



THE TULIP CITY CONGLOMERATE



Bulletin of the Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club, PO Box 2082, Holland, MI 49422

Website: www.Tulipcity.org

February 2016

Volume 49, Edition 2

General Meeting
7p Feb 24, 2016
HMCC
Zeeland, MI

Show Meeting
7p Mar 2, 2016
HMCC, Zeeland, MI

Richmond, IN
Mar 4-6, 2016
Annual Show

Dice Museum Field Trip
1:30p Mar 5
Calvin College
Grand Rapids, MI

Livonia, MI
Mar 5-6, 2016
Annual Show

Kansas City, MO
Mar 11-13, 2016
Annual Show

Macomb, IL, West Bend, WI
Mar 12-13, 2016
Annual Shows

*This column typically lists all events until the next General Meeting. There are so many this month, that it overflows to page two!
Please continue on...*

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February 24th Meeting: Fluorescents

Our February meeting will be a special mineral meeting with those fascinating fluorescent minerals among the 357 total discovered to date at the Franklin Mine and 69 type localities. We have a DVD covering the history and minerals of this wealthy region. This program was an American Federation awarded program. This may inspire even more people to make a collecting trip to south east New Jersey. The Franklin mine is world famous for their great assortment of fluorescent minerals. For some initial background of the Franklin Mine, you can go to <http://www.franklinmineralmuseum.com/>.

If you have already collected specimens from the Franklin Mine, or other nearby similar mines, whether one of the many fluorescent minerals, one of the minerals unique to the area, or one of many other specimens of the area, please bring it for display and discussion.

We will once again be challenging our experts with unidentified minerals we've found or come across. If you have some unknown materials in your collection, bring them along and we'll try to stump the entire attendance or hopefully get you answers.

February Raffle Items



Jan Maher's handmade oak bookends with Brazilian agate slices.

See page 3 for more raffle pictures and details.

Club Calendar

Mar 12-13 – Skokie, IL

Mar 16 (Wed) Board Meeting 7p, HMCC

Mar 19 – Woodbury, MN

Mar 25-26 - Cedar Rapids, IA, Bridgeton, MO

Mar 30 (Wed) – General Meeting 7p, HMCC

Apr 2-3 – Canton, OH, Lincoln, NE, Columbus OH

Apr 6 (Wed) – Show Meeting 7p, HMCC, Zeeland, MI

Apr 7-9 – Indian Mounds Show, Wyoming, MI

Apr 9-10 – Canton, IL, Marion, IL, Des Plaines, IL, Green Bay, WI, Monroe, WI

Apr 13 (Wed) - Board Meeting 7p, HMCC

Apr 16-17 – Decatur, IL, Cedar Rapids, IA, Cleveland, OH

Apr 23-24 – Cuyahoga Falls, OH, Eau Claire, WI, Troy, OH

Apr 27 (Wed) – Potluck Banquet 7p, HMCC

Apr 30-May 1 – Fort Dodge, IA, Marshfield, WI

May 11 (Wed) – Board Meeting 7p, HMCC (TENTATIVE)

May 18 (Wed) – Show Meeting 7p, HMCC

May 25 (Wed) – General Meeting 7p, HMCC (TENTATIVE)

June 15 (Wed) – Board Meeting 7p, HMCC (TENTATIVE)

July 20 (Wed) – Show Meeting, 7p, HMCC

Aug 13 (Sat) – Fourth Annual Tailgate, Sam's Lot Holland, MI

Aug 24 (Wed) – Show Meeting, 7p, HMCC, Zeeland, MI

Sep 16-18 – Tulip City Gem and Mineral Show

The "HMCC" is the Howard Miller Community Center, located at 14 South Church Street, Zeeland, MI

Italic listings are non-Club events.

Major source material was from: <http://www.amfed.org/mwf/Calendar/>

2016 Officers and Board of Directors

President	Bob Sherwood	bobandjulia@accn.org
Vice President	C. H. Falstad	cfalstad@ameritech.net
Secretary	Krystin Grenon	klgrenon@gmail.com
Treasurer	Julia Sherwood	bobandjulia@accn.org
Fld Trip Coord.	Bob Sinke	bobsinke@comcast.net
Historian	Betty Hoekstra	kbhoek@att.net
Jr. Club Coord.	Rick Smith	smithr@hope.edu
Jr. Club Coord.	Linda Winkelmann	lindawinkelmann@att.net
Liaison	Linda Plumert	rlplumert@gmail.com
Membership	Christine Silich	CSDS77@icloud.com
Newsletter Ed.	Rudy Silich	tulipcitygemnews@charter.net
Show Coord	Sue Goedert	sonbeams2000@yahoo.com
Social Coord.	Open	
Dir. at Large	Patti DeGroot	
Dir. at Large	Art Edson	art@aedson.com

For 2016, there are fourteen (14) positions, which have one vote each. There are fourteen (14) persons on the Board (two persons share one position, and one position is open).

