

ROCK TRAILS



Newsletter of the StateLine Gem and Mineral Society

VOLUME 54
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AUGUST 2014

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

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Treasurer's Statement

The Stateline Gem & Mineral Society is gearing up for this fall's busy schedule. It is important to focus on what will be needed for future events - even our show in the spring. Our Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the clubhouse are enjoyable and productive. The genie is usually kept pretty busy and Henry or Sherm work on the saw to prepare slabs for the show. Judy is making plans to improve our gift shop area and Pat will be focusing on the library. I am ordering more supplies for our grab bags and will plan a party at the clubhouse to prepare them for the Fulton County Fair, Art-A-Licious and the Clinton Fall Festival.



Glenda is organizing a field trip to Flint Ridge to collect Ohio Flint. This is a favorite stone of several members and collecting specimens is relatively easy on the Nether's Farm. I expect we will have a good time. I will post more information on our Facebook page or you can check with Glenda for details.

Scheduled Events:

August 01-02	Flint Ridge Field Trip
August 28	Set up for Fulton County Fair
August 29- September 04	Tear down for Fulton County Fair
September 05-07	Toledo Rock Show
September 19-20	Art-A-Licious
September 26-28	Clinton Fall Festival

These are the events that the club members committed to at our last meeting. There are two other events the club has participated in in the past - The Lenawee County Heritage Festival, which has changed it's date to September 13-14, and Hidden Lake Gardens on October 04. Richard and I have demonstrated at both of these events for many years. Richard is president of the Heritage Festival and I am in charge if the Lost Arts. It makes for a demanding schedule, but we always have an enjoyable time.

So, look over your calendar and let us know when you can join the fun.

Oh, yes, since this is the treasurer's report - we are solvent and with the income from the aforementioned events, should be in good shape for the upcoming year.

Your Treasurer, Doris Brzezicki



Secretary's Scoop



The State Line Gem and Mineral Society Meeting was brought together at 3:15 by president Ed with the invocation given by Richard. The pledge of allegiance followed. Doris made a motion to accept the secretary's report as printed in the *Rock Trails*. After a brief confusion about who had gotten an issue/email of the newsletter and what was in it, the motion was seconded by Sherm, and passed with all in favor.

Treasurer's Report: It had been a busy month. Our show didn't do as well as last year. There were some new expenses including purchasing the pies to sell, the scholarship fund, a \$200.00 payment to Linda for past procurement of rocks and supplies for the club, and the \$50.00 raffle prize. Doris stated that there were also other expenses she has paid such as Consumers Energy for June and July, rent for June and July, show advertising and payment for a booth at the Fulton County Fair. Richard made a motion to accept the report and Sherm seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.

Show Report: There were ups and downs in the different areas. Doris thought some areas could use improvements and ideas for changes. Linda asked about the potential for the kitchen to be cleaned before we got there since the fee was being increased. It is nice that the lot has been paved, but we have been doing the show for a long time and we deserve to be treated right. Ed said that we should be able to have the tables set up by the fairgrounds staff before we got there. There was discussion for other options, and the consensus was that we could do things differently next year. Linda suggested that we ask for a partial refund of our deposit based on the kitchen conditions. Doris said that we are very lucky to have the facility since it is a very popular wedding month.

A new area this year was show admission which seemed to do quite well. The overall attendance was down a bit from last year. Phyllis said that some people asked for dealers by name. Some heard about the show through word of mouth. Cletus said a lot of people were looking for dealers who had rough for sale. Doris thanked everyone for their work on the show.

Cletus suggested that we have an information booth/directional host (greeter) or someone to guide people who have questions or need to know where something is. Glenda said that due to her position/booth at the entrance, she always says "hello" and asks if they are looking for something special. Linda suggested that we create a map or poster with general information. Glenda asked whether she needed permission to post some pictures of the show to the internet. That sparked Doris to say that Sandy Cline has offered to make a website and wanted to know if the club would be interested in funding that. It would be about \$100.00 per year for the service and web domain name. Doris made a motion to have Sandy Cline start and maintain the website which would include pictures of the show. Richard seconded the motion which passed with all in favor. Glenda asked if anyone other than Sandy can work on the site but Richard said that items, photos and information can be sent to him so that the site can remain consistent in nature. Doris said there is a club Facebook page but it is difficult for her to be consistent. Linda suggested that Glenda work on the Facebook page.

