



ARROWHEAD NEWS



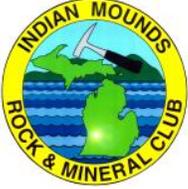
Wyoming, Michigan



PHOTO BY BRYAN BREWER
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VOLUMN #46 ISSUE #2

www.IndianMoundsRockClub.com

Welcome to the **ARROWHEAD NEWS**,
 Official publication of the Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club of Wyoming, Michigan.



Arrowhead News
Visitors are welcome at all Meetings!
When & Where

Club Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the third Tuesday, September through May, and take place in the fellowship hall located in the basement of the Wesley Park United Methodist Church. The church is on the corner of Michael and 32nd Street, south of 28th Street, in Wyoming.

At 6:30 PM, on the third Tuesday, June through August, our club has a **picnic** at Pinery Park in Wyoming, which is on DeHoop just north of 28th St. Our usual spot is behind the north parking lot on the west side of DeHoop. Bring a dish to share, your own drinks, and table service.

Board Meetings are held right after the club meeting, or by special announcement on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

Club Membership dues are \$15 per family, \$10 per individual and \$5 per junior. Payment is due by the third Tuesday of September and is for the following January – December. **New** members that join at or after the annual show, pay only one-half of the yearly dues for the current year. Membership includes 9 issues of the Arrowhead News.



Who's Who

<p><u>President</u> Jim Elliott 7475 Parsonage Saranac MI 48881 616-642-0442 jimboell@iserv.net</p>	<p><u>Vice President/Program</u> Nancy Spalenka 2119 Waldron St SW Wyoming MI 49519 616-249-0513 gnspalenka@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p><u>Secretary/ Membership</u> Rhonda Leep 11199 Gun Lake Rd Middleville MI 49333 269-795-7629 rsleep@chartermi.net</p>	<p><u>Treasurer</u> Dave Lehker 1716 Lotus SE Grand Rapids MI 49506 616-243-1257 lehkerd@gvsu.edu</p>
<p><u>Board Member</u> Orville(Skip) Schipper 269-795-9121 goschipper@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p><u>Web</u> Brenda Van Dyke 1531 Whitmore Ave NW Grand Rapids MI 49504 616-735-1235 brenick@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Board Member</u> Bob Beauvais 616-534-3871 rebeau@juno.com</p>	<p><u>Sunshine /Kitchen</u> Eleanor Brummel 616-453-1658</p>
<p><u>Field Trip</u> Kreigh Tomaszewski kreigh@tomaszewski.net Nancy Wolff, assist. 269-983-4900 nancyswolff@hotmail.com</p>	<p><u>Dealer Chairs</u> Kris Quint 269-926-7610 Kristine1812@live.com Nancy Wolff 269-983-4900 nancyswolff@hotmail.com</p>	<p><u>Show Chair</u> John Kuipers 616-534-9298</p>	<p><u>Library</u> Anne & Rance Westover</p>
<p><u>Editor/Publisher</u> Donna L Griseto 2275 Radcliffe Circle SE Grand Rapids MI 49546 810-444-5611 dlgriseto@hotmail.com</p>	<p><u>Sales</u> Ed Krzeminski 3838 Crowfoot SW Grandville MI 49418 616-530-9571 krzeminski.ed@msu.edu ed@msu.edu</p>	<p><u>Liaison</u> Don Van Dyke 4296 Oakview Hudsonville MI 49426 616-669-6932 donvandyke@tm.net</p>	



The **subscription rate** for the **Arrowhead News** is just \$8.00 per year.
 Article submission is due to the Editor **before** the 25st of the month.
 Recent back issues of the Arrowhead News are available on our website.
<http://www.indianmoundsrockclub.com/Arrowhead%20News.htm>

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!THE 2011 INDIAN MOUNDS GEM & MINERAL SHOW!

