

ROCK TRAILS



Newsletter of the StateLine Gem and Mineral Society

VOLUME 61
ISSUE I
JANUARY 2021

2021 Officers and Directors

President: Glenda Gafner, 517 403-6310
Vice-President: Charlene Hacker, 517 270-8061
Secretary: Richard Brzezicki, 269 267-7666
Treasurer: Doris Brzezicki, 269 267-1123
Past President: Sherman Kardatzke, 517 673-5487
First Year Director: Heidi Storehalder, 517 403-7626
Second Year Director: Jan Hauter, 517 286-6971
Third Year Director: Bill Schultz, 419 335-6791
Show Chairman: Sherman Kardatzke, 517 673-5487
Co-Show Chair: Glenda Gafner, 517 451-2079
Publicity: Edmund Jarzembki, 419 237-2000
Sunshine & Membership: Jan Hauter, Judy Snyder,
Shirley McGovern
Library: Curt and Linda Miller.
Education & Lapidary:
Sherman Kardatzke, 517 673-5487
Richard Brzezicki, 269 267-7666
Newsletter Editor: Sandy Gerhart,
734 347-4796, s_gerhart@yahoo.com
Website: <http://statelinegms.com/index.html>



In This Issue:

- 1 Officers and Directors
- 2 President's Tidings
- 2 From the Editor
- 3 Secretary's Scoop
- 4 Treasurer's Statement
- 5 Cabezon Peak
- 6 Bench Tips
- 7 Tips for Rock Hunting In Northern Michigan
- 8 Slumgullion Earthflow
- 9 Upcoming Events

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



President's Tidings

This will be the last article from me as president. I would like to thank everyone for all the support over the last six years. I have heard that some think I am leaving the club but that is not true, you're still going to have to put up with me! I'd say I'm slowing down but am getting busy with the supply business I have, putting on more shows.

Well I'm sure everyone is wondering how the election went. The new president is Glenda, Vice is Charlene, Secretary is Richard, Treasurer is Doris, and Director is Heidi. Linda and I went to Bill and Mary's to open the ballots. There were 40 that were returned to Bill. There was a tie for Vice President which had to be figured out, since there was nothing in the bylaws. So we let the current officers and the directors vote on who should be the new Vice President. This worked well. This way should be put in the bylaws in case this happens again. Thanks all of you for sending all the ballots back in!

Hopefully the upcoming year will be better so we can get back to normal and enjoy the the things we like to do!

At least there is a little good news. Doris and Glenda have talked to the landlord and he is willing to reduce the rent until June.

Again, thanks, everyone, for the support over the years! I'll still be there to aggravate everyone!

Sherm

From the Editor

Hi Everyone! I'm back! Bet you thought you got rid of me! Ha ha. Things went very well with my surgery and I am currently cancer-free. The doctor wanted me to go on chemo to keep it from coming back, but I decided at my age I just don't want to undergo that as long as there is no cancer right now. If the cancer comes back, we'll face that obstacle then, but I am just going to leave it in God's hands and hope that He will help keep me healthy. I have some great doctors who are helping me and who are keeping a close watch on things. I appreciate all the good wishes and prayers from all of you. Keep those prayers coming! Thank you so very much!

Sandy

Secretary's Scoop



President Sherman Kardatzke called for a Board meeting for November 8, 2020 to discuss how elections for club officers should be conducted in accordance with the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. The Board met using social distancing and masks at the clubhouse and discussions began at 2:11 PM. Several topics were discussed and it was decided that our officer elections should be done by mail. Bill Schultz contacted interested parties and came up with contenders for the following positions.

President – Glenda Gafner or Edward Jarzembki

Vice President – Linda Weilfort or Charlene Hacker

Treasurer – Doris Brzezicki or Kathy Boyers

Secretary – Richard Brzezicki

First Year Director – Curt Miller or Heidi Storehalder

Glenda prepared a ballot she submitted to Sherm who emailed it to the secretary (Richard Brzezicki) for distribution to all the club members. Richard printed up the ballots and mailed them out with self addressed/stamped envelopes stating the ballots had to be postmarked no later than December 7th to be counted by Bill Schultz and Sherman Kardatzke. Bill did not open any ballots until Sunday, December 13 so that Sherm could be present and help with the count.