Potential Field Trips: Linda sent Doris information about another club's field trip to North Carolina and the Bushy Creek mine to look for Aquamarine rough. Our club was also invited to go along. The cost to get into the mine will be \$75.00 on September 20th and the owners said they would do some excavating before the group arrived. Glenda will forward the information to our Indiana Club friends.

August 16th will be the "Fling & Swapnick" event in West Branch. Glenda is also ready for another potential geode field trip. Henry plans to attend the Keokuk Iowa geode fest which will be September 26th 27th and 28th 2014. The fest has various contests such as largest, most crystals, etc.

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Secretary's Scoop, continued from page 3

Doris feels we should have a field trip organizer. We also have several Rock & Gem magazines still out. If you have finished looking them over, please return them to the club library so that other members can look them over. Glenda was curious about starting a fund to assist with gas prices for geode trips. Henry felt that if you can't afford the gas you shouldn't go. Linda said that maybe a member could get some type of reimbursement for hauling the geodes back for the club. The discussion did not seem to go any farther. Henry asked if we were going to wear out our welcome at Denise's creek. Glenda thought there were plenty of geodes to go around. Glenda asked if the club reimbursed Denise in any way for her warm welcome. Doris said that Richard has made a stained glass piece and Henry donated sapphires and Petoskey stone cabs and Glenda donated a pudding stone and Richard made a cab from one of the geodes from her creek, but we could never really do full value repayment. She also said that we try to do "warm fuzzies" if and when we can. Some members have expressed an interest for club activities. Judy volunteered to be in charge of the club gift shop. Pat is willing to head the library and Glenda agreed to do field trips.

Up Coming Events: July 29th there will be an online auction by Cliff Mountain Equipment. July 11th & 12th there will be a celebration of the 50 year anniversary of the Mustang at MIS. Glenda has purchased a booth and invited State Line to sell geodes or maybe have Geode the grab bag lion. We will need volunteers for this event. Ed mentioned that he could bring one of his vintage cars to this event as a prop/display for breaking geodes. Doris made a motion for Ed to bring his vintage car and for State Line to participate. Linda seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Other Events: There was discussion about the Clinton Fall Festival and whether it would be better to be in the lost arts area or the main strip where Glenda will be set up. The general opinion was we should do the festival wherever we can fit in best. Phyllis made the motion to do the Clinton Fall Festival. Sherm seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

September 5th 6th and 7th is the Toledo Show where our club has been invited to crack geodes.

September 13th & 14th the Lenawee County Heritage Festival where we can crack geodes.

September 19th & 20th Art-a-Licious in Adrian where we can crack geodes.

Hidden Lake Gardens Fall Festival where we can crack geodes.

State Line Gem and Mineral Society has the opportunity to crack geodes at the Adrian Farmers Market on Saturday mornings from 8AM to 1PM. Henry said he may be able to help with that.

Other Areas: Doris asked about displaying some rocks in the landlord's window, so that's something we may be able to do before the show next year to draw attention to our show. Henry suggested that members should keep an eye out for a nice wagon to help transport geodes at the collection site as well as when we crack geodes. Bill said a former member (Jo Waycaster) has a large counter top she was willing to donate to the club. After measurements were taken, it was decided the countertop was too large for the area we had.

Linda has donated a quilt to the club for a raffle. The Michigan license for a raffle is \$50.00 and good for the day of the drawing. The license number has to be printed on the tickets. The highest value of the raffle is \$500.00 although the value of the quilt is approximately \$700.00. We may be able to extend the drawing to include other items as secondary prizes. Judy thought she might ask C.J. about a possible donation of her beautiful creations. Tickets could be \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. We will need to have a ticket stub system where all of the numbered tickets will be accounted for. Doris made a motion to have a raffle, with 1st prize being the quilt, 2nd prize \$100.00 (cash), and 3rd prize a Petoskey pendant at the December 7th drawing. There was some discussion on how to display/promote the quilt. Doris said that we might be able to display the quilt in the landlord's window for some of the time. We can also display it at various club functions. We could also get information out on Facebook. Henry asked about what person/non-club member will pull the ticket. Perhaps a famous celebrity. Judy seconded the motion Doris had made and it passed with all in favor.

