



ARRWHEAD NEWS

Wyoming, Michigan



We had a great turn out for our Summer Sale

Photo by Nancy Spalenka

September 2011
Volume#48 #6

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.

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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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PROGRAM REVIEW September- Nancy Spalenka

The September program will be a Gemstone Adventure Series DVD, "The Pearl Story". The moment it is found, no cutting or polishing is needed to reveal its natural beauty of pearls. For centuries, these beauties were the most rare and precious of all jewels—prized more than sapphires, rubies, emeralds, and even diamonds. This video will show how they grow, how they are harvested, and fascinating stories of men who have given their fortunes—and even their lives—in pursuit of the perfect pearl.

Club members are encouraged to bring pearls they have and share stories that might be connected with them.

It's July – It's Yupper Time July 11 – 15, 2001

Short trips are always welcomed when gas is expensive. A trip across the bridge even when raining feels like a vacation. The prices for motels were good, as tourism seems to be down. After picking up stones at Presque Isle Pt., we checked into our Marquette motel. The second day we drove to Norway, Michigan. The Kingsley North Store was smaller than expected but had everything we were after. A new slabbing saw should help for years and a few chunks of various rough stone and a few beads will keep us busy.

Upon the return trip to Marquette we tried to get to the Champion Mine Dumps. The road was gated off. After discussions with some locals we did find some mine dumps to check. We brought back some nice pieces of Specular Hematite.

Between Champion and Ishpeming we saw our first moose in Michigan, a cow and her calf - kept watching and wondering why so many people were stopping along the road.

After a quick trip to the Lindberg Quarry we headed back to the bridge. There were still some places along Lake Huron we wanted to check for Petoskey & pudding stones. So with maps in hand and motels in Roger City and Alpena we checked Lake Huron wherever we could. We did find some nice fossil plates at Rockport Road. We found some Petoskey & Pudding stones but not nearly what we had hoped to find,

Perhaps the Rock Fishing will be better next time. Rance & Anne Westover

Found-- Following the July potluck at Pinery Park –one Wm. A. Rogers Stainless teaspoon. It was left in the container with some potato salad. If this is your spoon, call Nancy Spalenka, 249-0513.

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Business Meeting May 2011

President Jim Elliot welcomed members and visitors to club and self introductions were made by visitors and new members. Jim introduced our Best of Year Chairperson Skip Schipper to explain the process for our meeting.

- Secretary -----
There were no minutes from April to approve.
- Treasurer -----
Dave Lehker gave the treasurers report.
- Program -----
May Best of Year Show, September will be a DVD on pearls.
- Editor/ Publisher -----
No new report.
- Web -----
No new report.
- Field Trip -----
No new updates from Kreigh. Please contact Kreigh if you are not on his email list for trip activities.
- Show Committee -----
Many thanks to all participants and volunteers at our best show yet! John Kuipers thanked everyone for their help and introduced John and Julie Donkers as next year's show chairpersons.
- Publicity -----
We still need someone to manage our basic notices for meetings. Please contact Nancy Spalenka for if you are interested.
- Sunshine -----
Please contact Eleanor Brummel or Ruth Allen. May still need kitchen help for the November meeting.
- Librarians -----
Rance and Anne Westover are working on another book on agates that should be available for club

	members to purchase this fall.
Historian	No report
Sales	Ed K. talked about our upcoming Summer Sale and how to participate. Ed also talked about the October Sale this fall.
Correspondence	New donations of specimens to our club will be picked up soon and should be available for Summer Sale.
Membership	No report regarding our newest members yet.
Old Business	No additional old business.
New Business	LaDonna directed us to her Junior Member sign-up sheets for members that would like to participate in future activities.
Mineral Study	Check Newsletter or contact Kreigh for schedule and location of meetings.
Adjourned	
Rhonda Leep	Secretary 2011

MAGNETIC HOLDER FOR FILES

An easy way to keep all your files organized at the bench is to use a magnetic tool strip. They're not expensive and help keep a lot of small tools from cluttering the bench top. I got a couple of them from Harbor Freight for about \$5 each. See <http://www.harborfreight.com/18-inch-magnetic-holder-65489.html>

Only regret was putting some of my small drills on the magnets. The drills got a little magnetized and now stick together when I carry them in a bottle in my tool box.

