

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

The Badger Lapidary and Geological Society, Inc.

Monroe, Wisconsin

Devoted to the Earth Sciences

Vol. 46, No 5

May 2011

President's Message

Dear Badgers,

The Badger Club Picnic is on Saturday June 11th and will be held at the Northeast Park at the end of 5th Street one block from where Hwy K / 59 intersects Hwys 11 & 81 in Monroe (Thanks for setting this up Daisy). The picnic will start at 10 AM at the shelter. The shelter includes the grills, tables, bathrooms, electricity and we are allowed to have beer and wine. There is a playground and baseball diamond nearby. Please bring folding chairs for yourself and of course please bring a mineral from your collection or a recent find to show off at the "What's Rockin' Table". The club will provide charcoal, burgers, brats, & marinated chicken on the grill as well as plates, utensils, and condiments. Everyone else please bring your own drinks and a dish to pass such as a salad, fruit, casserole, or desert. Please RSVP to Laurie Trocke lor3@netscape.com or call us at ph: 608-935-0597 so we can be prepared to bring enough meat & buns for everyone.

Teri Marche has kindly offered to run the screen printing activity at the picnic so everyone should bring a dark colored article of clothing that they would like screen printed with the Badger Lapidary Club logo (i.e. shirts, jacket, book bag, boxers, nightgown, etc.).

We should have information at the picnic about the June 26 Field trip to Door County.

Given our recent geode trip we plan to have the geode cracker at the picnic so please bring your geodes to crack & geode cracking tools if you have them and we will again have a crackalackin good time!

I thought I should give a quick trip report on the May 28th - 30th three state trip to collect geodes in Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri.

First stop was Jacob's Geode Mine in Hamilton, IL, where we found hard digging, intermittent rain then shine, but thankfully lots of geodes! Both life and Jacob's geodes are like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're going to get. We found geodes filled with quartz crystals, quartz chalcedony, calcite, Kaolinite (white clay), rust, dolomite, rusty dolomite, and sphalerite primarily in the flattened pancake geodes. Lisa from Illinois was digging in the hard clay wall next to me when she accidentally struck a geode with her hammer, breaking it open to reveal the beautiful bubbly purple & blue semi translucent chalcedony inside. I haven't cracked many of my finds yet and can only hope I have one like it in my buckets as it was magic.

True to form Sunday morning brought storms with 70 mile per hour winds and hail which did not stop us from driving to the Hill Top Mud Bog in St. Francisville Missouri where the weather cleared and the owner, Randy, was a big help pulling our tools down into the dig area and buckets of finds back out with his 4 wheel ATV and trailer. Despite there being huge geodes laying all about the place I think many of us took home less material than we would have liked. Many of these monsters showed the battle scars from past inadequate attempts to crack them and had been rejected as too heavy, thus expensive and likely solid by previous rockhounds. We could have dug vertically through shale to explore for new ones, but I for one was simply too sore from hammering the clay wall at Jacob's the day before. We did have some luck pulling a few geodes and some beautiful hexagonaria petrified coral from the river behind the dig area though. Apparently some members of our group were following the river bed which entered the neighbors land and were asked to keep off by the neighbor who stated he was sick of people crossing onto his property from the Mud Bog. I guess he wasn't sick enough to actually post his land boundary in a way that a person could see from the river. Sigh... Unfortunately the neighbor has done little reading about the public ownership of and access to waterways in the United States (see <http://www.nationalrivers.org/us-law-public.htm>). The good news is that he only came down with his dogs and not also his shotgun which should probably be considered friendly when trespassing in Missouri. ☺ Karen at least was highly amused that she can now cross "rock poaching" off her bucket list and we all had a good laugh. I fear we've become a bad influence on this wonderful lady.

The last stop was to Wildcat Park in Hamilton IL recommended by Teri and Cathy. The kids swam for hours in the main river. Jack Hoxie followed the river to some rocky sand bars extending out into the river bed (upriver from the campgrounds) that were loaded with different types of Geodes. Most of them were solid, but about one out of 6 had a good cavity. Kim Hoxie found a geode that when cracked open had a nice crystal cavity lined with rare pink quartz. It was perhaps a dusting of hematite included in the crystal that gave the crystal this distinctly pink color, but who can say without access to an x-ray diffraction machine? I hope she brings it to a meeting. There were also many broken geode halves lying about as well with great crystals and what Teri Marche would call "monkey brain chalcedony". I had long assumed "monkey brain" was common mineral terminology for this smooth bubbly grey or tan chalcedony, but interestingly if you Google "monkey brain geode" or "monkey brain chalcedony" no results will be found. So I can only conclude that the adjective "monkey brain" must be a colloquial Badger Club term whose time has come for global acceptance and is now at least published in our esteemed newsletter.

