



Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club Conglomerate

Monthly Newsletter of the TCG&MC
Website: www.Tulipcity.org
PO Box 2082, Holland, Michigan 49422

February 2026
Volume 59 | Edition 2

From the President

I hope this Conglomerate finds every one well and I'm sure you are all itching to get out and do some collecting.

Please if you are the type to head out early to be the first ones on the beach, keep your safety in mind. Ice is very unstable on the lakeshore. It can break at any time, it can be thrown upon the shoreline. So please remember while we are out trying to find that first agate, lightning stone, petoskey or whatever you desire, safety comes first. If it doesn't feel safe it probably isn't!

March is just around the corner and we will be looking to have a season kickoff event along the lake shore! We will watch the weather and comb the beaches for a nice rocky spot, the beaches change so much each year, once we identify a great spot we will set the time and place!

The new board has already had our first 2 meetings. We are off to a good start and will have some exciting news to share coming soon!

Come on spring!!

– Justin Moore, President

CLUB MEETING

Next General Meeting
Wednesday
Feb. 25
7pm

Howard Miller Public Library | Zeeland

MEMBERSHIP

**2026 Membership
Renewals Are Due!**

Did you renew your membership for 2026? Please see Tanya if you have questions about membership.

– Tanya McDonald, Membership

FEBRUARY RAFFLE

Come and visit Patsy this month in the raffle corner to discover specimens from both peninsulas of Michigan and more that you could add to your collection!





Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club Conglomerate

February Is Agate Month

Janette O'Shaughnessy will be sharing a presentation at our February meeting focused on two stunning and highly collectible agate varieties: Lake Superior Agates and Mexican Agates.

In this presentation, we'll explore what makes Lake Superior Agates so iconic – from their rich iron-stained reds and oranges to the geological story behind their formation in ancient basalt flows.

We'll also travel south to discover the vibrant beauty of Mexican agates, known for their striking banding, fortification patterns, and fiery translucence.

We'll compare formation environments, identifying characteristics, and what to look for when collecting or purchasing each type.

Whether you're a seasoned collector or just getting started, this will be a fun and informative look at two beloved agate families.

✨ **Be sure to bring a few of your favorite agates for show and tell – we'd love to see what treasures are in your collection!**

– Janette O'Shaughnessy, Newsletter Editor

2026 BOARD

President:
Justin Moore

Vice President:
Open

Treasurer:
Kurt Brinks

Immediate Past President:
Jodi Miller

Secretary:
Jordan Zych

Conglomerate Editor:
Janette O'Shaughnessy

Field Trip Coordinator:
Jon Mull

Historian:
Rhonda Gehringer

Junior Club Coordinator:
Megan Moore

Liaison:
Christine Silich

Membership Coordinator:
Tanya McDonald

Show Chairperson:
Jodi Miller

Webmaster:
Steve Miller

Social Coordinator:
Michelle Lanting

Directors at Large:
Amy Dickinson
Teresa DeMol



Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club Conglomerate

Field Trips

For March we have an exclusive opportunity to visit Studio JSD in Grand Haven. They will be open especially for us on Sunday, March 1 from 1 to 4pm. The owner, Julie, will introduce us to her workshop space and tell us all about their class offerings. The studio also makes a trip to Tuscon each year to replace their inventory of jewelry findings and rough material, so those will be for sale as well. This is an open house, so no sign up is required. Their address is 219 N. 7th St. Suite 4, Grand Haven, MI 49417.

April is Spring break! Some of you have already expressed interest in our trip to New Mexico. It will encompass **April 3 to 12**. We will be based in Deming, NM and plan to collect from Sunday to Thursday at various sites nearby. More info to follow this month. Here is the link to express interest. <https://forms.gle/BWjrKcvXh5hu3zPU7>

On Saturday, May 9, we will finally have a chance to visit the Sylvania Minerals Quarry in Rockwood, MI (near Detroit). This quarry produces beautiful specimens of mostly Celestite and Calcite, with other scattered rarities. A sign up sheet for the May quarry trip will be available at the March meeting.

Memorial Day Weekend will most likely be a trip back to Missouri to explore Hawks Bluff and Bluff view, as well as Haunted Ridge. Plan for a long weekend!

– Jon Mull, Field Trip Coordinator

Email Jon at solace247@gmail.com with questions or to join one of the field trips

MARCH 1

Exclusive Open House

1-4pm
Studio JSD
219 N. 7th St., Suite 4
Grand Haven, MI 49417

APRIL 3-12

New Mexico

We will stay in Deming, New Mexico, and collect from various sites in the area Sunday through Thursday.

MAY 9





Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club Conglomerate

For The Juniors

Get ready to learn and talk about SHARKS!

We're going to the beach (during our meeting, without leaving the building)!

