



Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club **CONGLOMERATE**

Monthly Newsletter of the TCG&MC
PO Box 2082, Holland, Michigan 49422

Website: www.Tulipcity.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/tulipcityclub

February 2022

Volume 55, Edition 2

Mineral Treasures of the Carolinas & Georgia

Last October, twelve people from the White River and Tulip City clubs traveled to the Carolinas and Georgia to hunt for treasures. Some of the specimens they came home with included Savannah River Agates, Aquamarine, Smokey Quartz crystals and Tourmaline. They have offered to share their experiences at the February 23rd General Meeting. They will present a slide show and bring along some of their finds. From what I hear the group was very happy with the spoils



from this trip so you can expect a very lively presentation!

White River will be returning to the Carolinas and Georgia again this April. Places like Little Pine Garnet Mine, Emerald Hollow Mine, Diamond Hill, Graves Mountain, and more. They are also extending an invitation to our club to join this trip. This meeting will be an excellent time to get acquainted with some of their club members and perhaps consider joining them for the April 18-23 trip. They will have a sign up sheet available.

Vicki Hartung and Mike Rakovits started the White River club about four years ago to reach out to rock hounds a little farther to the north. Many of their members are also members of our club and we have had some great partnerships with White River since their forming. It's always great to hear about field adventures from like minded hobbyists. Hopefully we'll see you there!





Events



FOR OUR CLUB AND BEYOND!

2022 TCG&M Board

President - Michael B. Larson
mblarson300@yahoo.com

Vice President - Shari Luttkhuizen
sluttikh@oaisd.org

Secretary - Teresa DeMol
t.demol@yahoo.com

Treasurer - Kurt Brinks
kdbricks1@gmail.com

Field Trips - Peter Riemersma
riemersp@gvsu.edu

Historian - Betty Hoekstra
kbhoek@att.net

Junior Club - Linda Winkelmann
lindawinkelmann@att.net

Liaison - Mary Johnson
maryjohnson299@gmail.com

Membership - Rhonda Gehringer
rgehringer@homeoftheshamrocks.org

Newsletter Editor - Jon Mull
solace247@yahoo.com

Social Media - Julia Sherwood
bobandjulia@accn.org

Show Coordinator - < OPEN >

Social Coordinator - Michelle Lanting
michlyngal@gmail.com

Dir. at Large - Tom DeMol
t.demol@yahoo.com

Dir. at Large - Greta Fochtman
gretefoch@charter.net

Past President - C.H. Falstad
cfalstad@ameritech.net

- 2/18 **Geofest - Indiana State Museum Mineral Show**
Indianapolis, IN (www.indianamuseum.org)
- 2/19 **Tumbling Workshop - w/ Ken Hoekstra and Shari Luttkhuizen**
Howard Miller Library - 10am to Noon. If not already signed up, RSVP with Shari - sluttikh@oaisd.org
- 2/23 **Tulip City February General Meeting - Wednesday, 7pm**
Howard Miller Library, Zeeland
- 2/26 **GVSU Department Tour - w/ Peter Riemersma**
GVSU Padnos Hall - 10am to Noon. No sign up needed.
Meet in Padnos Room 110.
- 3/4 **Eastern Indiana GGS Annual Show - Wayne Co. Fairgrounds**
861 N. Salisbury Rd., Richmond, IN Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5
- 3/12 **Advanced Wire Wrapping - w/ Sue Goedert**
10:30 am @ Ken & Betty Hoekstras home (5870 Julie St., Hudsonville)
Please see more details in workshop section
- 3/16 **Tulip City March Board Meeting - Wednesday, 7pm**
Howard Miller Library, Zeeland
- 3/18 **Michigan GMS Annual Show - Keely Park Event Center**
200 W. Ganson St., Jackson, MI Fri 10-7, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5
- 3/26 **Stark County GMC Annual Show - Stark County Fairgrounds**
305 Wertz Ave NW, Canton, OH Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5
- 3/30 **Tulip City March General Meeting - Wednesday, 7pm**
Howard Miller Library, Zeeland

A little further out...



- 4/1 - 4/8 - TCGM AR Quartz Trip
4/1 - 4/4 - White River IN Geodes Trip
4/27 - TCGM Banquet
7/23 - TCGM Picnic
9/16 - 9/18 - TCGM SHOW

We still need you! We are still looking for a Show Coordinator for 2022. This is such an important role and the show will be here in the blink of an eye. I know we all want this one to be as great as last year and that means we need someone to step forward and be a hero. Please speak with Mike Larson or any board member if you think you might be willing.

