



THE TULIP CITY



CONGLOMERATE

Bulletin of the Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club

Holland, Michigan

October, 2008



Volume 41, Edition 10

SILENT AUCTION GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, October 29, 2008

Herrick District Library Auditorium, 300 South River Avenue, Holland

Setup begins as early as 6:30 Meeting events will begin at 7:15

You may prepare for this program ahead of time by printing off Silent Auction bid sheets from the website, www.tulipcity.org, under the heading Calendar of Events. If necessary, you may get bid slips at the meeting and fill them out at the hallway table. Money will be exchanged directly between buyer and seller, so bring plenty of small bills and change or a checkbook.

Inside the room, there will be a check-in table where you deposit your items. Through the course of the evening, sales items will be placed on the selling tables as space becomes available. There will also be a table for larger items such as equipment or tools. This table will be set up at the beginning of the night and will remain open until the last tables are closed.

All specimens must be accompanied with an "Official" Auction Slip.

Make sure your name and the identity of the specimen is on the bid sheet.

Set a fair and reasonable price for the best results

No Club percentage will be deducted.

Club sales will be paid to the Treasurer. You may sell items for the benefit of the Club by writing "Club" on the Donor line.

Bidding will close on individual tables in a staggered fashion.

Refreshments will be available until 8:15 – partake between biddings.

Remember that November will be "Find Of The Year." Time to start preparing for that, too!

Cindy Root, Vice President



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I was so happy to get back home and find that we did really well during the Show. Sitting out front at the Information table, I had a good idea that we had a lot of people pass in, but did they buy? Yes, Cha Ching!!! Thanks everyone.

Maggie Steele and I had a great time in Salzburg and Switzerland. However, I found it very hard to find any rocks in the Alps. I think they have been picked clean. Actually, we spent almost all of our time in major cities and they have been picked clean. The only sample I got was from an outcropping near "The Eagle's Nest." We did visit a rock shop in Berchtesgaden, Germany. They had all the stuff we could buy here, plus samples of rock salt from the mines in Salzburg (salt mountain.) Salzburg translates to salt fort. The salt is purified in a small town, Haline. The scientific name for salt is halite. I wonder if there is a connection.

I ONLY took 378 pictures!

Jim Benson



OFFICERS

President	Jim Benson	jbenson@voyager.net
Vice President	Cindy Root	d-root@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Jodi Zenk	izenk@verizon.net
Treasurer	Chuck Cizek	cizekchuck@charter.net
Past President	Les Hintz	387hintz@macatawa.org
Liaison Rep	Robert Curtis	616-392-9843
Newsletter Editor	Julia Sherwood	bobandjulia@accn.org
Social Chair	Carol Belknap	carolbel@att.net
Historian	Betty Hoekstra	kbhoek@att.net
Show Co-Chair	Rebecca Cistaro	r4squares@charter.net
	Patty Valentine	patty876020002000@yahoo.com
Field Trip Chair	Bob Sherwood	bobandjulia@accn.org
Jr. Club Co-Chair	Linda Winkelmann	lindawinkelmann@att.net
	Rick Smith	smithr@hope.edu
Directors at Large	Donna Malina	nepthys1@charter.net
	Lee Malina	leemal01@yahoo.com

GENERAL MEETINGS

JANUARY 30, 2008
 FEBRUARY 27, 2008
 MARCH 26, 2008
 (DeGraaf Nature Center)
 APRIL 30, 2008
Scholarship Banquet
 MAY 28, 2003
 JUNE 25, 2008
 JULY 26, 2008 - Picnic
 AUGUST 27, 2008
 (Civic Center)
 SEPTEMBER 12, 13, 14
Annual Show
 OCTOBER 29, 2008
 NOVEMBER 19, 2008
 DECEMBER 17, 2008

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.

Meetings are held monthly on the last Wednesday of the month in the Herrick District Library Auditorium, 300 South River Avenue, Holland, Michigan at 7:00 P.M. unless announced otherwise at a meeting or in the newsletter, THE TULIP CITY CONGLOMERATE. A Junior Club welcomes young rockhounds and meets separately during the evening.

Dues: Family - \$15.00 Single - \$10.00

Website: tulipcity.org

Formal Club Address: Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club
 P. O. Box 2082
 Holland, MI 49422-2082

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

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.

CLUB CALENDAR

October 29th - General Meeting
7:15 PM Herrick District Library Auditorium

SILENT AUCTION

Setup begins at 6:30. Bring items for sale with an "Official" Silent Auction bid slip. Include name of specimen and Donor.

November 5th - Board Meeting
7:00 PM Herrick District Library
Small meeting room – lower level
Note the early-in-the-month date !

