

GEMS

NEWSLETTER OF THE KALAMAZOO GEOLOGICAL & MINERAL SOCIETY



FROM THE PRESIDENT:

MARCH 2013 ISSUE 2

Happy New Year Rockhounds,

I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays!

Now that we have had a little break, now comes the home stretch building up to our show. As you are probably aware, Jerry Van Nocker is our show chairperson for 2013. He has been diligently working on making arrangements, in particular devising and implementing an advertising plan. We will need everyone's help with getting the word out about this year's show. Flyers will be available for everyone to distribute. Post the event on your Facebook page. Tell family, friends, co-worker. Anything you can do to spread the word.

As always, the Club is looking for specimens for the show. Small specimens for game prizes, larger ones for the Specimen Table. Game prizes are put in small baggies with labels. If you need bags for game prizes, let me know. Please bring in anything you have that you would like to donate.

During the show, one of our crowd favorites is the Silent Auction. This is a great way to sell your own material. For our new members and maybe a review for the veterans: If you have material (minerals, fossils, jewelry, rock related crafts, ...) that you would like to sell at a value of \$2.00 or more you can bring it to the show to sell. When an item sells, the seller receives 80% of the selling price and the Club gets 20%. Please take advantage of this; you can make some extra funds to buy new specimens for your collection or more lapidary supplies.

Putting on our show requires lots of manpower. Please volunteer your time to work at the show. If you do not volunteer, a Club member will be calling asking when you are available. No experience is needed. You just have to show up with a fun attitude and be willing to smile.

Each member can help out the club in their own way, please be active and pitch in any way you can and feel comfortable with.

As always, please contact me with any questions you may have.



Rock On!
Bill Mitchell
KGMS President



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
March 3rd - Dustin Peterson

From the Editor: PLEASE email me your Birthdays & Anniversaries even if you already gave them to me, as I just had a water spill on my hard copy of the list & lost most of what I did have! *OOPS!*

NEXT MEETING - March 2013 Meeting Program

We will learn how to "grow your own crystals" Ms. Elaine Gaskin will be in attendance to present how synthetic crystals are made. This will be an informative and interesting presentation showing how crystals are grown in a laboratory type setting. Please plan on attending!

Get Your Collections Ready for the Show

An important part of our show is our display tables. This is where our members and guests get to show off their collections. Do not be shy, be proud of your collection and share it with the rest of us. Forms for reserving space for displays will be available at the March and April club meetings. If you need a display case, the club has a limited number, so get your requests in early. **If you would like to reserve a case or a space for your own case, or if you have any questions please contact Bill at mitchellvickybill@sbcglobal.net.**

KGMS FEB 5, 2013 CLUB MEETING MINUTES

Meeting opened by Bill Mitchell at 7:02. 25 people were in attendance.

Introduction of first time attendees - John and Kathy Vander

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS

- JUNIORS - Ryan Aherns, Grady Hively, Matthew Crum

- ADULT - Kathy Grueter, Ken Ahrens, Janice Ahrens

1. Field Trip News-Club members had questions regarding upcoming trip to gypsum mine in Grand Rapids. Bring extra shoes for clean area. Will need steel toe boots, hard hat, safety vest, safety glasses. Bring plenty of buckets for specimens. Everyone will have to carry out what they find.
2. Raffle tickets are available from the AMF. Proceeds from the raffle go the AMF Endowment Fund. Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20.
3. KGMS participated in a Glaciation event on 2/9 at the Kingman Museum in Battle Creek. Bill Mitchell represented KGMS. There was a nice turnout and the museum was thankful for our participation.
4. Our program for the evening included the view of two movies. The Adelaide Mine, which is located in Australia. This mine is a current source of crococite (lead chromate) specimens. The second feature was What's new in Munich 2011. This movie featured many exquisite fossil, mineral, and gem specimens.

Meeting was adjourned at ~ 8:15 pm.

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Meeting began at 8:30 pm. No reading of previous minutes or treasures report, since Secretary and Treasurer were not present. Printing of show flyers was discussed. A bid from Portage Printing had been submitted. The prices appeared reasonable. Club needs to get flyers to show vendors for distribution. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

KGMS FEBRUARY 18, 2013 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm. In attendance-Bill Mitchell, Elizabeth Schau, Sherri Crum, Marve and Kitty Starbuck, Kate Dutrow, Tony Payne, Diane Peterson.

