



THE TULIP CITY CONGLOMERATE



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

Website: www.Tulipcity.org

January 2017

Volume 50, Edition 1

Board Meeting
7p Feb 8, 2017
HMCC, Zeeland, MI

Mineral Study Group
7p Feb 10, 2017
Grand Rapids, MI
See Page SEVEN

General Meeting
7p Feb 22, 2017
HMCC, Zeeland, MI



General Meeting January 25th, 2017
ICELAND – LAND OF FIRE AND ICE
Doug Sjoquist, Presenter

Doug and his wife Jan have been members of our Tulip City Club as well as the Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society since 2009. After joining us that year for an extended Field Trip, they decided to participate with Tulip City in even more aspects of the Club activities by joining. Jan has been on the Show Committee several times, they both attend General Meetings when they can and Doug presented a fascinating program on the naming of minerals in December of 2015.

Last July, Doug & Jan made a trip to Iceland and being who they are, made note of the geology of that wonderful island as well as the unique culture of the people. Iceland's geology is influenced by its position over the mid-Atlantic ridge and this presentation will discuss and illustrate its status as one of the most geologically active places on Earth. You will see evidence of the Iceland landscape which is rugged, remote and beautiful.



Bring Blue! Monthly Contest

Each month this year all members will be invited to participate in a rock/mineral contest. A different color scheme will occur each month. For JANUARY, please bring your single best BLUE rock or mineral. When you arrive, place the specimen on an identifying card which is provided, write the name of the specimen and where it was found. Do not include your name! Each member will be given a penny to vote for what they think is best. The most pennies will win a prize for the evening! The meeting begins at 7pm.

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Club Calendar

Feb 25 (Sat) – Ken & Liz Hoekstra Field Trip 10a – 3p

Mar 3-4 – Richmond, IN Annual Show

Mar 11-12 – West Bend, IN, Macomb, IL Annual Show

Mar 15 (Wed) - Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC (TENTATIVE)

Mar 17-19 – Jackson, MI, MGMS Show

Mar 25 (Sat) – Anne & Rance Westover Field Trip 10a – 3p

Mar 25-26 – Janesville WI, Cedar Rapids IA Show

Mar 29 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC (TENTATIVE)

Apr 1-2 – Des Plaines, IL Show

Apr 6-8 – Wyoming, MI Annual Show

Apr 12 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC (TENTATIVE)

Apr 22-23 – Eua Claire, WI, Troy OH Annual Show

Apr 26 (Wed) – Potluck Banquet, 7p, HMCC (TENTATIVE)

May 5-7 – Kalamazoo, MI Annual Show

May 6-7 – Brainerd, MN Annual Show/MWF Convention

May 6-7 Marshfield, WI Annual Show

May 17 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC (TENTATIVE)

May 20-21 – Wauwatosa, WI, St. Joseph MI Annual Show

May 31 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC (TENTATIVE)

Jun 14 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC (TENTATIVE)

Jun 23-25 – Bedford IN Annual Show

Jun 28 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC (TENTATIVE)

July 14-15 Minoequa WI Annual Show

July 15-16 – Moose Lake, MN Annual Show

Aug 8-11 Keweenaw Peninsula

Aug 11-13 Houghton MI Annual Show

Aug 12-13 Rice Lake WI Annual Show

Aug 16 (Wed) – Board Meeting, 7p, HMCC (TENTATIVE)

Aug 30 (Wed) – General Meeting, 7p, HMCC (TENTATIVE)

Sep 16-18 – Holland, MI TCG&MC Show

HMCC = Howard Miller Community Center, 14 S Church St. Zeeland, MI
Italic listings are non-Club events.

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

2017 Officers and Board of Directors

President	C.H. Falstad	cfalstad@ameritech.net
Vice President	Julia Sherwood	bobandjulia@accn.org
Secretary	Dan DeGroot	dgrootd@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Patti DeGroot	dgrootd@sbcglobal.net
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	Jackie Helder	iambeadqueen@yahoo.com
Membership	Christine Silich	CSDS77@icloud.com
Newsletter Ed.	Rudy Silich	tulipcitygemnews@charter.net
Show Coord	Sue Goedert	sonbeams2000@yahoo.com
Social Coord.	Linda Plumert	rlplumert@gmail.com
Dir. at Large	Art Edson	art@aedson.com
Dir. at Large	Theresa DeMol	t.demol@yahoo.com
Past President	-Bob Sherwood	bobandjulia@accn.org

For 2017, there are fifteen (15) positions, which have one vote each. There are currently (16) persons on the Board (two persons share one position).

