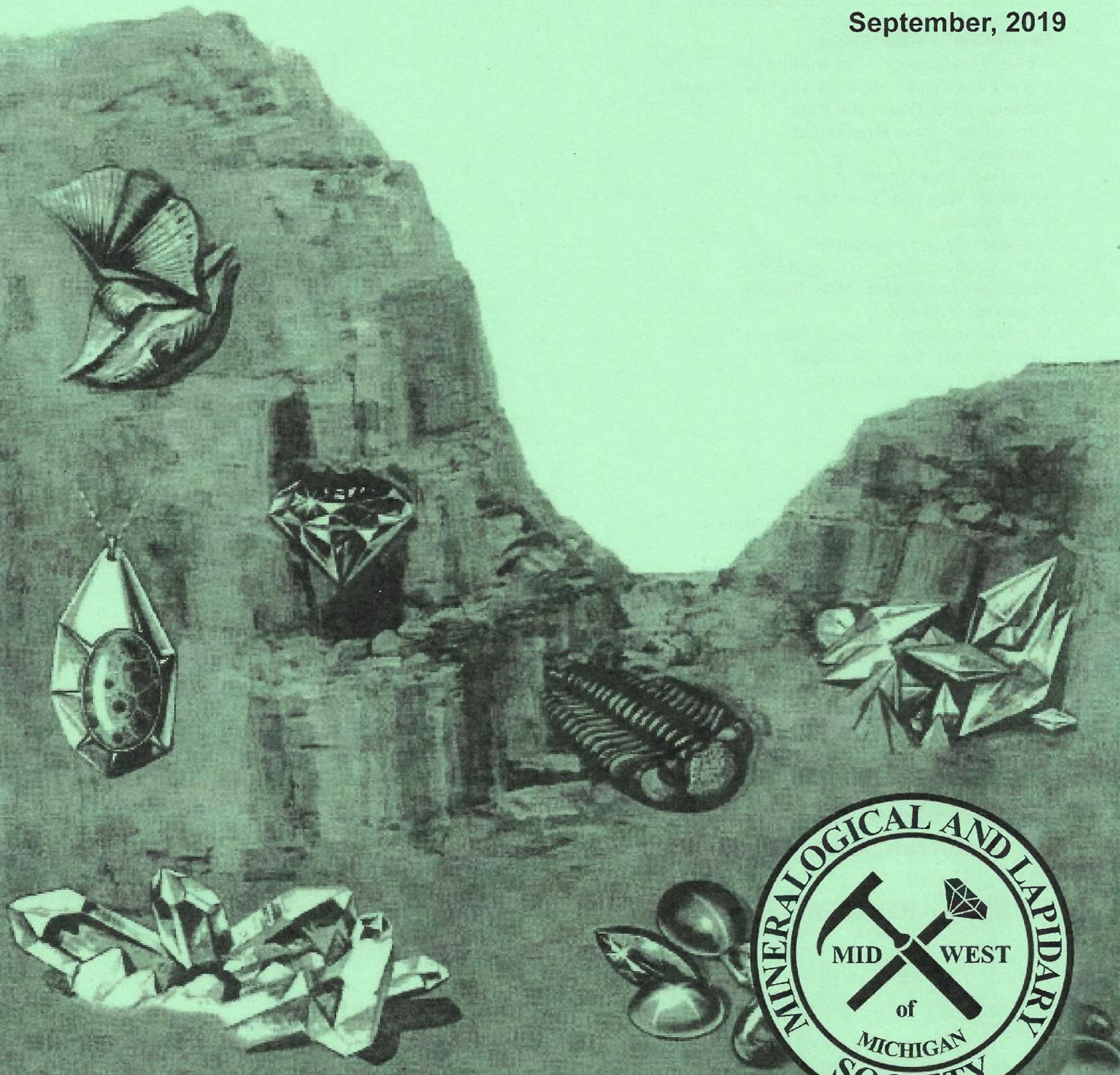


THE ROCKPILE

Official Publication of the Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society

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

September, 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



Welcome Back Rockhounds, for the start of a new season of good meetings, great programs, interesting field trips and of course, catching up with friends and fellow rockhounds. We begin as usual with our traditional “brag

night”. Bring all you collected, silver-picked (bought), or made during the summer to the September general meeting on the 17th. For example, Pete plans on bringing the beautiful cabs he cut over the summer and I plan on showing off some beadwork projects I made. Can't wait to see what you all bring!

