



THE TULIP CITY CONGLOMERATE



Bulletin of the Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club, PO Box 2082, Holland, Michigan

Website: Tulipcity.org

August 2010

Volume 43, Edition 8

Wednesday, August 26 at 7:00pm

GENERAL MEETING AND WORK SESSION

Holland Civic Center - North Hall - enter from South parking lot

This annual evening at the Civic Center is preparation time for our Show and requires lots of members to participate in several ways:

First, the Club needs your small, cleaned leftover pieces of interesting rocks. Those who have been on a Club Field Trip and others on personal trips of their own have hopefully picked up smaller pieces especially suited for paper Grab Bags. This is your night to bring them for sharing!

Second, the stronger members are needed to move display cases, rocks, signs, game props and other goodies from the Civic Center basement to the Main Floor locker room so they are ready to set up during Show week.

Third, many hands make light work in filling several hundred paper Grab Bags in less than an hour. Usually, many pounds of small rocks are available. (see above)

Fourth, be sure to sign up to help in several ways *during* the Show.

- Work sessions - workers are needed in 6 different areas and the work day has been divided into several sessions: Club Sales, Information Table, Kids Games, Petoskey Polish, Silent Auction (sales and cashiers) and Tickets Table. Some of the tasks even allow you to sit down to work!
- Displays - All members who have a collection at home are asked to share a part of it for public viewing. Labeling is very important and should include the name of the specimen and its source if at all possible. People are often amazed to discover where they can find our beautiful rocks. Even Junior Members can share part of their collections in the small flat cases.
- Meals contributions - The Club is serving 6 meals during the Show for the benefit of the Dealers, Demonstrators and Members who are between work sessions. Hospitality Chair Kathy Steffler has prepared signup sheets for each meal so you may choose what to bring and when as well as setup and cleanup time slots.

There will be a short business meeting and light refreshments - lots of liquids!!!



"Everyone," please make 3 copies (or more) of the show flyer on page 7 and take Them to places you go: church, hair dresser, butcher, local post office, etc...

OFFICERS

President	Cindy Root	d-root@sbcglobal.net
Vice President	Dave Nienhuis	dpnienhu@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Jennifer Ensing	clutterandbling@yahoo.com
Treasurer, Past President	Jim Benson	jbenson@voyager.net
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Field Trip Chair	Bob Sherwood	bobandjulia@accn.org
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Liaison Representative	Rebecca Cistaro	r4squares@charter.net
Membership Delegate	Jodi Zenk	jodis50@charter.net



August 18th -
Show Committee
Meeting Library small
meeting room 7pm

August 25th - General Meeting at the
Holland Civic Center 7pm - Show Prep

Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club's
41st Annual Show

ROCKHOUNDING - A GREEN HOBBY

September 17th, 18th, & 19th

September 29th - Show Committee Wrap-up
Library Auditorium

October 13th - Board Meeting
Library small meeting room 7pm

October 27th - General Meeting and SILENT
AUCTION, Herrick Library Auditorium 7pm

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Birthstone: **Sapphire**

9/2	Hyden Long
9/5	Olga DeKok
9/5	Julia Donker
9/6	Clifford Erdmann
9/7	Christine Dunn
9/8	Katelyn Lobert
9/16	Brian Brumbaugh
9/16	Emily (Bultman)
9/16	Hilary Volakakis
9/19	Rochelle Knoll
9/19	C.H. Falstad
9/19	Marianna Cistaro
9/23	Al Borr
9/23	Krystal Kauffman
9/28	Jon Mull
9/29	Cathy Morgan
9/30	Bob Wolbrink



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

9/29 Jack & Elaine Decker

Fasinating Fact

Up to 100,000 tons of rock a year
fall to earth from space. The largest
meteorite in the world lies in the
ground in South Africa and weighs
more than 60 tons.





SHOW WEEK SCHEDULE

This daytime work list needs all the able-bodied help you can provide. Even a single hour on Wednesday morning and early afternoon will be appreciated.

