

ROCK TRAILS



Newsletter of the StateLine Gem and Mineral Society

VOLUME 57
ISSUE IX
SEPTEMBER 2017

2017 Officers and Directors

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Vice President: Glenda Gafner, 517 403-6310
Secretary: Heidi Storehalder, 419 261-6451
Treasurer: Doris Brzezicki, 269 267-1123
Past President: Edmund Jarzembki, 419 237-2000
First Year Director: Jan Hauter, 517 286-6971
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Third Year Director: Frank Kramic, 517 458-7191
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Co-Show Chair: Glenda Gafner, (517) 451-2079
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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



Secretary's Scoop



President Sherm Kardatzki called the State Line Gem and Mineral Society meeting to order with Richard B. giving the invocation and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary's Report:

Doris made a motion to accept the secretary's report as it was printed in the newsletter. Pat seconded this and it passed with all in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

Doris reported that the bills for last month including Consumer's Energy and our rent had been paid, as well as the costs for Art-a-licious and Fulton Co.

Fair. Richard B. made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and was seconded by Linda M. It passed with all in favor.

Fundraisers:

A list of volunteers was made of those who would help set up as well as run the booth and geode cracker during the Fulton Co. Fair, as well as a list of volunteers who would help with tear down when the fair ended. It was also decided that the Genie machine would remain at the clubhouse instead of making the trip this year, as it doesn't get much use at the booth and the travel to and from the fair is hard on it.

Members were also reminded that our next meeting would be on August 10th instead of our usual Sunday due to the fair.

Set up for Art-a-licious will be on Thursday the 14th, but just for State Line. Our club is receiving special consideration because it takes so long to unload and set up the cracker and the geodes, as well as the rest of the three booths our club and other members will be filling. Appleumpkin and the Clinton Fall Festival were also discussed.

Trips:

The trip up to the Keweenaw Peninsula went very well, the house we rented was nice, and regardless of the black flies, everyone enjoyed the trip, but we will have to limit how many people go next year. Our current estimate is 13 people. Glenda informed members that we are set up to go to the dolomite mine next year, though attending members will be required to wear a hard hat, long pants, safety goggles, gloves, and closed toed shoes.

Glenda has been in contact with a geologist in Indiana who works in the quarries and has been informed that there are no places in Indiana that we can visit. At least 8 quarries have shut out any and all visitors. Glenda has been trying to get in contact with someone who can get us into Marble Head quarry, but hasn't had any luck so far. She also has a few quarries in Michigan to try.

There has been very minimal interest in trips to collect fossils and most of these excursions would not be kid safe.

Secretary's Scoop

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A trip to Nether's Farms to collect Ohio flint will be scheduled for some time in either August or, more likely, in October. Glenda will also check out other places to collect Ohio flint in the area around Nether's Farm. She is going to get a 'Special Activities' license so that we can go to Blue Rock State Park when they drain their lake so that we can collect along the lake bed. The cost would be \$40 and Bill Schultz and Carl both donated \$20 to cover the cost.

Glenda is going to get in contact with Joel Vicary, as he has gone to several places up near Alpena, MI on excursions. All these quarries will require attending members to have MISA certifications.

New Business:

Doris informed everyone present that Sandy was preparing to step down as Editor of our newsletter after a few more months to give us time to find and train a replacement. After much discussion on the matter, it was decided that I would volunteer to become editor. Though I have since then been informed that Sandy has decided to remain as editor and Doris and Richard B. would take over the process of printing and mailing out the paper copies of the newsletter.

Richard B. made the motion to adjourn and was seconded by Linda M. It passed with no objections.

Respectfully submitted,

~Heidi Storehalder

From the Editor



Those of you who attended last month's meeting heard Doris tell them that I am going to be giving up doing the newsletter. Well, there's been a slight change to that. My problem has not been with actually making up the newsletter - it is with everything that is involved with printing out the issues that need to be sent by mail. There are currently 17 people who receive their newsletter by regular mail, and printing, folding, labeling and stamping, etc. takes close to 2 hours. I just do not want to deal with that anymore.

Therefore, I have told Doris that I will be happy to continue making up the newsletter if someone can be found who would be willing to do the printing, folding, labeling and stamping. They would need to have a color printer that hopefully is capable of duplexing (printing on both sides of the paper), and know how to set it up for that. Doris says that the club will pay for ink and supplies.

So my request is two-fold. One, is someone willing to take on this job? and Two, if there are any of you who receive your newsletter by mail but are capable of getting it by email, would you be willing to send me your email address and switch to receiving it by pdf file? If so, my email address is s_gerhart@yahoo.com I know some of you feel that it is easier to read a paper version, especially when there are other family members who are not very computer savvy, but it is also possible for you to print your own copy from the pdf file that I send.

