

ROCK TRAILS



Newsletter of the StateLine Gem and Mineral Society

VOLUME 60
ISSUE I
JANUARY 2020

2020 Officers and Directors

President: Sherman Kardatzke, 517 673-5487
Vice President: Glenda Gafner, 517 403-6310
Secretary: Richard Brzezicki, 269 267-7666
Treasurer: Doris Brzezicki, 269 267-1123
Past President: Edmund Jarzembki, 419 237-2000
First Year Director: Jan Hauter, 517 286-6971
Second Year Director: Bill Schultz, 419 335-6791
Third Year Director: Curt Miller, 419 923-2090
Show Chairman: Sherman Kardatzke, 517 673-5487
Co-Show Chair: Glenda Gafner, 517 451-2079
Publicity: Edmund Jarzembki, 419 237-2000
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Mcgovernbrary: Curt and Linda Miller.
Education & Lapidary:
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Meetings are held the first Sunday of each month
at 2:00 PM
at 201 W. Main St., Morenci, MI 49256

President's Tidings



Another year has passed and the holiday season is upon us and hope everyone has a great Christmas and New Year.

Looking forward to the upcoming year and hope that 2020 will be a better year than the last, which was great! Shows were good and I think we had a lot of fun. Thanks, Bill and Henry, for taking up the slack from me being not able to do much and can't forget all the others that made our shows a success. I can't say thanks enough.

As of the last meeting, for the members that were not there, we have a committee now to look for a new location. First, there has to be guidelines set so we know what to look for, so if you have an idea, any input is welcome. So give me or Glenda or any other committee member a call. Their number is on the member list. In the meantime, think of what can be done to the existing location. There are things that can be done to make it better for the time being.

Another note - Bill informed me that he and Richard went and picked up a donation of equipment: some saws and grinders. At the last note, Bill has them in his garage. I will try to get over and see what can be used now and what needs work. I think all of you will agree that we need more useable equipment and we need to start having more sessions so members can use the equipment.

After the first of the year, I will be doing classes either in the evening or the weekend, whichever will work with everyone's schedule. Judy is checking with Hobby Lobby to see if it is available for wire wrapping, but has not gotten back with me. Richard is doing Thursdays but call to make sure he will be there.

Again thanks to everyone that has worked their butt off to make this year a great year and hope everyone has a great season and a great new year!

Sherm



Secretary's Scoop

The December 1, 2019 meeting of the State Line Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by president Sherm at 2:13 PM. Eddie gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Our guest, Barb Sell, from the Sand Creek Library, addressed the club with a request for club members to present some programs about rocks and minerals for approximately 25 kids in a period from June to August of next year. Sherm stated that he would be willing to bring some specimens to the Sand Creek Library for such a program. Doris made a motion to create a committee to support some programming at said library. The motion was seconded by Sherri and passed with all in favor.



Sherm noted that there was an error in last month's secretary's report. He did not volunteer to help at the Toledo show as reported. He had actually rented tables at the show. Phyllis made a motion to accept the secretary's report as printed in last month's newsletter with the aforementioned correction, seconded by Catherine and passed with all in favor.

Treasurer's report – Doris paid the rent, utilities and insurance. Linda made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Carl and passed with all in favor. There was some discussion about having a printed copy of the treasurer's report in addition to a verbal report at the meetings. One member suggested that the total report be printed in the newsletter, but several members expressed opinions that this was not a standard procedure in any club and could lead to problems down the road with heated disagreements. Glenda made a motion to have the treasurer print out one copy of the treasurer's report to be made available to members who attend the meetings, seconded by Meg. Doris expressed her opinion that written and verbal reports were excessive and just extra busy work. She asked for a show of hands instead of the usual verbal aye vote and 12 members wanted both reports as opposed to 11 members who did not think it was necessary. The motion passed by one vote.

