



Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club **Conglomerate**

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

June 2020

Volume 53, Edition 6

We're Back in Business

It's been long enough, so we have decided to hold the June's General Meeting outside at 6:30 p.m. on June 24th at the West Side County Park. There will be a brief business meeting to begin the evening and then our annual club Silent Auction and socializing to follow. This is an outstanding opportunity for our members to bring in rocks/minerals to sell, and people will go around and bid on what they like. *NOTE: There will be NO refreshments provided, so please Bring-Your-Own -Beverage and a chair !*

WE will place the tables to maintain social distancing and the club will provide hand sanitizer. You will be responsible for your own PPE (masks, gloves, etc.). You are welcomed to donate items to the Club Table; where all proceeds will go to the club. A special Junior Table will be included, where prices are lower, but only members 17 years old and under can bid.

So start cleaning out those buckets of the items not in the your showcase. Gather items that are collectible dust to sell and remember to fill out an Auction Form for each item. You may also wish to visit our Facebook page for pictures of some items you will find on the Club Table. The Auction slips to-be used for material you wish to sell are provided on the last page and be copied as needed. These also can be found and printed from the our club website (found at the bottom of www.tulipcity.org/club-show.html). Direct any questions to Shari Luttkhuizen.



Due to the current conditions of the pandemic, we are disappointed to inform our members & friends that the 2020 Annual Show has been

CANCELED

**Please keep your eyes open for a Tailgate to be held on Sept. 19th !
Details will be coming in the July.**

Keep Current with the club: www.tulipcity.org or www.facebook.com/tulipcityclub/



2020 TCG&M Board

President - Michael B. Larson
mblarson300@yahoo.com

Vice President - Shari Luttkhuizen
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Secretary - Brenda Olson
brendaolson01@gmail.com

Treasurer - Kurt Brinks
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Field Trip Coordinator - Jon Mull
solace247@yahoo.com

Field Trip Coordinator - Bob Sinke
bobsinke@comcast.net

Historian - Betty Hoekstra
kbhoek@att.net

Jr. Club Coord. - Rick Smith
Hollandrsmith@gmail.com

Jr. Club Coord. - Linda Winkelmann
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Liaison - Rhonda Gehringer
rgehringer@homeoftheshamrocks.org

Membership - Christine Silich
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Newsletter Ed. - < open >

Social Media Coord. - Julia Sherwood
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Show Coord. - Sue Goedert
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Social Coord. - Linda Plumert
rlplumert@gmail.com

Dir. at Large - Mary Johnson
maryjohnson299@gmail.com

Dir. at Large - Randy Wake
rgwake@charter.net

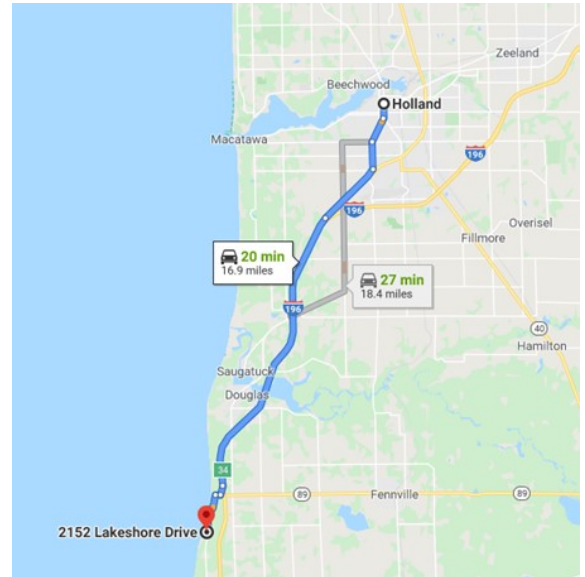
Past President - C.H. Falstad
cfalstad@ameritech.net

Directions to June General Meeting

Follow I-196 S to 124th Ave. Take exit 34 from I-196 S. 10 min (10.6 mi)

Drive to 70th St/Adams Rd/Lakeshore Dr in Ganges Township (You will drive past Pier Cove). 4 min (1.6 mi)

West Side County Park is located on the right.



FIELD TRIP REPORT

By Jon Mull

Antsy does not even begin to describe how I have been feeling about no field trips this spring. My kids and I finally decided to get out of town. On Wednesday, June 10 we managed to get on the road about 9:30 and headed for the Bloomington area of Indiana. Making our way across the Monroe reservoir we stopped at Little Salt Creek off Henderson Road. Within two minutes of checking the water level, Brenda and Vern Nienhuis joined us for the hunt. It was easy walking the creek bed as the water was down considerably and as usual, there were plenty of geodes. I put most of my attention on the crinoid stems since they are so well cleaned and bleached by the creek. Angie was determined to find another (Continued on Page 6)



... the Continuing stories from Board Members in Quarantine !