✓ **Wednesday, Sept 15 - 9:00 AM** Workers begin draping the bare tables in the Main Hall with Club fabric to "skirt" all tables that hold the displays and special areas, then move on to the Lobby and North Hall to do the same. Meanwhile, others are busy hanging signs, setting up display cases and moving games, Touch Rocks, Petoskey Polish materials and Club Sales rocks into place. Bring a sack lunch. The coffee pot will be on!

✓ **Thursday, Sept 16 - 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM** Everyone, including the Dealers, will be setting up displays and sales booths into the evening. We'll set up Club Sales, Silent Auction, North Hall, Touch Rocks, props for Kids Games, Petoskey Polish, Tickets, Information, Fluorescent Display etc. Members participating in Silent Auction may bring items *after 5:00 PM* for assignment to their own part of the tables. It is strongly suggested that each "tray" of sales items be a mix of what you want to sell; as workers will empty "trays" one at a time starting with the top level.

6:30 PM Buffet Supper in the Civic Center kitchen for Dealers and any members who are setting up their displays at that time. Come meet the Dealers before the rush of the Show sets in. This is the first of 6 meals the Club will provide during the Show for members who need a meal between work sessions, and our guest Dealers and Demonstrators who are "on" all day.

✓ **Friday, Sept 17 - 9:00 AM** Ribbon cutting ceremony by dignitaries as the first school buses roll in. Participation is already up from last year and responses are still coming in. Many workers are needed to serve the students at Club Sales and to generally help answer the many questions the teachers, chaperones or students may have. (*Lots of "floaters" needed*)

5:00 PM - Beginning bell start-up for the Silent Auction, Kids Games and Petoskey Polish. The post-student lull is over as families start coming to see what we are offering this year.

8:00 PM - Show closes for the day

✓ **Saturday, Sept 18 - 9:00 AM** Show opens with all stations up and going full tilt!

7:00 PM - Show closes for the day

✓ **Sunday, Sept 19 - 11:00 AM** Show opens for the day and often has as much attendance as the longer hours of Saturday.

5:00 PM - Show closes for the season. The takedown begins. **First order of business** is to empty the display cases so they can be disassembled. If you can stay to help with this, please ask for a specific assignment from Julia or Shari. As usual, the GVSU Geology Club will be on hand to help carry cases and other equipment down to our basement storage.

This is the Tulip City Club's "*Really Big Annual Event*". It presents the community at large with a view of what our Rockhounding hobby is all about. It shows that we are about education as well as digging in a quarry or wading along the lakeshore. It also provides the Club with the funds needed for our traditional scholarships to Hope and GVSU and lets us carry on our year's programs while still keeping dues low.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 14, 2010



PRESENT: Jim Benson, Rebecca Cistaro, Betty Hoekstra, Sharri Luttkhuizen, Dave Nienhuis, Dave Root, Bob Sherwood, Julia Sherwood, Rick Smith, Linda Winkelmann ABSENT: Jennifer Ensing, Jon Mull, Karri Nienhuis, Kathy Steffler
GUESTS: Ken Hoekstra, Chet Smith

The president called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

The June board and general meeting minutes were reviewed and suggested changes made.

Jim Benson gave a Treasurer's report. Moved and seconded. Approved.

Julia Sherwood reported that the invoice for the *Agates II* book was only \$146.20. Therefore \$1.80 from the money collected at the June meeting was given to the Treasurer.

Bob Sherwood provided a Field Trip report regarding the Pike Creek Quarry taking place on August 14.

It was moved and seconded to reimburse Julia Sherwood \$78 for expenses in relation to the August Midwest Federation Convention. Approved.

It was moved and seconded to purchase the book *Pakistan* in memory of LaVonne Visser at a cost of \$35. Approved.

It was moved and seconded **not** to continue the process of obtaining 501(c)(3) status. Approved.

Julia Sherwood gave a report regarding the upcoming July 25 picnic.

The meeting was adjourned at 8pm.

Miners Castle

Located about 6.5 miles east of Munising on Alger County Road H-58, then five miles north on Miners Castle Road.

Miners Castle is the most famous formation of the Pictured Rocks, and is accessible by vehicle and short trails.

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

July 25, 2010

Approx 43 people attended the July General Meeting (Beach Party)

You couldn't have asked for a better day. Sun, Sand, Stones - wow!!

