

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

October, 2019



SOUTHEASTERN - MICHIGAN

Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society

2019 OFFICERS

President: Diane Kuzara (734) 675-5237
Vice President: Pat Rutkowski (313) 291-5861
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:
Sunshine Reporter: Velma Bradley
Refreshments: Gary Slominski
Web Site: Stacey Harper

ACTIVITIES

2019 Banquet: Dan Gumina
2019 Swap: Lou and Cindy Talley
2019 Super Swap: Bill Barr / Tom Morris
2019 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
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

From The President's Desk:

An important reminder for all MMLS members: Remember there is a dues increase for adult members beginning in 2020 from \$15.00 to \$20.00 and for junior members from \$1.00 to \$2.00. Doris will begin taking dues for next year shortly.

Our nominating committee, Dan Gumina and Tom Morris will be looking to fill the slate of club officers for next year. Please be willing to accept a position if you are asked or feel free to offer your services to them. We also have openings for some committee chairpersons, activities and study group chairmen. Please feel free to offer your time and talent for any of the positions. See your president if you would like to join a committee or help with one. We need you!

We are looking for workers for the SuperSwap and the Auction. See Tom Morris or Bill Barr to offer your help for the SuperSwap (October 5th and 6th) and Dwayne Ferguson for our Auction (November 2nd). Putting on these events take a lot of time and work. We have a job for YOU! Please offer to help.

“Thank you to a Member” segment: This month's special thank you goes out to Dan Gumina. Dan joined MMLS in October, 1991. Most recently he has served as President in 2017/2018. Dan brought us some good ideas when he was in that office. Dan enjoys field tripping and is a creative design artist. He has worked tirelessly for the club in many capacities. He participates in all club events and was our Auction Chairman for several years. This year Dan has brought the club back an event I have asked for many times, that is the Banquet that we have not had for several years. Thank you, Dan, from all of us!

Diane

NOTICE MMLS MEMBERS: THERE IS A DUES INCREASE COMING! DUES FOR 2020 WILL BE \$20 FOR ADULTS AND \$2 FOR JUNIORS.

October 15 Program: Will be a video Kongsberg, King of Silver Mines by Peter Lyckberg.

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!!!!

Our Club Activities

⇒ 2019 ⇐ **Fourth Annual** ⇒ 2019 ⇐

**SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN
GEM, MINERAL & ROCK
SUPERSWAP!**

Hosted by the Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society

Saturday, Oct. 5 • 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 6 • 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.



Wayne County Fairgrounds
10871 Quirk Rd., Belleville, MI
(I-94 to Exit 190, W on N. Service Drive,
N on Quirk to Fairgrounds on right)

**BUY! SWAP! SELL!**

Minerals • Gems • Jewelry • Fossils • Lapidary Materials
Beads • Equipment • Supplies • Books • and more!

PUBLIC INVITED!

FREE Admission!

FREE Parking!

**INDOOR EVENT -
Rain or Shine!**

Camping available -
contact Fairgrounds Office
at 734-697-7002

**ACTIVITIES**

including:

Mineral Kits for Kids
Craft Demonstrations
Rock & Mineral ID
Gem, Jewelry &
Mineral Displays

Tables \$35/2 days, \$20/day (if available). For info about reservations, etc., call 313-278-5063 or email wbarr@umich.edu

Oct. 3rd & 17th Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm.
Diane Kuzara, 734-675-5237.

October, 2019

Oct. 7th, 21st & 23rd 2019 Lapidary work shop
2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening. **Frank Konieczki 734-323-2218.**

Oct. 11th Board Meeting at Pat Rutkowski's home at 7:30 pm Rockpile Deadline.

Oct. 15th General meeting will be held at the DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 WICK RD., TAYLOR at 7:30pm.

Oct. 17th Mineral Study group will meet at Dave Esch's house, 227 Barton Shore Dr., Ann Arbor Mi. At 7:30pm. **David Esch, 734-665-5574.**

Nov. 2nd MIDWEST MINERALOGICAL AND LAPIDARY SOCIETY'S 54TH ANNUAL AUCTION SEE FLYER IN THIS MONTH'S ROCKPILE.

Nov. 4th, 18th, 20th Lapidary work shop 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening. **Frank Konieczki 734-323-2218.**

Nov. 7th, 21st Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm. **Diane Kuzara, 734-675-5237.**

Nov. 15th TBA Rockpile Deadline

Nov. 19th General meeting will be held at the DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 WICK RD., TAYLOR at 7:30pm.