We have spent much of the stay-at-home time sorting fossils and rocks. We have used our air jack to prepare a few gastropods from Alpena. We also experimented with the rock saw we bought at the club auction last year to cut open fifty small Dugway geodes. Interesting, after polishing the face of each geode half, we noticed that almost all the geodes fluoresce different shades of green. We have also begun cutting a nautilus fossil out of a rock from the Cheyenne River in Wasta, South Dakota. We have more final preparation to do on the nautilus, however Wasta is a great fossil, petrified wood and prairie agate location passed onto us by Bob and Julia Sherwood. Club connections are a great way to find new adventures.

Marcus just returned from his four-day backpack trip in the UP. He convinced his college friend and hiking partner Neal that a late-night adventure for fluorescent stones would be good extension to their trip. They were successful in finding yooperlites at night and a few superior agates during the day. Marcus also dusted off his metal detector from late elementary school and found a few pieces of cooper in tailings piles. Finding interesting specimens is addicting, Marcus may make Neal into a rockhound.

- Marcus and Kurt Brinks

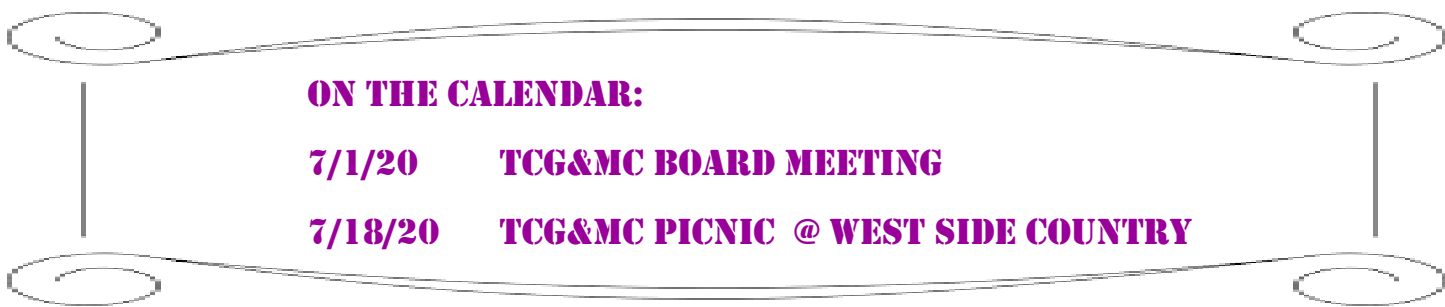


To while away my time spent at home during the COVID 19 pandemic, I have had a chance to dedicate more hours adding to and refining the information on the TCG&MC Website. I truly welcome any additional club related photos as well as stories of personal field trips.



I also continued bagging specimens for Game Prizes [1350], free rocks to hand out at the Ticket Table [607] and more free rocks to pass out at HerrickFest [387]. Now that HerrickFest and, sorrowfully, our 2020 annual SHOW, have been cancelled – I'm way ahead in getting ready for the exciting events of **2021**. We are optimistically counting on having received by early Spring, the vaccine that will **not** allow **ANY** of us to contract this horrible new virus.

- Julia Sherwood



ON THE CALENDAR:

7/1/20 TCG&MC BOARD MEETING

7/18/20 TCG&MC PICNIC @ WEST SIDE COUNTRY

Chet Smith and Our History Together

I met Chet in the winter of 1953-1954. Chet was a recent graduate of Purdue University and had taken an Electrical Engineering job with the recently formed Hermatic Motor Department of the General Electric Company in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and I had a similar degree from the University of Colorado and joined HMD a month or two later. Chet and I, along with his wife, Bette and my wife Marie, formed a friendship that has lasted the rest of our lives.

In 1955, GE opened the Hermatic Motor plant and offices in Holland, Michigan. As luck would have it, we bought houses around the corner from one another in Holland Heights with about three houses between us. The property behind us was vacant so Bette and Marie made very frequent trips cutting through the back to see one another, as our friendships continued to grow.

After a few years, Chet took a new job with GE as a Production Engineer and moved to work in Tiffin, Ohio. He later took a position with the company as an Application Engineer with the responsibilities of our GE refrigerator and air conditioner departments in the Appliance Park at Louisville, KY, and the central air conditioner business at Tyler, TX. When certain problems arose that involved the hermetic motor, its design, or unique characteristics I sometimes got to travel to these locations.