It's hard to believe, but the Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club's 36th annual Gem & Mineral Show is just around the corner! The show will be held at Rogers Plaza Town Center in Wyoming, Michigan from 9:30 AM to 9:00 PM on April 7, 8 & 9, 2011. Our annual show is one of the high points on the club's calendar, presenting great opportunities for fun and education for the public and our members, as well as generating revenue needed to support club activities throughout the year. An added attraction this year is a 12-foot-long sculptured crocodile exhibit patterned after a creature believed to have lived some 58 million years ago, obtained for us by Assistant Show Chairperson John Donker and Show Publicity Chairperson Julie Donker. Plus our Dealer Chairperson Nancy Wolff has arranged for an outstanding group of dealers covering all aspects of our hobby.

Please note: **THE ENTIRE SHOW DEPENDS ON YOUR HELP!** "How so?" you may ask. Well, just consider these examples:

Show setup begins at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, April 6 and continues throughout the evening. We need **everyone** to be there to help set up and skirt tables, arrange material in the club area, install and fill display cases, and much more. And all this work must be completed by the time the mall locks its doors at 11:00 PM!

Then there are the **displays**, an important part of the show if ever there was one. Displays give you a great opportunity to demonstrate your love of the rock and mineral hobby by showing some of your collection in display cases. Don't be bashful—your display need not be "museum quality." If your items relate to our hobby, are meaningful to you and will interest show visitors, then they are adequate and needed. Display Chairperson Gordon Spalenka is always looking for more "displayers," and our newer members are especially encouraged to participate. No display case? Contact Gordon (249-0513) and he'll try to help. Likewise, if you have an extra case to lend someone. Don't forget the possibility of joining one or more fellow club members in filling a case jointly.

The **memorial case** is also important. This display is dedicated to the memory of deceased club members and usually contains a varied assortment of minerals, lapidary work, gem trees, faceted items, metal smithing, etc. loaned for display by club members and returned to them

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after the show. Nancy Spalenka (249-0513) oversees this project, so please say "yes" if she contacts you for an item!

Demonstrators are absolutely essential! We really need members willing to demonstrate the various aspects of our hobby to mall visitors all during the show. If you have a hobby-related skill that can feasibly be demonstrated at the club table area, please let Demonstration Chairperson Don Van Dyke (669-6932) know—he'll appreciate it!

The show simply can't function without **club table workers** (also known as "**hosts and hostesses**") to staff the club table area and represent our club to the public throughout the show. Table workers are needed to sell mineral specimens, egg cartons and grab bags, to answer any and all questions about our hobby and club, and (hopefully!) to enroll new members. We will also need people to look after the crocodile exhibit and answer questions about it. So please sign up to work as many shifts as you can when signup sheets are circulated at upcoming club meetings. We guarantee you'll have fun and meet lots of interesting people!

Donors are necessary too! The club will again be selling donated items furnished by our members. Please supply quality material, preferably donor-made, although other good quality items are also acceptable. The donor sets the selling price, and all proceeds go to the club. Any unsold member-donated material is returned after the show. Also, don't forget to bring in your unneeded hobby-related magazines for the club to sell. That surely beats dumping them into the landfill!

Publicity people are indispensable! Julie Donker is working hard to publicize the show, but she needs the help of **all** of us! So take as many show fliers and 4x6 cards as you can reasonably use to promote and advertise our show in as many ways and places as possible. Talk it up with your friends and acquaintances!

Last, but by no means least, we need **take-down help!** Remember, "what goes up must come down." So at 9:00 PM on Saturday we will need **you** to help take all show paraphernalia down and put it away until next year's show. And all this must be accomplished by 11:00 PM when the mall doors slam shut. Please be there to help ensure that our show ends on a "happy note."
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In conclusion, the basic provisions from previous shows also apply this year. Security will be provided; no blue jeans may be worn by club members working at the show; and "hawking" of show visitors is not permitted.

