

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

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

***Monroe, Wisconsin***

***Devoted to the Earth Sciences***

**Vol. 47, No 3**

**March 2012**

## **President's Message**

Dear Badgers:

Our 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Show is only about a month away. As always, it is the club's most visible expression within the Monroe community, and our biggest fundraising event of the year. And we need everyone's help to insure its success.

Setup for the show begins around 4 p.m. at the Monroe High School, on Friday, March 30, and continues into the evening. As show veterans know, a great many tables need to be set up, along with the club exhibit cases, lights, signs, and plenty of other tasks. Even if you can't be there from the start, please volunteer (as many of you have pledged) to pitch in and help whenever you can. The same will be true for teardown at the close of the show on Sunday night, April 1.

There are still a few exhibit cases that have not been 'claimed'. If you can put together an exhibit, either relating to the show theme or otherwise, then please offer to do so, and let Teri know of your intention. Unused exhibit cases will be taken down before the show starts.

**There has been a schedule change in the lineup of the show speakers.** Our two speakers from

Beloit College have had to exchange time slots, which means that Aaron Laurent will talk on Saturday at 1:30 p.m., and Stephen Ballou will speak at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Although our large printed posters will not reflect this change, our newer publicity will present the correct times of these talks.

**Our next meeting will take place at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 10 at Dan & Laurie Trocke's farm. Our principal activity will be hands-on fishpond bagging.** We still need additional materials for the bags, so please consider bringing any duplicate or surplus rocks, minerals, or fossils for the fishpond. We hope to assemble around a thousand bags. Please come out and help; this activity can be loads of fun. We are also grateful that Dennis and Mary Westby have agreed to run the fishpond and spinner games for us again this year.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting, and soon thereafter at the show.

Jordan Marché

BLGS president

## ***Officer Roster:***

### **President**

Jordan Marche'  
5415 Lost Woods Ct  
Oregon, WI 53575  
608-835-2653  
[jdmarcheii@gmail.com](mailto:jdmarcheii@gmail.com)

### **Vice-President, Field Trip Chair**

Dan Trocke  
4771 County II  
Highland, WI 53543  
608-935-0597  
[dtrocke@acscm.com](mailto:dtrocke@acscm.com)

### **Secretary**

Ralph Burgener  
602 4th Street  
Brodhead, WI 53520  
608-897-2824  
[doorstop58@hotmail.com](mailto:doorstop58@hotmail.com)

### **Treasurer**

Daisy Peterson  
W4647 County Rd FF  
Monroe, WI 53566  
608-328-1523  
[daisyjovilu@gmail.com](mailto:daisyjovilu@gmail.com)

### **Editor**

Laurie Trocke  
4771 CTH II  
Highland, WI 53543  
608-935-0597  
[lor3@netscape.com](mailto:lor3@netscape.com)

### **Show Chairperson**

Teri MarchÉ  
5415 Lost Woods Court  
Oregon, WI 53575  
608-835-2653  
[tmarche@usnetizen.com](mailto:tmarche@usnetizen.com)

### **Officer at Large**

Marv Hanner  
PO Box 201  
Juda, WI 53550  
608-934-2001  
[tnmins@tds.net](mailto:tnmins@tds.net)

## **Club Calander**

- Mar 10<sup>th</sup>: Meeting: Trocke's Farm – Fish Pond Bagging
- Mar 31-Apr 1: Annual Show – Monroe High School
- Apr 14<sup>th</sup>: Meeting: Monroe Library – Hand Polishing and Other Hand's On Projects
- Apr 28<sup>th</sup>: Field Trip: The Grotto in Dickeyville, WI and Collecting in Graf, IA
- May 12<sup>th</sup>: Meeting: Monroe Library – Quarry Trip
- May 26<sup>th</sup>: Field Trip: Belleville, IA
- June 9<sup>th</sup>: Meeting: Annual Picnic – Monroe, WI
- June 23<sup>rd</sup>: Field Trip: Door County, WI
- July 14<sup>th</sup>: Field Trip: Shullsburg, WI
- July 28<sup>th</sup>: Field Trip: MN – Celebration of Agates Show
- Aug 11<sup>th</sup>: Field Trip: Utica, IL
- Aug 25<sup>th</sup>: Field Trip: Upper Michigan
- Sept 8<sup>th</sup>: Meeting: Monroe Library – Show & Tell
- Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>: Field Trip: Cedar Rapids, IA Area
- Oct 13<sup>th</sup>: Meeting: Trocke's Farm – Lapidary Day
- Oct 27<sup>th</sup>: Field Trip: Cedarburg, WI and Lake Michigan
- Nov 10<sup>th</sup>: Meeting: Monroe Library – Soap Stone Carving
- Dec 8<sup>th</sup>: Meeting: Monroe, WI – Annual Christmas Party