Bill Schultz did extensive research and follow up on the possibility of finding a new location for the club which did not require hauling heavy buckets of geodes up and down stairs. Richard B. submitted a pro and con report in last month's newsletter which was acknowledged by Bill Sipes. Bill Schultz noted the M52 and Weston Rd. location under consideration could be modified to meet the club's needs. After some discussion, it was determined that we needed more than the M52 location offered. Linda Miller suggested that we should have a committee to search for a suitable location. The name "Facility Committee" was proposed and the following members wanted to be on the committee: Sherm, Glenda, Heidi, Bill Schultz, Richard and Doris, Cathy, and Charlene.

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Secretary's Scoop

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Glenda asked when members thought would be a good date for the kid's Christmas party. After some discussion, Saturday, December 14th at 11:00 AM was decided upon. Bill Schultz will bring pizzas and Glenda will be in charge of activities.

December 14th was the same date agreed upon for the club dinner at the Family Kitchen in Adrian at the corner of US223 and Treat Hwy. at 4:00 PM. Doris will confirm the reservation with the Family Kitchen.

There was discussion about another work day in January to sew and stuff grab bags. The exact date and time can be determined at the January meeting.

Field trips—Glenda plans to go to Quartzite in Arizona between January 8th thru 10th. She wants to attend the Pow Wow beginning January 15th and return to Michigan on January 22nd. Let Glenda know if you want to coordinate the trip with her.

Her Indiana field trip is scheduled to coincide with the Bedford rock show June 26th, 27th and 28th, 2020. Glenda has made reservations at the Rosemont Motel in Bedford for several years now and has made friends with the owner. Let her know by March 2020 if you want her to make a reservation for you. The nightly rate has been \$50.00 to \$55.00.

Glenda has not set any date for Flint Ridge Ohio so the timing is still to be determined.

Doris asked Sherm to contact our dealer, Dayle Harrison, and ask him to cash the club's check. It still shows as un-cashed in her records.

There was discussion about vinyl table cloths for club shows. Doris stated she saw some online for \$7.56 to \$9.46. Glenda noted that JoAnn Fabrics sold clear vinyl by the yard and it could be put over the cloth ones we already have to protect them from rain at our shows. Doris said she could check out prices. Glenda also said that Ray suggested that the display necks we were using would soak up water and discolor. He suggested that if the forms were cut out of wood and painted, they could just be repainted when they got beat up. Glenda nominated Ray to cut out the forms from wood since he was not at the meeting.

Eddie as chair of the nominating committee reported the slate of officers to be voted on included the current holders of each office with the rotation of directors as Bill Schultz 2nd year, Curt 3rd year and Jan 1st year. Carl made a motion to have a vote to elect all current officers to their respective offices including the directors as stated above to hold those posts for next year. The motion was seconded by Meg and passed with all in favor.

Doris noted the Rock and Gem Magazine subscription for the club will expire in June 2020 and we have a choice of renewing for one or two years. Doris made a motion to renew for a two year subscription at \$48.00. Carl seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

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Secretary's Scoop

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Doris noted that the Midwest Federation dues were due and she would make a count of members and pay the dues.

Richard B. made a motion to adjourn seconded by Meg. The meeting was adjourned so that we could enjoy the cookies brought by members.

Please add our newest member to your member list:

Catherine L. Clevenz 2544 Eastgate Rd, Apt 12, Toledo, OH 43615 (419) 340-5276
clevenz@gmail.com

Treasurer's Statement



2020 Dues for membership in the State Line Gem & Mineral Society are now due.

The Dues are:

Family Membership (Husband and Wife and Children under 18 years of age, all living under one roof)- \$15.00,

Individual Adult Membership (All individuals over 18 years of age) - \$10.00.

The above memberships are defined in Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution.

One half of the dues specified above shall apply to new members joining in the fourth quarter of the current year.