President – Glenda Gafner

Vice President – Charlene Hacker

Treasurer – Doris Brzezicki

Secretary – Richard Brzezicki

First Year Director – Heidi Storehalder

Bill and Sherm thank the members for their participation and congratulate the new officers, wishing them well in their respective positions.

Respectfully submitted by Richard Brzezicki, Secretary



Treasurer's Statement

2021 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.

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 February 07, 2021 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 or be allowed to vote until you do pay dues.

Please pay your dues by checks made payable to State Line Gem & Mineral Society and mailed to Doris Brzezicki, 419 N Broad St, Adrian, MI 49221

Doris Brzezicki, Treasurer



Cabazon Peak

New Mexico

With an elevation of nearly 8,000 feet, Cabazon Peak is the largest of over 50 dramatic volcanic formations that dot the otherwise barren and otherworldly desert shrubland of the Rio Puerco Valley.

Cabazon Peak is a steep-sided and symmetrical basalt volcanic plug that formed during the eruptions of the Mount Taylor volcanic field millions of years ago. The basalt monolith is one of the most prominent landmarks in northwestern New Mexico, dominating the landscape. (Visitors with a keen eye will notice it bears a striking similarity to the larger Devils Tower in Wyoming, which is also a basalt volcanic plug.)

Cabazon, which is derived from the Spanish and translates as “big head,” is believed to have religious significance for the local Pueblo and Navajo Indians. Numerous myths abound, but a particularly popular Navajo legend holds that a giant was slain on Mount Taylor, located to the west, and the giant’s severed head landed to the east, becoming Cabazon Peak. As the legend goes, the giant’s blood congealed to form the volcanic lava flows to the south.

The views from the summit of Cabazon Peak are impressive, looking out over much of northern and central New Mexico. Accordingly, the 1.9-mile hike to the top is a favorite among climbers. It is not, however, for the faint of heart. Basic mountain climbing experience and proper gear, including a helmet, are required for this technical climb along the scree-covered trail and up the nearly vertical cliffs. Acrophobes will definitely find this climb unpleasant.

Cabazon Peak is part of the Cabazon Wilderness Study Area. To reach the area from Albuquerque, take I-25 north about 17 miles to US 550 West. Travel 41 miles on US 550 and turn left on NM 279. Cabazon Peak will be visible to the west. NM 279 is a relatively desolate road that passes through the sleepy village of San Luis. The pavement ends after 9 miles. Continue on 279 and bear left at the fork. In 3.8 miles, a BLM sign will indicate the easily driveable two-track to the base of Cabazon Peak. The trail to the summit begins here. No fees or permits are required. Be mindful that the dirt roads become extremely slippery and possibly impassable when it rains. There are no services.



Bench Tips

by Brad Smith



ADJUSTABLE CHUCK FOR DREMELS

Many of us have a Dremel motor tool to use at home or when out to a class or workshop. The one thing that makes this tool much more productive is the addition of one inexpensive option, an adjustable chuck.

The basic motor tool as sold typically comes with a collet chuck. This means you have to use a wrench to change every tool bit, you have to switch collets to use different shaft sizes (3/32 or 1/8 inch bits), and you can't use ordinary drills at all - only the special ones that have a 3/32 shaft.

A simple and inexpensive (\$12) adjustable chuck solves all of this. It's available in most large local hardware stores or modelmaking outlets. Tightening the chuck is done easily by hand to any size shaft. No key is required.

IDENTIFYING UNMARKED SOLDERS

There are plenty of ways to mark your sheet or wire solders, but suppose you forgot to mark them and have a couple that you can't identify.

The answer is to compare the melting temperature of the unknowns with that of a known solder.

What I do is take a thick scrap of copper or nickel and arrange several solders on it. Ideally, I would have a sample of easy, medium and hard known solders surrounding the unknown solder. Then I heat the plate from the bottom and watch the order in which the solders melt.



Learn New Skills with Brad's "How To Do It" Books
[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

Tips For Rock Hunting In Northern Michigan

By Carly Simpson on July 17, 2015

The Great Lakes shoreline is decorated with vibrant stones in every shade. In particular, Northern Michigan's beaches are a known paradise for rock hunters. We talked with rock hound Amy Hites, the co-administrator of the Facebook community Michigan Rockhounding, for insider tips on the best beaches, weather and seasons for rock hunting. Hint: Build in some time on your Northern Michigan fall color tour since fall is the best time of all as autumn winds bring fresh crops of rocks constantly. And be sure to check out these additional tips for rock hunting in Northern Michigan.