Thank you!

~ Workshops ~

Rock Tumbling: February 19, 2022. Held at the Howard Community Center (14 S Church St, Zeeland, MI) from 10-noon. Free to all local rockhounds, but if you haven't already signed up please RSVP with Shari at sluttikh@oaisd.org. Our last Tumbling workshop was 2 years ago, so we will review Rock tumbling basics, then delve a little further into refining your techniques, etc. A limited amount of Ohio Flint rough and 80 and 220 grit will be for sale for those who are interested.

Advanced Wire Wrapping (Irregular shapes): March 12, 2022 at 10:30 am. You must have had Sue Goedert's first workshop on basic wire wrapping to take this one. Held at Ken and Betty Hoekstra's house (5870 Julie Street, Hudsonville, MI) Cost for this class is \$15.00, please bring your tools and a cab or two you would like to wrap, Sue will provide directions and bead mats and special tools to help with this. Class size is limited to 6, but if more want to learn she will hold a class the same day at 1pm. Ken will have cabs available to purchase as well. For questions call Sue Goedert at 616-337-1162.

Basic wire wrapping revisited – sign up at the next General Meeting, or call Sue Goedert. If we have enough interest we will plan a time and date.

Fossil Cleaning: March 12. *This class is full.* Please contact Kurt Brinks if you have already signed up for this. Plans were to hold this at Rance and Anne Westovers home.

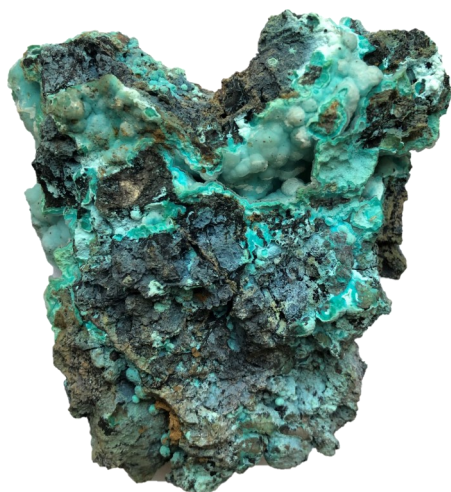
Cleaning Quartz crystals with Acid: Date and time TBD. A sign up sheet will be out at the General Meeting, and if we have enough interest we will convince Jon Mull to set a date. It will be in spring once the snow is gone and the weather is warmer.



Member Munchies

I think we all enjoy the snacks available at our general meetings. We could really use your help in donations of those snacks. If you are willing please bring in something prepackaged to share. Granola bars or packages of crackers are great options. They go fast so having a few extra boxes is not a bad thing. The oranges brought in last month were a great example of a healthy pre-packaged snack!

(The oreos were great too though ;) THANK YOU !!



Chrysocolla w/ some "robins egg" forms & very fine Drusy Quartz - Planet Mine East of Parker, AZ - Jon Mull

...Have you renewed your membership? ...

If not - This is your VERY LAST Newsletter!
You should have received a renewal form in the January newsletter.

Memberships are \$15 for Individuals and \$20 for Families. Please add \$5 if you would like a paper copy mailed to you. Please mail form and payment to:

TCGM
c/o Rhonda Gehringer
1980 Driftwood Dr
Holland, MI 49424

Should you decide you will not be joining us this year, we'll miss you and welcome you back any time!



Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club
Virtual Board Meeting (Minutes Approximation)
January 12, 2022, 7:00 PM

Members present: Mike L, Jon M, Liz H., Mary J, Linda W, Kurt B, Peter R, Julia S, Rhonda , Shari L, CH F.

VP Report - Shari L. scheduled meetings for Howard Miller through December

General Meeting - moved to Thursday Jan 27

Motion by Julia Sherwood, seconded by Jon Mull, all in favor.

Treasurer - Finances are in order. Getting the yearly insurance set up for the club.

Newsletter - Jon is going to get email access from Mike. Please make sure submissions are in by weekend of Jan. 15

Contact Sue to obtain a list of show dealers that would like to receive complimentary newsletters.

Junior - Boron and Lithium as study items.

