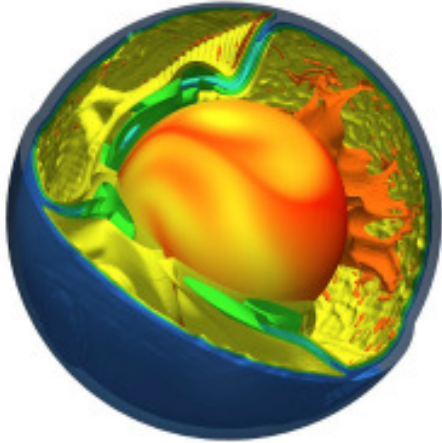


ROCK TRAILS



May 29 - 31, 2015

Wauseon, OH

“Discovering Our Legacy”

54th Annual Rock, Gem and Mineral Show

StateLine Gem and Mineral Society

Fulton County Fairgrounds

Junior Fair Building

8514 SR 108

North of the Ohio Turnpike exit 34

Newsletter of the StateLine Gem and Mineral Society

VOLUME 55
ISSUE V
MAY 2015

2015 Officers and Directors

President: Sherman Kardatzke, 517 673-5487

Vice President: Glenda Gafner, 517 451-2079

Secretary: Patricia Baier-Hay, 517 263-8585

Treasurer: Doris Brzezicki, 517 263-1669

Past President: Edmund Jarzembki, 419 237-2000

First Year Director: Carl Mulholland, 734 428-1009

Second Year Director: Kelly Cleveland, 419 882-8515

Third Year Director: Charles Swanson, 517 759-0337

Show Chairman: Doris Brzezicki, 517 263-1669

Publicity: Edmund Jarzembki, 419 237-2000

Sunshine: Catherine Choske, 517 423-3572

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Richard Brzezicki, 517 263-1669

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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

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President's Tidings



Getting closer to summer and a lot of fun shows. There have been several that some of us have gone to. Have picked up lots of nice things already. Thanks to all that have worked at the shows, this helps pay the bills for the club. It doesn't seem like much at the time, but every dollar counts. As for shows, this is the last meeting before our show. We need everyone at the meeting that can come to do final preparation and final planning.

Treasurer's Statement

Our next meeting should be pretty exciting. It is the last one before our show, May 29, 30 and 31. There are lots of last minute plans to make. We will need to take fliers to our libraries and hang posters at local businesses. If everyone helps it will make light work.

Usually those who are able, meet at the clubhouse on Wednesday before the show to transport equipment and supplies down to the fairgrounds. When we are at the fairgrounds, we will also set up the vendor tables, member sales, silent auction, display tables and the admission area. The kitchen area also needs to be cleaned for the inspection by the Fulton County Health Department on Friday morning.

Thursday evening there will be a dinner about 6 o'clock- I think. This is to show appreciation for the dealers and any members who can attend. If you can make it, check with Pat to see what dish you might bring to pass.

The show starts Friday at noon and ends Sunday at 4 pm. We have many members who have already volunteered to be there for the whole time. We still need other volunteers to come whenever possible. I think if you check with the members who are there the whole time they will tell you they have fun. There is usually time for us to check out the wonderful items for sale by the vendors, and in the past some members have even been able to wage a battle at the silent auction table for a particularly nice specimen.

Clean up begins after the show and then we have a short meeting to wrap things up. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year and we need everyone's support. If you need to contact me during the show, my cell phone number is 269 267-1123.

Doris Brzezicki, Treasurer



Secretary's Scoop



The State Line Gem and Mineral Society meeting started with Ed giving the invocation, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Richard B. made a motion to accept the secretary's report as printed in the newsletter. The motion was seconded by Linda Sharkey and passed with all in favor.

Treasurer's report: Doris reported that we still have some income from dealers, dues, silent auction, the Adrian Mall and the Jackson Gem and Mineral Show. Expenses included rent for the clubhouse and Consumers bill. Projected expenses will be rent for the club's show at the Fulton County Fairgrounds and related necessities for the kitchen, silent auction, advertisement and purchase of the Mexican geodes for resale. Doris estimates that we may be a bit short on funds but she hopes we will be able to make up the difference at the Jackson Fairy Festival. Richard B. made a motion to accept the treasurer's report which was seconded by Glenda and passed with all in favor.