The weather was awesome - the waves were soooo much fun. It was relaxing on the beach. Food and fellowship was top notch.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to the Sherwoods for opening up their home to the club - it was an awesome day. If you missed it...you truly missed a great time and hopefully you will be able to make it next year.

Jennifer Ensing, Secretary

OTHER EVENTS:

Sept
5 & 7

Geology Dept of Wheaton College
Big Sale of rocks, minerals, fossils...
Materials sold to make the transition to new natural history museum in the Fall, most materials \$.25cents to \$10.

Wheaton College
20 miles west of Chicago
Armerding Science Bldg
Wheaton, IL

Sat 9:30am-4:30pm
Mon 9:30am-4:30pm

Contact: Jeffrey.k.greenberg@wheaton.edu

Sept
10 - 12

Greenfield, IN 34th Annual Show
500 Earth Sciences Club

Hancock County 4-H Fairgrounds
Apple Street

Fri 10am-8pm
Sat 9am- 7pm
Sun 10am-4pm

Sept
25 & 26

Grand Traverse Rock and Mineral Club

Grand Traverse Heritage Center
322 Sixth Street
Traverse City, MI

Sat 10am-4pm
Sun 11am - 4pm

Oct
8, 9, 10

66th Greater Detroit Gem, Mineral Show
Michigans largest mineral show
Outstanding displays

Macomb College South Campus
Expo Center Bldg P, 12 mile & Hayes
Warren, MI

Fri 9am-7pm
Sat 10am - 7pm
Sun 11am - 5pm

Visit www.michmin.org for details



FIELD TRIP to NIPIGON, THUNDER BAY & MICHIGAN'S U.P.

By Field Trip Chair, Bob Sherwood

Nineteen members of the Tulip City Club were joined by another five from Ft. Wayne and Kalamazoo Clubs in Nipigon, Ontario, to collect amethyst at Chuck Anderson's mines. Everyone did reasonably well with several making really nice finds of clusters, notably Chris Cooper (see photo this page). We especially enjoyed a barbeque at Chuck and Linda's at the end of the day. Chuck's other business now is operating a bait & tackle shop near the Nipigon River. Those of us convoying westward along Lake Superior, made stops at the Beaver Bay Agate Shop in Minnesota--noted for its fine Lake Superior agates and a superb museum display of thomsonites. A second stop was at another agate shop in Two Harbors. Upon reaching Negaunee, MI, we were joined by two more members who took part in the Ishpeming Club's show and numerous field trips. Certainly the highlight was a collecting opportunity to the now closed Republic Mine where we had the pick of a vast tailings pile of jaspelite. We watched a burly fellow from Gaylord manipulate a 600-800 lb. boulder of fully banded jasper-hematite into the rear of his heavy duty pick-up with the help of four other guys. A great yard rock when he gets home! We enjoyed having the company of 8 juniors as part of the trip. An expanded version of the trip by Jodi Miller will appear in an upcoming newsletter.

GET TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS:

Bob Sherwood, Field Trip Chair

Interests: Reading: an advocate of life-long learning; History—ancient and U.S. Civil War in particular Rockhounding, U.S. and European travel

Favorite rock: Agates, by location

Favorite tool: Norm Gibson's "Persuader"-- most appreciated on field trips in unyielding hard rock

Magazines read: *Time, Rock & Gem, Rocks & Minerals, The Celator, Numismatist, The Highlander* **In books:** everything written by James Lee Burke, Randy Wayne White, Nelson DeMille

Do you have a Workshop: Yes

Can't live without: My wife, Julia (who contributes greatly to successful field trips)

Favorite food: Italian (in Holland, there's nothing like Fricano's pizza)

Favorite past-time: Reading; walking the Lake Michigan beach

Least favorite: Having to discourage raccoons on our bird feeders

Profession: Retired HDL library director; currently serving on Fennville District Library Board

What no one knows: Played flute in high school and college bands

Weirdest thing in your home: Civil War 3" Ordnance Rifle, dated 1864, weight 816 lbs. Mounted in yard at cottage and pointed toward Chicago

Biggest collection: Books and rocks

Still have from childhood: Children's books and toys that my mother saved and boxed in attic. (Jim Benson's mother and mine must have been quite a bit alike!)