Membership - Rhonda is working to bring the member list up to date and into google spreadsheets.

FT Coord - Winter field trip to GVSU Sat. Feb 26 10 am to 12 pm.

Bob and Julia basement field trip Saturday March 26. 10 to 3 or 4

Working on Spring break trip to Missouri drusy quartz and Arkansas for quartz points and clusters Apr 1 to 8

Many options being considered for the spring

Media Coord - Website is up to date

Historian - beautiful as always! nothing to report.

Liaison - planning on raffles for Thursday. Crystal plate to be raffled at banquet - \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

Westover workshop - First is full, second has a couple openings (check with Rance about Feb date)

Other workshops - Possible fossil cleaning with Kurt, tumbling with Shari and Ken, and Wire Wrapping with Sue G.

Budget discussion - Shari made a motion to approve the budget built by the committee, Jon Mull second, motion passed unanimously. Budget approved for 2022.

Show Coordinator - STILL NEED THIS POSITION FILLED. Working to provide MWF with show info. Mike will be the direct contact point until filled.

Many Condolences were expressed to Linda Winkelmann for the passing of her father.

Shari Motioned to adjourn seconded by Mary J.

Adjourned 8:42

Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club
General Meeting - Howard Miller Library
January 26, 2022, 7:00 PM

7:05 PM – Call to Order – Michael Larson, President

Present: about 58 adults and 7 juniors

Board Reports

President Mike Larson gave a welcome to members and visitors attending. He officiated the door-prize raffle for the evening.

Mike expressed the urgent need for a 2022 Show Chair. Dismissed the juniors.

Treasurer-Kurt Brinks gave a brief treasurers report.

Field Trips-Peter Riemersma introduced himself and shared there will an upcoming trip by our club over Spring Break to collect quartz in Arkansas and with the White River club to the Carolinas and Georgia.

Membership - Rhonda Gehringer gave a report on membership renewals and reminded those not paid that the deadline is February 28th.

Director at Large-Mary Johnson led the raffle of wonderful specimens and encouraged those present to participate in the banquet raffle where the proceeds go to the scholarship fund.

Vice President-Shari Luttikhuizen discussed workshops being held in January and February.

The program was an informative and entertaining presentation on the Michigan Greenstone by Chris Cooper and Gary Katt.

Meeting adjourned 9:10 pm



Field Trips



2/26 - GVSU Geology Department Visit. Saturday 10 to Noon

Peter Riemersma and Greg Wilson will be our guides to the mineral, rock and fossil collections, Department classrooms and rock prep room. Also hear a few students introduce the research they are working on. Address: Google www.gvsu.edu/maps then go to the Allendale campus. The Geology Department is in Padnos Hall of Science (PAD). There will be signage to the Geology Department once you are at the Padnos building. We will meet initially in Padnos room 110.

3/26 - Basement Field Trip. Saturday 10am to 3 or 4pm

Details are still in the works for this but the tentative plan is to view the collections of Bob and Julia Sherwood and Gary Katt.

4/1 - 4/8 - Arkansas Quartz. Spring Break w/ Jon Mull

Travel to Mt. Ida, AR over Fri and Sat. Apr. 1 and 2. Collect at local quartz mines through Wednesday. On Thursday Apr. 7 travel to Potossi, MO to collect at Haunted Ridge on Friday for Druzy Quartz specimens and Missouri agates. Return home on Saturday. Please contact solace247@gmail.com about this trip.

4/1 - 4/4 - Indiana Geodes. White River trip

Travel to the Bloomington, IN area to collect geodes and fossils from local creeks (Hunter, Henderson, Salt, and Knob). Please contact WhiteRiverRockClub092@gmail.com about this trip.

4/18 - 4/22 - Carolinas & Georgia. White River trip

Travel to the border of North and South Carolina and into Georgia to collect at the Little Pine Garnet Mine, Emerald Hollow Mine, The Diamond Hill Mine and Graves mountain, as well as area creeks for Savannah Agate. There will be stops at rock shops and a Graves Mt. rock swap as well as group rock cleaning and campfire gatherings. Please contact WhiteRiverRockClub092@gmail.com about this trip. I strongly encourage you to attend our February meeting to touch base with Vicki and Mike or attend the White River March 7 meeting where they will discuss this trip again.