Old business: Doris reported that some dealers who promised to participate have backed out but she has a waiting list of dealers who want to attend our show, so she is confident we will fill our show to capacity with dealers. There was some discussion about whether we want to order posters to advertise our show. The consensus was that we should order 50 of them as soon as possible. Glenda printed some midsized flyers and Doris brought in a supply of the smaller coupon type flyers and distributed them to whoever was willing to circulate them. John Zaborowski (guest) suggested that we reuse our left over posters by putting corrected dates over last year's dates. Doris said that Morenci is very supportive of our club and the library along with many of the businesses are happy to display our posters. Ed made a motion to purchase 50 posters, seconded by Charlie. After a brief discussion, the motion passed with all in favor.

Scholarship: Glenda reported that she has sent information about our scholarship to local schools but has not had any responses yet.

Advertising: Glenda reported that she was going to put ads on radio stations and newspapers. Doris asked that the bills be sent to her as the treasurer so that she could pay the bills in a timely manner. Glenda said she sent e-mails through Bob's Rocks web site. The Midwest Federation will also be doing some advertising for us as a member club.

Show: Glenda reported that Carl plans to have a display and Emma may have one too. Doris said that she planned to have her stone cat display. Glenda invited anyone who wanted to set up a display to do so.

There was discussion about having a Thursday evening dinner for members/volunteers and dealers. This has worked out well for us in the past and is a good public relations move for our dealers. Ed and Shirley plan to work the silent auction tables. Sherm stated it would be nice to have a slab work day before the show so that we would have material available for our silent auction. Ed mentioned that he would like to take a trip to Archie's for some quality slabs. Doris said that Archie has been very

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good to us and it may be time to plan a field trip to see his workshop. She asked Ed to check and see what day would be a good one for the club to visit Archie. Bill mentioned that he noticed there were slabs in the basement. Ed said we do have some slabs but it is always a good idea to get new and fresh material from Archie.

Doris sent a list of members around to be checked for any necessary corrections about contact information. She should be notified of any inaccuracies.

Bedford Indiana trip: Glenda has reserved motel rooms and will recheck for any additions/deletions in May.

Glenda said she was working on a potential donation of table cloths from Wal-Mart. Doris said we had tried to work with the Wauseon Wal-Mart in the past without success but wished Glenda luck. Linda Sharkey asked about tablecloth types as she had some at home. Doris said we are looking for matching ones to have a coordinated professional look.

Fairy Festival: The Festival will be Saturday at 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Sunday 12 noon to 3:00 PM. Set up will be from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. We invited the Jackson club to share a booth space with the State Line club since we are in their neighborhood. Members who volunteered to help at the Fairy Festival include Pat, Judy and Richard S., Charlie, Bill and Phyllis among others. Dress up is encouraged.

New business: Set up for Fulton County Fair will be September 3rd and the fair will last from the 4th to 10th. Glenda asked about a campsite for the club but after some discussion it was felt that it was not needed.

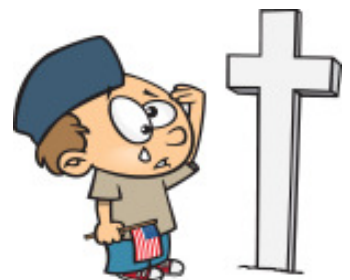
The Midwest Federation show will be May 23rd and 24th. Our club will be sponsoring Sherm and Glenda to represent us. After some discussion, Ed made a motion for the club to allocate \$100.00 to go towards representative expenses. After a brief discussion, that amount was amended to \$150.00. Richard B. seconded the motion which passed with all in favor.

Sherm brought up that our slab saw blade is getting dull. Doris felt that purchase would have to be tabled at this time because all of our current funds are accounted for and there are none left over for additional purchases.

Glenda started a discussion about club t-shirts. The popular opinion was that the shirts be green with white lettering for the logo. Glenda is looking in to the cost and style and took names of members interested in ordering shirts.

