



THE TULIP CITY CONGLOMERATE



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

Website: www.Tulipcity.org

October 2019

Volume 52, Edition 8

Nov 2-3, 2019

Midland, MI, Sturtevant, WI
Annual Shows

Nov 6, 2019 Board Meeting HMCC 7pm

Nov 9, 2019
Quincy, IL
Annual Show

Nov 9-10, 2019
Freeport, IL
Annual Show

November 20th General Meeting HMCC, 7pm

Nov 22-24, 2019
St. Louis, MO
Annual Show

Nov 22-24, 2019
Crystal, MN
Annual Shows

Nov 22-24, 2019
Madison, WI
Annual Show

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October 30, 2019, 7:00 pm Howard Miller Community Center

This month we welcome our new members (who signed up at the Show) to their first meeting. Our talk is titled : “**Preparing for Keokuk**”, presented by Mike Larson.

Finding a geode is like receiving a present... you never know what you will get until it is opened.

Our fearless Field trip coordinator, Julia Sherwood, has organized a field trip to Keokuk to look for geodes on the weekend after the general meeting. Over 20 people signed up, and there is room for more. Come and learn about geodes, and specifically, Keokuk geodes. Bring your curiosity, and lots of questions.

Attention All rockhounds who have been to the Alpena Quarry for fossils. There will be a brief 10 minute talk, before the main geode talk, about “tips to prep fossils.” (Next month at the general meeting we will have a “specimen of the month” contest with prepped fossils).

This Month our **Specimen of the Month** contest is Geodes. But... they must be ones that you have cracked yourself. In other words, you didn't buy it already knowing what the insides were, you found it or purchased it, then it was opened. Let's see what variety of geodes we can bring in! As always, bring your geode to the table labeled “Specimen of the Month”, write down the location it came from, but do not put down your name. Everyone will vote on their favorite over the break, and the winner will receive a prize.

Welcome, New Members!

We welcome all the new members who have recently joined the Club. We hope to see you at the General Meetings! Welcome, Lennis, Baggech & Aker Riak, Yvonne & David Boon, Scott & Vicki Brovont, Lisa & Corey Carpenter, Jennifer & Richard Case, David & Christine Collet, Ceresta Collins, Judy Drennan, Sue Gebert, Megan Geurink, George Harwood-Murray, Jaclyn Hulst, Jason Hunter, Bonnie Greenberg Jansma, Deborah Jedynak, Bentley & Anne Kollen, Michelle Lanting, Nikki Ly, Steve Maier, Susan & Kevin McMains, Keelan Nelson, Stacey & Justin Nelson, Brenda & Doug Olson, Cas & Karen Orzechowski, Sara & Tim Pokorski, Tom & Kelli Rozema, Andres & Stacy Sampedro, Leslie Sestric, Elizabeth Smith, and Sara & Tim Thompson.

Club Calendar 2019-2020

Dec 4 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Dec 18 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Dec 31 – 2020 Club Dues Deadline!
 Jan 15 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Jan 29 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Feb 12 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Feb 26 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Mar 11 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Mar 25 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Apr 15 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Apr 22 (Wed) – Show Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Apr 29 (Wed) – Banquet! 6p, HMCC
 May 13 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 May 27 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Jun 10 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Jun 17 (Wed) – Show Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Jun 24 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Jan 15 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Jan 29 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Jul 18 (Sat) – Picnic!
 Aug 12 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Aug 19 (Wed) – Show Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Aug 26 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 September - 51st Annual Show, TBA
 Oct 14 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Oct 21 (Wed) – Show Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Oct 28 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Nov 4 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Nov 18 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Dec 2 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC
 Dec 16 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC

HMCC = Howard Miller Community Center, 14 S Church St. Zeeland, MI

Bold listings are Club events. *Italic listings* are non-Club events.

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

Check out the Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/tulipcityclub/>

2019 Officers and Board of Directors

President	C.H. Falstad	cfalstad@ameritech.net
Vice President	Shari Luttkhuizen	sluttikh@oaisd.org
Secretary	Open	
Treasurer	Kurt Brinks	kbrinks@hollandpublicschools.org
Fld Trip Coord.	Julia Sherwood	bobandjulia@accn.org
Historian	Betty Hoekstra	kbhoek@att.net
Jr. Club Coord.	Rick Smith	Hollandrsmith@gmail.com
Jr. Club Coord.	Linda Winkelman	lindawinkelman@att.net
Liaison	Rhonda Gehringer	rgehringer@homeoftheshamrocks.org
Membership	Christine Silich	CSDS77@icloud.com
Newsletter Ed.	Rudy Silich	tulipcitygemnews@charter.net
Show Coord	Sue Goedert	sonbeams2000@yahoo.com
Social Coord.	Linda Plumert	rplumert@gmail.com
Dir. at Large	Tim Brandt	timwbrandt@gmail.com
Dir. at Large	Amy Dickinson	adickins@oaisd.org
Past President	-Bob Sherwood	bobandjulia@accn.org

For 2019, there are fifteen (15) positions, which have one vote each. There are currently (15) persons on the Board (two persons share one position). One position is open.

Show Corner – Thanks!