Walter "Dutch" Wolff

On January 16, 2016, died at Heartwood Lodge, ten days after he and Jeanine's 65th anniversary. They have been involved in the Club in the past and are Honorary members. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.

Bad Weather Reminder

If the weather is bad, and you are not sure the Club Meeting will be held, call the Howard Miller Community Center at 616-772-0879. If the Library is open, the meeting is ON!

Look Out for a Trailer

The Club is in need of a trailer to store items in between Shows. The load capacity of the trailer should be at least **one ton**. If you see one for sale, either in person or online, please notify a Board Member.

Club Sales Material

The Club is in need of material for Club Sales. During your rockhounding this spring, summer and fall, please consider donating a portion of your collecting goodies to the Club. Please make sure any donated material is clean, and, where possible, identified.

Board Position Open

The Social Coordinator Position is OPEN. If you are interested, please contact any Board Member.

**YOU are the Club.
Exercise your literary skills.
Send it to me.
See it published.**

Dice Museum Field Trip

Don't forget about our approaching field trip on Saturday, March 5, 2016 to the Dice museum at Calvin College. We will be meeting our host, Professor C. Renee Sparks outside her office in the North Hall 081 (lower level of the Science Building) by 1:30 pm.

We will start with a tour of the Geology Department, and then go upstairs to the Dice Mineral Museum. A Campus map is available at <http://www.calvin.edu/map/>. Entry is off Burton, just west of the East Beltline on the east side of Grand Rapids. Parking is available with the closest lots being Lot 4 or Lot 5 (see map on line).

There is no admittance fee, juniors are encouraged, although those under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

February Raffle Items



Rhyolite (Wonderstone) from Alder, MT

Three items will be raffled at the February Meeting:

1. Shown on the front page, a pair of bookends handmade and donated by our member, Jan Maher. Beautiful Brazilian agate slices are incorporated into the oak design.

2. Three slices of Wonderstone, ready to be cabbed. A rhyolite, Wonderstone, is from Alder, Montana. Average size: 1 3/4" X 13/16" X 8mm.

3. Bead maker's to-go case is filled with all types of beads and findings and Blue Mon Beginner's Guide to Beading to learn how to put it all together. Donated by Jackie Helder and Krystin Grenon.



A bead maker's case, filled with goodies.

Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5. The funds received from these donated items will go towards advertising in the Tailgate Sale in August.

Potluck Banquet Special Raffle Item

Last month, your Newsletter Editor published a picture of the amethyst cathedral to be raffled off at April's Potluck Banquet. He stretched and squeezed it to fit in the space available, and nearly succeeded in making it look ugly. (Nearly!) Here is a photo with the proper aspect ratio:



Amethyst cathedral, 13.75" x 8.785" x 3.75"

Annual Banquet Raffle Prize: An Amethyst Cathedral, measuring 13 3/4" X 8 7/8" X 3 3/4" donated by Beauties of Creation, one of our favorite dealers at our Annual Rock and Gem Show. Valued at over \$300, a raffle ticket is just \$5. Proceeds will go towards the Show budget.

LimerRocks

by Chet Smith

There was a young boy with a rake,
Who hunted for stones in the lake,
But he slipped and he fell,
and he cried out "Oh well",
I'll just throw my rake
In the lake.

Tulip City Gem and Mineral Club
Board Meeting
January 13, 2016

Location: Howard Miller Community Center—East Activity Room

Board Members Present: Patti DeGroot, Art Edson, CH Falstad, Sue Goedert, Betty Hoekstra, Bob Sherwood, Julia Sherwood, Rudy Silich, Christine Silich, Bob Sinke, Rick Smith, Linda Winkelmann

Absent: Krystin Grenon, Linda Plumert

Guests: Mark Cistaro, Dan DeGroot, Ken Hoekstra, Chet Smith

Bob Sherwood opened the meeting at 7:04 with the reminders (a) that in case of inclement weather BOD members can learn the status of a meeting by calling HMCC (if the Community Center is open the meeting will be held), and (b) that BOD members new to their positions should receive a Board position folder from the officer previously holding that position.