Winter Basement Field Trips!

This winter will feature three "Basement Field Trips". Club members Chet Smith, Ken and Elizabeth Hoekstra, and Anne and Rance Westover will open up their homes to members and show off their collections and shops. All three homes will be open from 10a to 3p, rain, snow or shine! Please mark your calendars to share in these great experiences!

January 21 – Chet Smith 236

Park Street, Holland, MI 49424 A fabulous collection and the machinery used to make it.

February 25 – Hoekstra's 5870

Julie Street, Hudsonville, MI Large collection and machinery.

March 25 – Westover's 10875

Podunk Ave. Greenville, MI Collection in open shop.

2017 Dues are due!

Potentially Penultimate Publication

This is the last edition of the year! That means 2017 Club Membership dues are to be sent in by December 31.

If you are a new member and signed up at the Show in September, don't worry – you are good through 2017!

You must be a member in good standing to be able to participate in field trips.

If your renewal is not received by the end of February, you will be removed from the newsletter mailing list, and I (your newsletter editor) will cry.

Membership is \$15 for an individual, and \$20 for a family. The newsletter is free if you wish to receive it via email, otherwise it costs an additional \$5 to receive 11 issues per year via the postal service.

Please see Christine Silich and renew at the meeting, send in your payment by check to Christine Silich at 416 West Mae Rose Ave, Holland, MI 49424. Please make check payable to Tulip City Gem and Mineral Club.

Past President's Message

My thanks to all Club members for their support during the last two years in helping our organization continue to grow. This can be ascribed in large part to the interesting programs our Junior leaders provide to our young members; to the success of our annual shows and the efforts of Rebecca and Sue and their capable volunteer position chairs which has encouraged new members to find our wonderful hobby. I believe the Soccer Stop is actually a facility improvement and attendance will improve now that the public knows the new location. Show receipts continue to allow us to provide scholarships to GVSU and Hope College geology students; additionally, we have created the Joe Moran Scholarship and awarded the first to two aspiring Club geologists. We know club members love field trips and under Bob Sinke's organization these help to sustain interest in the hobby. We have acquired an essential second storage trailer, thanks to the efforts of Steve Miller, and of course the Plumerts, for so generously providing a storage facility. Appreciation certainly goes to Julia for her encouragement in assisting the Larry Graves family in the sale of his collection and the wonderful hoard of Lake Superior agates, the on-going sale of which will greatly benefit our Club bank account as well as individual members' collections. Thanks also to Rudy who is beginning his 4th year as editor of the "Conglomerate." Statistics in the latest MWF Directory indicate Tulip City is a very healthy club, being the largest club in Michigan with 202 adults and 65 Junior members. Going forward under C.H.'s leadership our Club is in good hands as we celebrate our 50th anniversary. May you all have a wonderful rockin' good year!

Bob Sherwood

TULIP CITY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB RENEWAL FORM

DUES DEADLINE: - December 31, 2016

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
Newsletter delivery: via email - Free! - Postal - \$5

Name _____

Address _____

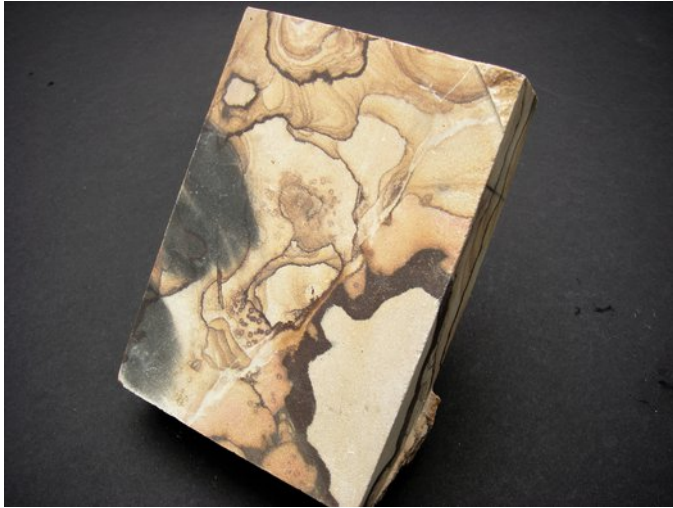
City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Note: Members who signed up at the 2016 September Show are paid through 2017.