FINISHING PIERCED PATTERNS

After sawing patterns there's always a little cleanup to do. Needle files (7-8 inches) can get into the larger areas, and escapement files (4 inches) can get into some of the corners. But I often find myself looking for even smaller files. Couldn't even find them at a watchmaker tools supply company, so I had to try something else. I ended up grinding down the tip of a 4" barrette file using a separating disk (or cutoff wheel) in your Dremel or Foredom.

The wheels are inexpensive and do a great job grinding steel (poor at soft metals like silver). The disks have other uses like modifying pliers and making design stamps. My preference is the one inch diameter ones as shown at <http://www.ottofrei.com/store/product.php?productid=3919&cat=3439&page=1> Be sure to hold the wheel firmly so nothing moves to break the disk, and definitely wear your safety glasses. A flake of steel in your eye makes for a bad day.

More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/ or facebook.com/BenchTips

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Summer Sale Was SUPER!

The Indian Mounds Club 2011 Summer Super Sale, held on a pleasant June morning, was a huge success! With sales items from Club members and outside Sellers, there were 10 individual tailgaters selling a WIDE variety of minerals and specimens, plus a very large Club Sales Area selling gobs of goodies in a raucous and fun silent auction format. The Club had just received a private estate collection as a donation to sell for our newly established Scholarship Fund, and there was plenty to bid on, at bargain prices. The result: over \$1600 worth of Sellers' tailgate items were sold to an enthusiastic throng of customers (both rockhounds and novices alike!) in about 3 hours on a warm June morning. That brought in \$321 in sales commission income to the Club. On top of that, the Club Sales netted approximately another \$1,000 in sales from the donated collection, earmarked for our Scholarship Fund. Can you believe that over \$2600 changed hands in just 3 hours for rocks and minerals? How's that for a shaky economy? Looks like rocks and minerals are a great investment after all!

- Ed Krzeminski, Club Sales Chairman

Greetings and welcome to all of the new members to Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club. You are all invited to attend our summer potlucks at Pinery Park in Wyoming on the 3rd Tuesday of each month and our regular club meetings will resume on Tuesday September 20, 2011. Enjoy the summer and think of what your expectations for club membership may be and which events, committees or leadership activities you would like to be a part of. If you have any questions please feel free to contact any board member. Respectfully, Rhonda Leep Membership Chair

Indian Mounds Show 2012

John and Julia Donker

The 2011 Show Club Sales Booth took in \$100 plus income. The show committee discussed the possibility of changing the club sales to a member sales booth. All members, adults and children, would be invited to sell.

1. Tables would be divided into $\frac{1}{4}$ sizes and $\frac{1}{2}$ sizes depending on the request of the member. $\frac{1}{4}$ tables would cost \$25 and $\frac{1}{2}$ table \$50. Each seller will determine the price per item. The space would be the member's space for the entire show.
2. The sales will be handled by cashiers (club members) who wish to work in that area. It will probably need 3 or 4 people to man the space but will depend on the number of the participating members.

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3. Set up will be similar to a silent auction minus the bidding. Slips will be used to keep track of all sales. When the accounting of the intake is done, the Treasurer will send checks and the bottom of the slips to confirm their intake. There will be no additional fees for the sales

Mineral Study Group- Kreigh Tomaszewski

Zinc Ores

This month we wrapped up our sequence of the major ore groups by studying the ores of zinc. To be considered an ore, a mineral must be extractable and processed at a cost that allows the miner to make a profit. There are about 235 minerals containing zinc as an essential ingredient, but only sphalerite, wurtzite, smithsonite, and hemimorphite are significant ores; minor ores include zincite, franklinite, willemite, and hydrozincite.