Richard made a motion to adjourn, Henry seconded and the meeting was adjourned with all in favor.

Turnip Rock, Michigan



Located at the shores of Lake Huron, near Michigan, most people don't even know this place exists. This is one of the most impressive places you could ever see.

Just off the Michigan shore in Lake Huron is Turnip Rock, a large turnip-shaped rock-island. The unique shape is the result of thousands of years of erosion by storm waves.

Twenty-foot-high trees and other vegetation have grown at the top of the isolated rock. Just west of the rock is the "thumbnail" (or "tip of the thumb") rock, which is the further point north on the "thumb" of Michigan.

The surrounding land is privately owned, so visitors can only view the rock via boat or over the frozen lake in the winter.

The unglamorously named Turnip Rock is a stunning sight, particularly on a warm sunny day when the clear, blue-green waters of Lake Huron sparkle. Wave erosion has caused this flat, tree-covered rock island to taper to a narrow base, around which people swim in the summer months.

Turnip Rock is located in a portion of eastern Michigan dubbed the Thumb, where 140 miles of coastline and waterfront towns offer a variety of outdoor activities, including biking, walking and kayaking.

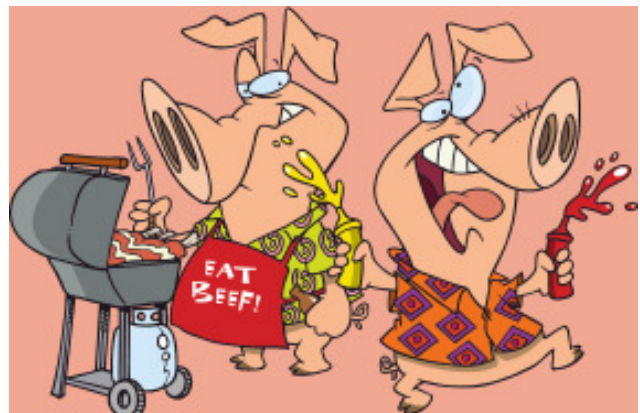
It's just offshore from private property inaccessible to the general public, so a good way to approach the rock is by kayak, which can be rented in the small village of Port Austin. Kayaking out in pre-dawn darkness to catch the sunrise behind Turnip Rock is a special treat for experienced kayakers. During winter months, the rock ceases to be an island as the lake ices over, creating another dazzling scene.



AFMS Code of Ethics

We wish to remind all rockhounds about the critical importance of adhering to the AFMS Code of Ethics. This problem is particularly significant in Michigan's Upper Peninsula where most of the old mines are located on private property. Because of past trespassing and lack of common courtesy, people who do properly ask permission to collect minerals are often not being allowed. Please follow the AFMS Code of Ethics and be considerate of other rockhounds and property owners

- * I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.
- * I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- * I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- * I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- * I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- * I will leave all gates as found.
- * I will discard no burning material – matches, cigarettes, etc.
- * I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- * I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
- * I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- * I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- * I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- * I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- * I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- * I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources..



INTERESTING FACTS AND INFORMATION ABOUT GEMSTONES

DID YOU KNOW...

Sapphires come in all colors of the rainbow?

that you should never clean lolites with an ultrasonic cleaner?

Amethysts and Citrines are the same mineral, only different colors, and excessive heat can change the color from one to the other?

we have Sapphire mines in the United States - most notably in Montana?

an Aquamarine and an Emerald are the same mineral?

you can dig for diamonds in Arkansas at the Diamond Crater National Park?

violet-blue lolite has the same polarizing capability as a pair of sunglasses, and the Vikings used to carry lolite with them and look through it to find the sun on a cloudy day?

when Sapphires have a pinkish to pinkish-red hue they are called "Pink Sapphire," but when the dominant hue becomes red, they are called "Rubies?"

ancient Greeks named Amber from the word "electron" because if rubbed Amber gives off static electricity?

fossilized tree sap must be at least 30 million years old to be considered Amber?

if you sand Malachite it can give off a poisonous dust?