Carl mentioned that we would need field trip permission slips for the Midwest Federation. Kids would need to be with parent or guardian and guests or non-club members are not covered by Midwest insurance. Doris said our club has it's own insurance and we are not covered by the Midwest's insurance anyway but we could put on the permission slip that our club is not responsible for any personal injuries.

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



The Difference Between Minerals, Rocks and Gemstones

What is the difference between a mineral, a rock and a gemstone? Are all minerals rocks? Can a rock be a gemstone?

These are hard questions, but some of them at least have scientific answers. Since there is a science of minerals, called mineralogy, there needs to be a fairly precise definition of what constitutes a mineral. A mineral is defined as a naturally occurring substance that is formed through geological processes and has a characteristic chemical and physical composition, particularly a highly ordered atomic structure that is normally crystalline.



A rock, by comparison, is an aggregate of minerals and need not have a specific chemical composition. Minerals range in composition from pure elements and simple salts to very complex silicates with thousands of known forms. In general, rocks are of three types; igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic. Even though rocks do not have a specific physical composition like minerals, there is a science of rocks as well, called petrology. The study of rocks is essential for understanding the formation of the earth.

Gemstones have their own science as well, called gemology, which is a branch of mineralogy. But the concept of a gemstone is based on human value judgements. A gemstone is usually defined as a highly attractive and valuable piece of cut and polished mineral that is used in jewelry or other decorations. The science of gemology studies the special physical and optical properties of this subset of the mineral world.



However, this definition of a gemstone is not particularly scientific since it does not make much reference to the physical properties of gemstones. Attempts to remedy this shortcoming by referring to the unusual hardness and rarity of gemstones have not been very successful. Some gemstones, such as fluorite, are not especially hard. Also, rarity depends on what is being mined at any given time. Amethyst, the violet variety of quartz, was once quite rare; but today it is fairly abundant.



To further complicate matters, certain rocks, such as lapis lazuli, are classified as gemstones, since lapis has a long history of use in decoration. Lapis lazuli is composed of several minerals, including sodalite, calcite and pyrite. Certain organic materials, such as amber and coral, are also classified as gemstones, although they have no crystal structure at all, and would not even be described as organic minerals. Actually amber is classified as a mineraloid ('somewhat mineral-like') along with amorphous materials like opal and mercury.

So we can say, by way of an answer, that minerals are crystalline; that rocks are made up of aggregates of minerals; and that gemstones are minerals that humans find especially attractive and valuable (plus a few rocks and organic materials that have found favor). There is a system to it, but the concept of a gemstone, it is fair to say, is a purely human invention.

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<http://www.gemselect.com/other-info/minerals-rocks-gems.php>

Bench Tips

by Brad Smith

MAGNETIC TOOL BAR



An easy way to keep all your files organized at the bench is to use a magnetic tool strip. They're not expensive and help keep a lot of small tools from cluttering the bench top. I got a couple of them from Harbor Freight for about \$5 each. See <http://www.harborfreight.com> and search on-"magnetic-holder"

My only regret was putting some of my small drills on the magnets. The drills got a little magnetized and now stick together when I carry them in a bottle in my tool box.

SILVER DISCOLORATION

Working with jewelry involves an ever increasing number of skills. Chemistry is one of them that comes into play when dealing with a discoloration on the metal caused by a chemical reaction between it and the environment.

In the case of Sterling silver, there are three discolorations we typically encounter: a tarnish, a firescale, and a firestain. Each is different in its cause, in its cure, and in its prevention. All three have to do with the metals in the Sterling alloy (92.5% silver and 7.5% copper) and how they react with oxygen and the heat of soldering or with pollutants in the air over the long term.

Tarnish is a grayish coating that builds up slowly on the surface as a result of a reaction of the silver with sulfur-based compounds in the air. Typically these are pollutants from the burning of petroleum fuels, but they can come from other sources as well. I once tarnished all the silver in my display case by putting a pretty specimen of iron pyrite in with the jewelry. Turns out pyrite has sulfur in it! Sulfur combines with the silver to form a grayish silver sulfide film on the surface.