November 8th - Deadline
November *Conglomerate* articles
Due for delivery to the Editor

November 19th - General Meeting

* **Note:** This meeting is on the 3rd Wednesday to avoid the night before Thanksgiving

Election of Officers and Board of Directors

LAPIDARY & FIND OF THE YEAR CONTEST

Finish your lapidary work and clean up those specimens you found. Categories listed on *March Conglomerate* back page.

BOARD MEETING (& SHOW) MINUTES, August 13, 2008

Board Members Present: Jim Benson, Chuck Cizek, Les Hintz, Rebecca Cistaro, Patty Valentine, Bob Curtis, Betty Hoekstra, Bob Sherwood, Julia Sherwood, Rick Smith, Linda Winkelmann.

Board Members Absent: Carol Belknap, Jodi Zenk, Donna Malina, Lee Malina, Cindy Root.

Show Committee Members Present: Elaine Decker, Jack Decker, John Donker, Julia Donker, Ken Hoekstra, Keith Marcus, Dave Nienhuis, Chet Smith, Spanky Valentine.

Jim Benson called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Cizek reported, "We've got money, so we're good."

Old Business: Bob Curtis circulated mail and newsletters he had received in the past month.

New Business: John Donker noted that in previous years a gift was given to the Past President and wondered if we had missed an opportunity here.

It was noted that so far no money had been reported as received back from *Rock & Gem* magazine from their "new subscription program." Chuck Cizek noted that he had not checked the Club's P.O. box prior to the Board meeting. Bob Sherwood suggested that the Treasurer make a follow-up phone call.

Field Trips: Bob Sherwood reported that the Corydon field trip was successful and that CH Falstad was preparing a write-up for the newsletter.

Bob also reported that Jon Mull would be leading the 2008 *Geode Fest* field trip (Sept.26-28) and that for those interested in traveling together in a convoy would be leaving Thursday.

Finally, Bob noted that, though not precisely a field trip, the Detroit Show was scheduled for Oct. 10-12 and was excellent.

Meeting adjourned: 7:28 PM and shifted immediately to the Show Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Smith, Secretary pro tem

OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS - NOMINEES FOR 2008

President	Cindy Root
Vice President	Julia Donker Dave Nienhuis
Secretary	Jodi Zenk
Treasurer	Jim Benson
Past President	Jim Benson
Liaison Co-Chair	Bob Curtis & Mark Cistaro
Newsletter Editor	Karri Nienhuis
Social Co-Chair	Carol Belknap & Pam Daly
Historian	Betty Hoekstra
Show Chair	- - - - -
Field Trip Chair	Bob Sherwood
Jr. Club Co-Chair	Rick Smith & Linda Winkelmann
Directors at Large	Rebecca Cistaro
	- - - - -

Nominating Committee:

- Les Hintz, Chair
- John Donker
- Jim Benson

GEODE FEST 2008, Hamilton, Illinois: September 26, 27, 28

We had a great time! My dad and I bumped into Rick Smith a couple of times, but never actually went to the same sites at the same time. I didn't see anyone else from the Club.

We took a chance on the St. Francisville site again and it really paid off. We were seeing some pretty large geodes coming out of the site and some of them were pretty nice. There was a 60 lb. geode about the size of a small beach ball that had a 2 inch rind. It was lined with grayish chalcedony and had a couple of barrel / nailhead calcites about 2 inches in diameter. One of them was about 2 inches long with smaller crystals growing up its side.

Then on Saturday morning, we got to the dig site and found the existing "holes" claimed by others who were quicker than us. We were about to go elsewhere when a family we'd met the previous year invited us to dig near them. They had claimed two areas to dig in and were working just one of them so we took the other. We had to dig down through some mixed dirt and broken shale and then a layer of unbroken shale get to where the geodes were. They were nested much like other locations, and the digging was much like Sheffler's is now. I left with 2 buckets full that had some decent pieces in them.

The real prize was a geode shaped like a stretched out volleyball. It was a "marshmallow"; the term that was being given to large geodes with low weight. We worked pretty hard that morning, so we decided to check out early and head home.

On the way out of town, we stopped at the festival staging area and had this geode opened. It is wonderful! It split perfectly with one of the pipe cutters. It is lined with quartz which is apparently less common for this area. One half has a single 2" diameter barrel calcite that is about 2.5 inches long and has a nice nailhead termination. It is surrounded by about a dozen nickel-sized calcites and some of them are twinned. Some of the quartz is citrine and you can see that it is inside the crystal, not a coating. The other half has 2 small calcites on top of the nice clear quartz. It is by far the nicest geode I have ever found, especially of that size.

I did find a number of stunning geodes at the Evans property again, but they are always smaller. There are two that are baseball sized that are really nice. I will probably bring them to the October meeting. So..... it was a great trip. We may not have found a lot, but we found some really nice ones.