Other trips in March and April TBD

Keep an eye on your email for other trips that might pop up since March and April often start the spring collecting season which often includes a trip north for Petoskeys.

~ This months "Mascot" ~

The masthead image is a Septarian nodule from the Holland area of Michigan but not the usual beach-washed variety. Acquired from Patty V. several years ago, these nodules are much more "lumpy." The polished area has unknown mineralization leading to the pale peach color in some of the veins and is about 1.5" across

- Jon Mull

~ GPS Gem ~

No need for satellite mode this time

<https://g.page/lizzadromuseum?share>

This months gem is the location for the Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Arts. Our club has visited more than once over the years and I strongly encourage you to do so if you ever have the chance. As an easier alternative you can visit them virtually

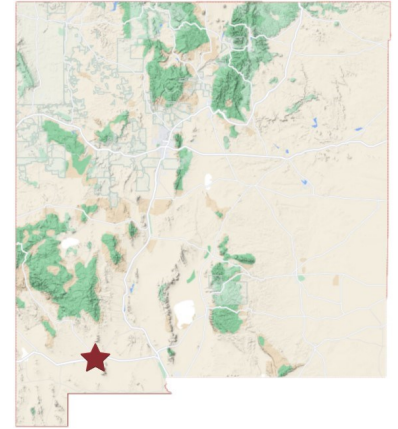
<https://lizzadromuseum.org/>

There are many links to enjoy on their website

Snowbirds in New Mexico: Chapter I

The rockreational adventures of Bob and Julia Sherwood

Early in January, Bob & Julia Sherwood left South Haven for a 2-month or so escape to a warmer place with lots of exciting rocks. This destination, Deming, New Mexico had been visited by us several times previously for shorter time periods. The city is surrounded by extensive BLM land where rocks may be collected for free. The second week here, we joined the local club which has an annual Show the second weekend in March. We agreed to help them out this year with setup in the 2 fairground buildings they rent. They expect 83 dealers this year; some in the buildings and at least half outdoors. These dealers come from all over the US plus Canada, Mexico and even Australia. We timed our visit to not end until the show is over so that we can take in as much as possible.



We already went on a collecting trip with a local rockhound we met 10 years ago, to a new spot for us & were able to collect about half a 5-gallon pail of honey onyx. On our own we have visited 5 other sites to collect for: psilomelane, fluorite, chalcedony roses, ‘candy-rock’ rhyolite and ‘flower’ rhyolite.

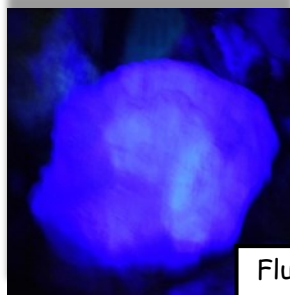
After the washed and dried rocks are sorted by size, the bagging begins. Each rock is put into a poly bag with a label as to the name of the specimen and where it was collected, so that just in case a family visits the area, they could ask for directions to the collecting spot for themselves. Some of the named specimens go into the cloth bags sold at Club Sales at the Show, some go to the Kids Games and smallest “pebbles” go into bags for the Ticket Table; free to students to arrive at a head count. So far there are 700+ bags ready to go.

In mid-February, Rick & Deb Smith are expected to arrive here for a while and we are eager to take them out collecting to even more spots for other material. An additional trip “just for fun”, is driving to the Mexican border, crossing on foot to Palomas, MX, having an authentic lunch and shopping for Mexican made goods in the same building.

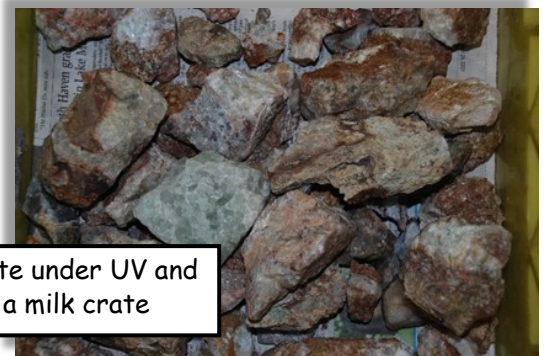
The neighboring couple to our little rental cottage, visiting from MN, have become friends & Mike has taken an interest in rocks. Due to his age we call him our “Pebble-POP”. It’s always fun to introduce a newby to our hobby.