Anyone who has any questions or would like to take on the job, feel free to contact me or Doris.

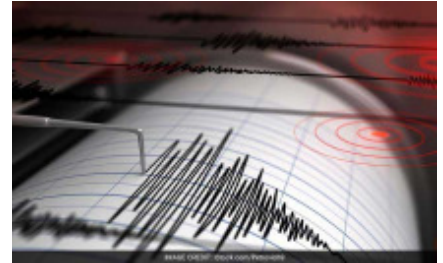
Sandy

Did You Know?

A Collection of Interesting Geology Facts

What was the world's largest earthquake?

The world's largest earthquake with an instrumentally documented magnitude occurred on May 22, 1960 near Valdivia, in southern Chile. It was assigned a magnitude of 9.5 by the United States Geological Survey. It is referred to as the "Great Chilean Earthquake" and the "1960 Valdivia Earthquake." The United States Geological Survey reports this event as the "largest earthquake of the 20th Century." Other earthquakes in recorded history may have been larger; however, this is the largest earthquake that has occurred since accurate estimates of magnitude became possible in the early 1900s.



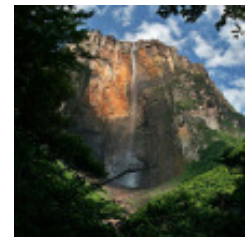
What is a lava skylight?

Put simply, a lava skylight is an opening in the roof of an underground lava tube. The hole forms when a portion of the tube collapses, revealing the flowing stream of lava within. The fascinating thing about skylights is the rare glimpse they provide into what is happening beneath the cooled surface of a lava field. Often, there are rapid flows moving in lava tubes underneath the black, cooling crust, invisible without a crack or hole.



What is the Worlds tallest waterfall?

The tallest waterfall in the world is Venezuela's Angel Falls, which plunges 3,212 feet, according to the National Geographic Society. The falls descend over the edge of Auyán-Tepuí, which means Devil's Mountain, a flat-topped elevated area of land with sheer cliff sides located in Canaima National Park in the Bolivar State of Venezuela.



What is the Worlds largest crystal cluster?

It is a quartz crystal cluster found at Farm Otjua, Karibb district on August 1985. It is 3m wide, 3m high and weighs 141,00kg. Ecavation lasted 5 years. Many of the crystals in the cluster are doubly terminated, thus identifying them as "floaters", i.e. they grey while floating in the mineralized fluid, rather than growing onto a surface.



Does soapstone lather like soap?

Soapstone is a typically gray, bluish, green or brown colored metamorphic rock made primarily of talc, with varying amounts of chlorite, micas, amphiboles, carbonates and other minerals. It gets its name from its "soapy" feel and softness but does not 'lather'. It is a very soft stone but also dense and heat resistant. It has been used for carving, making cook ware, countertops, tiles, wall panels, woodstoves, and as molds for casting metal objects.



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Did You Know?

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What is a Coulee?

Coulees are unique, box-shaped valleys with flat valley floors, vertical walls and no rivers flowing through them. They are created quickly by Ice Age Floods of the Pleistocene Epoch. Coulees are most notably found in the Channeled Scablands of eastern Washington. Famous examples include Grand Coulee, Moses Coulee, and Frenchman Coulee.



What is a Herkimer Diamond?

Well, it is first and foremost NOT a diamond. What they ARE is exceptionally clear quartz crystals that are double terminated and naturally faceted. They were discovered within exposed outcrops of dolostone in and around Herkimer County, New York and the Mohawk River Valley. This type of quartz crystal has been found in a few other locations, including Arizona, Afghanistan, Norway, Ukraine and China but these can not rightfully be called “Herkimers”



How are columns like Giant’s Causeway formed?

Under the right conditions, magma can cool in such a way as to form polygonal shapes that can be straight or bend and twist – we call these phenomena columnar joints. They can be spectacular, created with what looks like the precision of a master sculptor, but really it all boils down to the physics of cooling. Columns can form in a variety of patterns, mainly hexagonal (but can be found with anywhere from 4-8 sides). They can vary in size from only a few centimeters to meters across.



What is a salt glacier?

Salt has the same abilities as ice to deform and flow due to gravity. A large mass of salt placed on a slope will very slowly flow down the slope; a mass of salt is on level ground will slowly spread laterally under its own weight. These flowing masses of salt on land are called “salt glaciers” or “namakiers.”



