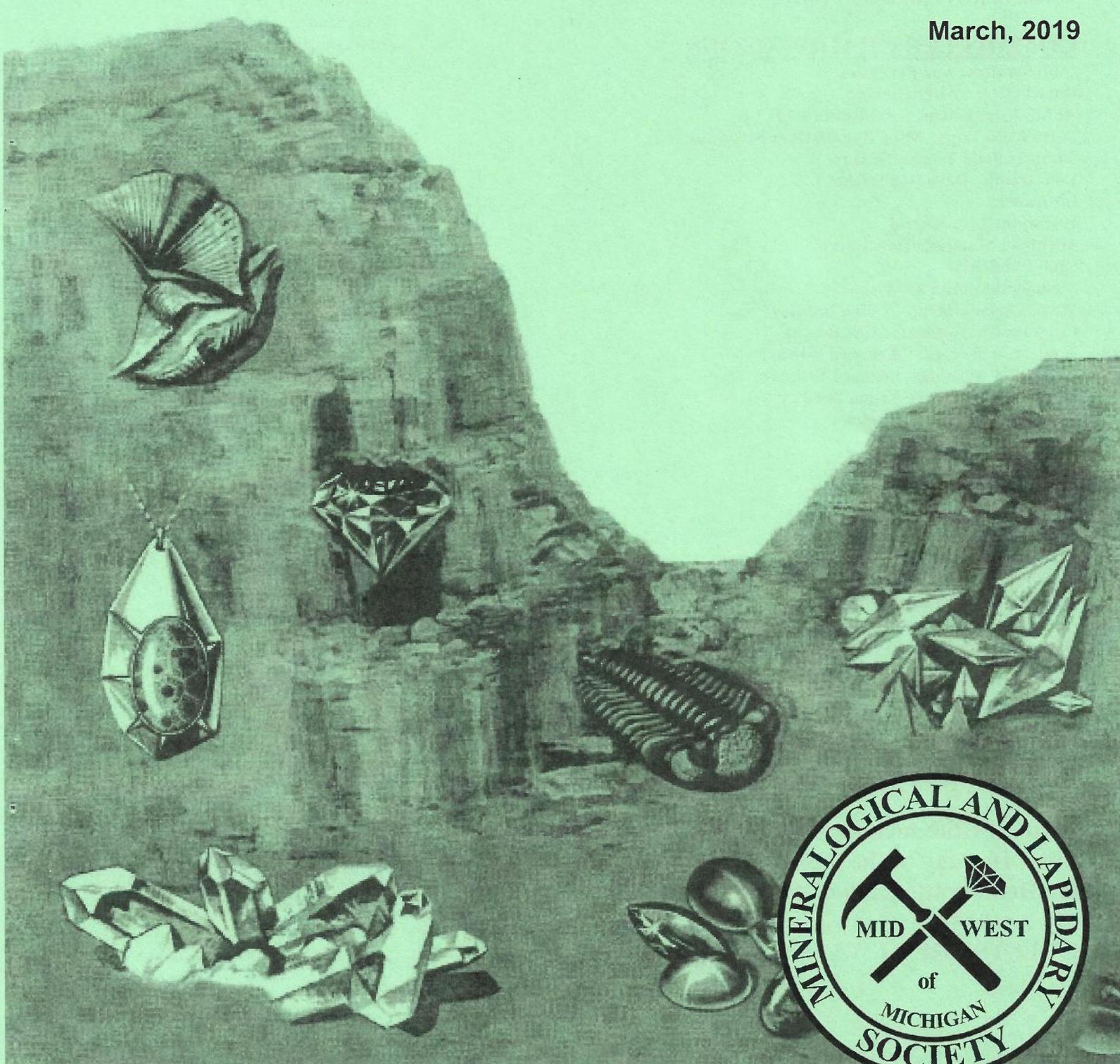


THE ROCKPILE

Official Publication of the Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society

AFFILIATED WITH • MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES • AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

March, 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: Leonard Swisher
Property – Meetings: Leonard Swisher
Sunshine Reporter: Velma Bradley
Refreshments: Gary Slominski
Web Site: Stacey Harper

ACTIVITIES

2019 Banquet:
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 Gonica 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

From The President's Desk



A bit of new news..anyone who wants a club nametag..we are now able to offer them at \$3.00 each. There is one hitch though, you must pay for it when you order and pick it up at the general meeting (or

make other arrangements) as they are too expensive to mail (I mailed one and it cost \$3.50!!). You can place your order with me. By now I guess you have all heard that first class postage has gone up. If you want your Rockpile changed from regular mail to email, just let Pete or me know and we will change it for you.