Our mall show is educational, rewarding, satisfying and fun! But these benefits can be realized only if **you** participate. Please do!

John Kuipers, Show Chairperson

Bench Tips by Brad Smith

BURNISHING BEZELS

A dapping ball can sometimes be used to burnish a bezel. I noticed this when setting some 8 x 10 cabs on a piece of filigree. It was difficult to get enough pressure with a regular burnisher, so I tried a dapping ball and found it much easier. Make sure the ball is well polished (hit it with the Zam wheel) and let it ride along the base of your piece. Select a ball big enough to hit the top of the bezel at the right angle to burnish it down onto the stone.

SUPER PICKLE

We've all made the mistake of putting some steel in the pickle pot. This can cause all your pieces to be coated with copper. Easiest way I've found to clean it off is to fill half a coffee cup with the pickle and put in an ounce or two of hydrogen peroxide from the drug store. Throw your pieces in and the coating is gone in about 10 minutes. When finished, pour the solution back into your pickle pot.

Acknowledgement to be included with each publication:
More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at
groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/ or facebook.com/BenchTips

Corrections: In the January 2011 newsletter: **February 15th, 2011:** "Thompsonites", with Steve Crabbs is spelled wrong. The correct spelling is **Thomsonite**. Sorry for the error.

Mineral Study Group

If you can't mine, process, and sell a rock or mineral resource at a profit it is not an ore. On the second Tuesday of January the West Michigan MWF Mineral Study Group met to learn about and identify by hand the ores of Copper. We ignored the other 545 minerals that contain copper because they are not commercially viable. Both the Indian Mounds and Tulip City clubs were represented at this regional meeting.

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Native copper is the best ore of copper, and 5.4 million tons of it was extracted from Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula between 1845 and 1968. Today the other ores of copper supply most of our copper needs. Over half of all copper is used in wiring and electronics. Copper was probably the first metal used by man.

Copper has a unique combination of workability, resistance to corrosion, and superior electrical and thermal conductivity. It alloys well with other compounds to provide unique physical and chemical properties. It is non-magnetic and non-sparking. It is a unique catalyst, and is needed by the human body to make hemoglobin, so it is essential to life (it also makes chlorophyll and is also essential to plants). The average concentration of copper in the Earth's crust is 55 parts per million.

The major ores of copper include native copper, chalcocite, bornite, chalcopyrite, covellite, cubanite, enargite, tetrahedrite, cuprite, tenorite, azurite, malachite, brochantite, and chrysocolla; minor ores include djureliute, digenite, atacamite, krohnkite, chalcanthite, and antlerite. We had specimens of all but djureliute, digenite, and krohnkite to handle and inspect. You learn to identify minerals by hand from holding and inspecting known specimens. Being close to copper country we had some outstanding specimens to enjoy.

Most copper ores are formed from mesothermal or hydrothermal enrichment, or oxidation after formation. Copper deposits are commonly associated with mafic extrusive deposits and are usually associated with calcite, silver, iron minerals, and zeolites.

The next meeting of the West Michigan MWF Mineral Study Group will be held on Feb 8, 2011 from 7pm to 9pm at the home of Kreigh Tomaszewski, 653 Burton St. S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49507. We will be studying the ores of Manganese (pyrolusite, hausmannite, manganite, romanechite, braunite, rhodochrosite, hollandite, cryptomelane, franklinite, and rhotonite).

We like to start (and end) on time, but please do not arrive more than 20 minutes early. All West Michigan rockhounds are invited to attend. Please look up a few facts about the topic mineral(s), and bring along specimens of the topic mineral(s) to let others look at (the more, the merrier). We hope you can join us as we learn about minerals from each other.