I hope by now you have your calendar marked for our SuperSwap coming up on October 5th and 6th at the Fairgrounds..either by having reserved a table or at least planning on coming down to support the club by attending this great event. See you all there.

“Thank you to a Member” Segment:

This month's special thank you is going out to Gary Slominski. Gary and his wife Janet joined MMLS in October of 2006. Gary is another one of our valuable members, currently holding three offices, refreshment chairman, working with Mike Bomba on local field trips and recently offered to take over as our storage chairman after Leonard Swisher moved out of state. We can always count on Gary to help out with our events by picking up club items from storage, working at events and returning items back to the storage unit. He was another of our hard workers when we had the Show over the years. He also served as vice-president. Thank you, Gary, from all of us!

Diane

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

It is with great sadness we heard of the passing of one of our former members, Dick DePodesta, in June. Dick was president of MMLS in 2007/2008 and was Show Chairman for a number of years. Our condolences to his wife, Lynette and the DePodesta family.

The Nominating Committee For 2020 Club Officers Are:

Dan Gumina Chairman and Tom Morris.

September 17 Program: Will be our Annual Brag night. Members are encouraged to bring to the September meeting treasures that they self collected or silver picked. Members can also show off any project that they completed over the summer.

Field Trip We will have a field trip to Put In Bay to see The Celestine cave on September 21st. That's a Saturday, meet there at the ferry at 10:00 am. For more information contact Mike Bomba.

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!!!!!!

Our Club Activities

Sept 5th Bead Study meeting canceled

Sept 13th Board Meeting at the Kuzara's at 7:30pm. Rockpile Deadline

Sept 16th & 18th Lapidary work shop 2009 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Mi., 7pm to 10pm. Fee is \$2.50 for each evening. Frank Konieczki 734-323-2218.

Sept 17th General meeting will be held at the DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF TAYLOR, 23400 WICK RD., TAYLOR at 7:30pm.

Sept 19th Bead study group will meet at the Kuzara's, 20281 Thomas, Brownstown at 7pm. Diane Kuzara, 734-675-5237.

September, 2019

Sept 19th 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.**

REMEMBER OUR SUPER SWAP COMING UP. See flyer on last page. ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

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

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 TBA 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.**

Sister Club Events

Sept. 6-8: TOLEDO, OH Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club Annual Show. Fri 2 - 8 pm; Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 11 am - 5 pm. Stranahan Theater Complex, 4645 Heatherdowns Blvd, Toledo. Contact: Stephen Shimatzki, (567) 868-8794; sjs132@gmail.com
www.rockyreader.com

Sept. 13-15: HOLLAND, MI Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show. Fri 10 am - 8 pm; Sat 10 am - 7 pm; Sun 11 am - 5 pm. The Soccer Stop, 5 River Hills Dr., Holland. Contact: Sue Goedert, sonbeams2000@yahoo.com www.tulipcity.org

Sept. 21-22 HOWELL, MI Livingston Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Hartland Schools Service Center, 9525 Highland Rd., Howell. Contact: Ed Oller, (810) 241-8801, edleathercraft@gmail.com
www.livingstongems.com

Sept. 28-29: TRAVERSE CITY, MI Grand Traverse Area Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 11 am - 4 pm. Cherryland VFW Hall (Post 2780), 3400 Veterans Dr., Traverse City. Contact: Jared Bowen, (269) 303-5732, jaredjbowen@gmail.com
www.trockhounds.com

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

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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

Michigan Mineral Beginning with the Letter F: Fluorite CaF₂



Picture from internet

Fluorite is a colorful mineral, both in visible and ultraviolet light, and the stone has ornamental and lapidary uses. Industrially, fluorite is used as a flux for smelting, and in the production of certain glasses and enamels. The purest grades of fluorite are a source of fluoride for hydrofluoric acid manufacture, which is the intermediate source of most fluorine-containing fine chemicals. Optically clear transparent fluorite lenses have low dispersion, so lenses made from it exhibit less chromatic aberration, making them valuable in microscopes and telescopes. Fluorite optics are also usable in the far-ultraviolet and mid-infrared ranges, where conventional glasses are too absorbent for use.

Hardness: 4 on the mohs scale

Color: Colorless, although samples are often deeply colored owing to impurities.