“Thank You To A Member” segment:

This month's special thank you goes out to club member Leonard Swisher. Leonard joined MMLS in March of 1994. He has since then been President (2011-2012), been our Show Chairman, served as Property Chairman, both at club meetings and at the storage unit, was our Scholarship Chairman and attended board meetings for years and together with Linda, his wife, put out our newsletter, the Rockpile (Linda wasn't a member but we all knew her). His son also helped out with our Show for years. Leonard has lost both his wife and his son and is now moving to California to be close to his Granddaughter and her family. We wish you the very best and thank you for all you have done for MMLS and for being a good friend. You will be greatly missed!

Happy St. Patrick's Day Everyone!

Diane

Death leaves a heartache no one can heal,

Love leaves a memory no one can steal:

We are saddened to learn of the passing of one of our past members, Jay Ross. Jay joined MMLS in November of 1983. He was President (1989-1990), was Show Chairman for several years, field trip chairman for a few years. When we first met Jay, he was an interior decorator for Gorman Furniture but decided to become a vendor at Gem & Mineral

Shows and left Gorman. He was a good friend to many of our members until he moved away to Ohio and he had many medical issues over the years. He will be greatly missed, rest in peace Jay!

Diane Kuzara

March Program: The March program will be Pakistani Gem Crystals , by Dr, Peter Lyckberg ! Visit numerous mines in Pakistan ! From the Dallas Symposium 2017

WIRE WRAP CLASS Anyone interested in a study group for wire wrap please contact John Lindsay 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!!!!

Dates to Remember:

Our Club Activities

Mar. 4th , 18th & 20th 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

Mar. 7th & 21st 2019 Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm.
Diane Kuzara, 734-675-5237

Mar. 15th 2019 Board Meeting at Mike Bomba's home. ROCKPILE DEADLINE.

Mar. 19th 2019 General meeting will be held at the DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 WICK RD., TAYLOR at 7:30pm.

AFMS/MWF 2019 Annual Convention & Show

Cedar Rapids, IA

March 21-24, 2019

Saturday March 23 - 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

March, 2019

Sunday, March 24 - 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Hawkeye Downs Expo Center 4400 6th Street
SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. For Additional
Information, Contact: Marvin Houg
(319-364-2868, m_houg@yahoo.com);

Mar. 21st 2019 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**

MARCH 23, 2019 47TH ANNUAL ROCK SWAP HOSTED BY THE MIDWEST MINERALOGICAL & LAPIDARY SOCIETY
 St. Johns Lutheran Church in Taylor, MI. for information and table reservation call: 734-837-8920
SEE FLYER ON BACK PAGE

Apr. 1st, 15th & 17th 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**

Apr. 4th & 18th Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm.
Diane Kuzara, 734-675-5237

Apr. 12th Board Meeting Rockpile Deadline TBA

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

Apr. 18th 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**

Sister Club Events

Mar. 9-10: LIVONIA, MI Roamin Club Auction. Sat 11 am - 6 pm; Sun 12 noon - 6 pm. Schoolcraft Community College, 18600 Haggerty Rd., Livonia. Contact: Todd Gall, (248) 348-5093; roaminrockhound@gmail.com

Mar. 15- 17 Jackson, Mi Michigan Gem and Mineral Society Show at the Jackson County Fairgrounds, 200 W. Ganson St., Jackson Mi. Information 517-522-3396, mgmsrockclub.com

Mar. 30-31: CANTON, OH Stark County Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Stark County Fairgrounds, 305 Wertz Ave, Canton. Contact: Jeff Storz, (740) 630-7714; jstorz42@gmail.com

