

# ***THE BADGER DIGGIN'S***

***The Badger Lapidary and Geological Society, Inc.***

***Monroe, Wisconsin***

***Devoted to the Earth Sciences***

**Vol. 46, No 10**

**November 2011**

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## **President's Message**

Dear Badger's,

It is with much regret that I have to announce "This is the end", my last President's message. To quote another Badger-like, hole dwelling hobbit, over the last two years as your club president, I've come to know "half of you half as well as I should like, and I like less than half of you half as well as you deserve." (Bilbo Baggins). Fortunately, I'm not actually going anywhere and hope to continue to be active in the club and help with fieldtrips, Lapidary Day, the Show, etc. However, it is vital to a club's health to bring new blood in to participate in any way they are willing and able to do so. If this does not happen, the club will stagnate, like so many others have. All of us need to speak up; use our contacts and creativity; and of course, that famous rockhound affability, to keep the club an inspiration to rockhounds young and old. There are many ways to help the club out and be involved: volunteer trip ideas; submit articles to the newsletter; plan a display case; volunteer to be an officer; work at the show; and even work with your child's school to inspire future rockhounds!

That being said, we have two of our best rock hounding traditions coming up – The Badger Club Christmas Party on December 10<sup>th</sup>. This will be held at the World Buffet in Monroe at 5:30 pm, please let us know if you are planning to join us. We will vote in the new club officers, enjoy a wonderful meal and play the „Gold Brick Game“. Be sure to bring a few wrapped gifts along so you can play! We will also be opening the Swap Box that was sent to the club by the Spring River Gem & Mineral Club from Cherokee Village, Arkansas.

The other great tradition that is coming up is the March Show. There are all kinds of opportunities to volunteer to help before and during the show. We will be getting

flyers to pass out and hang up soon, fish pond bags to fill for the kids game (be sure you start setting aside any material to donate to the fish pond & spinner games), and advertising before the show. During the show, there is always set up & tear down work to do, we need people to help out at the club table, the front door and with the kid games. There are so many ways that you can be involved, so start thinking about what you would like to contribute to help make the Badger club show one of the best in the state!!

Finally, to quote Mr. Baggins again, "It's a dangerous business, going out your door. You step onto the road, and if you don't keep your feet, there's no telling where you might be swept off to." My wish for you is a new year of stepping out your front door and being swept off on many a rocky adventure!

Dan Trocke  
President



***Happy Holidays, Badgers !!***

## **Officer Roster:**

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## **Club Calander**

Dec 10<sup>th</sup>: Annual Party  
Dec 24<sup>th</sup>: No trip – Christmas  
Jan 14<sup>th</sup>: Meeting  
Jan 28<sup>th</sup>: Field Trip (TBD)  
Feb 11<sup>th</sup>: Meeting  
Feb 25<sup>th</sup>: Field Trip (TBD)  
Mar 10<sup>th</sup>: Meeting  
Mar 31 - Apr 1: Annual Show

**2012 Dues**  
  
**Are Due!**

## **November Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Minutes November 12, 2011

This month's meeting started out with a presentation on flint knapping from guest speaker Kevin Ponzio. He explained the different types of materials and tools used to make spear and arrow points. He demonstrated how to use the different tools for different sets of the knapping process and the importance of heat treating some materials.

Meeting was called to order by President, Dan Trocke.

Dan introduced our newest club members Deborah Grunwald and her son Garret.

The first topic on the agenda was the Treasurer's report. Donna reported the club expenses for lapidary days, to cover the food and equipment rental have been paid and the clubs finances are in order. She also asked that everyone who has not yet paid their membership due for next year please do so ASAP. Donna has to have our club membership money to the Midwest Federation by January 15 so we are included in the directory.

The first door prize winner was Erin Trocke. She won a very interesting fossilized tooth.

Next up was Old Business. Dan asked that we please use the sign-up sheet for the use of the clubs lapidary equipment and limit the length of time anyone keeps a machine if there are others on the waiting list. He went on to say he is not concerned about the time any equipment is kept if there are no names on the wait list.

The next old business discussed was the Christmas Party. It will be the second Saturday in December. (12/10/2011) Daisy will try to reserve the World Buffet in Monroe again this year. We had a great time there last year. They serve Asian and American food buffet style. After the meal, we will have a brief meeting and play the GOLD BRICK GAME. Dan will find the gold brick game and bring it to the party. Dan will send out an email confirming the location and time of the meeting/Christmas party.

Christian Rusch won the Second door prize. It was a very nice fern fossil.

For new business, Jordon Marche brought up the idea of putting together a club calendar that would feature pictures of rock and minerals collected by club member and could be sold at the Annual Rock and Mineral Show. He is currently checking on prices and is asking for some input and help. If we can get the print cost down and decide to go forward, any members interest in contributing photos are welcome to do so. Dan suggested if there are several members interested in working on this project, not to wait until the next meeting. Feel free to circulate emails and gather info and prices options.