No reading of previous minutes, since Secretary was not present.

Treasurer's report was presented and motioned for submittal for audit. 1st Tony Payne, 2nd Elizabeth Schau.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Scholarship-The annual KGMS scholarship has been posted in the WMU-Geological Sciences Department. The closing for applications is the first week of March. WMU will send the completed applications.
2. Education-Sherri is organizing our junior members for an activity for presentation at the show. Sherri and Tony will work on acquiring prizes.
3. Field Trips-Jack was not present. KGMS participation in the February trip to the Grand Rapids Gypsum mine was briefly discussed.
4. Show-Sherri reports that 800 to 900 students will be attending Kid's Day at the show. 11 Bus Subsidies have been committed. Some long time attending schools have not responded. KPS has no schools attending at this time. Club has received bid from Portage Printing for show flyers. Board unanimously approved bid. The bid did not include the printing of placemats. Kate will inquire for further costs and information. The club has plenty of supplies for the make-it-take-it area. Tony indicated the club may be short of small sized geodes. He will inquire regarding costs to acquire additional geodes. Sherri indicated that she has preliminary costs of \$5 to \$8 each for T-shirts for club member to wear at the show. Board approved purchase. Sherri and Kate will work together calculate number and sizes needs. Board motioned and approved that any member that works will receive a free T-shirt, those who work less can purchase at cost to club. Letter to potential demonstrators and exhibitors have been sent out. Replies are beginning to return.
5. Sunshine-Diane needs birthdays of club members. Kate will get Diane an updated roster.
6. New Business-Board unanimously approved renewal of membership to ALAA. KGMS received solicitation from WMU with regards for donation support North-Central Section of Geological Society of America meeting. www.GSA.org The Board approved the donation of \$100.
7. The club needs to promote club attendance and advertising for the MGAGS event being held at WMU in June. Ask Jack to post on web site. Diamond Dan's is available to club editors for use in club newsletters. Tony asked about the need for the club to acquire a digital audio recorder to aid the club Secretary for note taking during meetings. The Board will discuss with the Secretary. Tony indicated that while organizing the club storage trailer, he found some picture frames that could be used for a junior program.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40.

All Feb Minutes submitted by Bill Mitchell, President

MORE ON MASTODONS

I remembered hearing about a MI. couple finding Mastodon bones in their yard, so I looked it up. Pretty cool! Here's an exert from the 2009 article and below is the the link to it:

Family Discovers 10,000-Year-Old Mastodon Bones in Backyard

For Rich and Annette Schneider of Portland, MI., digging a new pond in their backyard suddenly turned into an excavation of ancient bones,



as they uncovered parts of a grown mastodon — that entered the North American continent about 15 million years ago.

"We pulled up a thigh bone and we knew there was something going on. We didn't know what was going on, but quickly started pawing through the excavated dirt and found rib bones, a tusk and more," Rich Schneider told MichiganScience. "Everyday we went out there, we found more pieces, including some that were still embedded in the pond bed itself."

The mastodon is believed to be about 10,000 years old, from right around the time the species went extinct. Professor Daniel Fisher from UofM studied the excavation and bones and believes the animal was most likely killed by humans and butchered.

"We thought it was the right thing to donate the bones to science, since the scientists can extract a wealth of information from them and do a lot better with them than we

can," Schneider said. Fisher is very grateful for the donation and hopes to learn a lot from the bones and tusk.

"Would it be hard to hunt down a mastodon? Well, it would be hard for you and me. But in terms of what they (Paleo-Indians) were capable of doing, I don't think there is any question they were capable of hunting these animals," Fisher told MichiganScience. "

This is not the first time mastodon remains have been found in Michigan. In the last 100 years, parts of about 250 mastodons have been uncovered in MI. In 2007, archeologists discovered a boulder in Grand Traverse Bay with what looked like drawn markings resembling a mastodon with a spear in its side, indicating that humans hunted them frequently.