How to Use Polishing Powders

There are many kinds of polishing powders and modifications of them for sale. The latter include bars, sticks, liquids, slurries and other mixtures, often sold under a trade name. Nearly all polishing powders are mineral oxides, such as rouge (iron oxide), tin oxide, chrome oxide and many others. Occasionally two or more of these are mixed and sold under a trade name. They may be mixed with some cohesive substance and sold as a bar or stick; rouge is a good example. A few have been suspended in an emulsion and sold as slurry. All forms will work on some stone; however, one can cut down the variety by using one of the following on the right type of lap for a particular stone: cerium oxide, Linde A or B, chrome oxide, powdered red rouge and ZAM in stick form. The above will polish just about all stones that the amateur will encounter except the super hard ones such as corundum, chrysoberyl, cubic zirconium and a few others. The buffs one uses with these powders can be hickory hard felt, chrome-tanned leather or muslin. Of course, these powders can be used on many other kinds of buffs, but the above-mentioned ones can be obtained easily. In most cases a buff should be rotated about 400 rpm. A little faster or slower is OK. One exception is ZAM on muslin for turquoise. The buff can run at motor speed (1725 rpm) or faster. Variscite and malachite may also be polished with this method. When using a powder, wet the buff down with a paint brush or spray bottle before running the motor. Paint the buff with the powder while still wet and then start the machine. The water will help carry away frictional heat, and the slower wheel will prevent build-up of heat and slow down the slinging off of the powder and water.

March, 2019

This system will prevent much loss of opals and other heat-sensitive stones. The slow wheel does not seem to slow the polishing action in most cases. There are exceptions, but there is no need to go into that in a short article. - Martin Koning, Lapidary Chrm., Rocky Mountain Federation, in The Rocky Mountain News (RMF Newsletter)
From The Rockpile How to Book

Michigan Mineral Beginning with the Letter B: Barite BaSO₄



Barite is well-known for its great range of colors and varied crystal habits. It is easily identifiable by its heavy weight, since most similar minerals are much lighter.

Barite hardness is 3 to 3.5 on the Mohs scale. Barite is a **mineral** composed of barium sulfate (BaSO₄). It receives its name from the Greek word "barys" which means "heavy." This name is in response to barite's high specific gravity of 4.5, which is exceptional for a nonmetallic mineral. The high specific gravity of barite makes it suitable for a wide range of industrial, medical, and manufacturing uses. Barite also serves as the principal ore of barium.
OCCURENCES: Baraga Co., Eaton Co., Gogebic Co., Houghton Co., Iron Co., Keweenaw Co., Marquette Co., Ontonagon Co.
From the Internet Geology.com and The Mineralogy of Michigan by E.WM. Heinrich

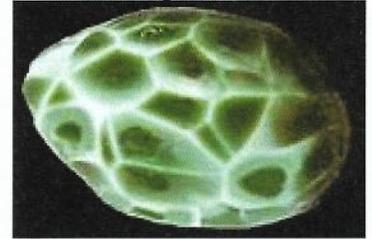
The State of Michigan Gemstone Greenstone or Chlorastrolite

This article was written by Carol and Mike Nagy. It was taken from The Pterodactyl 12/16 Mike and Carol are members of our club also.

Chlorastrolite

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Chlorastrelite also known as *Isle Royale Greenstone*, is a green or bluish green stone. Chlorastrolite has finely radiated or stellate masses that have a "turtleback" pattern, The stellate masses tend to be chatoyant, meaning they have a changeable lustre. This chatoyancy can subtranslucent to opaque. Chlorastrolite is a variety of pumpellyite:



Ca₂ (Mg,Fe)Al₂(SiO₄)(Si₂O₇)(OH)₂·H₂O.
Chlorastrolite was once thought to be an impure variety of prehnite or thomsonite.

Occurrences

Chlorastrolite occurs as amygdaloid structures and fracture fillings in basalt, and when the water and wave action has worn away the basalt, they are found as beach pebbles and granules in loose sediments. It is found in the Keweenaw Peninsula of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and Isle Royale in Lake Superior. Isle Royale is a National Park, and so it is illegal to collect specimens there. It is difficult to identify an unpolished pebble of chlorastrolite. Most gem quality chlorastrolite stones are very small, and it is rare to find one that is larger than a half inch. The largest gem quality stone is in the Smithsonian Museum and measures 1.5 by 3 inches. It was first described from Isle Royale, Lake Superior by C. T. Jackson and J. D. Whitney in 1847. Chlorastrolite, also known as greenstone, is the official state gem of Michigan.