Kreigh Tomaszewski

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A Bit of Family History by Don Van Dyke

Continued from January 2011 Rockhound Newsletter, Part #2

Now we are close to home, your brothers and sisters the Agates; and if I may say so, the real beauties of the family line. Why, we have some of the brightest colors, flashiest stripes, fanciest inclusions and scenes found in the mineral kingdom! You know there are so many of us that I'm not even going to mention their names. Did you know that we are actually the favorite materials for many collectors and lapidary people? That's because they can often collect us themselves, or purchase them reasonably, and we are sufficiently hard (7 on the Mohs Scale), to take a great polish and be durable, so that we will not scratch or break easily.

We must not forget the Jaspers either. Some are as colorful as we are, but they are (Sigh!) opaque. Did you know that they are sometimes found in some of the very same location that we are, in basaltic lava flows as nodules and seams, and in gravel banks and beaches? Oh, I almost forgot a couple other more distant cousins, some petrified woods and dinosaur bones. Always remember, though, they're just a bunch of old fossils!

I hate to mention it, but we also have a few skeletons hiding in the back closet, black sheep like Flint and Chert. They have so many impurities that they can be almost dull. Then, there is the ignominious mass called Quartzite. Imagine, poor old sandstone, with all its patterns totally crushed and baked, until it's so hard that it lasts for eons!

We could go on, finding more distant relatives like glamorous Opal. She's a lot like you, but with water added. Her composition is $\text{SiO}_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$. Or we might find Tigereye. She got involved with Asbestos! If you want to dig still deeper, just check a good book on minerals to find other less well-known family members, Just look for "SiO₂" in the formula. After all, they are all kinfolk.

P.S. If you want to find the family members out in the field there are lots of places to look. Close to home check out the beach. Most of the sand grains hanging out there are quartz. If the beach is stony, you may find Chert, Jasper, or even an agate or two. And don't forget the local gravel pit! Lots of us hide out there, but in our bruised-up condition we may be difficult to spot. In the sedimentary class of rocks, check out the sandstone or head over to the limestone beds and look for hard nodules. You may find chert or flint. In some quarries crystal-lined geodes are found. Some of them are pretty sharp! In a few locations there are even a few agates filling the bugs. Ah, and in the igneous rocks, check out the basalt! If it was gassy, you may find agates and jasper. In some locations there are thunder eggs. If you look hard, you may even find fancy crystals in partially finned vugs. In the metamorphic rocks, track down a coarse pegmatite. That's where some real dandy crystals hide out! There are many more places to look. Don Van Dyke says that the best way to start is to check out a good field guide to mineral locations.

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February 2011 Rock and Gem Shows

12-13—BEREA, OHIO: Retail show; Intergalactic Bead & Jewelry Shows; Cuyahoga Fairgrounds-Multi Purpose Bldg. (#25), 164 Eastland Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5 Sat., \$4 Sun., children under 12 free; dealers, precious and semiprecious gemstone beads, sterling silver, findings, freshwater pearls, hand-blown glass, vintage beads, crystals, delicás; contact Angela Couch, (888) 729-6904; e-mail: angela.couch@beadshows.com; Web site: www.beadshows.com

19-20—CINCINNATI, OHIO: Retail show; Intergalactic Bead & Jewelry Shows; Sharonville Convention Center, North Hall, 11355 Chester Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5 Sat., \$4 Sun., children under 12 free; dealers, precious and semiprecious gemstone beads, sterling silver, findings, freshwater pearls, hand-blown glass, vintage beads, crystals, delicás; contact Angela Couch, (888) 729-6904; e-mail: angela.couch@beadshows.com; Web site: www.beadshows.com

March 2011 Rock and Gem Shows

4-6—RICHMOND, INDIANA: 38th annual show; Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society; Wayne County Fairgrounds, 861 N. Salisbury Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-4; adults \$4, seniors (60+) \$3, students (7-18) \$1, children 6 and under free; jewelry, minerals, fossils, crystals, dealers, demonstrations, displays, silent auctions; contact John LaMont, (765) 647-4894, or Dave Straw, (765) 966-4249