Minutes from the December 2 Board Meeting were read and discussed. Bob Sinke moved that the minutes be accepted as amended. Betty seconded; motion passed. Minutes from the December 16 General Meeting were read and discussed. Art moved that they be accepted as amended. Julia seconded; motion passed.

Treasurer's report: Julia presented the December financial report. It was moved and seconded that this report be received and filed for audit. Motion passed.

Vice-President's Report: CH announced that the February program would be drawn from MFW DVDs he had available to him.

Editor's Report: Rudy announced that the deadline for materials for the January newsletter was Saturday morning, January 16.

Field Trip Report: Bob Sinke reminded everyone of the Calvin College "basement field trip" on March 5, and of the forthcoming Agate Expo in Cedarburg, Wisconsin July 8-10.

Juniors: Rick noted that the junior program would be about magnetite, hematite, and using streak testing to differentiate between them.

Show report: Sue announced that the next Show meeting would be January 20 at 7:00. Julia reminded everyone that the Club needed an additional trailer to store Show materials and asked that members keep their eyes open for opportunities.

Unfinished Business:

- Bob summarized the results of the Show Site analysis and visits. The consensus was that the Soccer Stop was the preferred site. CH will pursue contract arrangements with the Soccer Stop. A joint committee of 3 TCG&MC members and 3 AAUW members will look into the possibility of holding our respective annual events on the same date and sharing the cost and space at the Soccer Stop. Sue, Julia, and Mark Cistaro will be the TCG&MC members.

- Weebly website: CH moved that our current website be changed to one connected to the Weebly website, retaining our same web name. Sue seconded; motion passed. Bob Sherwood asked Art and Mark to work on getting the site going as quickly as possible.

New Business:

- Bob Sherwood presented an overview of a proposal by Rance Westover for improving the signage used at the Tailgate Swap-and-Sell. The matter was tabled for a later time when Rance himself could be present.

- Bob Sherwood summarized the American Lands Access Association's mission and its role in trying to expand interest among rockhounds and noted that, if a TCG&MC was a member, AALA newsletters could be forwarded to BOD members to keep them informed. Julia moved that the Club renew its membership at \$50/year. Bob Sinke seconded; motion passed.

- Raffle proceeds: Sue moved that proceeds from raffles at the January through March meetings be designated for improvements to Tailgate Swap-and-Sell signage, including the possibility of purchasing of a new sign. Betty seconded; motion passed.

- Julia presented the proposed 2016 budget. Patti moved that the proposed budget be approved. Chris seconded; motion passed.

- Bob Sinke noted that the Club was in need of new material for the Show's Club Sales table, inviting members to collect and donate good, cleaned material to this cause.

- Julia mentioned that the GVSU Geology Dept. newsletter was available on-line.

- Julia noted that there were two legislative bills in Congress (one in the Senate; one in the House) pertinent to rockhounding in California. With these bills coming up for a vote soon, she urged Club members to contact their congressmen and speak out for the protection of collecting rights in CA.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02.

Respectfully submitted,
 Rick Smith, secretary pro tem.

TCGMC General Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2016, 7 p.m.
Howard Miller Community Center

Meeting commenced at 7:01PM.

5 Visitors, No new members in attendance.
 50 adults, 5 children in attendance.

Eight year old Jetsen Minter presented an enthusiastic and interesting talk about Blue John fluorite and Treak Cliff Cavern on a family trip to Great Britain. She brought samples of the minerals and photographs. By going formal, she set a new precedent in dressing for presentations! Juniors dismissed, and the business portion of the meeting began.

President Bob Sherwood called for a **BOLO for a cargo trailer that has a 1 Ton capacity before September.**

Former members, Walter (Dutch) Wolf and Jim Benson recently passed.

Reports from Officers – New Business

Treasurer – Julia Sherwood presented the Club financial report. Six 2016 Calendars for sale for \$2 or \$3.

Outside audit completed – everything is in order.

Board approved new budget. 2 parts: Normal operating budget & Special Funds Budget.

Board approved 2016 Budget, including scholarships to Hope & GVSU: \$1100, 1400 (\$100)

Field Trip Coordinator – Bob Sinke – Saturday, March 5, 1:30, field trip to see the Calvin College Geology

Department's Dice Mineral Collection

Rance Westover reported: Agate Expo July 7 – 10 in Cedarburg, WI, the best agate show in the U.S. Get your reservations for rooms ASAP for Symposium, banquet, and show.