Preventing tarnish involves keeping sulfur away from the metal. Plastic bags will help, and anti-tarnish strips are available from jewelry supply companies to pack near your items. Tarnish is easily removed by hand polishing with a jeweler's cloth or with one of the products sold for cleaning the good silverware for holiday dinner.

Another way is to remove it chemically. Put a piece of aluminum in the bottom of a dish large enough to contain your piece. Heat enough water to cover the silver. Mix in 2 tablespoons of sodium carbonate per cup of water and pour into the dish. Be sure the silver touches the aluminum. Sodium carbonate is the main ingredient in washing soda. Read the labels in grocery and hardware stores.

The second type of tarnish is called firescale. It is the dark gray to charcoal colored film that forms on Sterling or other copper alloys like brass or bronze when we heat it with a torch. The copper in the

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alloy reacts with oxygen in the air to form a dark cupric oxide coating on the surface. Luckily, the oxide is easily removed by dissolving it in a mild acid - generally called a pickle. It's important that we not let firescale form on a solder joint because it will block the flow solder over the joint.

There are two ways to prevent firescale. Most common is to use a flux, a borax-based solution applied to the metal before soldering. When melted, borax forms a thin glassy layer that keeps oxygen away from the metal. A second way is to do your soldering on a charcoal block. Together with the flame, charcoal greatly reduces the amount of oxygen in the area being soldered. In either case, oxygen is prevented from reaching the metal, so no cupric oxide firescale is formed.

A second oxide can also be formed when soldering copper or a high copper content alloy like bronze or brass. It's called cuprous oxide and is reddish in color. That's why a black looking piece you put in the pickle sometimes comes out red. Problem is that while the black cupric oxide is dissolved by a pickle, the red cuprous oxide is not. The discoloration can be sanded or polished off, but an easier way is to use a "super pickle". This is a mixture of fresh pickle with a healthy shot of hydrogen peroxide from the local store.

I've saved the worst form of discoloration, firestain, for last. Think of firescale (above) as like getting dirt on your shirt that you have to wash off. Firestain is like getting ink on it. The discoloration is not just on the surface, it seeps down and stains the material. Firestain happens when we heat a piece of silver too hot, too long, and/or too many times.

Firestain occurs when the oxides start to build up below the surface of the metal. You generally don't notice it until after polishing. It appears as a darker area of the surface and is easy to spot when viewed under light bounced off a piece of white paper. Because firestain is below the surface, there's no easy bench tip solution. Depletion gilding may work for some pieces. Otherwise, removing it calls for sandpaper and aggressive polishing.

A much better approach for a piece that will require a large number of solderings is to protect the metal from developing firestain by applying liberal amounts of a firecoat. Regular soldering flux will provide some protection but is not as effective as preparations made specifically for the task. Jewelry supply companies offer several commercial solutions, but my favorite is the Prips mixture in alcohol. I use it every time I intend to do more than two solderings on a piece.

More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at [facebook.com/BenchTips/](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips/)
or see the book "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon

Get all 101 of Brad's bench tips in "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon
www.amazon.com/dp/0988285800/



