



THE TULIP CITY CONGLOMERATE



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

Website: Tulipcity.org

September 2010

Note: No September General Meeting

Volume 43, Edition 9

Show wrap-up meeting Wednesday, Sept. 29 - Herrick Library Auditorium 7pm



ROCKHOONDING: A GREEN HOBBY

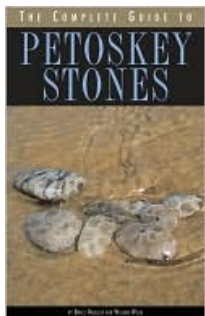
The Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club's 2010 Show was a great success! Thank you to the Show Committee (see names on page 7) and volunteers for all your hard work.



Many Wonderful Displays!

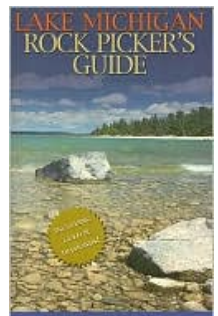
Gorgeous in Green 2010 Show Member display!

Rocks were from various Tulip City club members.



Coming to the October General Meeting
Guest Speaker: Bruce Mueller
On Michigan Geology

Author of several books and owner of the C & M Rock Shop in Honor, Michigan.



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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Historian	Betty Hoekstra	kbhoek@att.net
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Field Trip Chair	Bob Sherwood	bobandjulia@accn.org
Jr. Club Co-Chair	Rick Smith Linda Winklemann	smithr@hope.edu lindawinklemann@att.net
Directors at Large	Jon Mull Dave Root	solace@chartermi.net d-root@sbcglobal.net
Liaison Representative	Rebecca Cistaro	r4squares@charter.net
Membership Delegate	Jodi Zenk	jodis50@charter.net

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|-------|------------------|-------------|
| 10/2 | Laura Leffew | Birthstone: |
| 10/6 | Kathy Brumbaugh | Opal |
| 10/10 | Peter Riemersma | |
| 10/14 | Carol Belknap | |
| 10/15 | Vasha Zenk | |
| 10/16 | Danielle Schock | |
| 10/20 | Kris Johanson | |
| 10/26 | John Kobs | |
| 10/26 | Mark Cistaro | |
| 10/27 | Jan Sjoquist | |
| 10/29 | Elly Luttkhuizen | |
| 10/29 | Nick Smith | |
| 10/29 | Taylor Smith | |
| 10/31 | Carl Jaeger | |



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 10/11 Carson and Helen Mantooth
- 10/17 Lucas Katt
- 10/26 Jose and Anita Soto

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Steve, Turi, Tasman, Fec Mattox
Grand Rapids, MI



Jack Casey Mull
born 8-20-10
6 lbs 14 ozs
20.25" long



Great Grandmother is Margarete Fochtman
Mia Tatianna, Born 9-2-10
7 lbs 7 ozs, 19.5" long

If you are interested in being a Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club Officer, please notify the Past President, Cindy Root at d-root@sbcglobal.net. See officer positions above. Elections for Officers will be held at the November meeting. Term shall run for one year from Installation.



Our deepest sympathy to Dottie Blackmore on the passing of her husband Glenn, long time Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club member.

Dottie's new address is:
3426 Benyard Drive
Mobile, AL 36619

CLUB CALENDAR

September 29th - Show Committee Wrap-up
Library Auditorium

October 2nd - Field Trip to Alpena, MI see pg 5

October 2nd and also November 13th - Field
Trip to Grand Rapids, MI Gypsum Mine

Contact: Kreigh Tomaszewski at 616-243-5851
(home) or 616-787-7955(work) or
Kreigh@Tomaszewski.net to sign up &
details.

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

October 27th - General Meeting and
GUEST SPEAKER BRUCE MUELLER
HERRICK Library Auditorium 7pm

***DUE TO THE HOLIDAYS MEETINGS ARE
AS FOLLOWS:***

November 3rd - Board Meeting
Library small meeting room 7pm

November 18th - General Meeting, Elections
and Silent Auction in the Herrick Library
Auditorium 7pm

December 1st - Board Meeting
Library small meeting room 7pm

December 15th - General Meeting,
Installation of Officers and Best of 2010
contest in the Library Auditorium 7pm

Note: August Minutes will be published
after approval at the next board meeting.