Nov. 21st Mineral Study group will meet at Dave Esch's house, 227 Barton Shore Dr., Ann Arbor Mi. At 7:30pm. **David Esch, 734-665-5574.**

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Sister Club Events

Oct. 11-13: WARREN, MI Michigan Mineralogical Society Annual Show. Fri 9 am - 6 pm; Sat 10 am - 7 pm; Sun 11 am - 5 pm. Macomb Sports & Expo Center, Bldg P, 14500 E. 12 Mile Rd., Warren. Contact: John Peters, (313) 255-7774; joopett13@hotmail.com www.michmin.org

Oct. 12-13: CLEVELAND, OH Parma Lapidary Club Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 4 pm; Sun Noon - 4 pm. Parma Lapidary Club, 2130 W. 110th St., Cleveland. Contact: Amanda Balog, parmalapidary@yahoo.com www.parmalapidary.org

Oct. 18-20: FORT WAYNE, IN Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show. Fri & Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Allen County Fairgrounds, 2726 Carroll Rd., Fort Wayne. Contact: Russell Greim, (260) 403-0450; 3riversshow@gmail.com www.3riversgem_mineral.tripod.com

Oct. 18-20: MASON, MI Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society Annual Show. Fri 6 - 9 pm; Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 11 am - 5 pm. Ingham County Fairgrounds, Main Arena, 700 Ash St., Mason. Contact: L. Roger Laylin, (517) 349-3249 www.michrocks.org

Oct. 19-20: CLIO, MI Flint Rock & Gem Club Annual Show. Sat & Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Carter Middle School, Rogers Lodge Dr., Clio. Contact: Bill Wendling, (810) 638-5796, bwrockbarn@centurytel.net www.flintrockandgem.org

Oct. 26-27: CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH Summit Lapidary Club and Akron Mineral Society Semi-Annual Show. 10 am - 5 pm both days. Emidio & Sons Expo Center, 48 East Bath Rd., Cuyahoga Falls. Contact: Gujo Kotch, (330) 929-3798; gemboree@outlook.com www.summitlapidaryclub.com

Nov. 1-3: CLEVELAND, OH Micromineral Society of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History Symposium. Fri 3 - 10 pm; Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 9:30 am - 3 pm. Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 1 Wade Oval, Univ. Circle, Cleveland. Contact: Janet Clifford, janet15clifford@gmail.com

Nov. 2-3: MIDLAND, MI Mid Michigan Rock Club Annual Show. 10 am - 5 pm. Chippewa Nature Center, 400 S. Badour Rd., Midland. Contact: Debra Young, (989) 245-0343; debiyoung50@yahoo.com
www.midmichrockclub.com

Nov. 11: BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI Michigan Mineralogical Society Annual Auction. Cranbrook Institute of Science, 39221 Woodward Ave, Bloomfield Hills. Contact: Brad Zylman, (612) 600-9484; www.michmin.org

Michigan Mineral Beginning with the Letter G: Galena Pbs



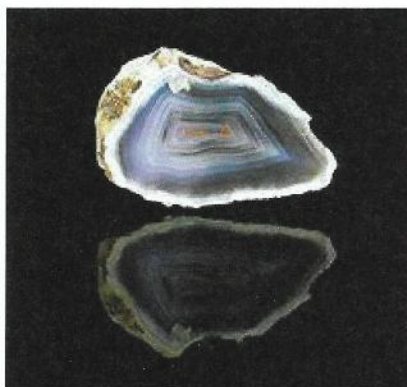
Picture from internet

Galena, also called lead glance, is the natural mineral

form of lead sulfide. It is the most important ore of lead and an important source of silver. Galena is one of the most abundant and widely distributed sulfide minerals. It crystallizes in the cubic crystal system often showing octahedral forms. It is often associated with the minerals sphalerite, calcite and fluorite
Hardness: 2.5 to 2.75 on the Mohs scale.
Color: Lead gray and silvery.

Occurrences: Baraga County, Branch County, Dickinson County, Eaton County, Gogebic County, Huron County, Iron County, Iron County, Keweenaw County, Marquette County and Ontonagon County
From Wikipedia and The Mineralogy of Michigan by E. Wm. Heinrich.

Nebraska State Gem Stone: Blue Agate



Blue Agate: Nebraska State Gemstone or Gem. On Nebraska's centennial, the governor signed a bill designating blue chalcedony, commonly called the blue agate, as Nebraska's official state gemstone. The Blue Agate became the state gem on March 1, 1967 (Nebraska's Centennial).

Emeralds: Green with Envy

By Heath Shive, Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society



Diamonds are forever? But historically speaking, emeralds have been the most prestigious of gems.

October, 2019

In ancient history, Egypt was the only major source for emeralds. According to legend, Cleopatra once greeted Caesar from atop a pile of emeralds. Egyptian emeralds and gold funded Roman coffers. In the sixth century, Emperor Justinian decreed that only aristocracy could wear emeralds. Napoleon favored emeralds precisely because of its connection to ancient imperial power.

