email: shelby-0671111@aly.lbo.com**

Judy Marks
22401 Cobb
Dearborn, MI 48128
Tel. 313-673-1951
Email: thorniegirl@gnail.com

Liz Hartig
7634 Kolb Ave.
Allen Park, MI 48101
Tel. 734-365-1918
Email: lizhartig@gnail.com

Karl Schafer
12354 Harris
Carleton, MI 48117
Tel. 734-299-3131
Email: kathyschafer01@charter.net

Bailey Hughes
13540 Lennoore
Belleville, MI 48111
Tel. 734-512-9655
Email: baileyhughes@aol.com

Army Officer
2225 Longfellow
Detroit, MI 48206
Tel. 313-516-0798

Nicole Pappas
25598 Cambridge Ct.
Roseville, MI 48066-3807
Tel. 810-459-4135
Email: lalarnadea3@yahoo.com

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

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

Welcome New Members:

Lori Haarn
915 Trenton Terrace
Dearborn, MI 48124
Tel. 313-562-5097
Email: haamurabi@att.net

November.1 2018

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

Our Club Activities

Nov. pt & 15th Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm.

Nov. 3rd Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society 53rd Annual Auction. At the Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor, MI. Doors open at 6pm.

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

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

Nov. 16th Board Meeting TBA ROCKPILE DEADLINE. TBA

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

Dec. 3rd, 17th & 19th Lapidary work shop 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening.

Dec. 6th & 20th Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm.

Dec. 14th Board Meeting and Rockpile Deadline TBA

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

Dec. 20th Mineral Study group will meet at Dave Esch's house, 227 Barton Shore Dr., Ann Arbor Mi. At 7:30pm.

Sister Club Events

Nov. 3-4: MIDLAND, MI Mid-Michigan Rock Club Annual Show. 9 am - 4 pm each day. Chippewa Nature Center, 400 S. Badour Rd., Midland. Contact: Debra Young, 212 Auburn St., Midland 48640; (989) 245-0343; debiyoung50@yahoo.com

Nov. 12: BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI Michigan Mineralogical Society Annual Auction. Cranbrook Institute of Science, 3922 Woodward Ave, Bloomfield Hills. Contact: Brad Zylman; (612) 600-9484; bzylman@twmi.rr.com

Nov. 17-18: TOLEDO, OH Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club Rock/Jewelry Open House. Sat 9:30 am - 4:30 pm; Sun noon - 4 pm. St. James Lutheran Church Gym, 4727 West Sylvania Ave, Toledo. Contact Michelle Gregore, 9525 Wolfinger, Holland 43528; (419) 270-7507; mgrigoretgrb@gmail.com

YOOPERLITE

Rintamaki's passion has made him a local celebrity. He says his tours are booked solid through 2019 and the videos of his rock hunting have gone viral. Michigan Man Discovers Glowing, Fluorescent Rocks Called "Yooperlites" <http://www.geologyin.com/2018/09/michigan-man-discovers-glowing.html#F7WqkUBXZzTCqz8r.99> Follow us: @GeologyTime on Twitter

Erik Rintamaki was searching for rocks on a Michigan beach last summer when he made what he calls a "mind blowing" discovery. Resting among the thousands of pebbles covering the Lake Superior beach, Rintamaki saw a glowing rock

The gem and mineral dealer told CBS News he often goes rock hunting. But on this particular June night, he found a rock unlike any other - a florescent orb that he later named "Yooperlite." Like

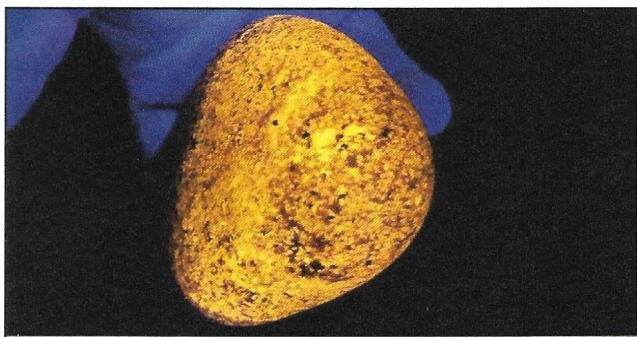
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lava glowing through cracks in the earth, a glowing light seeped out of the lines in the small rock.



Rintamaki knew this couldn't be the only Yooperlite out there, but he couldn't find any information about glowing rocks online. He knows many people in the gem and mineral field, but everyone he asked had no clue what these mysterious rocks were.