18-20—JACKSON, MICHIGAN: 49th annual show; Michigan Gem & Mineral Society; Jackson County Fairgrounds, 200 W. Ganeson St.; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; jewelry, minerals, fossils, dealers, demonstrations, silent auctions, geode cracking; contact John LaMont, (765) 647-4894, or Dan Hovater, (517) 518-1045

25-27—INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA: 13th annual show, "Spring Indianapolis Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show"; Treasures Of The Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows; Indiana State Fairgrounds, Ag/Horticulture Bldg., 1202 E. 38th St.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$5 (3-day ticket), children under 16 free; jewelry makers, goldsmiths and silversmiths size, reconstruct, repair, design or make original jewelry from customer-selected gems, stones, opals and crystals, wire wrap, wire sculpture, stone beads, pearls, stone setting, dealers, amber, opal, fossils, minerals, door prizes, grand prize, 500 Earth Science Club and Indiana Bead Society displays, silversmithing demonstrations and classes, lampwork bead demonstrations, wire wrapping classes; contact Van Wimmer Sr., 5273 Bradshaw Rd., Salem, VA 24153, (540) 384-6047; e-mail: van@toteshows.com; Web site: www.toteshows.com

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President Jim Elliot welcomed members and visitors to club and reminded everyone about the show in April. Introduced Bobbie House and LaDonna Siebelink as the main contacts for our new youth program and there will be our first youth meeting after our program and business meeting. Nancy Spalenka reminded everyone to sign in on the attendance sheets.

Secretary	There were no minutes from December's Banquet and November's minutes were approved as published in the Arrowhead News.
Treasurer	Dave gave treasurers report after paying dues to the MWF and other expenses.
Program	DVD presentation regarding Young crystal hunters in honor of our new youth group.
Editor/ Publisher	Donna would like to thank people for sending articles to her for the newsletter on time and encourages everyone who can to receive the email version of newsletter to help keep publishing costs down.
Web	Brenda has put IMRMC on facebook for us.
Field Trip	Kreigh reported on recent and future trips – trip to Alabastine mine in the works. Please contact Kreigh or Nancy Wolf for specific field trips.
Show Committee	Elections were held to name our pet croc.
Publicity	We still need someone to manage our basic notices for meetings. Please contact Nancy Spalenka for if you are interested.
Sunshine	Eleanor has sign-up sheet for next year and reminds us to contact her if someone in the club needs some sunshine.
Librarians	Rance and Anne Westover brought our Michigan and Lake Superior rock books to the meeting and most people picked up their orders. Please plan on paying for you books if needed and picking up your books in February if you don't have them yet.
Historian	No report
Sales	Ed K. reported that the summer sale date is June 11, 2011 and will have sale flyers available next month.
Correspondence	No report.
Membership	Membership dues are past due – Please mail to Rhonda Leep Membership chair.
Old Business	No additional old business.
New Business	No additional new items.
Mineral Study	Copper last month and Manganese this month. Check Newsletter or contact Kreigh for schedule and location of meetings.
Adjourned	
Rhonda Leep	Secretary 2011

HISTORICAL NOTE

At our January meeting, after Kreigh Tomaszewski announced another trip to the Alabastine Gypsum Mine, Don Van Dyke told us the Midwest Federation gave us our charter in the Gypsum Min. The date was April 14, 1965.

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Jim Elliot welcomed all board members and members to meeting and called our meeting to order.

- Secretary** November Board Meeting minutes were not read and a motion to approve minutes as published in Arrowhead News was passed.

- Treasurer** Dave had items from the Silent Auction to be resolved and his proposals were approved by the board.

- Program** February's program will be presented by Steve Crabbs and will feature Thomsonite. March will feature the Agate DVDs. Kreigh will chair May's Best of Year meeting.

- Editor/Publisher** No additional items to report.

- Web** No additional items to report.

- Field Trips** No additional items to report.