After the regular February meeting, all members whose dues remain unpaid shall receive a statement from the Treasurer. A Delinquent Member shall be that member whose dues are not paid by March 15th of the current year. Thereupon, voting privileges shall be revoked and publications discontinued. Full privileges shall be restored immediately upon payment of delinquent dues.

So, simply stated, what all the above information says is: Please pay your dues by the February 2020 meeting so I don't have to remind you to pay them, and if you don't pay them by March 15, you will be delinquent and won't receive the newsletter until you do pay dues.

Doris Brzezicki, Treasurer

The History of Birthstones & How They Came to Be

by Ross Sedawie

<https://sedagems.com/blog/gemstone-information/history-of-birthstones/>

Of the gifts of jewelry a woman receives throughout her lifetime, a birthstone pendant or ring is typically one of the very first. Birthstone jewelry is incredibly popular and always a top gift for birthdays, Mother's Day and other gift-giving holidays. But where did this tradition begin? Why do we associate a specific gemstone with each month of the year?

Origin of the 12 Stones

Eastern and Western cultures have different ideas of how birthstones came to be. In the Western tradition, birthstones evolved from a story in the Bible, from the book of Exodus. The prophet Moses decreed that a breastplate should be made for Aaron, the High Priest of the Hebrew people. That breastplate featured twelve gemstones to represent the twelve tribes of Israel. The stones used in the breastplate differ depending on the translation and were not standardized until the eighth or ninth century.



In Eastern culture, birthstones are much more closely tied to astrology and the signs of the zodiac. The Hindu culture creates an astrological chart for each person at the time of his or her birth. It includes constellations, the sun and the moon as well as the planets. This chart recommends specific gemstones the person should wear to safeguard themselves throughout life.

Matching Stones to Months

So how did gemstones go from representing tribes of people or individual birth dates to representing months? In the Middle Ages, it became common for people to wear a different stone each month of the year, a custom that eventually evolved to wearing a single stone to represent the month of an individual's birth. The Eastern and Western traditions intermingled during this time. The Eastern tradition of stones protecting the wearer came to the West, and people began to believe their birthstone protected them or strengthened one of their natural attributes.

The stones that represented each month varied widely based on religious tradition and culture. In 1912, the Jewelers of America met in Kansas and created a standardized list. While some gems have been added to the list, the basics remain the same in America. In 1932, the British National Association of Goldsmiths met and created its own list. It is very similar to America's list but has some extra stones that can be substituted for some of the months.

The Birthstone Meanings

The significance of gemstones can be traced back to the earliest records of human history. Each gemstone has a tradition of meaning that endures today. Here are the birthstones, the months they represent and their myriad meanings.

Garnet - This deep red gemstone represents the month of January and the sign of Aquarius. It is most commonly known for properties of protection. Garnet is often carried to safeguard travelers or to ward off nightmares and can also mean wealth and success. It is also one of the only gemstones that does not have variants in different cultures – January is always represented by garnet.

Amethyst - Well known for its crystalline beauty, amethyst represents February and the sign of Pisces. It has the positive qualities of courage and clear thinking and is said to eliminate stress and promote communication. Because of the purple color, amethyst beads and gemstones have historically been associated with royalty and wealth.

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The History of Birthstones

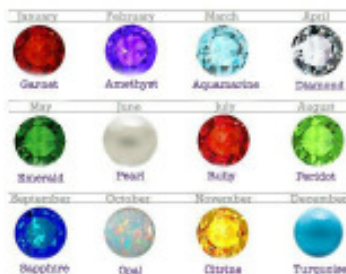
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Aquamarine - This gem gets its name from its seawater blue color. It represents the month of March. No doubt because of the beautiful, clear color, it is known to represent purity. It is often used in healing rituals of both the body and relationships.

Bloodstone - An alternate birthstone for the month of March and the official stone for the sign of Aries, bloodstone is also known as a healing stone. Many people carry it for health and long life, and it is therefore often known as a good luck charm in competitions.