While he was away from Holland (two or three years I think) the rock club formed with Joe Moran as President, Bob Dick as V.P., Marie Zigler as Secretary, and myself as Treasurer. Some of the officers were listed as Mr. & Mrs. When Bob Sherwood joined he said that it was not proper to have two people (couples) holding the same office, each having a vote. So to keep everybody happy, we changed it. Chet returned about a year later and held many positions in the club.

Chet held the job of Field Trip Chair for several years. Bette, by that time, had taken over the secretary's job from Marie. Bette did a fine job of contacting other club editors to get information to help Chet set up the long wonderful field trips the club took during the time he was Chair. Many of the club members had trailers, motor homes or vans adapted to sleep in as overnight accommodations. Chet and Bette at first had a small camping trailer, then a sleeping cap for their pick-up, then a van and finally after retirement from GE, a motor home. He had the van when we took the long trips he led to Nova Scotia, Washington State, South Dakota, Wyoming and many shorter field trips. Oregon was also a separate trip.

These long trips were not just driving straight through. Chet and Bette planned for many sight-seeing, collecting, museum stops, meeting with other clubs' members along the way. Evenings were usually in more rustic campgrounds where we could camp together, have a fire and chat or tell stories as we sat around in a comfortable circle of chairs until bed-time. Chet always did a super job of planning with needed guides and maps furnished by the the local clubs they contacted.

Throughout the years in Holland, until 1985, when Chet and I were moved to Fort Wayne with GE, we and the Smiths, made many shorter trips together that weren't club sponsored.



Collecting Thunder Bay Amethyst Mine (1973)

One year, Chet and Bette met us in North or South Dakota where we hunted Cretaceous fossils in both states. In North Dakota, Chet and Bette found a beautiful red colored shell covered ammonite called a Sphenodiscus in a dirt road that the road grader had exposed. It was about 1 ½ to 2 feet in diameter. It was the best find of the trip. What fun we had!

When Smith's lived in Zeeland, Michigan, Chet and other rock club members built a storage building on this property that served the club for many years. He was active in building the De Zwaan scale model replica of the windmill in Holland, cutting many of the rocks that were used.

When Chet retired, they moved back to Holland where two of their four children lived. He also bought a motor home which they took West to rock hunt and sell rocks at Quartzsite, AZ, Deming, NM and other shows along the way. In the month-long Quartzsite Show, Chet, Bette, Marie and I along with Joe Moran and his daughter, Nancy Moran Johnson and other rockhound friends, got outdoor spaces adjacent to one another. There we sold rocks and had evening pot-lucks together. That worked out well, as we could watch each other's material when needed and also enjoy each other's company during slow times. Some of us could also go shopping or maybe do a little rock hunting during or after the month-long show was over.

Throughout the years Chet and Bette were the couple taking home the biggest load. In fact, when GE moved us to Fort Wayne in 1985, it required two semi-trucks to carry all their rocks and equipment along with the normal household stuff. Many of us shared a truck. I think we took a truck by ourselves. I heard the Smith's were the talk of the moving truck industry!

Juniors - Come & Play with Friends

Junior families - We hope that you'll join the Club's Outing at West Side County Park. As you have read earlier, we are committed to safety for all. That said... Kids can enjoy a [Scavenger Hunt starting at 6:30 pm](#) as others set-up their Silent Auction Tables. Specimens (minerals & fossils) will be hidden across the Park.



Kids - Wear shorts with pockets or bring a sturdy bag to hold your fun finds! There will be a Treasure Map, managed by Mike/Linda/Rick/Robin, who will also give clues for the rocks, minerals and fossils that are not easily discovered during the first rush. Afterwards find items to add to your collection from the Juniors Silent Auction.

Hope to SEE many of you!! It'll be fun outside enjoying the sun and talking about our hobbies.



Rock&Gem

Orbicular Bloodstone Jasper



www.rockngem.com/orbicular-bloodstone-jasper/



(Continued from Page 2)

geodized crinoid calyx but she and Jack ended up spending most of their time catching crayfish. We did find a couple of geodized horn corals and a couple of other "organically" shaped geodes. It was worth the stop and the weather was beautiful.



We continued down to Lawrenceburg for the night. At 8 am Thursday morning we met up with the Nienhuises and made our way just a couple miles to our first stop, a road cut on highway 48 just leaving Lawrenceburg. The fossils were quite thick there and I selected a particularly large plate of bryozoans to take home. The spot was new to me so I wasn't sure what, or where to look, but I am sure I will need to return to this spot in the future with more time. Just before leaving the area I did find a nice gastropod that I might need to talk to Mr. Brinks about revealing a bit more.