- Show Committee** Signup sheets will be at February's meeting for April show. Will need extra people so please plan on volunteering to work at the show.
Discussion regarding Rodger's Plaza future, but no facts regarding any changes.

- Publicity** We still need a publicity person contact a board member for information. Here is the description from the bylaws:
Publicity: The duty of the Publicity Committee shall be to distribute the Club's news regularly to the appropriate newspapers, radio and television stations, and periodicals.

- Sunshine** Please contact Ruth Allen for sunshine items for the next month or so.

- Librarian** Most of the books were picked up at club meeting -contact the Westover's if you haven't picked up your order yet.

- Historian** No new discussions

- Membership** **2011 Club dues are past due. Please mail to Rhonda Leep asap-2011 Directory to be published in time for February's meeting.**

- Sales** Ed will have available flyers for Summer Sale in February and have electronic flyer on website for summer sale and October Silent Auction.

- Old Business**
 - 1) Name tags-motion to empower Arlene King to investigate and purchase name badges for new members - discussion - motion passed.
 - 2) Club badges- motion to purchase 50[+/-] to have available to purchase by members by April show- discussion-motion passed.
 - 3) Scholarship proposal- more discussion no motions made.
 - 4) Club T-shirts and Vests- motion for Julia Donker to purchase 25-30 red t-shirts with white club logo in assorted sizes-discussion-motion approved.

- New Business** Discussion regarding memo regarding future club activities and options-no motions made. May need to establish a planning committee.

- Adjourned**
Rhonda Leep 2011

Board Members Present

President	X Jim Elliot	Publicity	Need
Vice President	X Nancy Spalenka	Historian	X Nancy Spalenka
Secretary	X Rhonda Leep (membership)	Librarians	X Rance Westover
Treasurer	X Dave Lehker		X Anne Westover
Liaison	X Don VanDyke (past President)	Field Trip	X Kreigh Tomaszewski

Sales	X Ed Krzeminski		Nancy Wolff
Editor/Publisher	Donna Griseto	Show Chair	X John Kuipers
Sunshine	X Eleanor Brummel		X John Donker
	Ruth Allen	Board Member	X Bob Beauvais
Dealer Chair	Kris Quint	Board Member	X Bryan Brewer
	Nancy Wolff	Board Member	X Skip Schipper

New Year Brings New Beginnings

The Indian Mounds Junior Rock Club kicked off its first meeting in January. Two young rock hounds met with leaders Bobbie and Terry House to explore dinosaur fossils and discuss topics of interest for future meetings.

The youngsters used all their senses in exploring a number of dinosaur fossils and fossil replicas brought in. How amazing it was to see the wide range of sizes in the fossils, and to imagine how amazing it was when these creatures once roamed the earth. The dinosaur dung fossil was of particular interest to the young people.

"You learn about rocks by handling rocks," said Bobbie House. With this in mind, young members 17 years of age and younger are encouraged to bring in a few specimens they would like to show others or have help in identifying for the February meeting. Leaders will bring in more fossils including that of a turtle. Sulphur will also be brought in for members to experience. All the senses seem to come into play when learning about rocks.

Junior members are also asked to bring ideas for club activities and interests. It is an opportunity to help shape your portion of the meeting.

"Where we are going (with the club) is where they are going," Bobbie stated.

All Indian Mounds Rock Club members are invited to join us to see what is happening, and to share your area of interest and experience.

Junior members first take part in the regular program, then move to a separate room for the Junior Club during the business meeting portion of the regular club meeting.

Thank you to the Board Members for making the Junior Club available to our young people.

LaDonna Siebelink

Loan of crocodile by the Science Museum of Minnesota Our BIG Boy Has A Name!!!!

Approximately 45 members voted upon 20 different names to choose the right one for our 3'X12' "pet". He will now be referred to as "Rocky the Crocky". His name was submitted by Aaron Richardson. Aaron, you did GOOD!