<http://www.inlandlapidary.com/content/dyk.asp>

Bench Tips

by Brad Smith

JUST A DROP



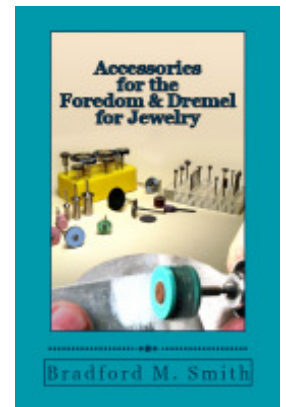
Hobby shops and model airplane stores carry small plastic dispenser bottles that are handy for putting a drop of flux, oil, or glue just where you want it. They have a length of small metal tubing coming out the top that lets you squeeze out very small drops.

I use one with a short length of tubing for oil when I'm sawing or when drilling harder metals like steel. Another bottle I found in a plastics store has a longer length of metal tubing on it. Plastics people use them for dispensing fast drying glues to join pieces of acrylic. The long metal tube lets you reach into tight places. Either of these is handy for flux at the soldering station.

New Book on Foredom Tool Bits

Confused by all the tool bits available for your flexible shaft or hand-held motor tool? "Accessories for the Foredom and Dremel" explains what each is good for, which ones save the most time, and the tool bits that best improve the quality of your work. Also included are bench tips for getting good results and cautions for safe use.

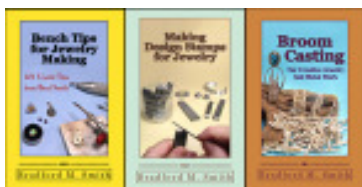
The book is available on Amazon at [amazon.com/dp/B074LG35ZV/](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B074LG35ZV/)



FOREDOM MAINTENANCE

If you have a Foredom flexshaft, it makes sense to check it over every so often to be sure it's running properly. But how to do that? You've probably lost the little booklet that came with the unit. Well, being the good company it is, Foredom has put together an extensive set of videos on how to do almost anything.

The series covers set-up, lubrication, replacing a sheath, motor maintenance, and handpiece maintenance. Few if any special tools are needed. You can watch the videos at www.foredom.net/flexibleshaftmachinemaintenance.aspx particularly under "Foredom Basics" or the "Foredom Shafting..." categories. Any repair parts needed are available on the Foredom site or from most jewelry supply catalogs.



See all Brad's jewelry books at
[Amazon.com/author/BradfordSmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/BradfordSmith)



Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 10, 2017
State Line Gem & Mineral Society
 monthly meeting
2:00 p.m.
 201 W. Main St.
 Morenci, MI 49256

Sept 8-10
TOLEDO, OH
 Toledo Gem &
 Rockhound Club Annual Show.
 Fri 2 pm - 8 pm; Sat 10 am - 6 pm;
 Sun 11 am - 5 pm.
 Stranahan Theater & Greater Hall
 4645 Heaterhdwns Blvd
 Toledo OH.

Sept. 8-10
GREENFIELD, IN
 The 500 Earth Sciences Club
 Annual Show.
 Fri & Sat 10 am - 7 pm
 Sun 10 am - 4 pm
 Hancock County 4-H Fairgrounds
 620 N. Apple St.
 Greenfield IN

Sept. 15-17
HOLLAND, MI
 Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club
 48 th Annual Show
 Soccer Stop Sportsplex
 5 River Hills Drive
 Holland, MI

Sept.16-17
HOWELL, MI
 Livingston Gem and Mineral Society
 Annual Show
 Hartland Education Support Service Center
 Old Hartland High School
 9525 Highland Road
 Howell MI

Sept. 30 - Oct.1
TRAVERSE CITY, MI
 Grand Traverse Area Rock & Mineral Club
 Annual Show.
 Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm.
 Heritage Center,
 322 Sixth St.
 Traverse City MI

Oct. 13-15
WARREN, MI
 Michigan Mineralogical Society
 Annual Show
 Fri 9 am - 6 pm
 Sat 10 am - 7 pm
 Sun 11 am - 5 pm
 Macomb Sports & Expo Center
 Bldg P, 14500 E. 12 Mile Rd.
 Warren MI

Oct. 20-22
MASON, MI
 Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society
 Annual Show
 Fri 6 -9 pm; Sat IO am - 6 pm; Sun 11 am - 5
 pm.
 Main Arena
 Ingham County Fairgrounds
 700 E. AshSt.
 Mason MI

Oct. 21-22
CLIO, MI
 Flint Rock & Gem Club
 Annual Show
 Sat & Sun IO am - 5 pm.
 Carter Middle School
 300 Rogers Lodge Dr.
 Clio MI



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