Raffle Items

The following items will be raffled at the January General Meeting.



Oregon Biggs Picture Jasper, 3 1/2" X 4 7/8" X 1 3/16"



The last pair TCGMC has of beautifully handcrafted book ends, made by Jan Maher. 6" X 4 3/4" X 3 3/4" Oak and Crazy Lace Agate



Set of signed Scott Hardy Kentucky Agates posters, Rebecca Negron photography.



Set of signed Scott Hardy Kentucky Agates posters, Rebecca Negron photography.



**TULIP CITY GEM & MINERAL CLUB
ZEELAND COMMUNITY CENTER
DECEMBER 7, 2016 7 PM**

Board Members Present: Bob Sherwood, Julia Sherwood, Rudy Silich, Chris Silich, Linda Winkelmann, Rick Smith, Liz Hoekstra, Bob Sinke, Patti DeGroot, Dan DeGroot, Sue Goedert.

Members Not Present: Art Edson, Jackie Helder, Linda Plumert

New Board Members Present: Theresa DeMol

Visitors: Chet Smith, Ken Hoekstra, and Jerry Goedert.

Reports of Officers

Secretary- Dan DeGroot presented the minutes from the November board meeting and the November

General meeting. Several corrections and additions were made and the minutes were accepted.

Treasurer – Julia Sherwood gave the Club financial report.

A motion was made by Rudy Silich to accept the report.

Vice President - Vacant

Editor – Rudy Silich: Articles are due to Rudy by 6pm Saturday, Dec 10th.

Field Trip Coordinator – Bob Sinke: Is planning for three home field trips:

Chet Smith's home on January 21 (from 10am to 3pm)

Ken & Liz Hoekstra's home on February 25 (from 10am to 3pm)

Rance & Ann Westover's home on March 25 (from 10am to 3pm)

Historian – Liz Hoekstra had nothing new to report.

Hospitality – Position open. All members may bring treats for the December meeting.

Junior Leaders: - Linda Winkelmann and Rick Smith spoke about the December junior program on Rhodochrosite.

Liaison – Linda Plumert: Not present

Membership – Chris Silich is collecting dues for next year.

Show Coordinator – Sue Goedert is waiting for the Soccer Stop to present their electric bill for the 2016 Show. After the electric bill has been determined, then we will be moving forward with the contract for the 2017 Show.

Director at Large – Patti DeGroot had nothing new to report.

Director at Large – Art Edson was not present.

Unfinished Business

The club would again like to participate in HerrickFest at Kollen Park in Holland, Michigan. The date is set for Saturday June 24, 2017. The times are yet to be decided.

The new board members are scheduled to be sworn in at the December meeting. It was suggested that Dave Nienhuis as a past president of the club, preside over the swearing in ceremony.

The committee that was formed to manage the sale of the Graves Lake Superior agates has met. It was decided that the smaller lakers would be put in jars and sold at the show, tailgate, and the club meetings. The first time that they will be available for sale, will be at the silent auction to be held at the December meeting. They will be sold at monthly raffles and the December silent auction. There are also 2 pounds of Cerium Oxide to be sold.

The proceeds from the Graves Citrine cathedral raffle in December will be split 50/50. Half going to the Graves family and the remainder will go to the AFMS Scholarship Fund.

There was a discussion about creating a new club exhibit about the Gemstones of the Bible. It could work as a possible outreach program for the schools in the area. It was decided to give it more thought and table the idea for a future time.