Other Names

- *Green starstone* is most common in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.
- *Greenstone* or *Isle Royale greenstone* and *Lake Superior greenstone*.
- *Turtle back* is a name sometimes given because of the overall pattern, particularly in polished pieces, which roughly resembles that of a turtle shell.
- *Uigite* is a variety found on the island of Skye off the coast of Scotland.
- *Zonochlorite* is a misnomer sometimes given rounded masses of chlorastrolite within or weathered out of amygdaloidal cavities, especially

March, 2019

those from the area around Nipigon Bay (on Lake Superior), Ontario, Canada. Confusion may derive from the fact that zonochlorite is sold as faux *chloraastrolite*.

References

1. Michigan's State Gemstone
(http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/ogs-gimdl-GGGS_263212_7.pdf)

• R. V. Dietrich: *Gemrocks- chloraastrolite*
(<http://www.cstcmich.edu/users/dietrlrv/chloraastrolite.htm>)

• Norman King Huber, 197~, *The geologic story of Isle Royale National Park*, USGS Bulletin 1309
(http://www.minsocam.org/MSA/collectors_comer/usgs/b1309.htm#chl)

• Mindat w/ locations
(<http://www.mindat.org/rmin-11469.html>)

Quotes

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/636604.Bal_Gangadhar_Tilak "The geologist takes up the history of the earth at the point where the archaeologist leaves it, and carries it further back into remote antiquity."

— **Bal Gangadhar Tilak, *The Arctic Home in the Vedas*** tags: archaeology, geology, history

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/436846-the-geologist-takes-up-the-history-of-the-earth-at>

It is a great philosophical breakthrough for geologists to accept catastrophe as a normal part of Earth history. **Erie Kauffman**

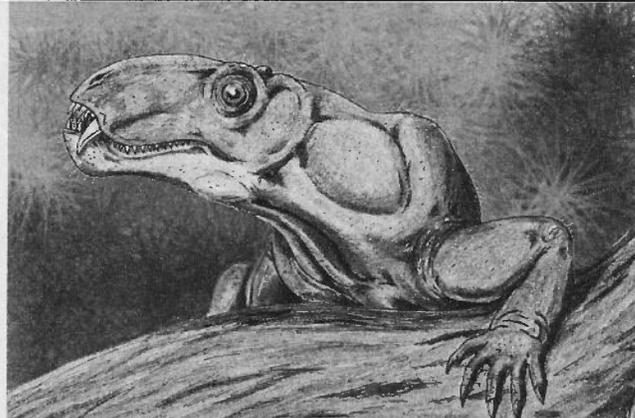
THE BEST QUOTE

SEE YOU AT THE SWAP

PETE KUZARA

The Last Five of the 10 Hardest to Pronounce and Spell Names of Prehistoric Animals.

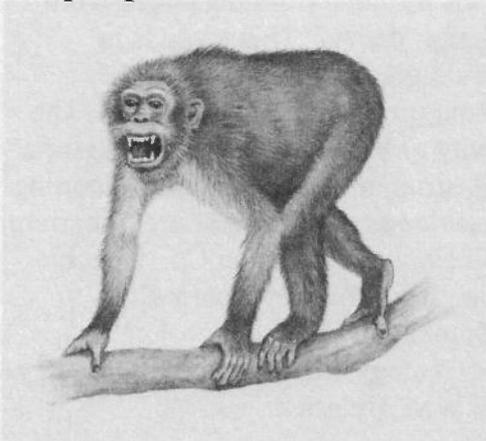
Phthinosuchus



Phthinosuchus (Dmitry Bogdanov).

Yet another prehistoric animal that you wouldn't want to pronounce with a mouthful of crackers, Phthinosuchus (fffTHINE-oh-SOO-kuss) shares the same double-diphthong spelling as the marine reptile Ophthalmosaurus, with the added burden of being much less well known. This mysterious therapsid, or "mammal-like reptile," of the late Permian period is represented in the fossil record by only a single skull, so, fortunately, it doesn't come up all that often in cocktail-party conversations at paleontology conventions.