Brenda and Vern moved on to the St. Leon Site and mentioned that a storm had hit home and might require them to head out earlier to deal with power outages. By the time the kids and I made it to St. Leon, they had moved on. We spent about an hour or so at the top of the third tier hoping to find a trilobite. We found pieces but no full bugs. Plenty of brachiopods were collected including a couple that were geodized and already broken open. Quite beautiful. Shortly after arriving, we were joined by Mike Larson and Robin Knapp. Since the site is so large, we were fairly spread out but everyone came away with some nice specimens. No full bugs at all though! They were hiding for certain.

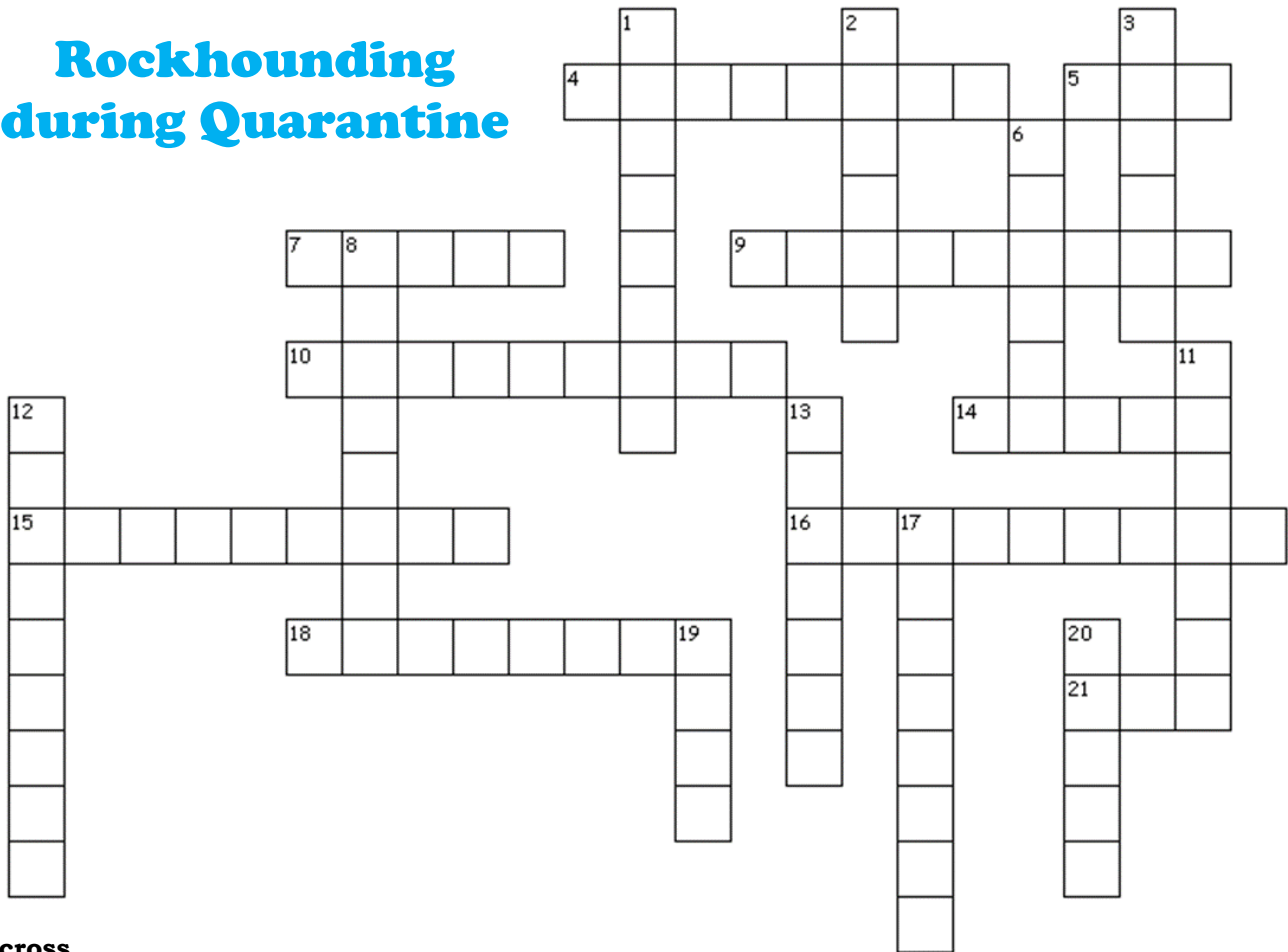


Leaving Mike & Robin on the hill, the kids and I moved on to a small cut on the south side of Fairfield causeway road. We found lots of small brachiopods and a few trilobite pieces as well but not much more. I filled one more quart sized bag at the last site just south of Richmond on Hwy 27. Brenda and Vern had headed home after a brief stop at the Brookville site. Mike and Robin stayed another day to collect at St. Leon, Richmond, and numerous roadcuts along Route Ky 9 in northern Kentucky.