I hope all of you are having a great summer and can join us for the upcoming picnic and fieldtrips.

Dan Trocke



Officer Roster:

President, Field Trip Chair

Dan Trocke
4771 County II
Highland, WI 53543
608-935-0597
dtrocke@acscm.com

Vice-President

Mary Westby
503 East Fulton Street
Edgerton, WI 53534
608-884-3968
waylonsmom@hotmail.com

Secretary

Ralph Burgener
602 4th Street
Brodhead, WI 53520
doorstop58@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Donna Reese
6388 Nimitz Road
Loves Park, IL 61111
815-885-1410
reesedlr@aol.com

Editor

Laurie Trocke
4771 CTH II
Highland, WI 53543
lor3@netscape.com

Show Chairperson

Teri Marche'
5415 Lost Woods Court
Oregon, WI 53575
608-835-2653
tmarche@education.wisc.edu

Officer at Large

Tyrel Rouse
234 Randolph Drive, #114
Madison, WI 53717
608-235-2865
karmacop_7@hotmail.com

Meeting Minutes May 14,2011

The May meeting was called to order by show chair Teri Marche.

This month's meeting activity was hand polishing a piece of fluorite. Dan Trocke donated a flat of very nice blue and purple fluorite collected in southern IL. Teri headed up the project and gave everyone detailed instruction and material on how to complete the task. The meeting continued while everyone worked on polishing the piece of fluorite. With the sounds of sanding and polishing in the background we moved on.

There were no new members or guests at this meeting.

Dave Reese made a motion to accept the April meeting minutes and printed in the newsletter. Marv Hanner seconded the motion. Motion passed, the minutes were approved and accepted.

Next up was Donna Reese and the treasurer's report. The club is in good financial standing. The insurance and all other club fees have been paid.

The announcements and reminders were about the upcoming field trip to Jacobs Geode Mine on May 28th. Dave Reese announced that the Rockford club will be sponsoring a rock show at the Odd Fellow Hall in Rockford IL. It is located on Forest hills Road just off Riverside.

The first door prize was won by Karen Rusch. It was a nice Herkimer Diamond.

Next up was old business. Brian Green announced he has received permission for the club to go the Stockton, IL quarry. This quarry is a great place to dig for galena in the hillside or many different minerals in the lime rock. Some of the mineral deposits are fluorescent.

This field trip is set for Saturday July 23. The June 25th field trip will be for fossils in Door County and the July 9th field trip will be to the Rockford, IA Fossil Park. The fossil collecting at this park is mostly surface hunting and the fossils are in clay not matrix. A screw driver works well to pop them out.

Teri Marche won the second door prize. It was an awesome piece of Goethite Crystal.

New Business was mainly a discussion about the June Meeting. The June meeting is also the club picnic. It's scheduled for

Saturday June 11th at the Monroe Recreation Park. It will be at same location as last year. (Note from the editor, see the correction later in the newsletter regarding the location of the picnic). The club will supply the meat and the buns. Everyone attending is asked to bring a dish to pass and their own beverages. Don't forget to bring your lawn chairs. There is a covered pavilion in case of rain. Daisy Peterson will get more information including directions to the park to Laurie for the newsletter. This info will be helpful with all the road construction going on in Monroe. We will also have the geode crackers at the park, so bring your geodes.

Next up was Show Business. Teri asked everyone to start thinking of a theme for next year's show. We will discuss the ideas at the fall meeting.

The third door prize was won by Daisy Peterson. It was a Trilobite from Utah.

A special thank you to Dave and Donna Reese for supplying the lunch.

Marv Hanner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Daisy Peterson. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted By

Ralph Burgener



What's Rockin'

Once again the what's rockin' table had a fine display of members favorite specimens. The Marche's had a candy box filled with Garnet Rock Candy some that looked quite edible, a Quarts cluster from Mt. Ida Arrow head mine, Diplomystis fossil from Green River Wyoming, Coral Favosites fossils and Gastropod Maclurites fossils from Dodgeville WI. . Dave Reese brought some Copper Minerals that he grew from dissolving copper in vinegar, then letting the vinegar evaporate to grow the crystals. He also had some Geodes from Jacobs in Hamilton so people could see what they would be looking for on the May field trip. Marv Hanner had some Horn Coral that he found in Rufers Quarry. Green's brought a Keswick Agate from Keswick IA..