Occurrences: Found in counties, Bay, Dickinson, Eaton, Gogebic, Houghton, Isabella, Kalkaska, Keweenaw, Marquette, Monroe, Ontonagon, Wayne and Wexford.

From the internet Wikipedia and MI DEQ Gsd Bulletin 6 "Mineralogy Of Michigan

Montana State Gem Stone



Blue Sapphire



Montana Agate

Montana designated both the **sapphire and Montana Agate** as the official state gemstones of Montana in 1969. Agates are found in southern and eastern Montana. Agate is polished (not cut) to make gemstones and jewelry.

From the Internet

Hazards of Rock Dust and the Lapidary Artist

By: **Jim Bosley, 1st Vice-President, NWMS**

avored by lapidary artists contain compounds that can be dangerous when inhaled.

Silicates are the most common stones. The purpose of this article is to make new lapidary artists aware of the potential hazards of rock dust and to allow experienced lapidary artists to evaluate the safety of their practices. Lapidary includes the cutting, carving, grinding, sanding, and polishing stones into useable and pleasing articles. These processes generate dust that needs to be managed and controlled to prevent the artist from breathing in the dust. The majority of stones used by lapidary artists. Silicosis has long been a hazard of hard rock miners (miner's consumption), ma-sons and lapidary artists (grinder's consumption), as well as those with jobs in sandblasting and road construction. The symptoms as a result of inhaling crystalline silica (SiO) dust include shortness of breath, cough, fever, emphysema, pulmonary fibrosis, and lung scarring. Exposure to low doses of dust takes many years for silicosis to develop, but once established it is irreversible.

Silica Dust: Gemstones such as quartz, chalcedony, agate, amethyst, bloodstone, carnelian, chrysoprase, petrified wood, lapis lazuli, lepidolite, obsidian, flint, chert, aventurine, onyx, tiger eye, jasper, and sandstone is highly toxic because they contain 50% or more of silica.

Other materials that may have high silica contents are: clays, feldspars, garnet, beryl, granite, greenstone, quartz (silica flour), opal, pumice, rouge (if silica-containing, iron), slate, silica-containing African wonder stone, talc, and Tripoli.

Minerals with small amounts of silica are: alabaster, amber, bone ash, calcite, carborundum, diamond, dolomite, gypsum, hematite, jade, marble, putty (tin), travertine, whiting, and wollastonite.

Asbestos Dust: Tigereye contains fine fibrous amphibole asbestos, serpentine contains chrysotile asbestos and some soapstone contains asbestos.

Copper Oxide Dust: Toxic if inhaled, ingested, or from prolonged contact with the skin, and can cause damage to the endocrine and central nervous systems.

Caution needs to be used when working malachite and azurite (70 % CuO), Chrysocolla (45% CuO), and turquoise (9% CuO). You should not lick high copper rocks to bring out the color.

Minerals With Toxic Constituents are:

asbestos, carbon black (if contaminated with polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons), cerium oxide, cerrusite (lead), coal, corundum (aluminum oxide), cryolite, erionite (zeolite), fluorspar, lapis lazuli (ingestion may create hydrogen sulfide), litharge (lead), malachite (copper), serpentine (may contain asbestos), soapstone (talc), talc (can have asbestos-type materials), vermiculite (asbestos), witherite (barium), zirconia (allergen).

Dust From Polishing Your Stones Can Come From A Variety Of Materials

Polishing can use a variety of materials, depending on the hardness of the stone being polished. Polishing materials include carborundum (silicon carbide), corundum (alumina), diamond dust, pumice, putty powder (tin oxide), rouge (iron oxide), tripoli (silica), and cerium oxide. Stones can be finished by grinding, sanding, and polishing, by either hand or with machines.

Precautions Rock Sawing Operations: Saw the rock using adequate water or oil. Water is a good dust suppressant, but the dust can be released when the rock dust dries. Oil particles can be atomized and be in the air around your saw. Use an oil mist respirator if needed.

Rock Sanding, Grinding, or Polishing

Operations: These operations should be done wet with adequate water to suppress the dust. The work area should be kept clean to minimize the amount of dust that could be released when the water dries.