The next discussion was on the nomination of new club officers. Ralph Burgener has volunteered to continue as

Secretary for the next year. Laurie Trocke will stay on as Newsletter Editor and Teri Marche will continue as Show Chairperson. All remaining officer positions are open for nominations. Several names were discussed for the various openings. If anyone wants to volunteer for a position or have nominations please contact Dan. Spring River Gem and Mineral Club has invited us to participate in a rock swap. Dan collected specimens at the meeting and is planning to send the box back ASAP in hopes of getting our return package before the Christmas party. The planning meeting will likely be in January again and all members are invited. Information regarding the location and time of the meeting will be emailed later. Dan will continue as field trip chairman but is looking for help from the club. We are always looking for new collecting sites.

Ken and Ted will continue to work on the website. It is up and running. Anyone with pictures or info pertaining to the club should send it to Ken Schweitzer. He is looking for pictures to post on the site. Anyone looking for the site, it is at [Badgerrockclub.org](http://Badgerrockclub.org).

Teri was up next with show business. This year's show theme will be Agate and Crystal Mysteries. She reports that 9 of the 10 dealers are set for the show. Teri is working on getting the homemakers set up for the food. She is also in the process of lining up guest speakers. Dan has some info and suggestions that have been sent to him, he will forward to Teri.

Thank you to Teri and Jordan Marche for the treats.

January's treats will be furnished by Neil and Linda Trickel.

The third, and final door prize was won by our newest member, Garrett Grunwald. It was a nice piece of Okenite.

Ralph Burgener made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jordon Marche seconded, meeting adjourned.

Submitted By

Ralph Burgener

## Upcoming Mineral Related Events

**December 9-11—LONGMONT, COLORADO:** Flatirons Mineral Club; Boulder County Fairgrounds Exhibit Bldg., 9595 Nelson Rd. (at Hover); Fri. 10-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; \$3 Fri., \$5 Sat. or Sun., contact Ray Gilbert, Flatirons Mineral Club, e-mail: HOSS1ONE@cs.com; <http://bcn.boulder.co.us/community/fmc/fmcshow.htm>

**December 9-11—NORCROSS, GEORGIA:** Mammoth Rock Shows LLC; North Atlanta Trade Center; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4 for 3 days, e-mail: [staff@mammothrock.com](mailto:staff@mammothrock.com); Web site: [www.mammothrock.com](http://www.mammothrock.com)

**December 10-11—FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE:** Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society; Williamson County AgExpoPark, 4215 Long Ln., I-65 exit 61; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4 (2-day pass \$6), students (13-18) \$1, children under 12 free with adult; e-mail: [show@mtgms.org](mailto:show@mtgms.org); Web site: [www.MTGMS.org](http://www.MTGMS.org)

## Upcoming Local Events for October

- **6 Oshkosh - EAA's Christmas in the Air.** A festive atmosphere, tasty refreshments, and holiday performances from local groups. Free, 2:30PM to 8PM. See Santa arrive by helicopter at approximately 6:30PM. Special performances by "Those Funny Little People", Wally and Victor, local musical, choral, and dance groups on four different stages. Just "Plane" Chocolate Holiday treat sampling begins at 5PM. EAA AirVenture Museum. For more information call (920) 426-4818
- **9 Baraboo - The Madison Brass.** A free concert featuring The Madison Brass. Al Ringling Theatre, downtown Baraboo. For more information call (608) 356-8864.
- **9 Monroe - Madison Youth Choir Holiday Concert.** The Madison Youth Choir, under the direction of Michael Ross, will perform holiday selections, and then will accompany Richard Hilger in his reading of Paul Gallico's The Snow Goose. Monroe Arts Center, 1315 11th Street. Event starts at 7:30PM. For more information call (608) 325-5700.
- **10 Madison - Handmade Madison.** A local arts and crafts bazaar, 7:30AM-2PM. Paintings, jewelry, pottery, clothing, soaps, and more. During Dane County Farmers Market. Buy local! Monona Terrace. For more information call (608) 852-4524.
- **10 Pleasant Prairie - Jelly Belly Christmas Event.** Featuring a decorated tour route, Picture with Santa, games, prizes, and entertainment for all ages. Jelly Belly Center, 10100 Jelly Belly Lane. For more information call (866) 868-7522.
- **11 Madison - Olbrich Gardens: Holiday Concerts.** Enjoy festive holiday music with a series of Sunday concerts in Olbrich's Evjue Commons. Olbrich Botanical Gardens, 3330 Atwood Ave. Event starts at 2:00PM. For more information call (608) 246-4550
- **15 Milwaukee - Trans-Siberian Orchestra in Concert.** TSO will rock your winter season, performing the timeless classic "Christmas Eve and Other Stories" in its entirety, followed by excerpts from the upcoming Rock Theater installment "Gutter Ballet and The New York Blues Express". 4PM & 8PM. Bradley Center, 1001 N 4th St. For more information call (800) 745-3000.
- **16 Dodgeville - Holiday Concert & Tree Lighting.** Hear the Monroe Swiss Singers perform traditional Swiss and German songs at the nationally registered, historic Plum Grove Church. Followed by group singing and candle lighting of a 14 ft. tree inside Farwell Hall. Folklore Village, 3210 County Road BB. For more information call (608) 924-4000
- **27 - 29 Kenosha - Kenosha Public Museum Frost Fest.** Free family activities with a different theme each day. Kenosha Public Museum, 5500 1st Ave. Event starts at 1:00PM and ends at 4:00PM. (262) 653-4140
- **31 Plymouth - New Year's Eve Cheese Drop.** The highlight of the evening will be the "cheese drop", taking place in the parking lot of the Plymouth Family Restaurant (right next door to the Arts Center). The "Big Cheese" will drop exactly at midnight! The public is invited to watch - admission to the Cheese Drop is free, and complimentary refreshments will be served. Plymouth Arts Center, 520 East Mill St. Event starts at 8:30PM and ends at 1:00AM. For more information call (920) 892-8409.
- **31 Portage - New Year's Eve at Cascade Mountain.** Skiing and snow tubing until midnight. Also fireworks and music. Cascade Mountain, W10441 Cascade Mountain Rd.. For more information call (608) 742-5588.
- **31 Prairie du Chien - Droppin' of the Carp.** A unique countdown to the New Year. Festivities begin at 9pm. Bonfire, music, food, and the special "Lowering of the Carp" countdown at 11:59PM. Downtown.. Event starts at 9:00PM and ends at 12:00AM. For more information call (608) 326-8602.