What a wide variety of choices we had such as: Scary Larry, Bumpy, Chompy, Smiley and Swamp Butt!

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Rocky the Crocky will be placed in the center of Rogers Plaza Mall with his snout visible from the entrance door. The photo area for camera bugs will be set to allow his aggressive manner to be obvious. We will need volunteers to help in that area - answer questions, set up camera poses and chat with Rocky the Crocky even if he hates to talk. Give me a call or email. **Julia DonkerShow Publicity Chairman**

Treasurer's Report December 2010 Dave Lehker

Beginning Balance: \$7186.49

Expenses:

Newsletter: \$241.00

Stamps: \$21.87

Mid west Federation Dues: \$844.00

Total Expenses: \$1106.87

Income:

Dues: \$215, Raffle: \$33, Lunch: \$30, Book Sales: \$190

Total Income: \$468

End of Month Balance: \$6547.62

Year Summary: Starting Balance: \$6593.43

Ending Balance: \$6547.63

Major Expense: Newsletter: \$1653.00 (Please keep us updated on your mailing lists- either mail or e-mail. The more that receive our e-mail edition you will get it the day I mail it to Staples to print, plus it will get to you in full color!!!)

Steve Crabbs noticed that in the January issue, the word "April" was omitted from "September 1971 and April 1987 issues of the Lapidary Journal" in his piece about "Back Issues Wanted," so I've included it again. Thought perhaps highlighting the issues wanted would help, also.

MAGAZINES STILL WANTED

Steve Crabbs is interested in purchasing the following back issues:

All of 1976 Mineral Digest, The Journal of Mineralogy,

Especially Volume 8, Winter Issue

September 1971 and April 1987 issues of The Lapidary Journal.

If you have these magazines and are willing to part with them, please contact Steve Crabbs, 236 Bellevue, SE, Wyoming, MI 49548 (616)530-7092

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PROGRAM NOTES REVIEW

The New Crystal Hunters DVD "Smoky Hawk ", which showed the adventures of three young collectors looking for Amazonite and Smoky Quartz in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado was seen by 42 people at the January meeting. There wasn't time to view the entire DVD, so it has been donated to our library for any who would like to borrow it.

After the program, Bobbie and Terry House and Ladonna Siebelink took the youth present to another room for the start of a junior club which will monthly during the business meeting.

See the related article for more information.

PREVIEW

An interesting program on Thomsonite will be presented at the February 15th meeting by club member, Steve Crabbs. The Thomsonite Beach Company has registered Thomsonite as a gem with 10,000 faces. Steve will have beautiful specimens to show and will explain the Tybrus Gem Company's grading scale for the various qualities of Thomsonite. Steve will discuss the theories of geology in relationship to Thomsonite , where to find them, how to extract them out of the matrix, and what should or should not be done regarding and polishing them. While the average size of these unique minerals is 1" or less, Steve has some that are larger. You will want to see this fascinating display.

The January issue of the Breccia has been uploaded to our website, www.scvgms.org. You can use this link to download your copy.

I just finished reading a book how to raise boys (Raising Boys- Steve Biddulph); some of the lessons in this book are the same for all of us. Be a good loser, be a good winner, be part of a team, give it your best effort, work for a long-term goal or object, and see that almost everything you do in life improves with practice. After seeing what all our rock clubs members make, I see that all of you have practiced and practiced and are very talented group. As I have said before, we are very lucky to have come together at this time to share our ideas. All of you are very talented men and women and I am grateful to be part of this group. Donna

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WWW DOT

By Brenda Van Dyke

If you've been to our club website recently, I'm sure you've noticed that I've been pretty slow in getting it updated. This is partly because I often wonder if anyone sees what I have or have not done.

Today I found out there *are* visitors out there. There is a program called Google Analytics that provides information about the visitors to our site and much more. Today I checked out the data and found some exciting facts.