Thank you to all of you who helped to make this our best show ever! It was a great effort by so many of you. While I'm sure the weather helped, it seems that more people found us this year.

Thanks again!
Sue Goedert

Show Signs

Thank you for posting Show Road Signs!! Please return them at the Oct 30th Meeting!



Petoskey stone (M. Larson)



Mike Larson living near the edge.

FIELD TRIPS

Geode Collecting Trip Keokuk, Iowa - November 1 – 3, 2019 by Julia Sherwood

The final Field Trip of the season is planned for this first weekend of November. We have asked the weather person for an “Indian Summer” weekend. The plans are to drive the 400+ miles (from Holland) on Friday. Remember that we gain an hour traveling west. We will spend Saturday collecting at the 2 places where arrangements have been made for our group. If you wish to collect on your own – either on Friday when you arrive in Keokuk or on Sunday before you leave for home, ask for directions. Travel home on Sunday.

Signups for this trip began at the Show. If you would like to add your name, please notify me at bobandjulia@accn.org ASAP and plan to be at the General Meeting of the Club on October 30 at the Howard Miller Community Center.

Alpena Fossil Trip Wrapup, September 2019 by Julia Sherwood

A hardy group of 16 members met under overcast skies with temps in the 60's at the LafargeHolcim parking lot around 8 am on Saturday, September 28. We were pleased that everyone on the back-up list had a chance to make the trip due to the misfortunes of some of the original 20 on the signup. Whereas on past trips we were allowed to drive personal vehicles into the depths of the quarry, a recent company policy change requires a bus to take groups down. The usual 'bus' provided by the company was pulled for maintenance, but Quarry Manager, Dylan Terry made arrangements with another local firm and replaced it with a smaller 10 passenger van. We piled our buckets and tools in the 3 x 10 x 10 space in the rear while the bodies squeezed and stacked up on seats, aisles and entry well. It is a wonderful quality of every rockhound I've ever met that a cheerfulness and make-do attitude prevails – jokes not grumbles! This expense by Lafarge, to procure a bus, was very much appreciated.

Down in the quarry, a lengthy 8'-10' high tailings berm of mixed material held a wealth of Devonian fossilized material for us all to claw through. From brachiopods of several types to solitary horn coral to colony corals of various kinds – the variety of possibilities was huge. As we collected, some show & tell happened, but most everyone kept searching and digging rather than sharing their finds. Hopefully the best of the best can be shared even more widely at the October 30 General Meeting. Around 12:30 the word went out to begin gathering up tools, pack up specimens and get ready to depart. By about 1:00 we were all back in the parking lot and repacking into our private vehicles. Hopefully, everyone was satisfied that the effort and time to get to Alpena was worthwhile.

Notice: Winter Is Coming by Shari Luttkhuizen

Note from Shari: Winter is fast approaching, and bad weather keeps us indoors and unable to hunt for rocks for months. I am considering arranging some workshops to help us beat the winter blah's, but I need some input from TCGMC members. What do you want to know more about? It could be more indepth fossil prep, wire wrapping, rock tumbling, etc. **Let me know.** There might also be some of you who are willing to teach a class, have a particular interest to share, or even be willing to host a few people on a Saturday (heated space, preferably). Look for a sign up sheet at the general meeting, or contact Shari at sluttikh@oaisd.org.

Nominating Committee Report, 2019

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates for 2020. After reviewing the eligibility requirements for each office and the current Membership Directory, the Committee selected those who we think will do the best job in each. Each person has verbally agreed to serve if elected. Each new to the position was briefed on the responsibilities of that office and has or will receive copies of our Club Bylaws and Major Responsibilities documents.

Despite our best efforts involving numerous, coordinated interviews, we have been unable to find a nominee for the open position below. Filling this is obviously critical to the success of our club and we hope that a qualified individual will step up at the October meeting. Each Board position will be opened for additional nominations from the floor prior to the election at the November 20 General Meeting.

We submit the following:

President:	Open
Vice President:	Shari Luttkhuisen
Secretary:	Brenda Olson
Treasurer:	Kurt Brinks
Field Trip Coordinator:	Jon Mull & Bob Sinke (shared)
Historian:	Betty Hoekstra
Junior Club Coordinators:	Linda Winkelmann & Rick Smith (Robin Kreun asst.)
Liaison:	Rhonda Gehringer
Membership Coordinator:	Chris Silich
Newsletter Editor:	Rudy Silich
Show Coordinator:	Sue Goedert
Social Coordinator:	Linda Plumert
Director at Large:	Mary Johnson
Director at Large:	Randy Wake

This report will appear in the October issue of the "Conglomerate" as required by our Bylaws.

Additionally, the Committee recommends the Board search for a person to assume the Web Manager position when vacated by the Millers. It should consider amending the Club Bylaws to make it a (voting) Board position. This is essential to maintain the flow of current information via our website to the public.

Respectfully,

Bob Sherwood, Chair Bob Sinke Jon Mull

Children's Fall Festival at Hoffmaster State Park, October 5, 2019

The DNR sponsored a weekend of themed fun at Hoffmaster State Park campers with young children. On Saturday at the Activity Field, Pam Haverman and Linda Winkelmann teamed up to present Rocks, Minerals & Fossils – mostly from Michigan. Our tables were busy from 10am-2pm with many interested folks. We gave out business cards inviting visitors to join a Rock Club nearest their homes.