Propliopithecus



Propliopithecus (Getty Images).

If you take it slow and phonetically, Propliopithecus (PRO-ply-oh-pih-THECK-uss) is fairly easy to spell and pronounce. The trouble comes when you try to name-check this prehistoric primate two or three times in the same sentence, at which point you may wonder why the people around you are starting to giggle. (For the record, the middle Oligocene Propliopithecus was named with reference to the

March, 2019

much later, and slightly easier to pronounce, Pliopithecus, and it may yet revert to the genus name Aegyptopithecus if the fossil evidence so dictates).

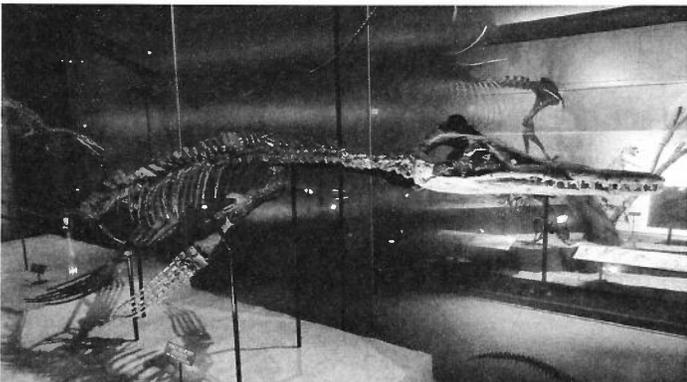
Theiophytalia



Theiophytalia (Nobu Tamura).

The American paleontologist Othniel C. Marsh probably thought he was being erudite and classical-minded when he named this dinosaur Theiophytalia (THEE-oh-fie-TAL-ya), Greek for "garden of the gods." All he accomplished, though, was to relegate this otherwise plain-vanilla ornithomimid to the dustbins of paleontological history; not many papers have been written about Theiophytalia, possibly because nobody wants to exhaust the resources of their online spell-checking software (or have to pronounce this name during a live presentation).

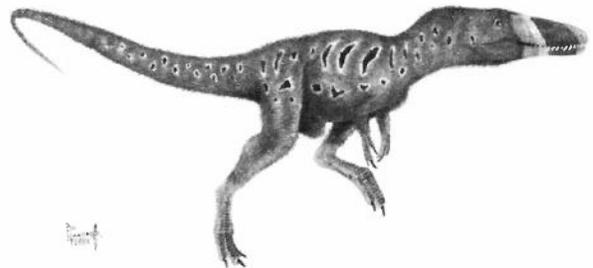
Thililua



Thililua (Wikimedia Commons).

The marine reptile Thililua (thi-lih-LOO-ah) packs a lot of syllables into its modest frame, and all those similar-looking i's and l's don't aid much in comprehension, either. Still, when you say it out loud, this is one of the most euphoniously named of all prehistoric creatures (another candidate would be a runner-up for this list, the sauropod dinosaur Suuwassea). Rather than being assembled from Greek roots, Thililua was named after an ancient deity of the northern African Berbers, on whose territory the remains of this plesiosaur (a type of marine reptile) were discovered.

Xiongguanlong



Xiongguanlong (Vladimir Nikolov).

People don't only have a hard time pronouncing convoluted Greek genus names; they suffer the same failing when it comes to Chinese ones as well, especially since there are no hard and fast rules for Chinese-to-English phonetic transcription. Xiongguanlong (zhong-gwan-LONG) can be a difficult name for westerners to tackle, which is a shame, since this early Cretaceous tyrannosaur is notable for its coat of feathers. The implication is that all tyrannosaurs--even the fearsome (and much easier to pronounce) Tyrannosaurus Rex--sport feathers at some stage of their life cycles!

From the Internet - Thought Company

Q: If H₂O is the formula for water, what is the formula for ice? A: H₂O cubed.