Rintamaki went back to the beach night after night, carrying a black light which helped illuminate the glowing rocks. "I was blown away," he said. "It's insane how many are on the beaches up here." He started collecting Yooperlites by the bagful and sold them online. Michigan State University messaged Rintamaki with an interest in buying some of the rocks to study.

Michigan State, along with the University of Saskatchewan, researched the Yooperlites for months. The universities determined that Rintamaki did, indeed, discover a new type of rock. He says other people may have spotted these gems before, but he was the first person to get Yooperlites verified - making him the self-proclaimed "Christopher Columbus of rocks."

Rintamaki said Michigan State gave the rocks a scientific name: syenite clasts containing fluorescent sodalite.

The name he gave them - Yooperlites comes from the nickname "Yoopers," which refers to people who live in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, according to Mineral News, a newsletter for mineral collectors that reported on Rintamaki's discovery.

When his discovery was verified and made public in May 2018, Rintamaki says life as he knew it changed. "I've had thousands of messages and I can't get to them all," he told CBS News. He now gives

Yooperlite tours on the beaches along Lake Superior.

"I've never had anyone not find stones,"

Rintamaki said of his tour groups. He takes groups out near dusk and they use black lights to search for Yooperlites for about four hours, he says. He also still sells Yooperlites and bought a machine that can buff them into perfect, smooth orbs.

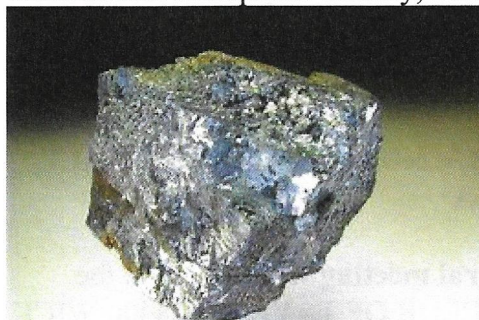
When he's not with a tour group, he finds himself looking for Yooperlites alone all night long. "I work the night shift at a casino, so when I get out of work at 2 a.m., I get to the beach ... I search until the sun comes up," he said.

Rintamaki's passion has made him a local celebrity. He says his tours are booked solid through 2019 and the videos of his rock hunting have gone viral. From the internet geology-in

Michigan Minerals Beginning with the Letter A Anglesite PbS04

A supergene alteration product coating or replacing galena. Found as a minor alteration on galena

Occurrence: Marquette County, Presque Isle



Picture from Internet

The Mineralogy of Michigan by E.M. Heinrich

Louisiana State Gemstone

Agate was originally designated the state gemstone of Louisiana in 1976. In 2011 Act 232 of the Louisiana legislature amended this state symbol to henceforth be the state mineral. From the Internet



Fossils

Two goals of fossil cleaning are removal of the dirt and rock attached to the fossil and elimination of stains and discolorations, if possible. Loose dirt can simply be removed with soap (detergent) and water with the use of a brush, such as a toothbrush. Never use a wire brush since it is harder than most fossils and will leave scratches. Attention must be given to the specimen's state of preservation so it remains intact during the cleaning process!

If, after washing and brushing, the specimen still has unwanted matrix, the following steps may be tried. The list is arranged in order of increasing severity.

BORAX OR BAKING SODA. Some clays may be removed by boiling in detergent, borax or baking soda. **VAR SOL-W ATER.** Most clays and shales will absorb water, causing swelling or expansion. Follow these steps: (1) Heat the specimen, preferably above 200 degrees F., to evaporate out all water between the clay particles and continue heating to drive off some of the water of hydration; (2) Place the still warm fossil in Varsol (kerosene is smelly and not as effective) and leave until the Varsol has penetrated all of the clay (several hours or even days); (3) Pour off the Varsol and immerse the fossil in water (hot, if possible). Varsol acts as a wetting agent and fills the pores but will not be absorbed by the clay. As water replaces Varsol, swelling spreads clay particles apart so they slough off; (4) Scrub with soap (detergent) and a toothbrush to remove remaining matrix; (5) Repeat from Step 1 as many times as necessary.

TSP. Some clays are partially cemented or non-swelling and require other treatment. Try boiling specimens in Trisodium phosphate (TSP).

HYDROGEN PEROXIDE. An ionic bond exists between some clay particles and may be disintegrated by breaking the bond. Try soaking the specimen in a 1-3% hydrogen peroxide solution. Do not soak too long or use higher concentrations because the soaking can etch or discolor the fossil.