West Michigan MWF Mineral Study
Calcium Minerals (E-F)
by Kreigh Tomaszewski

We started our meeting reading the Governor's proclamation making October 6-12, 2019 as Mineral Week in Michigan. What better way to celebrate Mineral Week than to have a Mineral Study!

Our mineral study group is working thru the periodic table of elements in our current study sequence. Our featured element this month was Calcium, but since there are so many minerals that contain calcium we had to limit the study this month to those that start with the letters A or B.

We prepare for each meeting by going thru our collections to find relevant specimens, and do a little homework on them. Then we pass them around the table in alphabetical order. Holding and inspecting different specimens of a mineral prepares you to be able to hand identify it when confronted with it again. Rockhounds are always welcome to come learn with our group even if they have no specimens to bring.

Our first mineral around the table was the inosilicate Edenite. Then we had to backtrack when someone realized the cyclosilicate Eakerite should have been first. Then it was the sorosilicate Epidote, the tektosilicates Epistilbite and Erionite-Ca, the sulfate Ettringite, and the cyclosilicate Eudialyte, which is now a group, and untested specimens should be labeled Eudialyte Group according to MinDat.

Our next round started with the tektosilicates Faujasite-Ca and Faujasite-Na, followed by the phyllosilicate Fedorite, the oxide Fernandinite, the tektosilicates Ferrierite-Mg and Ferrierite-Na, the nesosilicate Fluorellestadite, and the halide Fluorite. Pure fluorite is transparent in visible and ultraviolet light, but impurities usually make it a colorful mineral. Optically clear fluorite lenses have low dispersion so lenses made from it exhibit less chromatic aberration, making them valuable in microscopes and telescopes. Fluorite optics are also usable in the far-ultraviolet and mid-infrared ranges, where conventional glasses are too absorbent for use.

Our last round started with the inosilicate Fluoro-edenite, followed by the oxide Fersmite, the cyclosilicate Fluor-uvite, the phosphate Fluorapatite, and a specimen of Fluorapophyllite (but we didn't know if it was the -K, -Na, or the newly approved -Cs variety). We noted the rare event of having three minerals that were next to each other on the MinDat list. We finished with the inosilicate Fluoro-richterite, the phosphate Foggite, and the inosilicate Foshagite.

We often have some time to look at some unknown you might need help on (no promises of a positive ID, but we are slowly improving at identification). This month was not an exception, and we identified several specimens people had brought in during our overtime, including one self collected specimen of Edenite from the type locality county.

The next monthly meeting of the West Michigan MWF Mineral Study Group will be held on November 12, 2019, from 7 pm to 8:30 pm, at the home of Kreigh Tomaszewski, 653 Burton St. S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49507. We will be studying minerals that contain calcium and have names beginning with the letters G or H (we try to limit our study range so we have about 25 specimens to fit them into our time frame).

We try to start (and end) on time; please do not arrive more than 20 minutes early (and everyone gets thrown out by 9). All West Michigan rockhounds are invited to attend. I hope you can join us as we learn about minerals from each other, but you are always welcome even if you can't bring any specimens. Please join us and let part of your collection get to meet some other rockhounds and be appreciated.

CLUB CAPS FOR SALE

The Club Caps that were for sale starting with the Show will be available at this next meeting in Zeeland. The price is \$14.00 each. Please bring cash or checks to pay for them. The size can be adjusted with a buckle, not Velcro.



Be the first on your block to have one!



Hexagonaria percarinata, yo.



LaFarge Quarry, rockhound, no assembly required.

I have been re-watching "Breaking Bad", and was channelling my inner Jesse Pinkman in that left photo above. Ooops! Photos courtesy of Mike Larson - Editor

Junior Rock Club Page

JUNIORS: THE OLDEST THING IN YOUR HOME!

It is highly likely that the take-home "Jacobsville Sandstone" specimen from Michigan's Upper Peninsula will be the "oldest object in your home"! It was created *almost a Billion years ago* during the Cambrian-Precambrian period (experts do not really know when). Why not? This red sandstone, mottled with white dots and stripes, includes no fossils, no igneous intrusions, no paleomagnetic data and no glacial debris! All of those indicators help geologists identify the age of rock layers. Originally, it seems, streams flowing from ancient mountains deposited feldspar-rich quartz sand. The sand piled up became cemented together to make a sedimentary rock. Very old... and Club members collected it from a beach during our August Field Trip.

How is it that such a rock is available on today's earth surface? Why didn't that rock layer metamorph into something else like marble? Wouldn't you like to know more about this pretty rock's story?!!

Rick Smith & Linda Winkelmann
(Next two pic credit to Rick Smith)



Jacobsville Sandstone



Jacobsville (from Michigan Tech website)



Red and White Jacobsville Sandstone
(from MTU)

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.

LaFarge Quarry, Alpena, MI
(photo by Mike Larson)

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.



Tulip City Conglomerate
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