All in all, it was a great day and very relaxing to get on the road again. The kids and I are heading out again to Keokuk leaving on Wednesday June 17. I sent an email to anyone who had signed up for a field trip earlier this year. Hope you all find ways to get out and rock! Peace!



Rockhounding during Quarantine



Across

4. A craftsperson who cuts and polishes gemstones.
5. A cavity in rock, often lined with crystals.
7. A type of microcrystalline quartz called chalcedony or cryptocrystalline quartz
9. Sand fused by lightning.
10. Sedimentary rock mostly composed of sand-sized quartz grains.
14. A rock containing a crystal-lined cavity; the crystals grow toward the center.
15. Very coarse-grained igneous rock similar to granite but characterized by very large mineral crystals
16. Rockerhounder slang for a rock that isn't worth carrying back home.
18. The most common, rock-forming minerals and constitute 60 percent of the earth's crust

Down

1. A rock that has been cut in such a manner that its top has a smooth domed surface with no facets.
2. An igneous rock. The most common type of volcanic rock,
3. The most common mineral on the face of the earth.
6. Fool's Gold
8. A mineral made entirely of the element of carbon.
11. Glassy rock formed by a meteorite impact.
12. Fossilized dung
13. The main mineral in limestone and chalk.
17. A pale purple to violet variety of crystalline quartz.
19. Divided into three groups: igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic.
20. A small hand-held lens.



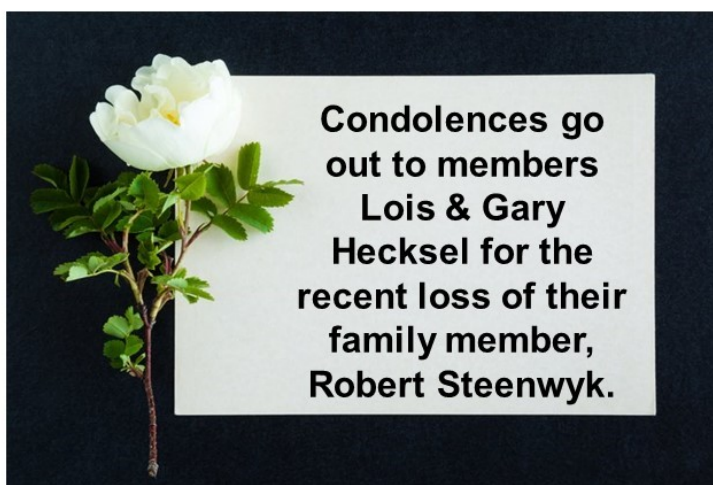
There is a current opening for a Newsletter Editor. Responsibilities include the creation of a monthly newsletter, attendance of club meetings, and a point of communications for the club.

Anyone interested in the position or in assisting in the duties, please speak with Michael B. Larson or Shari Luttikhuisen.

Open Position



Rockhound collecting P-Stones ...





Sedimentary rocks are the most common rocks on Earth. They form at or near the Earth's surface. Sedimentary rock is formed in layers which were laid down one by one on top of another. Some of the layers are thin, some are thick. Layers are made by deposition of sediment, organic matter, and chemical precipitates. Deposition is followed by squeezing of sediment under its own weight, and cementation.

The approximate amounts of different kinds of sedimentary rock are:

1. Shale (including mudstone, and siltstone): 60%
2. Sandstones 20%.
3. Carbonate rocks (limestone and dolomite): 15%.
4. All others: 5%.

Only sedimentary rocks have fossils.

Did you Know?

<p>2020</p> 	<p>TCG&MC Silent Club Auction</p> <p>Item/Specimen:</p>		<p>2020</p> 	<p>TCG&MC Silent Club Auction</p> <p>Item/Specimen:</p>																																											
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<p style="text-align: center;">Adult Sale Table</p> <p>Minimum Bid Min Bid Increase</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$0.25</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Junior Sale Table</p> <p>Minimum Bid Min Bid Increase</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$0.10</p>																																													
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