2015 Stataline Gem & Mineral Society Membership (Corrected)

First Name	Last Name	Address	City	State	Zip Code	e-mail address	Telephone Number
Patricia	Baier-Hay	356 Beecher	Adrian	MI	49221	patbaierhay@gmail.com	(517) 750-7065
Richard & Doris	Brzezicki	419 N Broads St	Adrian	MI	49221	rychard@tc3net.com	(517) 263-1669
Jim & Margaret	Chagnon	7192 St Rt 582	Woodville	OH	43469	jc123mb@yahoo.com	(419) 849-2213
Catherine	Choske	707 Wenonah St	Tecumseh	MI	49286		(517) 423-3572
Terry	Doherty	25007 County Rd R	Fayette	OH	43521		(419) 237-2147
Dolores	Fish	322 Elm St, Apt 1	Kalamazoo	MI	49007	doloresfish@gmail.com	(269) 861-9661
David & Glenda	Gafner	3720 Britton Hwy	Britton	MI	49225	ggafner@frontier.com	(517) 451-2079
Sandy	Gerrhart	704 W. US 223 #205	Adrian	MI	49221	s_gerrhart@yahoo.com	(734) 347-4796
Cindy	Giles	10756 W Coomer St	Morenci	MI	49256	cgrainbow@aol.com	(517) 250-0018
Mike	Gogel	7458 Wells Rd	Petersburg	MI	49270		(734) 856-5914
Terian	Hassenzahl	6500 Perrin Rd	Osseo	MI	49266	thassenzahl2002@yahoo.com	(517) 523-3043
Jan	Hauter	16857 Lime Creet Rd	Hudson	MI	49247	rhauter@wcomco.net	(517) 286-6971
Diana	Heath	5400 Keith Rd	Hillsdale	MI	49242	dhome4200@yahoo.com	(517) 523-4279
Linda	Hutchins	545 Briarwood Dr	Adrian	MI	49221	lmhutchins2010@gmail.com	(517) 458-7191
Ed & Marilyn	Jarzembski	P O Box 375	Fayette	OH	43521		(419) 237-2000
Sherman	Kardatzke	438 Beachwood Dr	Adrian	MI	49221	sakardatzke@mcom.com	(517) 673-5487
Keila & Brian	Kilgore	12000 Round Tree Rd	Hanover	MI	49241	keilakilgore@gmail.com	(517) 315-1367
Walter	Kozakowski	1995 N Erie St	Toledo	OH	43611		(419) 304-2176
Frank	Kramic	235 East Union St	Morenci	MI	49256		(517) 458-7191
Dana	Kubanda	318 E Edgerton St	Bryan	OH	43560	kubandad@frontier.com	(419) 636-9191
Shirley	McGovern	PO Box 766	Fayette	OH	43521		(419) 237-8009
Linda	Miller	15277 St Hwy 109	Lyons	OH	443533	millerlake2525@embarqmail.com	(419) 923-2090
Carl	Mulholland	330 Baker	Manchester	MI	48158		(734) 428-1009
Linda	Sharkey	6195 Roberts Rd	Mecosta	MI	49332	l.sharkey@aol.com	(989) 382-5740
Stephen	Shimatzi	107 Florentine Dr	Holland	OH	43528	sjs132@gmail.com	(567) 868-8794
Bill & Phyllis	Sipes	2108 Wo:f Creek Hwy	Adrian	MI	49221		(517) 263-3816
Sue	Smithers	14109 Monclova Rd	Swanton	OH	43558	suzews2@gmail.com	(419) 825-1424
Richard & Judy	Snyder	416 Stockford	Adrian	MI	49221	judy9795@gmail.com	(517) 9023990
Charles	Swanson	48 Towle	Adrian	MI	49221		(517) 759-0337
Walter	George	1298 Laberdee Rd	Adrian	MI	49221		(517) 215-8582
Armando	Zamarripa	16166 State Rt 424	Napoleon	OH	43545	comstock.lode1859@gmail.com	(419) 906-7542

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 3, 2015

State Line Gem & Mineral Society

monthly meeting

2:00 p.m.

201 W. Main St.

Morenci, MI 49256



May 1 - 3, 2015

Kalamazoo, MI

Kalamazoo Geological & Mineral Society
Rock, Gem, Fossil, Jewelry & Mineral Show
Kalamazoo County Expo Center
2900 Lake St

May 15-17, 2015

Southgate, MI

Gem and Mineral Show
hosted by
Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society
Southgate Arena
14700 Reaume Parkway

May 2-3, 2015

Cincinnati, OH

Cincinnati Mineral Society and
Cincinnati Dry Dredgers 50th Annual GeoFair.
Sharonville Convention Center
11355 Chester Rd.
Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5

May 16-17, 2015

North Olmsted, OH.

Parma Lapidary Club show
Soccer Sportsplex
31515 Lorain Rd.

Mothers Are Marvelous

Rock Trails

Sandy Gerhart, Editor
704 W. US 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