Jerry Goedert presented what he had put together as a computer package for the Treasurer. It had been decided at a previous meeting that there was a need for a computer for the Treasurer to manage the **Quicken** accounts. It would make the transition easier when handing off the accounts each year to a new treasurer. We would not have to deal with the Mac vs. PC issue either. The board voted to purchase the computer and the treasurer paid Jerry Goedert for the computer

New Business:

A question was raised if the Bylaws should be changed to add the Web-Master as an additional board member.

Rudy Silich commented on the silent auction at the December meeting. It was suggested that each member keep their items to 20-25 max.

Rudy and Chris Silich brought up the idea of setting up a club table with the Kalamazoo club for public relations. Another possible venue would be Wing stadium when they have craft shows.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Submitted by acting club Secretary Dan DeGroot

**TULIP CITY GEM & MINERAL CLUB
DECEMBER 21, 2016, 7 P.M.
ZEELAND COMMUNITY CENTER**

Welcome; Recognition of New Members; No Visitors or new members.

Installation of Officers - Dave Nienhuis gave a short introduction and asked all candidates to stand in front of the club members. All were sworn in to carry out their position to the best of their ability.

President: C.H. Falstad

Vice Pres.: Julia Sherwood

Secretary: Dan DeGroot

Treasurer: Patti DeGroot

Historian: Betty Hoekstra

Liaison: Jackie Helder

Field Trip Coordinator: Bob Sinke

Show Chair: Sue Goedert

Hospitality: Linda Plumert

Juniors: Rick Smith & Linda Winklemann

Membership: Chris Silich

Newsletter Editor: Rudy Silich

Directors at Large: Art Edson & Theresa DeMol

A gift Book (Lake Superior Agates) was presented to Bob Sherwood for his past work as President of our club.

The Juniors were dismissed for their meeting.

Board Meeting Summary

At the Board meeting new members were welcomed.

HDL again planning "Herrick Fest" in Kollen Park, June 25; hours to be determined.

A refurbished computer was purchased for Treasurer's use to minimize transfer of data and software when a new treasurer takes over at each years end. An update to Quicken 2017 was installed as well.

Steve Chamberlain sent an email to Sherwoods which mentions his new book, now available from Schiffer Publishers; Collectors Guide to Black Tourmaline at Pierpont, New York. (\$22.26 at Amazon.com). Steve has donated 15,000 specimens so far to the Rochester Mineral Symposium.

Any questions or comments from members?

Break for Refreshments:

President's Remarks:

Treasurer – Financial Report: Julia Sherwood gave the Financial Report.

Show Chair - Sue Goedert reports its time for first Show planning meeting Jan18 @ 7pm.

Field Trips – Bob Sinke reported 3 field trips coming up this spring.

Jan. 21 at Chet Smiths 10-3pm.

In April a field trip to collect granite collecting is in the works.

Liaison – Linda Plumert was elected to Hospitality Chair in 2017. (continued on page SIX)

General Meeting Minutes (Continued from page FIVE):

Hospitality – Linda Plumert: New signup sheet for treats.

Vondalee Knoll and her family have been bringing treats for several months and was given a round of applause in appreciation.

Rudy Silich presented the Silent Auction procedure for the evening.

Adjournment of Business Meeting

Cathedral raffle drawing conducted by Linda Plumert. Anne Westover won.

Silent Auction was conducted by Rudy Silich. The Junior Club table auction will close first so they can leave early. A notice of a few minutes will be given before each table auction is closed. Please pay the owner of the items directly after each auction.

The meeting was closed about 9:00pm.

Minutes submitted by Dan DeGroot, Secretary.

Last month, the December Board Minutes were published. That was actually a draft version. The corrected/approved minutes are above.



A Huldufolk rock in Iceland? <https://machimon.wordpress.com/2010/12/02/boulder-in-iceland-huldufolk/>

West Michigan MWF Mineral Study Group by Kreigh Tomaszewski

Nitrogen Minerals

Our mineral study group is working thru the periodic table of elements in our current study sequence. Our featured element this month was Nitrogen. It comprises just over three quarters of the air we breathe, but is an unusual component in minerals, usually in the form of ammonium.