Article credit: David Pontoppidan | Nov. 10, 2009 Link to article: <http://www.mackinac.org/11308>

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE TULIP CITY GEM & MINERAL CLUB 3- WEEK OREGON FIELDTRIP: JUNE 9th - JULY 4th, 2013

Submitted by Bob Sherwood, Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club

Here's the highlights of the trip. For a complete itinerary go to www.MIRockClubPages.org click on the Field Trips Tab...

June 9th: Leaving MI & driving straight to Prineville, Oregon (4 days) (597 miles to Omaha, NE). We will do additional collecting on the return East. If time is a consideration & you are unable to do the entire trip, you may meet the rest of us at a specified time & location to be noted on the sign-up sheet.

10th: 497 miles to Laramie, WY. Short stop possible enroute at **Petrified Wood Gallery in Ogallala, NE**, for a marvelous exhibit of Wood and Agate.

11th: 524 miles to Jerome, ID. Visit friends Gerald & Joy Scarrow who have the Bruneau Jasper claim and are the single source for Forest Green & Forest Fire agate.

12th - 23rd: 450 miles to Prineville, OR. Collect **Wood near Brothers**; continue to Prineville enjoying scenic rim-rock. We are arriving well in advance of the Prineville Show to do our own area collecting. ***We will meet & collect with the Willamette (OR) club the weekend of June 14, 15 & 16.** Some collecting sites we may visit are: In the greater Prineville area: Thunderegg beds in the Ochoco Mountains. Lucky Strike www.luckystrikemine.net, visit friends **Steve Langer and Margret Ball's home & their outstanding 'Egg collection, Limbcasts**, South Fork, Crooked River (**be aware of rattlers**); **Petrified Wood**, Bear Creek. Visit **Quant Rock Shop**; go to the strange town of **Mitchell**; the **Painted Hills Formation** nearby. **Killer Green & Fallen Tree 'egg** sites under claim by Jason Hinkle, need permission (fee). North in the **Madras-Ashwood area**: **Richardson's Rock Ranch 17,000 acres to dig 'Eggs, Jasper. Agate**; huge rock yard & shop, a major producer of spheres www.richardsonrockranch.com John Marston Ranch for colorful Jasp-Agate; Alex McDonald Ranch, Petrified Wood, Eggs (Cheryl); Polka-dot Agate. Gary & Beckie Buss will invite us to see his lapidary shop in Culver and his personal collection of Wood, Agate, 'Eggs, & an array of material for sale.

June 20th -23rd: Prineville Rockhound Pow Wow, Crook County Fairgrounds. website: www.prinevillerockhoundpowwow.com

June 24th: Relocate 30 miles north (US-26) to Madras (6 nights).

June 24th - June 29th: Madras. Make your reservations now!

June 26 - 30: Madras Pow-Wow Gem & Mineral Show

June 30 -- Return East. 314 miles to Boise, ID.

July 1: 406 miles to Kemmerer, WY.

July 1st-3rd: Dig for Blue Forest Wood

July 4th: 338 miles to Cheyenne, WY. At Wamsutter on to Delaney Rim for Agatized Fossil Turritella Shell

Questions? Contact Bob Sherwood, Field Trip Coordinator, bobandjulia@accn.org (269) 637-7097

KINGMAN MUSEUM

The next KGMS presentation at Kingman Museum is: **April 13, 2013**

"Beach Stones" will be the topic, with Jack Fuller.

If you would like more info please contact Jerry VanNocker at jerry@travelinginspain.com.

Kingman Museum is located at 175 Limit Street Battle Creek, MI 49037; Phone (269) 965-5117. Additional info on Kingman Museum can be found at www.kingmanmuseum.org.

MGAGS 38th ANNUAL SEMINAR

June 2013

The Michigan Geological & Gemcraft Society (MGAGS) 38th Annual Seminar at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI.

Never heard of MGAGS? MGAGS is a unique, statewide organization whose main activity each year is a "Rockhound Weekend", a seminar where you can experience hands-on workshops and other programs. Some will be about cutting and polishing stones. There will be classes with beading projects and dichroic glass, also demonstrations and programs about fossils and geodes, etc.

There will probably be a class where you can learn how to "set" stones, practice silversmithing, other jewelry-making and others perhaps a class on "wire-wrap" or gem trees -- all related to our great hobby.

