

ROCK TRAILS



Newsletter of the StateLine Gem and Mineral Society

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2014 Officers and Directors

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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

In This Issue:

Officers and Directors	1
President's Tidings	2
Treasurer's Statement	2
Secretary's Scoop	3
Pictured Rocks	4 - 5
Metals Quiz	6
Upcoming Events	7



President's Tidings

Getting Back Into the Saddle



The extreme winter weather has been at the top of conversation and debate. Talk of setting records and blaming coal-fired power plants for all of our global weather havoc has exhausted all of us. There have been financial strains on our winter budgets and our routines have been broken because of the harsh winter weather. I haven't cut a rock since last year at the clubhouse. Coal is the only rock I am interested in at the present and the coal industry's trade journal "Coal Age" is my favorite reading material.

The rock hound season begins in March with more favorable weather and the season's kick off rock show hosted by the Jackson Club. Their show will get the soot out of your blood and put you in the rockhound mood again. They have graciously invited us to be demonstrators at their show. Your attendance and help is appreciated. The March meeting will help us all get back into the saddle again. See you there.

Best regards,

Eddie

Treasurer's Statement

Dues for 2014 were due in January. It is the policy of the club to continue sending our newsletter to members thru March. At that time if they haven't paid their current dues they will be considered delinquent and membership privileges (i.e. the newsletter) will be suspended. Most members have paid their dues but there are still a few who haven't.

Our next Fund raiser is the Michigan Gem & Mineral Society on March 14th, 15th, & 16th . The hours are Friday 11am-7pm, Saturday 10am-7pm and Sunday 11am-5pm. We have been invited to demonstrate cabochon cutting & polishing and will crack geodes. We will also bring Geode, our grab bag Lion, and have a few items for member sales. Please mark your calendars for these dates and let me know what times you are available to help at the booth.



Most of our vendors are returning for our show the weekend after Memorial Day. I will contact additional vendors once I know how many tables will be available. I still have not received a volunteer to help with the advertising. This is a very important position and requires computer skills. Richard will review what he has done for the past several years. We have had some health issues this past year and I feel we should both share our experience with other club members.

Doris Brzezicki, Treasurer

Secretary's Scoop



The State Line Gem and Mineral Society meeting was called to order at 2:10 on February 9, 2014 by Vice President Henry Porter. Members stood for the pledge of allegiance. Henry made a motion to accept the secretary's report submitted by Richard Brzezicki in the January newsletter. Sherm seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Treasurer's report: Henry read the report as submitted by Doris. Rent and utilities are paid for the month. Dealer payments are still coming in. The Jackson show is coming up soon. Hopefully, that will bring in some funds too. We will need some start-up funds for our June show but our treasury is in good shape at this time.

The Jackson show will be March 14th, 15th and 16th. We will have geodes, member sales and Geode, the grab bag lion. We will also be allowed to sell some items made by members, so donations, volunteers and member support will all be appreciated.

New Business: Sherm was able to repair a trim saw. Cletus is recruiting two new potential members, Harry and Elaine, who were just checking us out. They came in by invitation from Cletus. The club wishes them a cordial welcome. Harry and Elaine asked about metal smithing and Cletus said he does some. I asked if he could consider a class, but he said between travel distance and tools, it would be difficult.

There was an equipment sale coming up in Tecumseh, set up by the son of a former member (John Zarnach) who passed away several years ago. Since Richard and Henry were scheduled to be out of town at the time of the sale, Sherm said he may go and look. Cletus said Morehead Industries is a good place to look for machines and equipment.

Cletus asked how our gem show was coming along. Harry asked if that was one of our fundraisers. Henry brought up the various fundraisers we do. He also mentioned that we had grab bags and said that Phyllis was working on sewing them. Elaine offered to help make the bags if needed.

Members then had an open session swapping rock stories. They also brought up the Tucson, AZ gem shows. There was some talk about Petoskey stones too. The consensus seemed to be that collectors and rock hounds who do not live in Michigan go gung-ho over Petoskey stones.