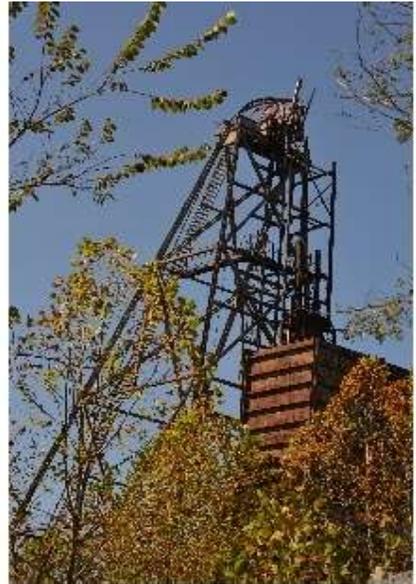
# CHRISTMAS PARTY!!

**JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY. IT WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 10TH, STARTING AT 5:30. IT WILL BE AT THE WORLD BUFFET IN MONROE.**

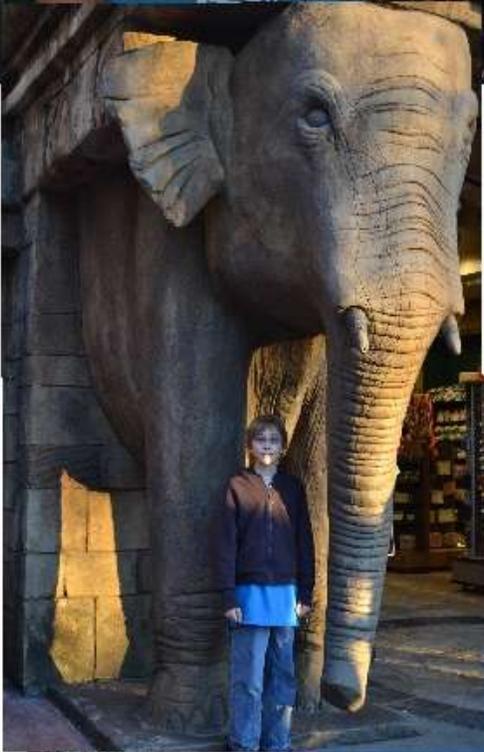


**WE WILL BE PLAYING THE GOLD BRICK GAME AGAIN THIS YEAR, SO BRING 2-3 SMALL, WRAPPED GIFTS ALONG AND JOIN IN THE FUN!!**





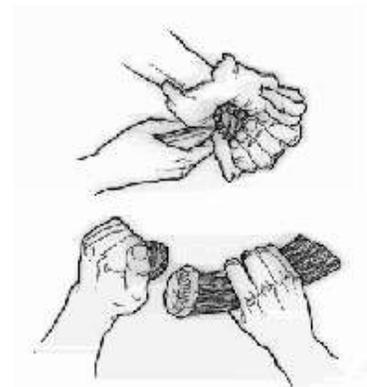
**Cave In Rock Fluorite Trip**



**The Trocke's in Florida**



Flint  
Knapping  
with Kevin  
Ponzio!



2011 has been a wonderful year, full of  
fun and amazing journeys!



I hope you have a wonderful Holiday  
Season and that we continue to have  
grand adventurers in 2012! Laurie Trocic (editor)

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