ACID. Hard limestone will not respond to the above treatments. A last resort method is a careful use of a very dilute acetic acid (vinegar is a very weak solution). Apply to a small area with a fine brush or toothpick and neutralize with water and bicarbonate of soda before damage is done to the specimen. From

The Backbender's Gazette 11/92

Limestone fossils can be cleaned by adding a little Sani-Flush to a pail of water. After the fizzing stops, pour off the water and repeat the cleaning process. After several such baths, rinse the fossils thoroughly. Do the whole thing outdoors.

From Osage Hills Gems 1987

NOTICE: DUES ARE DUE

Dear MMLS member:

It's that time again when you are asked to renew your membership for the year (2019) 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 and Lapidary Society
Adult Dues: \$15.00

Juniors (under age 18) \$1.00

Yes I wish to renew my/our membership in MMLS for 2019 and continue to receive The Rockpile

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Email address _____

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

Enclosed is my check payable to MMLS for \$ _____

Would you like your Rockpile sent to you by email?

Yes _____

No _____

DO IT TODAY BEFORE YOU FORGET!!!!!!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING**HAPPY THANKSGIVING****HAPPY THANKSGIVING****HAPPY THANKSGIVING****HAPPY THANKSGIVING****HAPPY THANKSGIVING****HAPPY THANKSGIVING****Spoonshaw**

"Spoonshaw" is the first step in learning scrimshaw. Among the lapidary hobbies, the craft of scrimshaw is about the least expensive to enter. For less than \$5.00 you can purchase all of the equipment that you will need, less working material. A bottle of black India ink, or black shoe-polish (polish is best for spoonshaw as it is not as messy as ink), a pencil and a scribing tool are the tools you will need. Scribing pins can be purchased at most hobby shops. You may also use an X-acto knife with a #11 or #16 blade, dentist's tools, or any sharp pointed instrument.

There are numerous materials that you can use for scrimshaw: ivory, bone antlers, shells, plastic or ivory piano-keys, ivory nuts and last but not least, the good old plastic spoon. Most materials must be sanded and polished before you can begin to scrimshaw, but with the plastic spoon you can start immediately.

You are now ready to start being a "scrimshander." Be sure that your plastic spoon is clean, then with a pencil, draw a design or picture on the spoon. After you have drawn the basic lines, you will then engrave them with your scribing tool. Carefully apply pressure to the scribing tool in order to penetrate the surface of the plastic spoon. Scribe lines are easier to do if you draw them towards you. When you have scribed all the lines you have drawn, put some shoe polish on your finger and rub the entire area you have scribed. Let stand for a few minutes, then wipe off with a clean cloth or paper towel. Your scribed lines will be filled in, and the excess will be cleaned off the surface, revealing the design.

This is the moment of truth! You are happy with your results, or must start over from scratch, as one misplaced scribe-line means that you must start over. If working on a plastic spoon, just throw it away and start another one. If working on bone or ivory, you will have to sand out all of the scribe lines, repolish, then start all over again. Do you see why I like plastic spoons? If you are happy with what you have done, finish your picture or design with more detail by adding more lines, using more shoe polish and wiping off as you progress.

With these simple instructions, you should be able to start to scrimshaw. Even if you don't produce a masterpiece, I guarantee that you will have a lot of fun. Remember, "spoonshaw" is the first step to scrimshaw. When you feel that you want to start working on bone or ivory, I suggest that you read some books on scrimshaw to get more information on preparing your materials. One of the best books that I have found on scrimshaw is *Scrimshaw*, by Leslie Linsley.

By Marty Horste in the Michigan Gem News 4/83
y Horste in The Michigan Gem News, April 1983

• **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 - Spring Rock Swap and Sale Fall- 2 Day SuperSwap and Sale November Annual Auction

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

American Federation:
www.amfed.org

The Rockhound's 10 Commandments:

Thou shall not touch thy neighbor's minerals unless he places them in thy hands.
Thou shall not test the strength of crystals by pushing, squeezing or biting.
Thou shall not drop thy neighbor's fossils, for many do not bounce properly.
Thou shall not place thy neighbor's specimens in thine own pocket.
Thou shall not collect at a neighbor's land unless 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. JO. Thou shall not break uncollectable specimens.

EDITOR
20281 THOMAS
BROV/NSTO'vVN.MI
48183



Mountain West
Federation



1993-1st Place (Large Bulletin) AFMS
1991-1st Place (Large Bulletin) MWF
1990-1st Place (New Editor) AFMS
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