Cletus made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sherm. The motion passed with all in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Pat Baier-Hay



Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore

Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore is a U.S. National Lakeshore on the shore of Lake Superior in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. It extends for 42 miles (67 km) along the shore and covers 73,236 acres (114 sq mi; 296 km²). The park offers spectacular scenery of the hilly shoreline between Munising, Michigan and Grand Marais, Michigan, with various rock formations like natural archways, waterfalls, and sand dunes.

Pictured Rocks derives its name from the 15 miles (24 km) of colorful sandstone cliffs northeast of Munising. The cliffs are up to 200 feet (60 m) above lake level. They have been naturally sculptured into shallow caves, arches, formations that resemble castle turrets, and human profiles, among others. Near Munising visitors also can view Grand Island, most of which is included in the Grand Island National Recreation Area and is preserved separately.



The U.S. Congress made Pictured Rocks the first officially-designated National Lakeshore in the United States in 1966. It is governed by the National Park Service (NPS), had 22 year-round NPS employees as of May 2006, and received 476,888 visitors in 2005.



The colors in the cliffs are created by the large amounts of minerals in the rock. The cliffs are composed of the Munising Formation of 500 million year old Cambrian period sandstone. The Munising Formation sits atop a Precambrian sandstone of the Jacobsville Formation. The mottled red Jacobsville Formation is the oldest rock in the park. On top of the Munising Formation is the younger Au Train Formation from the Ordovician period. The Au Train Formation is a hard sandstone and acts as a “cap” over the other layers. Streaks on the face of the cliffs come from the groundwater leaching out of the rock. With it come iron (red), manganese (black-white), limonite (yellow-brown), copper (pink-green) and other minerals. As the water evaporates, these minerals leave streaks of color.

Although the Pictured Rocks lie adjacent to sections of Lake Superior that are rich in fish, the sandstone cliffs are dangerous to canoes and other open boats skirting the coastline. Pierre Esprit Radisson, the fur trader, made this risky passage in 1658 and noted that his Native American companions offered some tobacco to the local spirit of the cliffs.

After the lumbering era ended around 1910, many of the parcels of land making up the current Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore reverted to the state of Michigan for unpaid property taxes. Eager for federal help and recognition, the state cooperated with the federal government in the region's redevelopment. Congress enacted a law in 1966 to elevate the shoreline between Munising and Grand Marais to the status of a National Lakeshore.

Pictured Rocks, continued from pg 4

In October 1966, Congress passed a bill authorizing the establishment of the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, "in order to preserve for the benefit, inspiration, education, recreational use, and enjoyment of the public, a significant portion of the diminishing shoreline of the United States and its related geographic and scientific features." When President Lyndon Johnson signed the bill, Alger County became the home of America's first National Lakeshore.

Pictured Rocks is the home of many of Michigan's waterfalls. Most of the waterfalls resulted from water running over cliffs of the Munising Formation. This lime and sandstone formation exists between Tahquamenon Falls, some 75 miles (121 km) east, to Laughing Whitefish Falls, 30 miles (48 km) miles west of the Lakeshore. Pets are not allowed on most of the trails.

Munising Falls—A 50 ft (15 m) waterfall over a sandstone cliff. Along the trail may be seen ferns, wildflowers, and an occasional mink. The trail is fully accessible to people with disabilities and dogs are allowed.

Miners Falls—This self-guiding interpretive trail passes Miners Basin and ends at Miners Falls. There are 77 steps leading down to the viewing platform. The falls drops 50 ft (15 m) over the sandstone outcrop.

Bridalveil Falls—Bridalveil is a seasonal waterfall. In the summer, it may not exist or be only a trickle.

Mosquito Falls—This falls drops over an 8 ft (2.4 m) rock shelf on the Mosquito River. River otters and beavers live in the stream along the trail.