The goal is to have about 20 different topics to choose from each day. Some classes may have limited attendance. See website or call for details. The schedule will be ready April 2013

TICKETS: Advance registration is only \$15.00 (adult) per day or \$25.00 for two days, At the door: \$18.00 (adult) for one day or \$30.00 for two days. Students: \$5.00 per day.

LOCATION: Western Michigan University, Rood Hall near West Michigan Ave. & Rankin Ave. (East of Howard St.), Kalamazoo, MI.

DATES: Saturday, June 8th (9am-5pm) and Sunday, June 9th (9am-4pm)

For further information: Email: info@mgags.org or call: Don Brown: 734-421-8159, Marve/Kitty: 231-740-5512

For schedules I Advance tickets and more see www.mgags.org OR call Don or Marve

Ask about prepay for limited attendance classes & request flyers. Schedule will be ready in April.

MGAGS welcomes new members! Plan on attending and have a GREAT time!

41st Annual

SPECIAL AUCTION

OVER 1500 ITEMS

MINERAL & LAPIDARY MATERIAL



CUTTING ROUGH



CRYSTALS



FOSSILS



SLABS

... AND MUCH MORE!

HOURLY SILENT & VERBAL AUCTIONS

COMMERCIALY OBTAINED MATERIAL

FREE ADMISSION - FREE PARKING

BEVERAGES & FOOD AVAILABLE

LOW PRICED MATERIAL AT "MINI" TABLE

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S AUCTIONS

HOURLY DOOR PRIZES & DAILY GRAND PRIZES

"Guess How Many" Contest

SPONSORED BY: THE ROAMIN CLUB

AUCTION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ROAMIN ENDOWMENT FUND & THE TOM WILLIAMS SCHOLARSHIP FUND at SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

March 2 - 3, 2013

SATURDAY, 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

SUNDAY, 12:00 NOON - 6:00 PM

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

VISATECH CENTER BLDG.

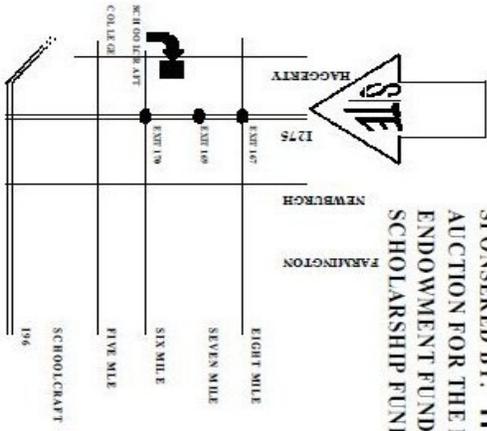
18600 HAGGERTY ROAD

LIVONIA, MICHIGAN

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: TODD GALL 248-348-5093

DON BROWN 734-421-8159

ROAMIN Club is sponsored by Livonia Parks & Recreation





DATE

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HAPPY ST. PARICK'S DAY!
March 17th wear your green!

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KGMS website:

www.kalamazoorockclub.org



MEETINGS

Monthly meetings are the first Tuesday of each month except: January, July and August
Location: Portage Senior Center
320 Library Lane Portage, MI 49002
Phone: 269-329-4555
Work bees/Picnic Dates
TBA in July and August

2013 KGMS ANNUAL SHOW

(May 3rd, 4th & 5th 2013)
Always the weekend before Mother's Day at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center
2900 Lake Street (Kalamazoo Fairgrounds)
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
phone: 269-383-8778
www.kalcounty.com/parksshow_calendar_expo.php

CLUB DUES

DUE BY DECEMBER 31st
Family \$15.00/year
Single \$13.50/year
Senior/Couple 60 yrs \$13.50/yr
Senior/Single 60 yrs \$10.00/year
Student \$8.00/year

AFFILIATED WITH

AFMS: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
website: www.amfed.org

MWF: Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies
webpage: www.amfed.org/mwf

MICHIGAN ROCK CLUBS PAGES

MIRockClubsPages.org
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TIME VALUE - DO NOT DELAY!

TO:

Think Show!
May 3-5!

May 3-5!