Washed and sorted
Psilomelane



Fluorite under UV and
in a milk crate



Snowbirds in New Mexico - cont.

More images from Bob and Julia's collecting trip out west.



Chalcedony Roses (washed)



Honey Onyx



'Candy-Rock' Rhyolite



'Flower' Rhyolite

It's always fun to have our members share their love of the hobby with the club and thanks are in order to Chris and Gary for putting on a great presentation in January. I know I learned a lot about Greenstones and was thoroughly entertained as well. Few of us will soon forget "Raffle Time!" Thanks to a rather spirited bidding war the club received a handsome donation that will go towards providing what we hope to do best which is share our hobby and educate each other in the earth sciences we enjoy so much. Great display guys!



Chris Cooper & Gary Katt

*Thank
you* 

- Junior Page -

"Discover Copper Through History"

"Stone Age" people began cutting things with broken pieces of Flint and Obsidian glass. They became increasingly good at using bone and hammerstones to make knives and spears to improve their lives. About 6,000 years BC, the "Copper Age" started. Native people found sharp, shiny & wiggly stuff sticking out of some rocks. Sometimes at campfires or kilns they noticed "goop" melting out of some rocks... and they could playfully poke the goop into balls or flat shapes. Makers began producing better tools such as copper nails, axes, roofing tiles and crowns. About 3,000 BC, the "Age of Bronze" began with inventors mixing Copper with Tin for stronger helmets, swords, plows, architectural columns, jewelry and art; thus making life better mostly for the upper classes. Of course, all metal alloy recipes relied on local mines, trading for mineral resources, and their kilns' heat levels. Note: The "Iron Age" brought significant inventions too, but we are talking Copper at this meeting.

Michigan played a significant role in the mining of Copper even before European settlers arrived here. Research has shown that natives extracted copper from deposits close to the surface. Without the benefit of modern advances, natives used heat and cold to extract pieces of copper from the host rock. They would dig around an exposure of Copper and build a fire around it. Once the mass became hot enough they would "quench" it with buckets of cold water causing it to become brittle and break. Hammering away with stones did little to remove it from its host rock since it is so malleable. The first attempt at a commercial copper mine in Michigan was by Alexander Henry in 1771 but the mine failed. The mid to late 1800s saw more ventures into mining in Michigan with the Cliff and Quincy being the most notable. The Cliff mine closed in 1870 and the Quincy went on into the mid 1940s. The White Pine Mine opened in 1955 but finally closed in 1997.



Juniors will receive a really nice sample of raw copper in matrix, which was found in the debris pile of an abandoned mine in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Handling the rocks will give kids experience in the weight, sharpness and bendability of copper. We'll talk about how the deposits formed initially. The presentation will include present day objects that are primarily copper. Thank you to Julia Sherwood and Gary Katt for the prized take-homes.

One (or a few) more things...

... *From your Social Coordinator*

Spring Banquet Committee

I am in need of several more volunteers to help with food set up and decoration planning and execution for this years spring banquet on **April 27**. If you are willing, please contact me at

Michlyngal@gmail.com

Shortly after our next general meeting I will email all interested members and set a date and place for our first planning meeting.

Thanks!

~ Michelle

Fun at the Westovers - from Sandra Gordon & Family

What a rock'n day . In January we had the opportunity to spend a morning with Rance and Anne Westover . The whole family, even our Spanish exchange student, had the opportunity to shape and polish some Michigan petoskey and pudding stone's. This day brought me so much joy and flashbacks if childhood memories! Rance walked us through the whole process step by step. The coffee and room were as warm as their smiles !! Thank you for the memories !!



Hear Ye - Hear Ye

SAVE THE DATE

Tulip City's Annual show runs from September 16-18, and this year we need ALL HANDS ON DECK. We will need many people to help set up on Wednesday night (the 14th), and for tear down on Sunday night, September 18 at 5:00. So...