Lapidary Hygiene Work spaces should be wiped down with a wet cloth or mop. Work areas should not be swept but vacuumed using a machine with a HEPA filter to remove dirt and dust. Sweeping will cause the dust to be suspended in the air to be breathed or settle out on flat surfaces. Your work space should be well ventilated. Many lapidary artists are installing exhaust systems, similar to wood workers to remove dust that might not be trapped by the water suppression systems. If you are at all concerned about dust use a NIOSH approved dust

September, 2019

mask to protect your lungs. These can be found at Home Depot or Lowe's but are most effective if you do not have a beard. You should wash your hands and clothes after sawing, grinding, sanding, and polishing to reduce the spread of the dust in to your home environment (second hand dust).

Working Dry: Rock sawing, grinding, sanding, and polishing dry are not recommended, but if done then they should be done outdoors and the lapidary artist should wear a NIOSH approved dust respirator and outer clothing that can be removed.

Hearing Protection: Gem cutting machines can create very high noise levels and the lapidary artist should wear hearing protection to prevent hearing loss.

Have fun but work safely! Via News and Views 9/2016



Scientists Find 68-million-year-old Triceratops Fossil in Colorado

Read more at <http://www.geologyin.com/2019/07>

Several weeks ago, construction workers digging near a Denver, Colorado, retirement home made a startling discovery: dinosaur bones.

Paleontologists say fossilized bones unearthed at a suburban Denver construction site are those of a large adult triceratops.

Maura O'Neal, a spokeswoman for the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, said Friday the partial skeleton included a limb bone and several ribs of the three-horned dinosaur.

The Denver Post reports the bones were found at a construction site near a retirement community in Highlands Ranch in May in a rock layer that dates

back 65 million to 68 million years.

Construction crews are using heavy equipment to dig a deep trench in search for other dinosaur fossils next to the area where the triceratops bones were found. O'Neal says that of all the dinosaur bones discovered in Colorado, the remains of triceratops have been among the most common.

Scientists say the possibility of unearthing more fossils runs very high. Now, the construction crews are working hand in hand with scientists to further explore the site in search of more fossil finds.

Read more at <http://www.geologyin.com/2019/07/scientists-find-68-million-year-old.html#sXPaUWkGhaob3GWR.99>

NOW REMEMBER !!!!!

November 2nd 2019 is our annual auction.

To make our auction a success we need:

- 1. Donations**
- 2. We need volunteers to work at the auction.**
- 3. We need club members attending the auction.**

See Flyer Next Month

Some thing for thought.

You never appreciate what you have till it's gone. Toilet paper is a good example.

Try to remember, the greener grass across the fence may be due to a septic tank issue.

A little Humor.

When I was a kid, my parents would say, "Excuse my French" just after a swear word... I'll never forget my first day in school when my teacher asked if any of us knew any French

The best part of getting older is....nothing. Getting older sucks.

These all came from the internet.

⇒ 2019 ⇐

Fourth Annual

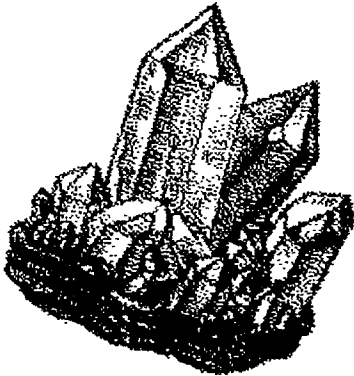
⇒ 2019 ⇐

SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN GEM, MINERAL & ROCK SUPERSWAP!

Hosted by the Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society

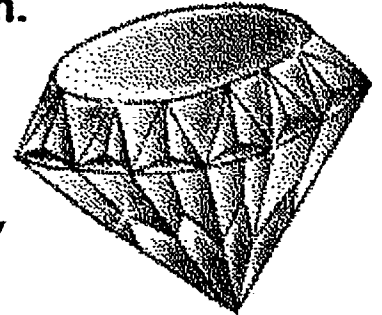
Saturday, Oct. 5 • 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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!**

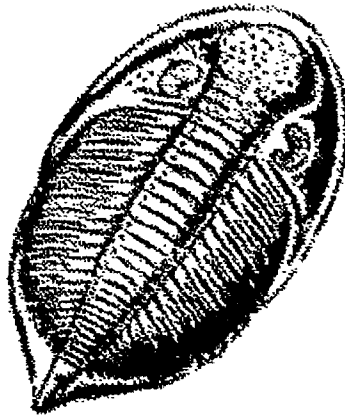
PUBLIC INVITED!

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

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.

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