Zinc is a blueish white crystalline metal that melts at 419C. It is malleable and ductile at 150C, but it changes rapidly after 180C, and by 205C it is easily powdered. Pure metal is extracted from ore by either an Electrolytic or Imperial Smelting process. Zinc is an essential trace element needed for the growth of both plants and animals. Zinc is the 23rd most common element in the Earth's crust.

55% of zinc production is used in galvanizing metals to protect them from corrosion. 28% of zinc production is used in die castings. 14% of zinc production is used in making brass. The remainder of zinc production is used in a wide variety of products such as paints, plastics, cosmetics, soaps, replacement environments in limestones and dolomites, metamorphic environments, and even in granites and coal deposits. Zinc ores almost always have traces of rare metals like Cadmium, Gallium, and Indium in them. Sphalerite is an ore collectors are likely to run across in the field. Many of the zinc ores glow under black light. batteries, TV screens, printing inks, pharmaceuticals, floor coverings, rubber, electronics, and fluorescent light bulbs.

Zinc ores are fairly common. Sphalerite, the principal ore, is found in a variety of We had specimens of all but one of the zinc ores to hold and study. Hand identification is

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never perfect, but by holding and studying enough specimens you can easily learn to identify the most common 10% of minerals. Several of the zinc ores are very easy to recognize, especially when you hold them and feel the density. By sharing our specimens and a little research we are learning from each other.

The next meeting of the West Michigan MWF Mineral Study Group will be held on Tuesday, October 11, 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 Tourmaline group (Buergerite, Chromdravite, Dravite, Elbaite, Feruvite, Fluor-dravite, Fluor-feruvite, Fluor-liddicoatite, Fluor-schorl, Foitite, IMA2009-088, Liddicoatite, Luinaite-(OH), Magnesiofoitite, Olenite, Oxy-dravite, Oxy-rossmanite, Oxy-schorl, Povondraite, Rossmanite, Schorl, Unnamed (F-analogue of Elbaite), Unnamed (Mn-dominant tourmaline), Unnamed (Pb-dominant tourmaline), Uvite, and Vanadiumdravite).

We try to start (and end) on time (though we often finish a little early); 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, but please feel free to come even if you can't bring a specimen). We hope you can join us as we learn about minerals from each other.

Treasure Report:

Dave Lehker

May	2011	Treasurer's	Report	Income:		
Beginning		Balance:	\$7253.14	Dues:	\$335	
Expenses:		Photographs:	\$19.02	Patches:	\$20	
Show		awards:	\$25.00	Lunch:	\$20.65	
Copies:			\$13.50	Donations:	\$58.65	
Total		Expenses:	\$57.52	Total	Income:	\$433.65
				Ending	Balance:	\$7629.27

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Board Meeting April

Jim Elliot welcomed all board members and members to meeting and called our meeting to order. We are planning on a August board meeting to be scheduled at a later date.

-
- Secretary** No minutes were read, but were published in Arrowhead News -Thank You Julie. If corrections need to be made please contact me.
-
- Treasurer** No additions to report.
-
- Program** 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** Thanks to everyone from John Kuipers. John and Elsie have the table coverings for 2012, but someone else can store them after the next show.
- Contract changes for show dealers in the works and Julie D will update board when process is finalized. Theme for 2012 show is EGGs- if you have ideas to share or work on please contact Donkers.
-
- 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.
-
- Librarian** No new report
-
- Historian** No new discussions
-
- Membership** Many new members from April show.
-
- Sales** Ed K was approved to purchase ads for the summer sale.
-
- Old Business** Vests to be made, labels for periodic tables will be needed soon and suggestion that LaDonna be given a periodic table to use for Junior members was well supported.
-
- New Business** Jim Splane and Randy Smith are working to set up a rock shop for members to have access to. A survey will be taken this summer/fall to see where member interest is. IMRMC will be a sponsor - details to be determined.
- Suggestions: info packet[s] for visitors and new members, designated host/hostess for guests/new members, board contact sheet – generate, revise and communication details to be established.
-