Why does history favor emeralds over diamonds? Diamonds require facets to shine, and faceting technology wasn't revolutionized until the late 15th century. Emeralds don't need complex faceting. Emeralds don't sparkle – they shine! They look wet. That's why emeralds are usually made with a "table cut" – a long flat surface – instead of with many facets.

The emerald's crystal structure creates the natural luster. Emeralds are beryls -beryllium aluminum cyclosilicates - and thus have a simple hexagonal crystal shape. Chromium contamination in beryl imparts the green color. Incidentally, the gemstone aquamarine is just a beryl with an iron contamination.

That chromium combines with beryllium at all is a freak occurrence in nature. Chromium occurs in minute traces in ultramafic ocean floor rock. Beryls are formed in granitic pegmatites on land in mountain ranges. When two continents collide, the ocean floor is pushed under a continent (subduction). When the ocean rock melts, the chromium mixes into the rising fluid and finds its way into the growing beryl crystals. Author and jeweler Aja Raden writes that beryllium and chromium are "the Romeo and Juliet of elements" because under "no normal circumstances should these rare substances ever find each other." Raden's book *Stoned* is a must-read for gem-enthusiasts as she examines how jewelry (especially the emerald) has had a driving-effect in history.

Today Colombia dominates emerald production. Scattered lesser sources for emeralds exist, even in the United States. In fact, North America's largest emerald was discovered in North Carolina in 2009. Starting at an impressive 310 carats, it was cut down to about 65 carats and named "The Carolina Emperor."

Cone cells in the human eye see red, blue and

green. But all cone cells are sensitive to light wavelengths of 510 nanometers, i.e. the eye is most receptive to green. It's the color of life, especially as life renews in spring. Appropriately, May's birthstone is the emerald. Emeralds are prestigious, but spring... that's priceless.

Sources:

Finlay, Victoria. *Jewels: A Secret History*. New York: Ballantine, 2006. Print.

Raden, Aja. *Stoned: Jewelry, Obsession, and How Desire Shapes the World*. New York: HarperCollins, 2015. Print

Gast, Phil. "North Carolina emerald: Big, green and very rare." CNN.com. 1 September 2010. Retrieved from

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/08/31/north.carolina.emerald/> (Accessed March 27, 2016)

From the *The Strata Data* 5/17

These Mysterious Marbles Found In Utah Are Surrounded By Ancient Myth



The landscape of Southern Utah offers so many unique natural gems – from the towering cliffs of Zion National Park to the stunning Colorado River that spent millions of years carving canyons into the terrain. While you can easily see the effects of erosion when gazing at the hoodoos and spires of Bryce Canyon National Park, some geologic wonders will fit right in the palm of your hand. Have you ever run across moqui marbles?

Take a stroll through Utah's Zion National Park or Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, and you might see a strange geological phenomenon. In some places where Navajo

sandstone covers the landscape, you'll find large collections of strange rock-like formations. They're called moqui marbles, and they're not actually rocks - they're small concretions.

A concretion is defined by Dictionary.com as, "a rounded mass of mineral matter occurring in sandstone, clay, etc., often in concentric layers about a nucleus." If you break these little marbles open, you'll see a rust-colored interior. These little oddities were formed millions of years ago, and they're made of Navajo sandstone, covered in a shell of iron oxide. It's not entirely clear to geologists just how moqui marbles were formed.

They're found all over the world, but in the U.S., you'll see them only in Utah and parts of Arizona. One theory is that some of the younger concretions were formed by the Colorado River as it started eroding through the Navajo sandstone of the area. It's thought that perhaps the little balls slowly grew, one grain of sand at a time, when iron from the water coated the grains and created spheres that added layer upon layer, then connected with other little spheres to form a bigger ball.

These concretions are similar to those found on Mars, and one theory is that tiny microbes helped the process of the formation from sandstone to marbles along. If that theory turns out to be true, it could support the idea that there was once life (however microscopic) on Mars.

Not all moqui marbles are round. They can be egg-shaped, flat, pipe-shaped, and even look like little miniature space saucers.

While the geology is fascinating, there's also a some ancient myth surrounding the moqui marbles. Native Americans believed that the marbles held special properties, and that if you held them while meditating, they would bring calm and peace to your soul. The Hopi word "moqui" translates to "dear departed ones." According to Hopi legend, the spirits of loved ones came in the night and played with the moqui marbles, scattering them across the landscape and leaving them to be found in the morning. They're meant to let the living know that the departed are happy and at peace in the afterlife.