Jon Mull, Club member

CALENDAR OF OTHER EVENTS

Oct 24-26 Mason (Lansing), MI Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society, 43rd Annual Show. Ingham County Fairgrounds, Main Arena, 700 E Ash, Mason. Friday is Children's Day. Fri 6-9, Sat 10-7, Sun 11-5. Adults \$3, Contact: Alan Hukill, facetman60@yahoo.com.

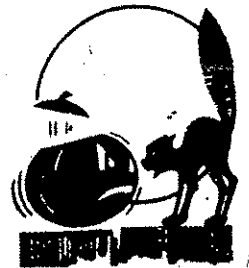
Nov 1-2 Sturdevant (Racine), WI Racine Geological Society Annual Show. Knights of Columbus Hall, 13249 Washing-ton Ave. (I-94 and WI Hwy 20). Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. Minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry. Contact: John Lowman, 262-554-5370

Nov 8-9 Freeport, IL Northwest Illinois Rock Club Annual Gem, Fossil and Mineral Show. Highland Community College, Student Conference Center, 2998 West Pearl City Rd Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4. Contact: Sherry Maves, sherrymaves@highland.edu

**November Birthdays**

Birthstone: **Topaz**

11/2 Esther Kirkendall
 11/3 Maddie Snyder
 11/6 Richie Korneisel
 11/14 Andrew Silva
 11/17 Allison Egel
 11/18 Donna Malina
 11/19 Terry House
 11/27 Luis Romero
 11/29 Mark Cistaro
 11/30 Karl Weavers

**November Anniversary**

11/28 Rich & Martha Korneisel



JUNIOR ROCK CLUB PAGE



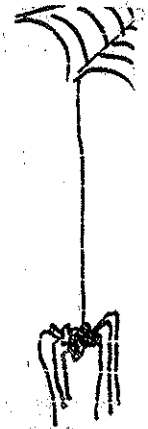
JUNIORS ! Welcome back to our "let's learn sessions !

GEODES will be the topic for our first Junior meeting of the season. Notice how the first part of the words *geode* and *geology* are the same? That's because they both come the same Greek root word. The word *geode* means "in the shape of the earth," referring to the roundness of geodes. The great thing about geodes, though, is that they are often hollow and lined with crystals.

The presenter for our October program on geodes will be Club member Jon Mull, who has recently returned from *Geode Fest 2008* where he was collecting Keokuk geodes. While geodes can be found all around the world, those from the area around Keokuk, Iowa are famous for the variety of mineral and crystals formations inside. All geodes begin with a chalcedony "rind"; among the various minerals on the interior of Keokuk geodes are quartz, calcite, dolomite, pyrite, chalcopryite, sphalerite, aragonite, barite and chalcedony. Jon will bring a geode cracker to the October meeting and will open one or two geodes there.

Come and be one of the first to see what's inside!

Junior Club Advisors
Rick Smith & Linda Winkelmann



In the meantime, try your hand at unscrambling these geode-related words:

MILOTOED

DOGEE

TRIPEY

OUKEKK

EGERK

HAPSRELETI

WIAO

UNDRESSON

TELACIC

RAUZQT

TIBEAR

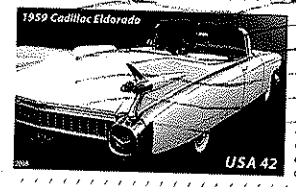


Bonus word or phrase:

ODORABITLY



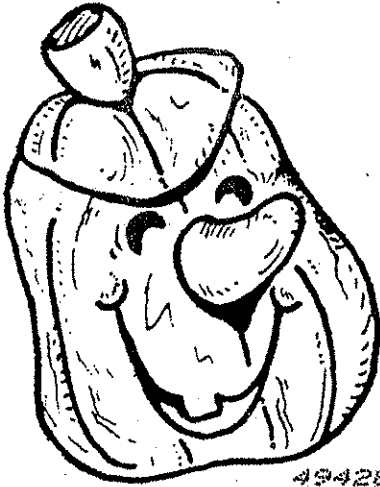
Tulip City Conglomerate
Julia Sherwood, Editor
916 Adams Road
South Haven, MI 49090



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HAPPY HALLOWEEN !

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TULIP CITY GEM & MINERAL CLUB MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Make check payable to T C G & M Club

Mail to: Chuck Cizek, 6620 North Lakeshore Drive, West Olive, MI 49460

Check Membership Type [] Individual - \$10 [] Family - \$15

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Interests [Minerals, Fossils, Lapidary, Field Trips, Club Office] / Comments



Membership includes a monthly newsletter, access to Club sponsored field trips and educational, recreational and social opportunities through participation.