We need people to bring snacks to the
meetings. Sign-up at meeting or call
Kathy at 269-637-7004 to volunteer.

THE BIG TEN

By Chet Smith

Are you thinking football or basketball? Or
maybe Michigan or Michigan State? Or none of
the above? Right!

Today's "Big Ten" is a series of major events that
have occurred while I have been a member of the
Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club listed below:

1. The *DeZwaan* Windmill
2. *Big Red* Lighthouse
3. *Copper Clad* wishing well
4. The *Rock Trail*
(DeGraaf Nature Center)
5. Annual Scholarships to Hope and GVSU
6. The Norm Gibson Foundation (GVSU)
7. Our annual Show!
8. Memorial Case and Books to Herrick
Library
9. Field Trips
10. Last, but not least, the Monthly Tulip City
Conglomerate



When we have a "Big Eleven or Twelve", then
monthly programs and meetings will be the top of
those lists!

Larger image from cover page -
Gorgeous in Green Display.



THE WEST MICHIGAN MWF MINERAL STUDY GROUP started its second year by meeting on the second Tuesday of September to study the Mica Group of minerals. The word "mica" is thought to be derived from the Latin word micare, meaning "to glitter". The Mica Group contains 44 different phyllosilicate minerals that share a similar chemical formula and nearly perfect basal cleavage. All are monoclinic and tend to have pseudo-hexagonal crystals.

The four common mica members are Muscovite (white), Biotite (black), Lepidolite (purple), and Fuchsite (green). Laboratory analysis is usually required for positive identification of specific mica minerals within the group. The group had ten different mica minerals for hand study. You learn hand identification by studying a variety of known specimens, which is why we ask everyone attending to try to bring one or more specimens of the mineral of the month to our meeting.

Large mica crystals are typically found in granite pegmatites. The largest mica crystal ever found came from Ontario and weighed 330 tons. Mica is found throughout the world.

Mica's are used in electronics to make capacitors and insulators. Mica's also have excellent thermal properties and are used to hold resistance wires in toasters, and as windows into boilers and furnaces. Mica in the form of isinglass was used in lanterns, windows in horse drawn carriages, and in early automobiles.

Mica is used in the optics industry. It is a component of many brands of toothpaste. It is used in the paint and printing industries to make pigments and reflective finishes, and it is used in cosmetics to make the skin 'glow'.

Mica also finds use in making building insulation, improving the quality of axle greases, and in making potting soils. The extremely flat faces of mica crystals are used in making atomic force microscopes and other scientific devices that require ultra-flat surfaces.

The next West Michigan MWF Mineral Study Group will meet from 7 to 9 pm on October 12, 2010, at the home of Bryan Brewer, 1148 60th St. S.E., Kentwood, MI 49508. We will be studying the Garnet Group of minerals. We like to start (and end) on time, but please do not arrive more than 20 minutes early. All West Michigan rockhounds are invited to attend. Please look up a few facts about the topic mineral, and hopefully bring along at least one specimen to let others look at (the more, the merrier). We hope you can join us for this growing opportunity.

OTHER OCTOBER EVENTS:

-  **2-3: SPRINGFIELD, IL, Annual Show, Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society**, Illinois Bldg, Illinois State Fair Grounds, Sat 10:00-6:00, Sun 10:00-5:00, Contact John Washburn, 107 Deer Creek Rd, Rochester, IL 62563, (217) 498-7713, jrwashburn2@att.net
-  **8-10: WARREN, MI, Annual Greater Detroit Show, Michigan Mineralogical Society**, South Macomb Community College, Expo Center, Bldg P, 14500 12 Mile Rd, Fri 9:00-7:00, Sat 10:00-7:00, Sun 11:00-5:00, Contact: Carol Werner, 3401 Briarhill Rd, Hartland, MI 48353, (248) 887-3906, briarhillwerner@comcast.net
-  **15-17: FT WAYNE, IN, 49th Annual Show, Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society**, Allen County Fairgrounds, 2726 Carroll Rd, Fri & Sat 10:00-7:00, Sun 10:00-5:00, Contact: Michele Yamanaka, 4336 Charter Ln, Ft Wayne, IN 46815, (260) 424-6070, yamanakam@cs.com
-  **16-17: CLIO, MI, 43rd Annual Show, Flint Rock & Gem Club**, Carter Middle School, Rogers Lodge Dr, Sat 10:00-5:00; Sun 10:00-5:00, Contact Ed Hearn, 10395 Ataberry Dr, Clio, MI 48420, (810) 687-2339, edleo324@att.net
-  **22-24: GEOFEST, 9TH ANNUAL INDIANA STATE MUSEUM FOSSIL, GEM AND MINERAL SHOW.** Fri and Sat 9-5; Sun 11-4. Retail show will include dealers, regional clubs, and adult and kid's activities in a beautiful museum building! Contact Peggy Fisherkeller, 650 West Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204 372; pfisherkeller@dnr.in.gov; Website: www.indianamuseum.org GeoFest is included with museum admission: \$7.00 for adults, \$6.50 for seniors, and \$4.00 for children. Group rates are available.