Q: Did you hear about the geologist who was reading a book about Helium? A: He just couldn't put it down.

source:<http://www.jokes4us.com/miscellaneousjokes/schooljokes/geologyjokes.html>

47TH ANNUAL METRO ROCK SWAP

HOSTED BY
THE MIDWEST MINERALOGICAL & LAPIDARY SOCIETY

SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD 2019
10:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

AT

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
13115 TELEGRAPH ROAD
TAYLOR, MICHIGAN



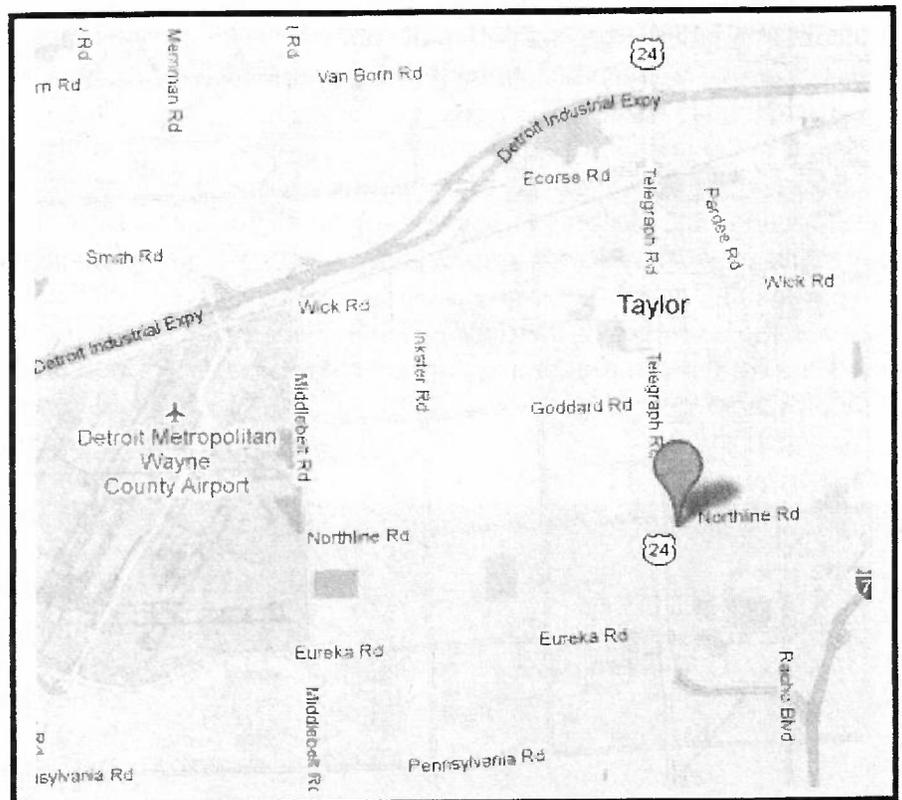
FOR TABLE RESERVATIONS
AND INFORMATION CALL:
734-837-8920

\$15.00 PER 8-FOOT TABLE

- PUBLIC INVITED
- FREE ADMISSION
- FREE PARKING
- REFRESHMENTS
AVAILABLE

SWAP - SELL - BUY

- MINERALS
- FOSSILS
- JEWELRY
- BEADS
- CRYSTALS
- SLABS
- LAPIDARY ITEMS
- RELATED BOOKS



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

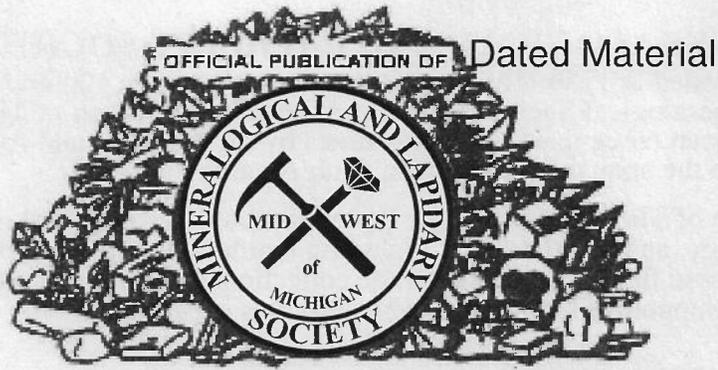
American Federation:
www.amfed.org

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 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

RECEIVED

48183
BROWNSTOWN MI
20281 THOMAS
EDITOR
Michigan
Society of
Lapidary
Mineralogical and
Midwest