Favorite TV Shows: 60 Minutes, Hardball, Boston Legal before it folded

Involvement in Club: Field trips and encouraging others to become more involved in this great hobby

Personal Motto: Try to respect other's opinions and views



SILENT AUCTION AT THE TULIP CITY GEM & MINERAL SHOW

By Rick Smith, Silent Auction Chair

Once again the annual Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club Show will include a Silent Auction. Here are some reminders (old timers will recognize these as familiar reminders which keep things running smoothly) and a couple of new wrinkles.

First the reminders:

1. Fill out slips ahead of time and fill them out completely. Slips are available online (at tulipcity.org/clubinfo) and will be available at the August general meeting and at the Thursday show set-up session at the Civic Center.
2. Think about presentation. A box or plastic carton or slip of fabric beneath your auction item can enhance its sales appeal.
3. 20% of the final bid goes to the Club; 80% goes to the seller



Now the changes:

In an effort to give all the members who bring materials to the Silent Auction an equal chance to show off their wares, we'll be staging the materials in a more systematic way this year. By all estimates you should still be able to sell as much material as you sold in the past, it just might sell in a different order or a different time frame. Each member who brings material for the Silent Auction will be assigned a "station" on the Silent Auction table where his or her material will be displayed, and a corresponding storage or inventory area directly below the "station" for more of that member's auction material. Any time an item from your station is sold, it will be replaced by another item from your inventory. (So it's a little like one of those antique malls or craft fairs where each dealer or crafter has his or her own booth.) If we run individual auctions every half hour, then there would be 46 separate auctions over the course of the Show...But that doesn't mean that the most items you can sell is 46, because there are more Silent Auction stations available than there have ever been members bringing material to the auction. We can easily create 40 auction stations in the space available to us, nearly double the number of members who have brought material to the auction in the past. The unassigned auction stations will be stocked on a rotating basis from all of the members' inventories. Furthermore, since most members bring far fewer than 40 items to auction, many additional stations will become available when the inventory at an assigned station is depleted...As I said earlier, I don't think this change in procedure will affect the amount of material any one member is able to sell, only the order in which it is sold.

One last note, because we will be employing this "assigned auction station, assigned inventory station" program, when you bring your material on Thursday or Friday for set-up at the Silent Auction be sure to check in with a staff member to make sure your material gets stored in your assigned area. This will make things easier for the Silent Auction staff as they restock the table for each new round...You want the staffers to be able to find your material easily!



Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club's

Sponsored by the Holland Recreation Department

41st Annual Show

ROCKHOONDING: A GREEN HOBBY

Holland Civic Center
150 West Eighth Street
Holland, Michigan

Fri. Sept. 17
9am – 8pm

Sat. Sept. 18
9am – 7pm

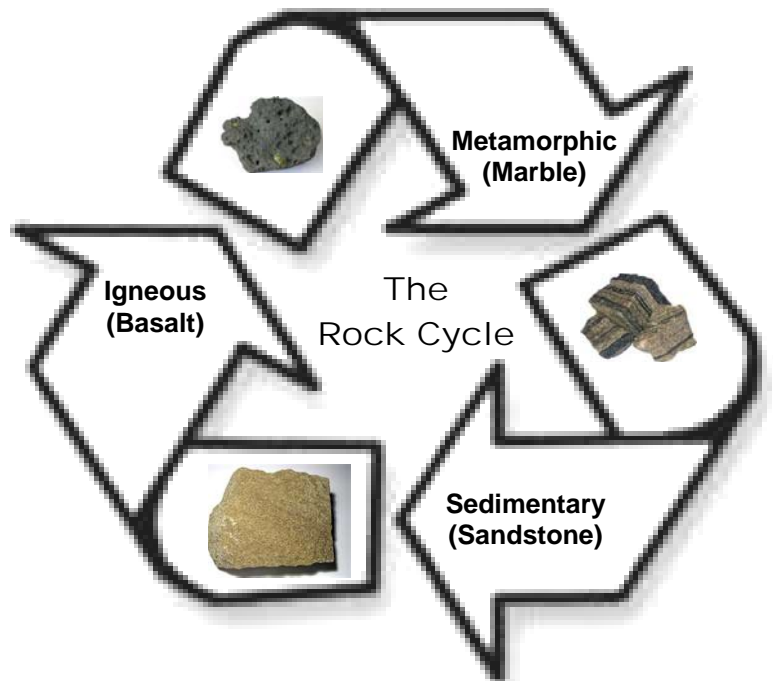
Sun. Sept. 19
11am – 5pm



ADMISSION
Adults \$2
Students 50 cents
Family 3-Day Pass \$6
Scouts in Uniform –
Free

Visit www.TulipCity.org

Contact: bobandjulia@accn.org



FUN TO COLLECT & LEARN

Get back to nature with Dealers in jewelry, minerals, crystals, fossils, geodes!

Special Exhibits: GVSU and Hope College.

Enjoy kids games, club sales, silent auction, and rock working demonstrations.

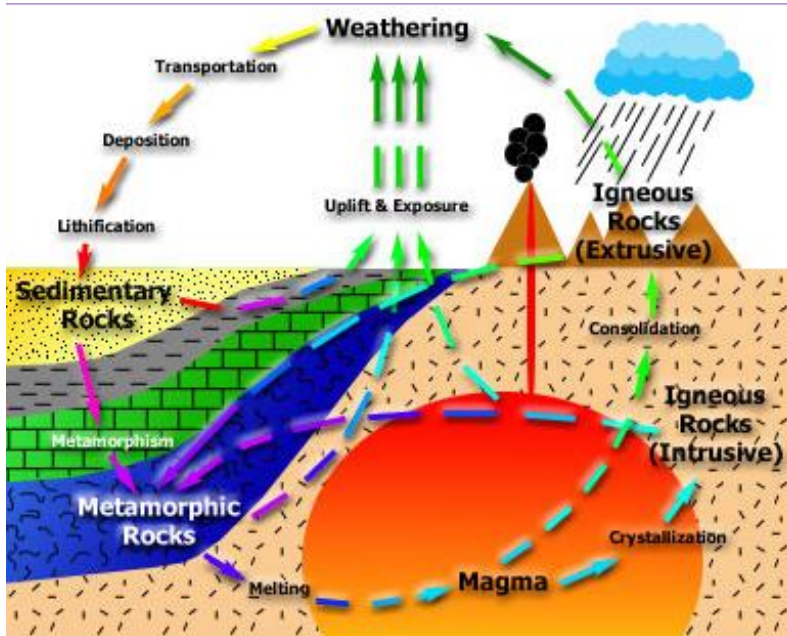


Image via www.minsocam.org

The names of the rock types refer to the way the rocks are formed. Igneous rocks are formed from fiery molten magma. Metamorphic rocks form under intense heat and pressure. Sedimentary rocks form by weathering.

Let's take a closer look at each type.

Igneous Rocks

Igneous rocks are formed of magma, the molten form of the earth's mantle layer. Igneous rocks can form above ground as lava spewing from volcanoes. But igneous rocks can also form below the surface. Pockets of magma get stuck in layers of the earth. As they get closer and closer to the surface, the magma slowly cools. Granite is an igneous rock that formed from a slow-cooling pocket of magma.

Sedimentary Rocks

Sedimentary rocks form from small weathered particles of other rocks or the weathered shells of sea animals. Wind and rain beating on the faces of exposed rock tend to wear off particles that are blown or washed to a new location. When sea creatures die, the shells settle on the bottom of the ocean. As the sediments pile up, they press together to form Sedimentary rock.

Metamorphic Rocks

Metamorphic Rocks form under intense heat and pressure. Metamorphic rocks start out as igneous rocks, sedimentary rocks or other types of metamorphic rocks, but through heat or pressure, change characteristics such as sheen, tightness of grain and hardness.

Rocks continually change form. What started out as sedimentary rock may change to metamorphic and, with time and weathering, change back to sedimentary.

Via www.rocksandminerals4u.com

The Rock Cycle

The Rock Cycle describes the process the earth uses to recycle rocks. Yes, even rocks are recycled.