FIELD TRIP, By Field Trip Chair, Bob Sherwood

TO ALPENA, MICHIGAN, OCTOBER 2, 2010

This is a great opportunity for all ages to easily collect a variety of **marine fossils** with minimal work or tools in this Devonian era limestone quarry. While participants should be **7 years of age or older**, there is certain safety equipment required while in the quarry. Juniors must be closely supervised by a parent.

Required Safety Equipment: Hard hat, safety boots or durable hard-toe field boots, safety glasses, reflective safety vest, long pants. **Tools:** Geologist pick, and perhaps a chisel and garden claw.

Meet at Lafarge Quarry at 10:00am in the Gatehouse parking lot, 1435 Ford Ave. Each person will sign in and receive instructions from our local host, Don Oliver, who will then guide the vehicles into the quarry. You may collect until **3:00pm**. Bring plenty of fresh water and perhaps a sack lunch.

Mileage to Alpena from Holland is approximately 280 miles, so you may choose to travel there on Friday p.m. and stay the night. You may wish to join others at a local restaurant for dinner, if you can arrive by 6:30 or so. This half-day trip allows you to return home Saturday evening or stay over in Alpena if you wish.

Friday night motel recommendation: Days Inn, 1496 M-32 West, (989) 356-6118. Cont. Brkf., pool, free wifi. Applebees nearby. Once you have become a paid member, contact Bob at (269) 637-7097, about your intent to participate, or with questions about safety equipment or tools.

GET TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS:

Shari Luttkhuizen, Show Co-Chair

Interests/Hobbies: Collecting rocks, reading, and gardening.

Favorite rock: I really like rocks that are translucent: agates are one of my favorites, but I also like amethyst, fluorite, rose quartz...

Favorite tool: My car - I'm sharing one with my 16 year old son right now and never realized how much I depend on its availability.

What do you read: Murder mysteries. I also enjoy all the beautiful books about rocks that our club has donated to the Herrick Library over the years.

Do you have a workshop? No. I have a rock tumbler that my Dad and I used together as a kid. I have learned a great deal from the clubs' workshops though, and have a trunk full of Kona Dolomite to transform into cabs☺

One thing I can't live without: My husband and kids. Chocolate - some days the chocolate helps me to deal with the husband and kids.

Favorite foods: Chocolate - the dark kind.

Favorite pastime: Beach combing with Elly - we have been exploring many different Michigan beaches, and in any season, that is truly the best way to spend a day.

What is my profession: I am an Occupational Therapy Assistant, and I work at the Ottawa Area Center, which is a school for mentally impaired children in Ottawa County.

One thing no one knows about me: I spent 6 month working on a "dude" ranch in Colorado when I was 21. I wish I knew then what I know now about rock hounding!

Biggest collection in my home: Art History books for my husband, Rocks and fossils for Elly and me. I don't know what Arie collects, I am afraid to go in his room.

Favorite TV shows: NCIS, White Collar, The Closer, Animal Planet, The History channel.

Your involvement in the club: This is my second year in the club. This year I am co-chair for the rock show this month. It's going to be the best one ever!!

Personal Motto: Everyone is worthy of your dignity and respect. You will be amazed at what you can learn from other people, even if they don't look or act just like you do.