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	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

Field Trips Kreigh Tomaszewski

My new business for the meeting is a proposal to make Ron Kragt, owner of the Alabastine Mine, an honorary club member. I would like to see if we could get Mary Jane Dockeray, Patricia Videtich, or Kevin Cole to present a program on the geology of the Alabastine Mine and invite Ron to the meeting to receive the honor and maybe share some history and personal perspective on owning a mine. This could be tabled to the September meeting, but I want to get it on the formal agenda.

My report as Field Trip Chair is that I have received my Mine Safety and Hazard Awareness Certification, and that I am now able to schedule Alabastine Mine trips directly with the owner instead of having to work thru GVSU. I have a trip scheduled for Oct 29, and have reserved dates in Jan., Mar., and May for additional trips this club year.

BTW, I suspect we are the only club in the US with direct access to an underground mine; this really is a big deal and the Geology Department at GVSU has really stepped up for the club to make our access possible. Please take every opportunity to thank a professor from GVSU for helping the club with mine access.

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And if Editor Donna does not have a report (she is traveling and may not be back in time for the board meeting) I want to make sure the club knows she placed in the top ten in the new editor bulletin contest. We need to recognize the talent we have in the club, but we also need to support our editor with articles. When was the last time you write a field trip report or an article about your favorite mineral?

My round-robin comment is that I am working on a deal for some hi-grade 'pocket mud' from the Himalaya Mine. If it works out I should be able to have small bags that could be used with the juniors (at a very nominal less-than-cost) that would be guaranteed to contain at least one tourmaline specimen. They could have a field trip at a meeting.

See you all at the regular September meeting.

YOU FOUND ONE OF THOSE?

Don Van Dyke submission

It is a known fact that some of the miners working Michigan's native copper mines were thieves as well as miners. We have read of the practice in a number of books and other publications, and personally, we have found several 'half breeds' (native copper and native silver combined on the same specimen) that showed evidence that silver had been chiseled off.

Recently I read NEWS FROM THE KEWEENAW in the summer issue of ROCK'S & MINERAL MAGAZINE. It shed some new (to me) light on the practice. In the article by Tom Rosemeyer he mentions a find of over a hundred thirty half-breeds in a small area. Apparently one of the mining employees who worked on the surface worked in the area where the ore was inter-piled with logs and burned in order to make the rock easier to break up with the mechanical stamps. This man was able to 'sneak home' some of the pieces that he found which contained silver. At his isolated cabin he would chisel off the pure silver projections, and throw the remainder of the piece away. What makes these half-breeds different is that when the piles were burned, the heat was intense enough to partially melt the silver! (If you have an interest in the Copper Country I urge you to obtain a copy of the magazine.)

Fast forward 150 or so years, The Van Dykes, the Kings and their friend from Arizona, Donn Kuson were detecting in the area of the Cliff Mine. (The location of the above find.) We were not doing that great, over the years the area has been heavily detected, so finds

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were few. Finally, in a small area near the tailings pile we had a few 'hits', a chisel chip, a couple small 'nuggets', and another chisel chip, certainly nothing to write home about.

Back home, it was time to clean up our finds. First a good rinse revealed a couple small but interesting finds, one is a nice thumbnail, a quartz, copper, silver half-breed, another a 'nugget' about the size of a nickel that appeared to be almost all silver! A soaking in sulfamic acid changed its appearance entirely; it is a copper nugget with a coating of melted silver. Near one end there is a droplet of silver, the other end shows clear evidence of being 'clipped.'

Has our find any connection with the find mentioned in the article? It was not in the same area of the mine. Was this a common practice, high grading from the 'burn piles' as well as from the mines themselves? It was noted in the article above that the Cliff Mine recorded a production of 60,000 ounces of silver, and that a much higher amount of silver was high graded by the miners! By the way, Native silver melts at about 893 degrees C., while native copper melts at 1084 degrees C.