Membership Coordinator – Christine Silich - **Please PAY your dues for 2016.**

Show Chair – Sue Goedert – Expenses will be shared for The Soccer Stop's two indoor soccer fields between TCGMC & AAUW Book Sale for our fall Rock Show. The Site Committee is composed of members, Mark Cistaro, Sue Goedert & Julia Sherwood. Both organizations will work out the details and prepare a contract.

Hospitality – open position – Do we have any volunteers?

Vice President, Secretary, Editor, Historian, Junior Leaders, Liaison, Directors at Large – No report.

Unfinished Business

Mark Cistaro & Art Edson are working on our new website, Weebly. It will keep same domain name, Tulipcity.org.

Break

Our new system of door prize drawings of 1 Adult drawing & 1 Junior drawing were conducted by Mike Graebner. Three Raffles were conducted by Krystin Grenon. January - March meeting raffle proceeds will go towards improving signage & publicity for the June Tailgate sale.

Live Auction: C.H. Falstad auctioned off the last of the Boone collection. All of these proceeds will go into the Gibson Fund.

Program – C.H. Falstad presented the video, *Red Gold Agates from the Upper Peninsula, Michigan*. Thank you, Chris Cooper for bringing in samples!

Meeting adjourned 9:25PM

Respectfully submitted,
 Krystin Grenon

2016 Renewal Form

PLEASE NOTE: If you did not renew, this edition of the Tulip city Conglomerate will be your last one.

TULIP CITY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB RENEWAL FORM

DUES DEADLINE: - December 31, 2015

Mail to:

Christine Silich
416 West Mae Rose Ave
Holland, MI 49424

Make check payable to TCG&M Club

Check membership type: [] Individual - \$15 [] - Family - \$20

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Note: Members who signed up at the September Show are paid through 2016.

More LimerRocks

by Chet Smith

There was an old man with a spade
 Whose passion was hunting for jade,
 Then he went into shock
 When he found a green rock
 And cried "My good fortune is made".

My neighbor has a dog name Spot,
 He doesn't growl, but he barks a lot,
 I leaned over to give him a pet
 And he bit where I usually set
 Beware of all dogs
 Whether friendly or not!



Empire Mine open pit.



Empire processing plant, 1976.

JUNIOR ROCK CLUB PAGE

"Ores, Alloys, and...Melting"

Okay, we're not close enough to the end of winter to be thinking seriously about snow melting and flowers blooming, but other kinds of melting play important roles in mineralogy and in our Junior Program for February. We'll start by talking about melting points. Simple enough, but did you know that the melting point for a substance is generally the same as its freezing point? Sounds crazy, but we'll explain that one. Then we'll talk about ores. Did you know that iron is not the same thing as iron ore, and copper is not the same as copper ore. We'll explain that one too, and we'll talk about the role melting plays in extracting elements like iron and copper from their respective ores. Then we'll talk about alloys. That's when things really heat up because melting is the critical technique in producing alloys—like steel and bronze and brass—from elements like iron and copper. We'll have lots of show-and-tell specimens of copper ores and alloys, and iron ores and alloys, and other ores and alloys, and each junior will receive a take-home specimen of copper ore and of the element zinc that has been locally extracted from a "zinc ore." In fact, you'll actually get to witness the extraction of some of this zinc from its ore body at our February 24 Junior Meeting. Join us at Zeeland's Howard Miller Community Center for a hot time!

Linda Winkleman and Rick Smith
Junior Club Advisors



© geology.com

Hematite is a common sedimentary iron ore.



Copper ore from Michigan.



Steel alloy bars for sale.



Iron ore in Minecraft.

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 increased knowledge of minerals, rocks, gems, fossils, and the lapidary arts. The objectives of this club shall be promoted whenever Possible, through family participation.

To become a member, complete the form at www.tulipcity.org

The deadline for submissions is 5p the Thursday after the Board Meeting.



Tilden Open Pit Mine, Marquette County, Michigan
Photo attribution could not be found.

Advertising rates for club members are: \$5 for business card size, \$10 for ¼ page, \$15 for ½ page, \$30 for full page. non-member rates are double. Make check payable To: TCG&M with ad copy to Editor.

Meetings are held monthly on the last Wednesday of the month at the Howard Miller Community Center, 14 S. Church Street, Zeeland, MI at 7pm, unless announced otherwise in the TULIP CITY CONGLOMERATE. Junior Club welcomes young rockhounds and meets separately during the meeting.



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Tulip City Conglomerate
Rudy Silich, Editor
416 West Mae Rose Ave
Holland, MI 49424