A MINI VACATION

By Rance and Anne Westover

Sometimes an overnight trip is just what a rock hound needs during the dog days of August. So with the newly published Lake Huron Rock Picker's Guide we headed for Port Huron, Michigan on August 12, 2010. Locating our first beach was within 1/2 mile from the International Bridge w/Canada. We picked up Petoskey Stone and Fossils as a freighter emerged from the St. Clair River headed north.

As we headed north up to the top of the thumb area we checked all the parks and exit roads we could find up the lakeside. The weather was good and we enjoyed the beach combing for two days.

The overnight accommodations in Port Sanilac was probably a real spiffy place in 1940. However, a home cooked meal at the local restaurant was welcomed.

After arriving home late Friday night (August 13, 2010) we waited until Saturday morning to check out our loot. We found many pieces of Crinoids, Pudding Stones, Fossils of all kinds, Horn Corals, Unakite, interesting colored patterns in stones, Beach Glass, and 275 Petoskey Stones. We were very surprised by so many Petoskey Stones in Lake Huron. For so many Western Michigan rock hounds looking for something different, how about a mini vacation somewhere new?

P.S. This was the weekend that has the Grand Garage Sales all along US 25, they must have run for a hundred miles.

2010 SHOW REPORT

They say it's over when the fat lady sings! No singing was heard at 5 o'clock Sunday, but we think it's over anyway. When the first table skirts were attached on Wednesday, September 15, it seemed a long way to Sunday afternoon, but the time really flew. Our thanks to each and every member who put effort into making this 41st Show run smoothly and effectively. As was requested, many members showed up to help in various ways.

The long-distance travel champion was Doug Sjoquist, who lives in Charlotte and worked 3 shifts on Saturday. Besting even him though were Anne & Rance Westover who traveled 4 days from Greenville to hold the fort at the Ticket table. Then there were the endurance champions who were at the Civic Center every day for 5 days in a row! We hesitate to list them for fear of missing someone, but you know who you are and we offer a very special *thanks for your devotion to duty*, friends! Specially noted were the appreciative comments from the Dealers and Demonstrators about the many meals that were provided, thanks to many members who brought food; some doing so multiple times.

Eleven new member families of 28 individuals joined at the Show and there were many others who took their applications home. Our income was down by about 10%, but was high enough that we will comfortably be able to provide the scholarships that are the backbone of our charter commitment. Hopefully, for everyone's sake, the general economy will strengthen by next year and there will be even more \$ to expand our educational goals. A complete report will be available at the October General Meeting.

This was another terrific group effort!

By Julia Sherwood & Shari Luttikhuisen, Show Co-Chairs





2010 SHOW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Co-Chair | Julia Sherwood |
| | Shari Luttkhuizen |
| Club Sales | Dave Nienhuis |
| Dealers | Bob Sherwood |
| Demonstrators | Patty Valentine |
| Display Cases | Anita Soto |
| Door Prizes | Pam Havermans |
| | Linda Rosenthal |
| Finance | Jim Benson |
| Fluorescents | Mark Cistaro |
| Games | Esther Kirkendall |
| Hospitality | Kathy Steffler |
| Information | Margarete Fochtman |
| Memorials | Betty Hoekstra |
| Petoskey Polish | Peter Riemersma |
| Program / Flyers | Karri Nienhuis |
| Publicity | Rebecca Cistaro |
| Schools | Julia Sherwood |
| Security | Jodi Zenk |
| Silent Auction | Rick Smith |
| Special Exhibits | Shari Luttkhuizen |
| Spheres Display | Trudy Fetters |
| Tickets | Rance, Anne Westover |
| Touch Rocks | Linda Winkelmann |



2010 Show Pictures, Holland Civic Center



GVSU had a wonderful display of green rocks with photos to match the name.



Club Sales had a lot of action when the buses arrived with students on Friday. Also many homeschoolers came to enjoy the show!



Rick and the Guard-Goat

By Rick Smith



A few years ago I visited a site in Washington County, MO to collect agate and druzey quartz. This particular site was a fairly remote county road that dropped down into a hollow, then rose back up again and turned into a two-track. It was possible then, and I think still is, to collect specimens from the shoulders of Missouri county roads, so I parked at the top of the rise and started back down the hill. My plan was to work my way down one side of the road and then back up the hill on the other side, making small cairns of possible “keepers” along the way. Later I would go back and look the piles over to make my final selections.