In just this past month alone we had **841 visits** from **72 countries**. Almost all of the countries in the American continents and Europe were represented. **448** visits were from the **United States** and **130** of these from **44 Michigan** cities.

I apologize to the **22** visitors who have been to our site more than **5 times** this month and to all the others too, for not believing in you. You *do* exist! You really do!

LIBRARY NEWS:

The Following are new to our Library:

The Stewart Tourmaline Story – VHS 57 min, Collecting Earths Natural Treasures – VHS 60 min,

Introduction to Intarsia with Phil Magistro – VHS Video, Intricate Intarsia with Phil Magestro – VHS 40 min

Michigan Rocks & Minerals by Dan and Bob Lynch, Lake Superior Rocks & Minerals by Bob and Dan Lynch

Act Active Activities Jr. Handbook a pub. Of the MFMGS (2 copies), Gems & Gemology Vol. XLII Winter 2006 – Magazine

Gems & Gemology Vol. XIII Spring 2007 – Magazine, Gems & Gemology Vol. XLIII Summer 2007 – Magazine

Official 2005 Directory of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological _ Societies

Book Sale information

The book sale we recently had on Michigan Rock & Mineral Field Guide and Lake Superior Rock and Mineral Field Guide was a great turnout. They all have been paid for and picked up except for the following:

Diane Harvey, Sue Holecheck, Tommy Miller, John Morehouse, LaDonna Siebelink, and Bill VanMaldegen.

Please come to the next meeting in February and pick up your books. Thanks for your help.

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Club Presentation Trip Report
by Kreigh Tomaszewski

I am primarily a mineral collector, but I pick up fossils when I run across them. This was a great help when my youngest daughter was in Jr. High and I was helping coach her school's Science Olympiad team. They switched the geology event from Rocks and Minerals to Fossils, and I needed to become an expert resource. Fortunately, I had a few specimens (and access to others), and could read faster than the kids involved.

Science Olympiad is a nerd competition. Each school's team has to compete in many events in different sciences. Some events are taking a paper test, some are identification tests, and some are experimental. The kids who compete are the bright future of our country and the world. It is a big deal.

The Indian Mounds Club was recently approached by Plymouth Christian asking for help with their Fossils training for Science Olympiad and I said "I can do this". I went out to the soinc.org website, printed off the current fossils list, and went thru my small collection of fossils. I was pleased to discover I had over half, and filled up four flats.

Today I took them to the school, where the kids were giving up their early evening to train. They had been studying fossils from books. I gave them an opportunity to hold labeled fossils and look at them under a lens. They were obviously interested, knowledgeable, and excited by the opportunity. I wore my club name-tag. They asked good questions; I hope I gave them good answers.

Acquiring a good fossil or mineral collection gives great personal pleasure. Sharing that collection is even more fun. Using a collection to educate and inspire future generations is even better. Our club's objective is to develop and encourage interest in and to further the study of minerals, gems, fossils, rock, lapidary arts, and earth science.

I took a half day of vacation to share part of my collection. And it was a vacation. I did something completely different from work. I shared my rockhounding passion. I invested in the future. I got to forget the world for an hour. I hope you are also looking for opportunities to share your collection and reap the rewards.

Thank you to all that contributed: Bryan Brewer, Don Van Dyke, Kreigh Tomaszewski, John Kuipers, Brad Smith (Bench Tips), Anne and Rance Westover, Rhonda Leep, Julia Donker, Dave Lehker, Nancy Spalenka, Brenda Van Dyke and LaDonna Siebeliuk. Please forgive my editing, I am still learning. Until next month...

Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club

is a nonprofit organization, incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan.

This club's objective is to develop and encourage interest in, and to further the study of minerals, gems, fossils, rocks, lapidary arts, and earth science.

Affiliated With the Midwest and American Federations of Mineralogical Societies



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Donna L. Griseto Editor
2275 Radcliffe Circle SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546-7725