that Obsidian is a natural glass formed during volcanic eruptions?

beautiful blue-violet Tanzanites come out of the ground colorless, and must be heated to attain their beautiful depth of color?

that Tourmalines and quartz will develop an electrical charge when heated, and tourmaline jewelry will attract dust when displayed under hot lights?

there is no such thing as "Jade" - green "Jade" is actually either one of two different minerals, Jadeite and Nephrite, and Jadeite is the more valuable of the two?

the second most valuable color of Jadeite is lavender?

you can dig and pan for colored gemstones such as emerald, aquamarine, moonstones, garnet, citrine, amethyst, ruby, and sapphire at Gem Mountain, in Spruce Pine, North Carolina?

that there is a new man-made brilliant white stone called Moissanite, which can fool a jewelry store Diamond tester?



FACTS ABOUT GEMSTONES, continued from page 7

that the big "Ruby" in the royal crown of England is actually a red Spinel?

Ivory imitations are carved from corozo nuts, tagua nuts and duom palm nuts?

if allowed to sit in moist or humid conditions too long, Hematite jewelry has such a high iron content it will actually rust?

black Jet, made popular for use in jewelry by Queen Victoria in the 19th century, is actually a type of fossilized coal formed 180 million years ago from dead trees?

it takes one to three years to grow a cultured Pearl?

Goldstones are not stones at all - they are actually glass containing copper crystals that give it aventurescence (quick bright flashes of light)?

"black Onyx" is actually orange and brown Sardonyx that has been dyed black, and should be cleaned carefully to avoid removing the dye and dulling this porous Quartz?

cultured Pearls are made by inserting a small shell bead into an oyster as an irritant, and waiting years for the oyster to cover the bead with its luscious nacre?

Amethysts can fade if exposed to too much sun?

historically, before science could tell minerals apart, all yellow stones were called "Topaz"?

they were synthesizing Rubies in the late 1800's and actually charging more for them than the real thing?

Pearls, by law, must be called "cultured Pearls" unless they are completely natural, and most Pearls sold today are cultured (made with help from man)?

a "Herkermer Diamond" is actually made of Quartz?

"smokey Topaz" is not a Topaz at all - its a misnomer for brown Quartz?

radiation causes Diamonds to turn green?

some Diamonds are artificially (and safely) irradiated to achieve a green color - but early on, before the process was refined, some green Diamonds were actually made radioactive and are confiscated by the U.S. Government if found today?

a new process has been recently developed to achieve a green color in Diamonds using just pressure and heat?

in ancient times the term "Sapphire" meant all blue stones, but usually meant Lapis Lazuli - which was considered the most expensive stone in the world?



Upcoming Events

August 3, 2014

StateLine Gem & Mineral Society

monthly meeting

2:00 p.m.

201 W. Main St.

Morenci, MI 49256

August 1-2, 2014

Flint Ridge Field Trip

Check with Glenda for details

(517) 451-2079

August 5-9, 2014

HOUGHTON, MI

and surrounding area

Keweenaw Mineral Days

hosted by the A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum,
Keweenaw Gem & Gift and Red Metal Minerals.
Museum is at Michigan Technological University
1404 E. Sharon Ave., Houghton.

August 29 - September 4, 2014

Fulton County Fair

8514 SR 108

Wauseon, OH 43567

September 5-7, 2014

TOLEDO, OH.

Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club
Jewelry, Gem & Mineral Show & Sale

Stranahan Great Hall
4645 Heatherdowns Blvd.

Toledo

Fri. 2-8, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Adults \$4,
Students & seniors \$3.50,
Children under 12 & scouts in uniform free

September 19-20, 2014

Art-A-Licious

Downtown Adrian, MI

September 20-21, 2014

Howell, MI

Livingston Gem & Mineral Society
41st Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show
"The Rockhound's Dream Show"

Hartland Consolidated School building
9525 E. Highland Rd.

Howell, MI 48843-9098

Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-4pm
Admission: adults \$2.00, 12-18 years \$.50,
11 and under free

September 26-28, 2014

Clinton Fall Festival

Clinton, MI





Rock Trails

Sandy Gerhart, Editor
210 Chestnut St.
Adrian, MI 49221

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