At one point as I was making my way down the roadside, I had that feeling of being watched. You know the feeling, right? So I looked up to see if maybe someone from the area had come by to see what I was up to. I found myself face to face with a goat instead. He was only the size of a medium dog, say a collie, and he seemed perfectly content just to watch me: maybe a little curious, not at all threatening.

As I worked my way down the road on my first pass, the goat was always there, sometimes near the roadside, sometimes back in the woods, but always within sight. When I crossed over to the other side of the road, I lost track of the goat. Apparently he didn't find me interesting enough to cross over the road with me. By the time I got back up to the top of the hill where the van was parked, I was already carrying a handful of pieces I was sure I wanted to keep, so I headed straight to the back to unload them...and there was my goat again. As I stowed my first specimens the goat kind of nuzzled me, like a dog looking to get his head patted. So that's what I did, I gave his head a pat. To be perfectly frank I found this less satisfying than patting a dog: the goat's hair was thinner and tighter to his scalp, and of course he had those creepy goat eyes. But, hey, that's not his fault, so I gave him another pat just to be friendly.

Then I took a 5 gallon bucket out of the car and went down the road again to start making final selections from my cairns. I only filled the bucket part way, so it wouldn't be too heavy, and started back to the van with my first load. My goat was there waiting for me again, asking for more attention. Only this time he was a little more assertive. His approach was not so much a nuzzle; it was more of a nudge or even a bump. He had horns that curled up and back, and I held onto one of them as I patted him this time to avoid an accidental butt, but he shook his head with enough vigor that I let go. To be honest I don't think he was fully appreciative of the head-pat I had given him.

When I returned with my second partial bucket the goat was still there, only his behavior changed again. This time he rose up on his hind legs and then dropped back down onto all fours. Because I had been thinking of him in dog terms, the movement reminded me of a dog that had been taught to beg, except that the goat didn't stay on his hind legs as long as a begging dog would. The goat dropped down more quickly, but not like he had lost his balance either. The dropping down motion really reminded me of a fox or coyote that springs up and then pounces down on a field mouse: very fluid and natural, but quite purposeful. But of course that pouncing fox comparison didn't make any sense because there was no food to pounce on there in the middle of the gravel road. “Interesting behavior,” I said to myself as I headed back down the road again.

When I came back with my third bucket, my goat friend was watching me from the rear of the van. Just before I reached the van, he gave me his dog begging/fox pouncing motion again, and then it hit me: what that movement really looked like was something you see in those National Geographic videos where a couple of Big Horn Sheep face off in a head-butting competition. It's the sort of behavior a Big Horn displays in the presence of an intruder, perhaps a rival male, who has entered his territory. My goat's begging/pouncing behavior really looked like the first part of that Big Horn head-butting sequence. But that comparison didn't quite make sense either because there was no intruder around. There was no one at all around. There was just the goat and me....

Continued on page 9...



Junior Rock Club Page

Junior Club Advisors
Rick Smith and Linda Winkelmann



We hope you junior members had a chance to get over to the Civic Center to see your Club's annual show. What a great show! And what great juniors! There were terrific junior display cases out for all the visitors to see, and there were junior members helping out all over the place—at different activities like Petoskey Polishing and Kids Games and even at some of the dealers' booths. Great job, juniors!!

Of course the show was our September meeting; the next time we get together will be at the October 27 meeting at Herrick Library when we'll talk about Michigan rocks and minerals! Here are some fun rockhound-related activities you work on:

1. See if you can unscramble the names of these Michigan rocks and minerals. (There'll be a different set of Michigan word-scrambles in the October newsletter.)