There are three basic types of rocks: [igneous](#), [metamorphic](#), and [sedimentary](#). The interesting part of knowing these names is that any one of the three types of rock can be changed into one of the other types.



JUNIOR WRITING CONTEST



Junior Club Advisors
Rick Smith and Linda Winkelmann

Do you have a favorite rock or mineral specimen? Have you had an interesting field trip experience? Do you have a favorite place to collect rocks or mineral? If you write an article about something related to your rock and mineral hobby and turn it in, you could be a winner! You could write about a family trip when you found a great specimen. Or a rock and mineral project or display you worked on. Or an interesting or helpful person you met on a field trip. The Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club is going to sponsor its second JUNIOR WRITING CONTEST. All the stories and articles turned in will be published in *The Conglomerate*, the club's newsletter, as they are submitted (or as quickly as we can), and at this year's Christmas Dinner meeting, the authors of the best stories or articles will receive awards, mounted mineral specimens suitable for display.

Here's what you do:

1. Write your story or article (in at least 150 words).
2. Turn in your story or article to one of the Junior Advisors or directly to the newsletter Editor.
3. All the stories and articles submitted between August 25, 2010 and November 17, 2010 will be reviewed and judged.
4. All junior authors who turn in a story or article will receive a prize.
5. Articles will be judged in two age divisions, writers younger than 12 years old and writers between 12 and 17 years old.
6. The authors of the stories or articles judged to be the best in the two age groups will receive Grand Prizes, mounted mineral specimens.

So start thinking now about something you could write for the new JUNIOR WRITING CONTEST. Maybe as you're preparing a display case for the show, you'll realize that you could write about your favorite green mineral, or the place where you found a particular specimen. Keep your mind open for ideas you could write up!

DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE FOUND A METEORITE?

By Will Juvet via *The Conglomerate* June 2010
Here are some ways to identify Meteorites!

Meteorite I.D. #1: The Magnet Test Meteorites have three basic groups: iron, stone, and stony-iron. Almost all contain iron and nickel, so the first step is the magnet test. Iron and stony-iron meteorites will stick to a magnet.

Meteorite I.D. #2 Weight Iron is heavy so it should feel much heavier than a regular rock its size. It is another key way to identifying meteorites!

Meteorite I.D. #3 Crust When a meteoroid goes through our atmosphere, the meteoroid, now called a meteor, heats up a lot! The surface of the meteor will melt and give it a thin, dark crust called fusion crust. True fusion crust does not occur on normal rocks so it is a good way to identify meteorites.

Meteorite I.d. #4 Regmaglypts or "thumbprints" are oval dents about the size of a peanut on the surface of many meteorites. This also happens to meteors during their trip through earth's atmosphere. It is another way to identify meteorites.

The only way to be sure you have a meteorite is to go to a lab, but you still can be pretty sure you might have one if your specimen matches at least 3 out of the 4 characteristics I have listed.



via www.freeexistence.org

Canyon Diablo

Origin: Coconino County, Arizona

Time of Fall: 20,000 and 40,000 years ago (discovered 1891)

Variety: IA coarse octahedrite

Contains: Lots of iron, 7 to 15 percent nickel



Our club is a non-profit organization, sponsored by the Holland Recreation Department. It is a member of the Midwest Federation and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. The general purpose of this club is to develop interest in and increase knowledge of minerals, rocks, gems, fossils, and the lapidary arts. The objectives of this club shall be promoted whenever possible, through family participation.

Advertising rates for Club members are: \$5 for business card size, \$10 for ¼ page, \$15 for ½ page, \$30 for full page. Double the rates for non-members. Payment by check; made out to: TCG&M; to be submitted with ad copy to Editor.

Articles in this bulletin may be reprinted, provided credit is given to the source, author and bulletin.

Dues:
Family \$15 Single \$10

Meetings are held monthly on the last Wednesday of the month in the Herrick District Library Auditorium, 300 South River Avenue, Holland, MI at 7 pm, unless announced otherwise at a meeting or in the THE TULIP CITY CONGLOMERATE. A Junior Club welcomes young rockhounds and meets separately during the evening.



Tulip City Conglomerate
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