The Green's

Club Calander

- June 11th: Annual Picnic
- June 25th: Field Trip – Door County Fossils, Mike Riesch
- July 9th: Field Trip – Fossil Park, Rockford, IA
Jordan Marche'
- July 23rd: Field Trip – Stockton, IL Quarry, Brian Green
- August 13th: Belleview Agate Pits
- August 27th: Beloit Quarries, Ralph Burgener
- Sept 10th: Meeting – Show & Tell
- Sept 24th: Field Trip – Wendling Quarry?? Teri Marche'
- October 8th: Meeting – Lapidary Day, Trocke's
- October 22nd: Field Trip – Cave in Rock, IL
- Nov 12th: Meeting – Flint knapping, Kevin Ponzio
- Nov 26th: No trip – Thanksgiving
- Dec 10th: Annual Party
- Dec 24th: No trip – Christmas

Upcoming Club Events

June 11: Annual Club Picnic

There has been a change in the location for the picnic this year. It has been moved to the Northeast Park in Monroe, WI. It is located on 5th St and 27th Ave in Monroe. The meat, buns & condiments will be provided by the club. Please bring a dish to share and drinks. Also, we will have geode crackers there, so bring your geodes to open up and see what treasures they contain!

June 25th: Door County Field Trip

July 9th: Rockford, IA Fossil Park

Please see the wonderful article from Jordan Marche' regarding this field trip.

July 23rd: Stockton, IL

This quarry is a great place to dig for galena in the hillside or many different minerals in the lime rock. Some of the mineral deposits are fluorescent. More information and sign up sheets will be available at the picnic.

Upcoming Mineral Related Events

Viroqua Rock, Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show-2011

Saturday June 4, 10:00 to 5:00pm

Sunday June 5, 10:00 to 4:00pm

Viroqua Middle School Gymnasium

June 4-5—MARION, KENTUCKY: Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum; Fohs Hall, North Walker St.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; day and night digs, dealers, free children's activities, speakers, silent auctions, hourly door prizes; contact Tina Walker, P.O. Box 391, 205 North Walker St., Marion, KY 42064, (270) 965-4263; e-mail: beclement@att.net; Web site: clementmineralmuseum.org

Sac & Fox Lapidary Fairfield, IA: We have our "rock swap" 6-11-11, 8am to 1pm. Howard Park, Fairfield, IA

June 11—SKOKIE, ILLINOIS: "Geodefest"; Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society; St. Peter's United Church of Christ gymnasium, 8013 Laramie Ave., across from the Skokie Public Library; Sat. 1-5; free admission; geode cracking demonstrations, educational

exhibits, free rock and geode identification, geode sales; contact Jeanine Mielecki, (773) 774-2054; e-mail: jaynine9@aol.com; Web site: www.chicagorocks.org

Upcoming Local Events

June 4: National Trails Day

June 4 & 5: Free Fishing Weekend

June 5: State Park Open House

June 4th: Cows on the Concourse – Capital Square, Madison:

See cows and calves, participate in activities and enjoy live entertainment. Fun for all ages! Event highlights: Milk Mustache Mobile Tour "Milk the Moment," visit three cow petting areas, ask our "Moo Experts" your bovine questions, tempt your taste buds with ice cold milk, grilled cheese sandwiches and cream puffs, stay for lunch and visit our grilled cheese stand, enjoy live entertainment and visit with special guests.

June 10th: Cars on the Square – Monroe, WI: Classic cars on display, prizes, food. Historic Courthouse Square

June 10th & 11th: Cajun Fest – Prairie du Chien, WI:

Enjoy a "Taste of Louisiana" with authentic Cajun food and Louisiana Beers, Cajun music, various ball games all weekend St. Feriole Ball Park Grounds

June 11th: Old Time Cheesemaking – Monroe, WI:

The members of the National Historic Cheesemaking Center will be making our second annual wheel of Swiss cheese, led by Green County's Wisconsin Master Cheesemakers, who will be making cheese the old fashioned way - hand-stirred in a copper kettle. Enjoy music with food and beverages, featuring signature cream puffs and "Masters" grilled cheese sandwiches. The demonstration will take place in a circa late 1800's authentic farmstead cheese factory, featuring the original equipment that was used when the Imobersteg Family made cheese using the milk from the cows of their herd.