What supplies should people bring when rock hunting?

"Personally, I carry a utility tray with a handle like you would keep your cleaning supplies in. It has a few separate compartments so I can sort the rocks. A spray bottle is a must. The rocks must be wet to see them clearly. They all look like clumps of limestone until they are wet. You would be amazed at what is in front of you and you would never know it. I put a sifter, used by metal detectors, inside of that to sift small pebbles. A pick or garden tool for pulling up large rocks sunken in the sand, and a knee pad. If I plan to stay on the beach for the entire day and if it's hot I take my rock wagon to carry it all. Then I can have a chair, a cooler and a beach bag. Almost forgot—my pocket rock guide."

Are certain times or weather conditions better?

"Summer is great so you don't have to bundle up and it's fine to get soaking wet. Winter is even better. I have dug under ice sheets for great finds. The beaches are empty. Fall is the best time of all as the winds of November bring fresh crops of rocks constantly and the ice isn't on yet. Beaches are best right after a storm. Cloudy days are easier to see the stones. You can't see patterns with sunglasses on either."

Why was the Facebook community Michigan Rockhounding created?

"The site was created to share information, from where to go to trying to ID and share our findings. We discourage bulk collecting for the sake of selling. The site is very successful. It went from 15 members to hundreds. We even had a producer from National Geographic contact us looking for members that could participate in a reality series for collecting in the UP."

What can people do with the rocks they collect?

"I make everything from paperweights to picture frames to wearable jewelry. Not to mention my photography that includes my rock subjects. My daughter makes lovely hand-poured beachscape candles. My personal favorites are my beach stone kleenex boxes."

What do you like about rock hunting?

"It is a free activity that anyone can partake in. You can take it as far as you want to. When you hold a fossil in your hand that is millions of years old, brought to the surface for us to do something special with or even leaving it on a desk to be a conversation piece, it does something to you. It changes how you look at things. It tells a story. It's like opening a book. You want to get to the next chapter. So you research it, but you can't stop there."

Slumgullion Earthflow

Lake City, Colorado

Designated as a National Natural Landmark in 1983, this relatively young and still active slide is one of the best examples of a rare geologic phenomenon known as “mass wasting” in the world.



Centuries ago, a portion of the Lake City caldera broke off of Mesa Seco and started moving down the steep slopes of the Lake Branch of the Gunnison River. Unlike many other slides, this was a slow-moving mass of materials known as mass flow or earth flow. The flow is about four miles long. Around 700 years ago, the flow dammed the Gunnison River's Lake Fork to form Lake San Christobal. Soon after the damming of the river, the flow stopped.

Around three centuries ago, another slide from the same headwall started moving downhill. It has undergone active movement ever since at a rate of about 20 feet per year. Active areas of the flow can be seen in the assortment of tilted trees. The more trees that are tilted, the more active the flow.

The name Slumgullion comes from two sources. It's often used by miners when describing the clay and mud left in the sluice when separating gold from ore. It's also the name of stew.

Because of its uniqueness, the mass flow has been thoroughly studied throughout the years. The flow is faster in the summer when water is available and slower during the winter. The flow rate is related to tidal forces from the moon as well as air pressure. Pressure decreases at night, slowing the flow, and increases during the day, increasing the flow. Even climate change has had an impact on the geological wonder. Higher temperatures have slowed the flow and may even cause the newer flow to stop in the future.

Cannibal Mesa and Deadman Gulch, both named after the Packer Massacre, sit on the edge of the mass flow. The slide itself was first identified by Alferd Packer when he described the massacre site as, “being on the side of a large landslide.”

The mass flow can be viewed from the top of Slumgullion Pass to just outside Lake City on Colorado 149. Numerous pullouts exist along the west side of the pass with information on the flow. The flow has a high concentration of aspens making fall the best time to view the flow. Traffic is increased during this time and extra caution should be taken.

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/slumgullion-earthflow>

Upcoming Events

No January Meeting

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



Ongoing - **Currently canceled**

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

Sherm Kardatzke will be holding cabbing classes on Thursday evenings, 6:00 pm - 9 pm.

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