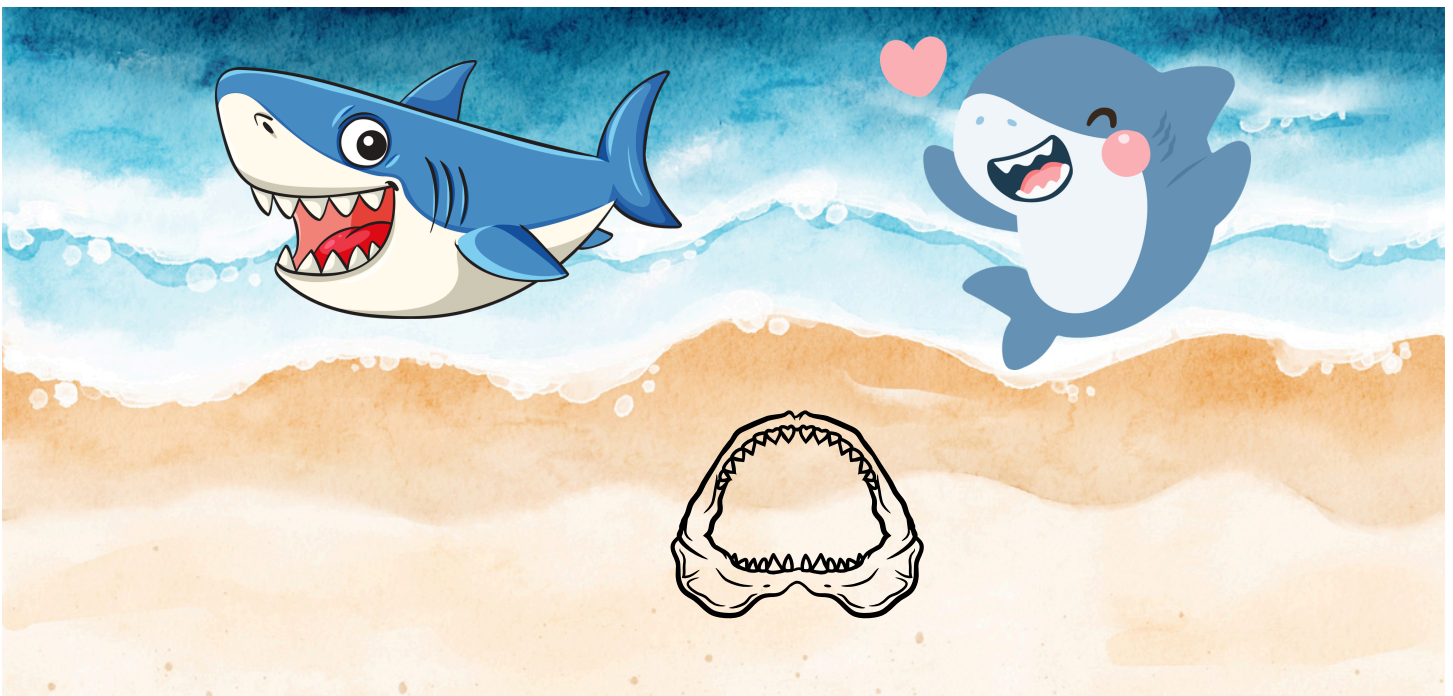
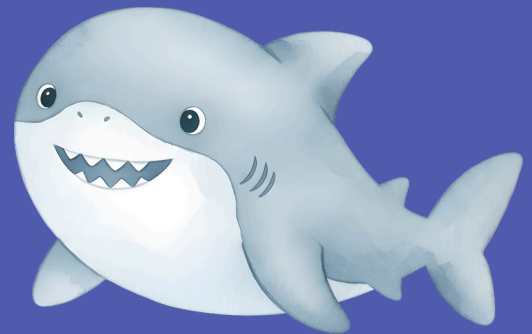
No swimsuits or flip flops required and shark repellent will be provided.

Kurt Brinks is going to share some very cool information about shark teeth fossils, and show us many of his amazing specimens.

Then you will have the opportunity to hunt for your own shark teeth, on your own beach, and take it all home with you.

- Megan Moore, Junior Club Coordinator

SHARK TEETH





Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club Conglomerate

Scholarships Deadline: March 30, 2026

Tulip City GMC General Membership Lapidary Scholarships

Purpose:

To provide scholarships for members to enhance their lapidary or stone related skills. Scholarships can be used for a lapidary class, instruction (on-line or in-person), or any stone/rock/gem related activity. (*Not for fieldtrips or travel)

Scholarships Available:

Three members will be selected annually. One \$400, and two \$200 scholarships will be awarded.

Eligibility:

Any member may apply for either the \$400 and/or a \$200 scholarship if they meet the following criteria:

1. Must have been a member of the TCGMC for at least two years before applying.
2. Must have worked at the September show for one of the last two years before applying.
3. Must present to the membership what was learned during the scholarship activity
4. Must pay for the activity and then be reimbursed the cost, up to the amount awarded.
5. May take multiple classes with a cost up to the amount of the awarded scholarship, but must present to the membership for each activity/class.
6. Must be used in time to present before March 2027 and is not transferable.
7. Recipients cannot receive scholarships two years in a row.
8. If a Junior Club Member is the recipient, a parent may receive part of the amount to cover their participation.