June 12th: American Indian Artifacts Show – Elkhart Lake:

The Badger State Archeological Society offers a look through time with American Indian displays. Selling, buying, trading, hayrides and surprises for archeological buffs, collectors and the public. Henschel's Museum of Indian History

This is only a very small sampling of all of the wonderful events and festivals going on in Wisconsin in the Month of June. From Dairy Days to Ethnic Festivals, there is no end of fun things to do! For more information, go to

http://www.wistravel.com/wisconsinevents_june.htm.



July 9, 2011 Field Trip — Rockford (IA) Fossil and Prairie Park Preserve

by Jordan Marché

On Saturday, July 9, I will lead a field trip to Rockford, Iowa's Fossil and Prairie Park Preserve — the nearest of three fossil parks in the U.S. where public collecting is permitted. The other two sites are located in Sylvania, Ohio and Hamburg, New York — both of which I have visited and previously written about in the *Badger Diggin's*. Fossils at Rockford come from the Devonian-age Lime Creek Formation, also known as the Rockford Shale, which contains a diverse assemblage of brachiopods, corals, gastropods, bivalves, and other invertebrate animals. Reportedly, the remains of primitive fossil fish (e.g., armored placoderms) have also been recovered from the same unit, although they are quite rare.

The Fossil Park is located on the site of the former Rockford Brick and Tile Company, which once extracted the bluish shale and clay to produce agricultural drainage tiles. Some of the beehive-shaped kilns in which the tiles were hardened can still be observed on the park grounds. After the company ceased its operations, the land was donated for the purpose of allowing visitors to come and collect their own fossils. There is no admission fee, but donations are welcome. A new interpretive center was opened in 2001, which includes displays on the region's geology, history, and ecology. The former should enable even novices to identify the principal types of fossils that they find in the Park.

Collecting at the Park is perfectly safe and 'low-energy' — ideal for children and families. The collecting grounds are not located in a rock quarry but instead encompass several large, shallow pits having gently sloping walls. As the shale and clay erodes after a heavy rain, new fossil material is continually exposed. Most fossils can be obtained simply by surface collecting, although a small pointed tool such as a screwdriver or ice pick can be used to dig out those still partially embedded. A small trowel or pointed mason's trowel is especially good for more active digging/excavation. But leave the rock hammers and sledges behind! No hard hat, safety glasses, or steel-toed boots are required,

either. One or more small buckets, handle bags, or a backpack can be used to hold your discoveries. Tissues or paper towels should be used to wrap the more delicate specimens, while a divided box can help you to organize your finds as they are collected. Be sure to bring a sun hat and plenty of water, as the weather will almost certainly be warm. Insect repellent may also be desirable.

The tentative plan is to meet at the Fossil Park at 10 a.m.; to collect for a few hours; then break for lunch and identify your finds; and then (if desired), to collect some more until you are ready to head back for home. Because of the distance involved (about 4-5 hours from Monroe), you may wish to stay overnight on the evening before (accommodations listed below). For those doing the trip as a single-day activity, however, just plan to arrive whenever you want. Bring your own picnic lunch and beverages; while snacks and some drinks (along with restrooms) may be available at the interpretive center (open daily from 1 – 4 p.m.), the fare is probably limited. Carpooling is recommended, to share expenses on gas and accommodations. I will pass around a sign-up sheet at the June meeting, for anyone interested in going. I will also post an e-mail reminder, much like this article, in early July to our regular club and MWF mailing list. Hope to see you there!

Address: Rockford Fossil and Prairie Park Preserve
1227 215th Street
Rockford, IA 50468
(641) 756-3490
<http://www.fossilcenter.com>

Accommodations: Super 8 Motel
1411 South Grand Avenue
Charles City, IA
(641) 228-2888

Wyatt Park Campgrounds
105 1st Avenue Northwest
Rockford, IA 50468
(641) 756-3718

Comfort Inn
410 5th Street Southwest
Mason City, IA
(641) 423-4444



Driving directions (from Prairie du Chien, WI):

Follow Highway 18 west across the Mississippi River into Iowa, as far as Charles City. There, Highway 14 joins 18 (briefly). At South Main Street, take a left to follow Highway 14 alone. Proceed about 7 miles, where Highway 14 turns left at its intersection with T38 (Lance Avenue). After about a half-mile, turn right onto Highway 147 (T24) toward Rockford. Stay on Highway 147 (East and West Main Avenue) through town. Turn left onto 8th Street Southwest (Highway B47 = 215th Street). Follow B47 to the entrance of Fossil Park (on the right side). Note (for those who may be digitally challenged) — Rockford, IA appears on p. 20 of the Iowa *Gazeteer*.