There is one Nitrogen mineral that has been known since antiquity, Sal Ammoniac, and it is probably the only member of this group of minerals most rockhounds would recognize. Its common use is for cleaning soldering irons when making stained glass, electronics, or jewelry. It was also used as the electrolyte in the carbon-zinc batteries. We had a nice specimen to look at. This is one of the minerals from antiquity that does not have the -ite ending.

Each month the members of the mineral study group go thru their collections to find representative specimens to share with the group. We also do some homework to learn a bit about the subject group of minerals so we have something to share even if we don't have specimens that month.

We had a specimen of Ambrinoite, the only known sulfide containing significant ammonium. We had a Type Locality specimen of the halide Barberiite.

When a new mineral is found the discovery specimen that is studied becomes the Type Specimen, and the place where it was discovered becomes the Type Locality. Additional specimens collected at the Type Locality and studied as part of naming the mineral are known as Meta-Type Specimens.

We had part of the Type Specimen of the sulfate Darapskite that includes Nitrogen as the nitrate cation.

We had a specimen of Struvite, a phosphate commonly found as a mineral formed by bacterial decay. We ended with the phosphate Taranakite that forms from a leachate of bird and bat droppings in damp caves and seashore environments.

Oxygen should be our next element as we work thru the Periodic Table, but like Hydrogen, it is very common, and we have already studied the Oxides. So our next meeting will focus on minerals containing Fluorine.

The next monthly meeting of the West Michigan MWF Mineral Study Group will be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2017, from 7 pm to 8:30 pm, at the home of Kreigh Tomaszewski, 653 Burton St. S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49507. 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. Please look up a few facts about Fluorine containing minerals, and bring some representative specimens from your collection. 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.

We usually have some time to look at some unknown you might need help on (no promises of a positive ID, but we are getting better at identifying minerals). I hope you can join us for the next meeting and let part of your collection get to meet some other rockhounds and be appreciated

Kreigh Tomaszewski, from the Indian Mounds Rock Club, hosts a long running mineral study group.



JUNIOR ROCK CLUB PAGE

"Am I Blue?"

This is a famous song, recorded by a host of legendary vocal artists. It's so famous that even Lego-Batman has sung it. Really. You can check it out on a YouTube video. I'll bet your parents or grandparents can name at least three other (and better) singers who have recorded this song as well....But what has any of this got to do with the January junior program? Well, if the musical question were asked by kyanite, the mineral featured in our January program, the answer would probably be "Yes." One of kyanite's most distinctive features, and one of the things that makes this mineral so popular with collectors, is its blue color. Kyanite also has some other interesting features you'll learn about in our January program: it has not one but two separate hardness ratings on the Mohs Scale, it has some interesting crystal habits, and it has a connection to two such unlikely objects as your bathroom sink and an automotive spark plug. Come join us on Wednesday evening, January 25 at 7:00 to look over some specimens of this attractive mineral, to learn some interesting facts about kyanite, and to collect your own take-home specimen, generously donated to the juniors by Tulip City Gem & Mineral club member Chet Smith.

Linda Winkleman and Rick Smith
Junior Club Advisors

P.S. Juniors, if you want to quiz your parents or grandparents on the names of some of those famous singers who have recorded the song "Am I Blue?" here's a partial list: Ray Charles, Willie Nelson, Billie Holiday, Bette Midler, Barbara Streisand, Cher, Linda Ronstadt, Rita Coolidge, Nat King Cole, George Strait, Brenda Lee, Julie London, Ethel Waters, and Hoagy Carmichael (who sings it in a Humphrey Bogart / Lauren Bacall movie). And in an episode of the animated cartoon series *Justice League Unlimited*, Batman is compelled to sing "Am I Blue?" to release Wonder Woman from an evil spell, though your grandparents may not be familiar with that one.



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.

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.

Lake Michigan, Straits of Mackinac, Feb 25-26, 2011
<http://www-personal.umich.edu/~jensenl/visuals/album/2011/chapel/>

Meetings are held monthly on the last Wednesday of the month at the Howard Miller Community Center, 14 S. Church Street, Seeland, 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 Sillich, Editor
416 West Mae Rose Ave
Holland, MI 49424