PROCEP _ _ _ _ _

PLAITIJES _ _ _ _ _

GUMSPY _ _ _ _ _

ICETALC _ _ _ _ _

ELDATOIT _ _ _ _ _

TUNEKIA _ _ _ _ _

SINGES _ _ _ _ _

REATABALS _ _ _ _ _

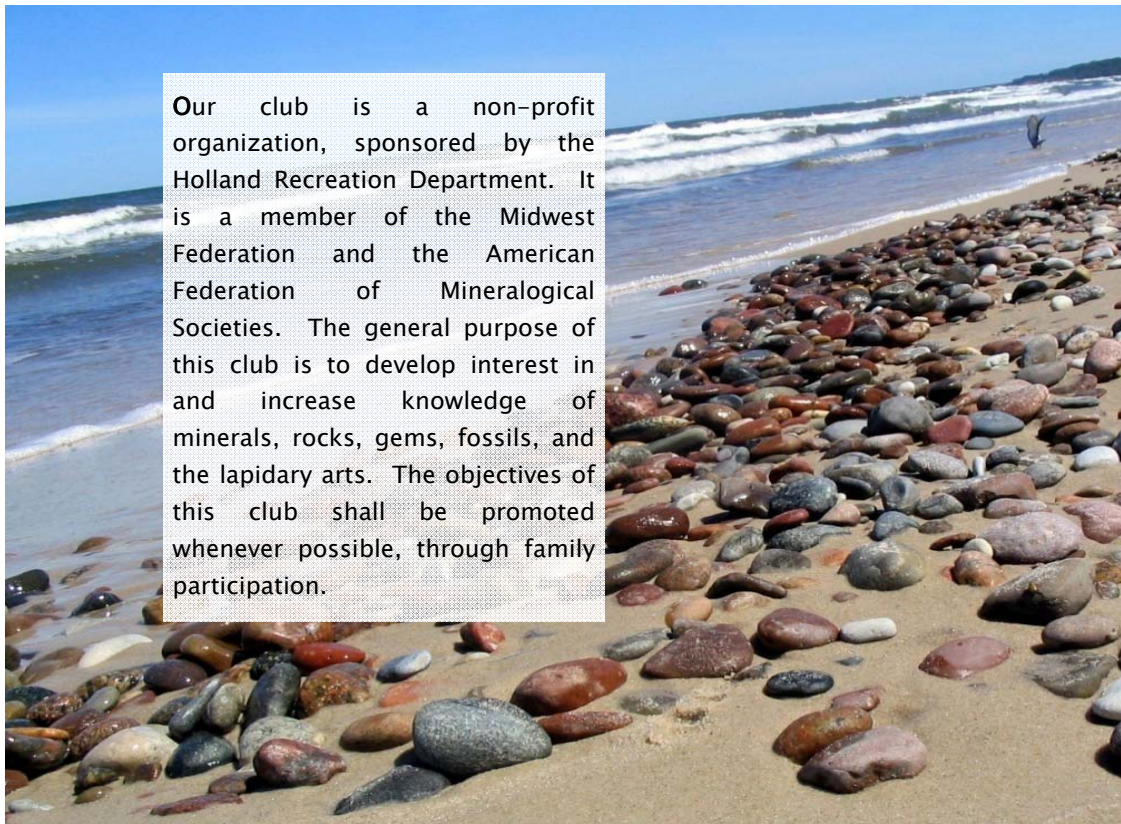
2. Share your hobby with a friend. Tell your friend a story about some rock collecting activity you did, or show your friend your favorite rock or mineral specimen.
3. Get out a pencil and paper and write up something for the Junior Writing Contest. You could write about the display case you created for the Show, and how you chose your specimens; or you could write about an experience you had at the Show; or about some collecting you did over the summer; or your favorite rock. There are tons of possibilities! All you need is 150 words or more.
4. And if you want to read about someone else's rock collecting experiences, just read through the newsletter.

Rick and the Guard Goat continued from page 8

"Oh...."

Or maybe "Uh-oh" is more like what I really said to myself. Anyway I decided this was probably a good time to bring my collecting at this site to an end. The goat was still back by the driver's side taillight, so I edged over to the passenger side headlight to keep the van between us. I waited to see if the goat would make the first move. He came forward along the driver's side of the van, so I headed around the passenger's side towards the back of the van telling myself, "Don't run, move calmly but quickly, speak quietly to the goat." With the goat following me around the van I stowed bucket in the open back end. "Don't bother to close it, keep circling the van, close the trunk when you go by the next time, keep circling, now open the car door, get in, close it fast," and finally I was safe inside the van. The goat was outside staring at me, victorious, having put me in my place, having repulsed me from his territory.

The truth is I was probably never in any danger at all, but who knows. I mean, who even knew there was such a thing as a guard-goat.



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
Karri Nienhuis, Editor
4121 60th Street
Holland, MI 49423



SAVE THIS STAMP FOR MWF ENDOWMENT

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