Rance and Anne Westover saw this cow moose and he calf between Marquette and Norway in the U.P. Photo by Westover's

Arrowhead News



Curating a Collection

by Kreigh Tomaszewski

You have caught the rockhound disease. If it is not grown, it must be mined. You have started collecting specimens that come out of our Earth. What are you going to do with all those rocks? There are three big choices; shelves, cabinets, and the yard.

Shelves put your specimens on display. They take up wall space. They need to be cleaned if not kept behind glass. Labels help.

Cabinets can make for compact storage but imply some organization so you can find any specific specimen.

Putting specimens into the yard greatly enhances your landscape and reminds you of collecting trips you have taken. However, it only confuses everyone else since they have no clue where the unusual rocks came from.

Every rock/mineral specimen you collect came from some specific location. This is probably the only scientific fact about your specimen that can't be determined independently. If you want to curate a collection you need to record where each specimen came from.

The easy solution is to put a label next to each specimen. Good luck with that. Show your collection to a few kids and adults and the labels and specimens will be mixed up.

Do you remember your library card catalog? It used to be in drawers, but it is probably on-line now. You could search by author or title or catalog number. It works for rock and mineral specimens too.

Every time you collect a new specimen put a sequential number label onto it. Put the same number onto the label that identifies the specimen (and where it was collected). Create a catalog card entry with the number that records all the other details about the specimen.

If the specimen and label get separated you can reunite them since they share the same sequential number. You can find out all details in the catalog from the label or specimen using the common shared sequential number. The catalog lets you know what specimens you have (and if you keep good records, it will even tell you where the specimen is stored).

Now that you know what rocks and minerals you have collected you can actively curate your collection. You really don't need 24 specimens of pyrite unless you are focusing on collecting pyrite localities. It is time to prune your collection to the best specimens and sell/trade/gift the others.

It is time to ask, "What is your collecting focus?" Are you a Calcite collector? Do you want fossils? Are you into Agates? Are you a mineral species collector? Does petrology float your boat?

You also need to know what is going to happen to your collection in the future. If you are curating a collection your "Will" needs to specify what will happen to it when you pass on (if you don't, it might be discarded as gravel).

Curation implies receiving from previous and current generations, and passing it on to future generations. How are you making sure your collection will be appreciated by the next generation?

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Thank you to all that have contributed: Kreigh Tomaszewski, Don Van Dyke, Nancy Spalenka, Rance & Ann Westover, John & Julia Donker, Rhonda Leep, Brad Smith, and Ed Krzemski.

This has to be one of the hardest newsletters for me to write. My goal is to get this newsletter to you as quickly as possible. For those that have not heard, Jim Splane passed away in August. I am sure that he touched everyone in our club, his agates were very special. We have lost a wonderful collector and after reading Kreigh **Curaing a Collection**- we all need to designate were our beloved finds will go. Even I would not be able to tell what is what. He will be missed.

At the end of September I was given the opportunity to visit my 2nd grandson that lives in WA State. There is nothing like looking into their eyes and know that you are passing down your passions to them. My other grandson that lives in Grand Rapids, he's three, loves to looks at my rocks and we dig for them in the yard.

On another note: **YOUR** Newsletter of October 2010 won 7th place in the **AFMS Bulletin Editor's Contest!!!** All of you have contributed to making this newsletter positive. So, we need to think about next year. The newsletter had a score sheet and they look for certain things- such as names placed by the photo's (working on it this year), spelling (which- any article with "specific rocks and mineral spelling, I am working on), programs, upcoming events, Field Trips, ... All of us have the ability to write and submit an article for the contest. In upcoming issue I will let you know what the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies contest is about. Until then...

Donna L Grisetto

We act as though comfort and luxury were the chief requirements of life, when all that we need to make us really happy is something to be enthusiastic about. -Charles Kingsley

The 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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ARROWHEADNEWS

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