Chapel Falls—Two viewing platforms along the way provide views of the scenic Chapel Basin. Chapel Falls cascades some 60 ft (18 m) down the sandstone cliffs on its way to Chapel Lake.

Spray Falls—This waterfall is best seen from Lake Superior. The 1856 shipwreck of the Superior is at the base of the falls in 20 ft (6.1 m) of water.

Sable Falls - Sable Falls tumbles 75 ft (23 m) over several cliffs of Munising and Jacobsville sandstone formations on its way to Lake Superior.

The Grand Sable Dunes, at the eastern end of the Lakeshore, are a perched dune formation. Sand washed ashore by wave action was then blown upslope by northerly prevailing winds until it came to rest atop a glacial moraine. The Grand Sable Dunes today form a sand slope that rises from Lake Superior at a 35° angle. The summits of the tallest dunes are as high as 275 ft (85 m) above lake level.



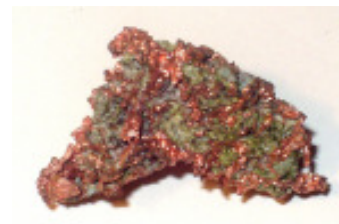
(All photos were taken by Sandy Gerhart on her trip to the UP last August)



Metals Quiz

Test Your knowledge.

1. Rust is formed from Iron and what other element?
 - A. Hydrogen
 - B Nitrogen
 - C Oxygen
 - D Sulfur
2. Which of these metals is a liquid at room temperature?
 - A. Lithium
 - B Mercury
 - C. Beryllium
 - D.Osmium
- 3.Which of these metals is found in a chemically pure state in nature?
 - A. Iron
 - B. Lithium
 - C.Copper
 - D. Gold
4. In its simplest form, Bronze is an alloy of which metals?
 - A. Copper and Tin
 - B. Copper and Zinc
 - C. Copper, Zinc and Nickel
 - D. Copper, Tin, Lead
5. The property of a metal to be drawn into wire is:
 - A. Ductility
 - B. Hardness
 - C. Strength
 - D. Malleability
6. True or False
Metals are generally good thermal and electrical conductors.
7. Galvanized metals are those which have been covered with a thin sheet of
 - A. Copper
 - B. Chromium
 - C. Zinc
 - D. Tin
8. What metal is associated with the minerals azurite, turquoise and malachite?
 - A. Zinc
 - B. Copper
 - C.Tin
 - D.Silver



Quiz answers on pg 7

Upcoming Events



Mar. 2, 2014

StateLine Gem & Mineral Society

monthly meeting

2:00 p.m.

201 W. Main St.

Morenci, MI 49256

March 1-2, 2014

. The Roamin Club's 42nd Special Auction of over 1,500 mineral and lapidary items, including cutting rough, crystals, fossils and slabs.

Schoolcraft College
Visatech Center Bldg.
18600 Haggerty Road
Livonia, MI.

March 14, 15, 16, 2014

Michigan Gem and Mineral Society

2014 Annual Show

Jackson County Fairgrounds

American One Event Center

200 West Ganson

Jackson, MI



March 11, 2014

Michigan Mineralogical Society Social and Swap

7 p.m.,

Cranbrook Institute of Science,

39221 N. Woodward Ave.

Bloomfield Hills, MI

April 6 & 7, 2014

Central Ohio Mineral, Fossil, Gem & Jewelry Show

Northland Performing Arts Center

4411 Tamarack Blvd

Columbus, OH 43229

6 blocks east of I-71 on Morse Rd.

next to Menard's

Look for the yellow building

with the blue scaffolding tower.

Adults - \$7.00 2-Day pass - \$12.00 Children 6-16

- \$3.00 Children 6 & under are free Scouts. 4-H

uniform, or with ID free

Quiz answers

1. C 2. B 3. D 4. A
5. A 6. T 7. C 8. B





Rock Trails

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first Sunday of each month
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