Process:

1. Applications (form completely filled out) will be accepted until **March 30, 2026**.
2. Applications will be reviewed by a three member committee for eligibility and then scholarships will be drawn randomly at the Scholarship Banquet in April. The \$400 scholarship will be selected first so that all others can be entered into the \$200 scholarships.

Scholarship Application: [Click Here To Fill Out The Form Digitally](#)



Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club

TCGMC Scholarship Application

Applicant Details

Applicant Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Eligibility Questions

Question #1: Have you been a member of TCGMC for at least two years?

Applicant Answer: _____

Question #2: Have you worked at the TCGMC September show at least once in the last two years?

Applicant Answer: _____

Question #3: Do you agree to give a presentation to the general membership regarding what skill(s) you learned?

Applicant Answer: _____

Criteria Certification (to be filled out by Scholarship Committee)

Application received by due date: Yes / No

Applicant has been a member for TCGMC for at least two years: Yes / No

(Membership Coordinator certified)

Applicant worked at least one of the last two years at the TCGMC September show: Yes / No

(Show Chairperson certified)

Applicant understands they must present at a general meeting the skill or information they received from utilizing the scholarship: Yes / No (Committee member certified)

Applicant meets all four requirements and can be placed into the scholarship drawing: Yes / No



Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club Conglomerate

Upcoming Rock Shows

ROAMIN Club Rock Auction: 03/07/2026 - 03/08/2026

Start Date: 03/07/2026
End Date: 03/08/2026
Hours: Sat 11 - 6 Sun 12 - 6
Venue: Schoolcraft College's Vistatech Center
Address: 18600 Haggerty Rd
Livonia, MI 48152
Website: <https://roaminrockclub.weebly.com/>

Michigan Gem and Mineral Society Show: 03/20/2026 - 03/22/2026

Start Date: 03/20/2026
End Date: 03/22/2026
Hours: Fri 10:00-7:00 Sat 10:00-6:00 Sun 11:00-5:00
Venue: Keeley Park
Address: 200 W Ganson St., Keeley Park, Jackson, MI 49202
Website: mgmsrockclub.com/index.html

Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club: 04/09/2026 - 04/11/2026

Start Date: 04/09/2026
End Date: 04/11/2026
Hours: Thurs 9:30-9:00 Fri 9:30-9:00 Sat 9:30-7:00
Venue: Rogers Plaza Town Center
Address: 972 28th Street SW, Wyoming, MI 49509
Website: indianmoundsrockclub.com



Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club Conglomerate

New 2B4 Workshop Feb. 25 - before the club meeting Learn How to Make Gem Trees

There will be a gem tree making workshop from 5:00-7:00 ahead of the Club's February 25 General Meeting at Zeeland's Howard Miller Library.

The workshop is open to Club members only; a sign-up page will be available at the January 28 General Meeting with a limit of 12 participants.

Participants will learn how to **craft gem trees** using 2 slightly different techniques and will go home with two gem trees of their own. There is a \$5 / person fee to cover the cost of materials, payable to the Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club.

2026 Show September 18, 19, 20

Mark Your Calendars Now!

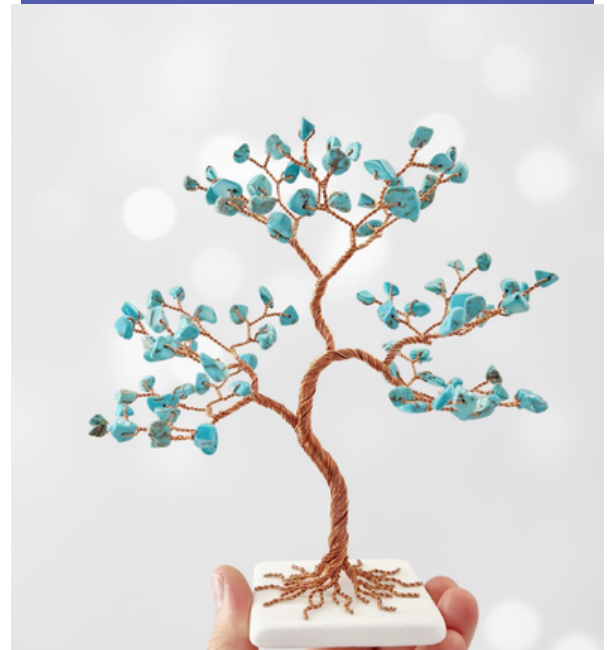
This year is the 56th Annual Tulip City Gem and Mineral Show.

There will be professional dealers, minerals, exhibits and specimens, jewelry, gems, rocks, beads, club member sales, artisan market, marketplace, kid's games, demonstrations, fossils, petoskey stones, and geode cracking.

The location this year is at the Holland Charter Township Community Center.

12343 James St, Holland, MI 49424.

NEW WORKSHOP



2026 SHOW