Rockford is located on the Shell Rock River in Floyd County; fishing is possible (with a license).

Other attractions: Floyd County Museum and Historical Society & Marble Rock Historical Society

Why The MWF by Cindy Root, 1st Vice President

It doesn't matter which club you belong to, you will eventually hear someone ask, "Why do we have to belong to the Midwest Federation and pay for their insurance?" Really, that's two questions.

First let's deal with the insurance question. You don't have to purchase insurance. The insurance is there to protect your club on field trips and during shows. If your club does neither, you wouldn't need it. If your club only has a portion of the membership who participates on field trips, you wouldn't need coverage for your entire club. I've heard clubs talk about getting their own insurance. Good luck. Who will you have take care of the business end of getting insurance and where will you get as cheap a rate? Check into it. People have and they've been very unpleasantly surprised.

The big question – why should be belong to the Midwest Federation? Here are some questions for you.

Where else will you find the resources available to your club than membership with the Midwest Federation? There are programs available for your club to use on almost any rock-hounding subject for only five dollars to cover postage and insurance. Have you ever been to a meeting where any of these programs have been used?

There are 34 committees with chairs. Has your club ever used one of these chairpersons as a resource? If not, why not?

Have you challenged yourself lately? There are several contests that occur every year with very few participants. What stops your club from entering any of these? The ones that particularly come to mind are Bulletin Editor, Articles and Website. Only three clubs entered the website contest this year. Why is that?

Have you ever visited the MWF website for information on programs, or who you could contact with questions or possibly even a committee chair in your area who might speak at one of your meetings? There are all sorts of resources available to you from the MWF. Are you aware that all of the club shows are listed by month on the website? Where else would your club get as much coverage? If you didn't send in your show information with your club registration, all it takes to get the information on the website is a simple e-mail. Have changes that need to be made to your information? That's as simple as an e-mail too.

Why aren't more people and clubs taking advantage of these resources? Do you get this information from your club's liaison to the MWF? Have you ever seen a MWF newsletter? Your liaison gets one every month—an AMFS newsletter too. Do they get circulated? Do you hear about the contests and other events taking place?

Ask your club's leaders about their interaction with the MWF. Do they participate or just complain? There's more to a rock hound club than preparing for the yearly show. If that's all you're getting, you need to expect more. How better to increase your participation and education concerning your hobby than to take advantage of the resources available to you by being a member of the Midwest Federation. No man is an island, but a rock club could be.

Probably the most important aspect of being an active member of the MWF is the people you will meet and the friends you will make. I'm certain that each of you has made friends among the members of your club. Think of that on a larger scale. You will be delightedly surprised at the knowledge and experience shared among MWF members. Why wouldn't you want to share in that benefit?

Are you aware that this year's convention is in Toledo and includes more than just meetings? Next year's will be in Minnesota and will be all about agates. Just because you're not the club liaison doesn't mean you can't come if you're interested.

● Geodes: A Look at Iowa's State Rock



by Brian J. Witzke

Crystals of quartz reflect from the partially hollow interior of this 8-inch diameter geode from the Warsaw Shale of southeastern Iowa.
Photo by Tim Kemmis

Iowa geodes have long been objects of curiosity, their sparkling interiors containing some of the most beautiful crystals to be found anywhere in the Midwest. Although geodes are known from many localities around the world, one of the most productive and famous collecting regions is encompassed within a 35-mile radius of **Keokuk**, Iowa. Rock collectors commonly refer to geodes from this region as "**Keokuk** geodes." In keeping with the world-renowned status of the Iowa geodes, the Iowa General Assembly declared the geodes as the official "State Rock" in 1967.



The word "**geode**" is derived from Latin meaning "earthlike," a reference to their rounded shape. Most Iowa geodes are roughly spherical, often lumpy or cauliflower-like in external form, with diameters typically ranging between about two and six inches. However, specimens up to 30 inches are known. The most prized geodes have hollow interiors, although many geodes are solid objects in which crystal growth has filled most or all of the interior volume. Although the distinction may seem subtle, it is important to contrast geodes with other crystal-lined cavities or "vugs." Geodes differ from vugs in

possessing an outer mineral layer which is more resistant to weathering than the host rock. As such, complete geodes commonly weather out of rock exposures and accumulate in stream bottoms. Crystal-lined vugs would not weather in such a manner.