Diamond - Easily the most popular gemstone outside the realm of birthstone meaning, diamonds represent love. People born in the month of April get to claim this sparkling stone as their own. It is the strongest and hardest of the gemstones, so in addition to love, it can mean eternity and indestructibility.

Birthstone Guide



Emerald - This bright green gem represents the month of May and the sign of Cancer. Like the diamond, it is also associated with love though it carries the further meaning of fertility. More modern meanings attributed to the stone are wisdom and patience.

Pearl - Another jewel popular outside of birthstone culture is June's pearl. Since the time of Ancient Greece, pearls have represented purity. Pearls are also known as the traditional jewel for a 30th wedding anniversary, as well as the stone associated with sincerity.

Moonstone - June is gifted with a second beautiful stone, the moonstone. Generally, this gem means hope, though it is said to have stronger pull over

women than men. Wearing moonstone beads is believed to enhance feminine intuition and provide protection, especially during pregnancy and childbirth.

Ruby - Though most stones have months and Zodiac signs that align closely, rubies represent July and the sign of Capricorn – nearly opposites! Ruby is known as the king of gems and has many different meanings, including love, health and wisdom. Wearing a ruby is said to bring good luck.

Peridot - Sometimes called an “evening emerald” due to the light green color, Peridot is the birthstone for August. By itself, it symbolizes strength, but when set in gold, it is also said to protect from nightmares. Peridot is also the traditional 16th wedding anniversary gem.

Sapphire - The rich blue color of sapphire is another color traditionally associated with royalty. The lucky people born in September get to wear this beautiful gemstone as their birthstone. It represents wisdom and was historically used to protect against poison.

Opal - Its unique, shifting colors are the reason an opal is named as it is – derived from the Greek word “opallios,” which means to see a change of color. The opal is the birthstone of October — rather fitting in climates where the leaves change color this time of year. It represents faithfulness and confidence and was traditionally worn to protect eyesight.

Topaz - The first birthstone for the month of November is the golden topaz. It also symbolizes the sign of Sagittarius. Its meaning across all cultures is straightforward: love and affection. As a derivative of this meaning, it is said the stone can improve the sweetness of the wearer's disposition.

Citrine - A second golden gemstone represents November babies, the citrine. It is known as the stone of abundance, promoting prosperity and helping both to attain and maintain wealth and all good things.

Turquoise - December is represented by one of the oldest stones in human history — used by ancient shamans and warriors. Turquoise is a good luck charm that is said to keep away evil spirits and generally protect the wearer.

Tanzanite - A newer stone in popular history, tanzanite is a secondary birthstone for December that was used by ancient cultures. It is said to bring truth, wisdom and dignity to the wearer and was used by ancient cultures as a pathway to the spiritual realms.

Whether you prefer to honor a birth month or a sign of the zodiac, there is a gorgeous gemstone to represent you and your loved ones. No matter your spiritual tradition, these gems are a meaningful reminder of the special days of your life.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020

State Line Gem & Mineral Society
monthly meeting
201 W. Main St.,
Morenci, MI 49256



Jan 8 - 10, 2020

Field Trip to
Quartzite, Arizona
Contact Glenda for information
(517) 451-2079



Ongoing -

Richard Brzezicki is at the clubhouse on
Thursdays 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm. It is best to check
with him first before you go. Cell (269) 267-7666

Wire Wrapping Sessions at Hobby Lobby in
Adrian on Fridays 11:00 am - 3:00 pm.
Linda Miller (419) 923-2090 and
Judy Snyder (517) 902-3990
(check to verify there will be someone there)

HAPPY ★ NEW ★ YEAR

Rock Trails

Sandy Gerhart, Editor
704 W. US Hwy 223, #205
Adrian, MI 49221

Meetings are held the
first Sunday of each month
at 2:00 PM
at 201 W. Main St.,
Morenci, MI 49256