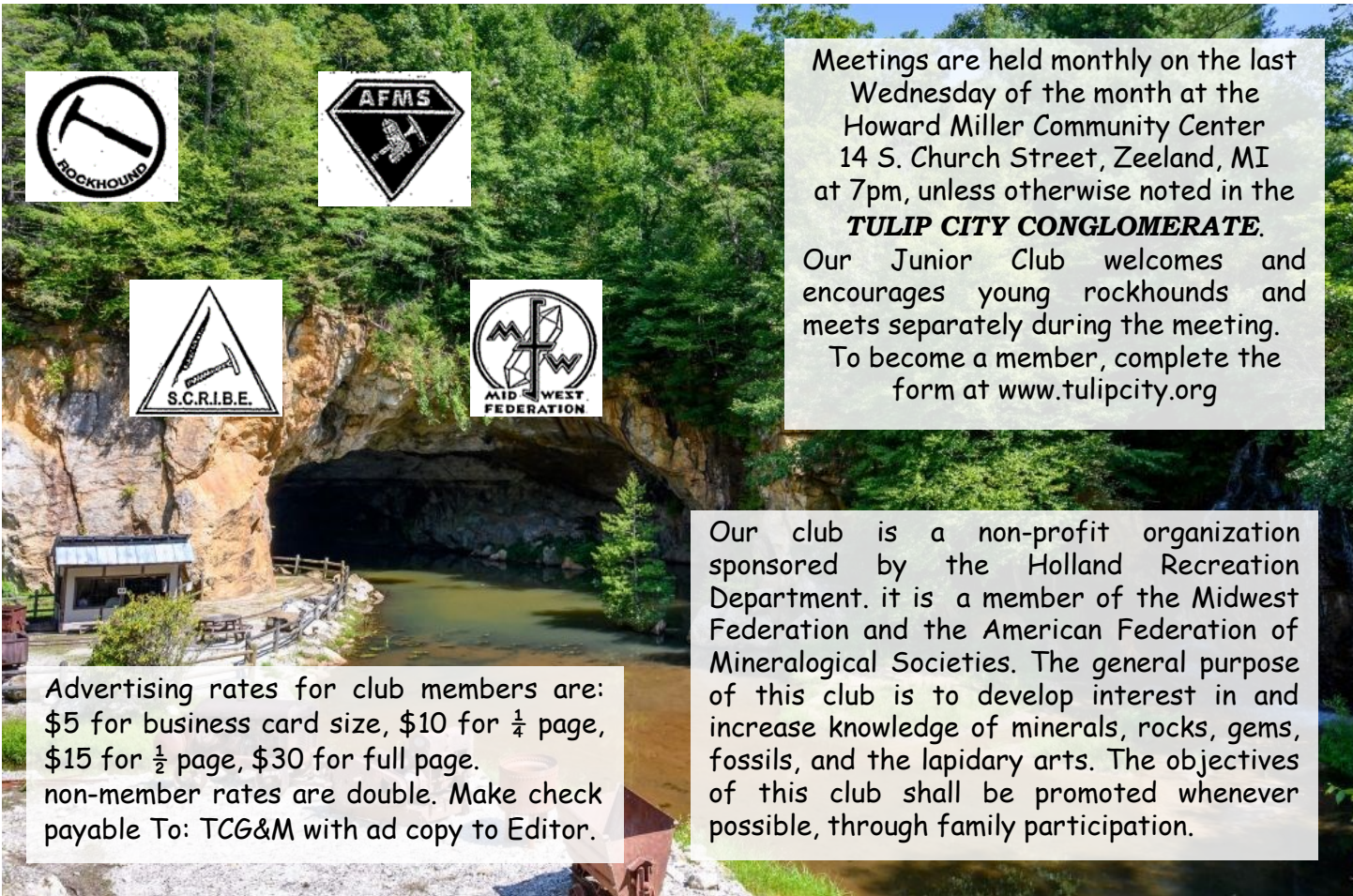
Put it in your Phone

Tell your Mother (she will remind you, and want to come)

Write it on your Wall Calander

Tell all your friends you will be at the soccer stop in Holland that weekend and they should visit you there

The Annual show is a lot of fun, and you won't want to miss it!!!



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 otherwise noted in the **TULIP CITY CONGLOMERATE**. Our Junior Club welcomes and encourages young rockhounds and meets separately during the meeting. To become a member, complete the form at www.tulipcity.org

Advertising rates for club members are: \$5 for business card size, \$10 for 1/4 page, \$15 for 1/2 page, \$30 for full page. non-member rates are double. Make check payable To: TCG&M with ad copy to Editor.

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.

Tulip City Conglomerate
 Jon Mull, Editor
 14325 Essenburg Dr
 Holland, MI 49424