Geodes from the **Keokuk** area contain a variety of minerals, but quartz is dominant in most. Quartz is silicon dioxide, the primary mineral in ordinary sand. Beautiful transparent to white quartz crystals cover the walls of many **geode** cavities. These crystals become larger and fewer in number towards the center of the **geode**, and terminate in characteristic pointed hexagonal pyramid shapes. Micro-crystalline quartz, or chalcedony, whose component crystals are too small to be seen with the naked eye, forms the outer shell in all "**Keokuk** geodes." Chalcedony layers also encrust the interior walls of many **geode** cavities, covering the surfaces of the earlier-generation quartz crystals in a variety of colors, including white, gray, blue, yellow and orange. Calcite is a common and attractive calcium carbonate mineral in many geodes, which occurs in a variety of crystal habits and colors. An additional 17 minerals have been identified in "**Keokuk** geodes." Some of the more noteworthy include: kaolinite, a white clay mineral; dolomite in saddle-shaped crystals; pyrite or fool's gold, an iron sulfide; and sphalerite, a blackish zinc sulfide.



Iowa's renowned "**Keokuk** geodes" can be found in specific stream drainages and excavations in parts of southeastern Iowa (especially in Lee, Henry, and Van Buren Counties), including the area near **Geode** State Park. Most geodes are derived from strata of the lower Warsaw **Formation**, a widespread rock unit of Mississippian age. Muds deposited in a shallow sea about 340 million years ago were primarily calcium carbonate and clay, and were subsequently lithified to form the shales, shaly dolomites, and limestones that we see today. Fresh geodes can be dug out of exposures of the lower Warsaw **Formation**, where they are concentrated in certain layers. Where water and streamflow have eroded these strata, concentrations of geodes may

accumulate in stream channels. Although the bulk of Iowa's geodes are derived from the Warsaw **Formation**, geodes also are known from other formations of Devonian and Mississippian age at scattered localities in eastern and central Iowa.

The origins of geodes have vexed geologists for a considerable time, and many hypotheses have been put forward. The most recent geologic research, however, agrees on three general points: 1) **Geode** precursors were concretions (nodules formed by outward growth around some nucleus) which grew within soft, unlithified sediment. 2) The outer shells of these concretions were replaced subsequently by chalcedony. 3) The interiors of the concretions were dissolved, leaving a hollow space into which quartz crystals could grow. The composition of the original concretions is unclear, though geologists propose they were either limestone or anhydrite, a fairly soluble calcium sulfate mineral related to gypsum.

The minerals now seen inside geodes were transported in groundwater solutions and then precipitated as replacements of the **geode** walls or as crystalline growths within their hollow interiors. The ultimate source of the mineralizing waters remains speculative. Many common **geode** mineral, especially quartz, are only weakly soluble. Therefore, substantial volumes of water had to migrate through the lower Warsaw strata to precipitate the observed minerals.

Collecting geodes can be both fun and educational. Once you've located exposures of lower Warsaw strata or a **geode**-bearing stream course, all that's required is a little patience and a good bricklayer's or rock hammer. A sharp blow with a hammer is usually sufficient to crack open individual geodes, exposing their crystalline interiors to daylight for the first time. Remember that most **geode**-collecting localities are on private land, and permission must be secured before entering.



*Additional information is found in Horick, P.J., 1974, The Minerals of Iowa: Iowa Geol. Survey, Educ. Series 2, 88 p.; Sinotte, S.R., 1969, The Fabulous **Keokuk** Geodes: Wallace-Homestead Co., Des Moines, 292 p.*

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Special Events

Copper Country Mineral Retreat

Information regarding The Copper Country Mineral Retreat, taking place during the week of August 8 thru the 13th, is now posted on the mineral museum website. The schedule of events, details, registration form, and lodging information is all available at www.museum.mtu.edu Click on the Copper Country Mineral Retreat tab to view these details. Make your plans now to attend this years' **COPPER COUNTRY MINERAL RETREAT!**

Rock & Mineral Swap Meet

The Rock River Valley Gem and Mineral Society of Rockford, Illinois is sponsoring a "If It Deals with Rock & Mineral Swap Meet" on Saturday, September 17, 2011 at the Odd Fellows Hall, 6219 Forest Hills Road, Rockford. 9:30am - 3:30pm. \$20 donation for a 10x10 space. Free Parking. Rain or Shine. Bring it, Swap it, Buy it, Sell it. CONTACT: Dave Reese 815-885-1410; dmreese56@hotmail.com.

Fun in the Mud



And Fun with Friends



Badger Lapidary & Geological Society, Inc.

Laurie Trocke, Editor

4771 CTH II

Highland, WI 53543