If you find moqui marbles during your exploration of southern Utah, remember that removing any objects from national parks and

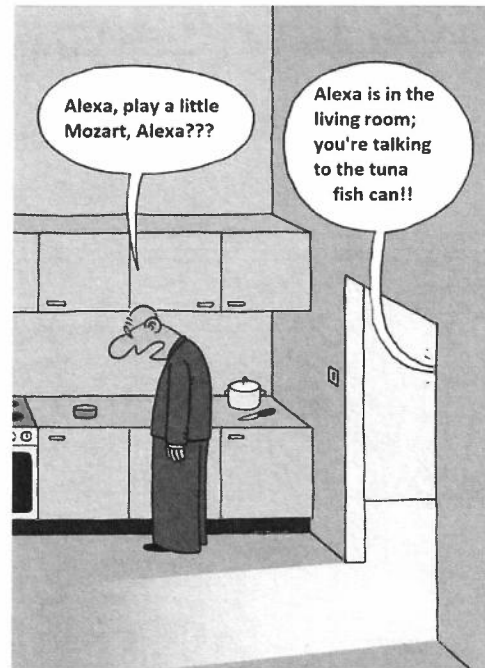
monuments is illegal. Unless you're on private land (and have permission), leave these right where you find them.

From Rock Trails 7/19

The Fossils

By Ogdan Nash

At midnight in the museum hall
 The fossils gathered for a ball.
 There were no drums or saxophones
 But just the clatter of their bones,
 A rolling, rattling, carefree circus
 Of Mammoth polkas and mazurkas.
 Pterodactyls and brontosaurus
 Sang ghostly prehistoric choruses.
 Amid the mastodonic wassil
 I caught the eye of one small fossil.
 Cheer up, sad world, he said, and winked –
 It's kind of fun to be extinct
 From the Living Stone 11/14



From the Internet

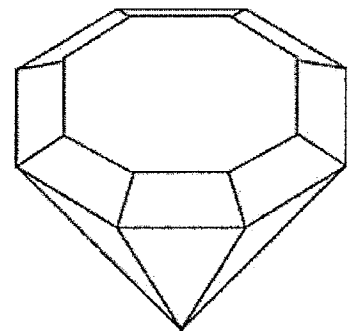
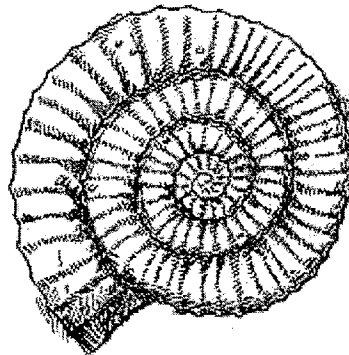
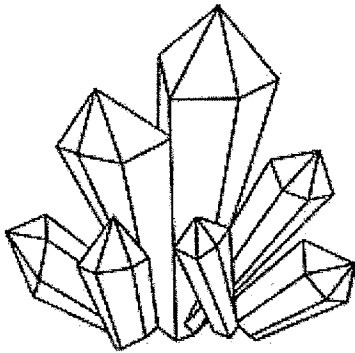
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**MIDWEST MINERALOGICAL AND
LAPIDARY SOCIETY PRESENTS
THE 54th ANNUAL AUCTION
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd, 2019
DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM
FREE ADMISSION!!**

**FREE PARKING
THE PUBLIC IS INVITED**

**AT THE
DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR
23400 WICK RD.
TAYLOR, MICHIGAN**

**SALES TABLES OPEN
FROM 6:00PM. - 7:00PM.
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 Dwayne Ferguson
Phone: 313-550-9809 Email: shelby0671111@yahoo.com

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/mw11index.html

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 unless thy neighbor knowst he's there.

Thou shall not argue names of minerals too violently; for sometimes thou couldst be wrong.

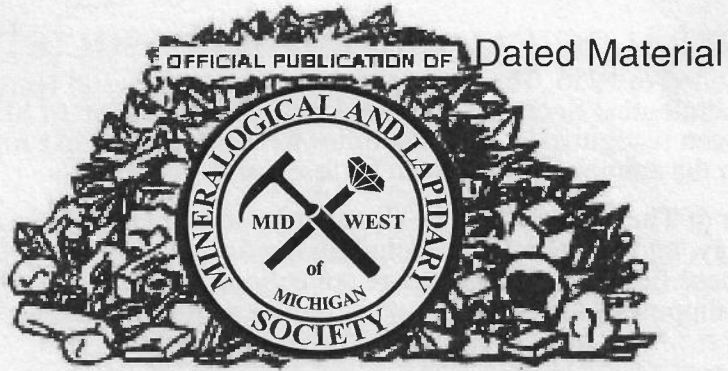
Thou shall not climb above thy neighbor's head when on a field trip, lest thou art willing to spend the rest of the day digging him out.

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.

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



STAMP

Dated Material

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