Note: There are no field trips in November & December due to the Holidays.

## Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes February 11, 2012

This month's meeting started off with a club Rock Swap and Sale. Several members brought in a variety of rocks and minerals to swap or sell to other club members. It was a great time to for everyone to pick up a few new rocks for their collections or just visit and share story of collecting trips.

The meeting was called to order by club president, Jordan Marche.

Erich Hessner made a motion to accept January minutes as written. Ted Tinker seconded the motion. Minutes were approved and accepted.

We had a guest this month, Susan Stanforth. She is the secretary of the Rock River Valley Gem and Mineral Society.

Next order of business was the treasurer's report. Daisy Peterson reports that club is in good standing. We still have a few people who have not paid their dues for 2012. Please do so ASAP. We have some checks coming in and going out for show related items. Daisy delivered our donation check for \$100 to the Monroe Library head librarian. They were very thankful and appreciate the donation.

Next topic on the agenda was announcements and reminders. This month's field trip will be February 25 at the UW Madison Geology Museum, then on the several area rock shops. Dan or Laurie will email a reminder with more details.

Old business was next. Daisy said she did some price check shopping on the cost of having the club mineral calendars printed. It looks like Walmart would still be the cheapest and most user friendly. Donna Reese said if we decided to try to sell some next year, we need to make a

small profit on them or it's not worth the trouble. Jack Hoxie would be willing to try to sell them at some shows this fall. The Freeport club's show is in the fall and we may be able to sell them there. Jordan suggested we all give this some thought over the summer and bring the topic up again this fall.

Ken Schweitzer has been named club webmaster. He reports that the website has been updated with the show information and the recent officer changes. He will continue to update the site on a monthly basis. It was brought up that the web domain on the club trailer is not correct. It needs to be updated to show our new web address. Dan will get the dimensions of the letters to Jordan. Ralph Burgener will contact Brodhead Sign Company to get pricing and wait for approval from Daisy.

The main discussion for new business was the field trip schedule for the upcoming year that was posted in last month's newsletter. There seemed to be a lot of interesting field trips planned. Looks like the field trip committee did a great job.

Jordan took over the show report for this meeting. He passed around sign-up sheets for the show. They were for helping with set-up and tear down, show cases and helping with the door and other show duties. The large show posters are ready. Daisy suggested we take some posters to local schools. The year is wrong on the posters so please fix them before they are put up. Jordan collected any fishpond donations and will get them delivered to the Trockes. The Westbys have volunteered to do the fishpond and spinner game. We will have a few new dealers at the show this year. Teri has the list. Jordan announces that he has lined up two speakers from the Beloit Collage this year. One will give a presentation on meteorites from Antarctica. The second is a geology major who will talk on the use of electron microscopes in

the study of geology and minerals. Mike Riesch will give a talk on mineral giants. Kevin Ponzio will give a presentation on flint knapping.

We had no door prizes at this meeting so we will have double prizes at the April meeting.

Thank you to the Hoxie family for the treats this month.

Jack Hoxie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Clay Schroll seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Don't forget, the March meeting will be at the Trocke's to fill fishpond bags.

Submitted by

Ralph Burgener

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on March 10<sup>th</sup> at Dan & Laurie Trocke's Farm. It will start at 10:00 am and we will be making the fish pond bags for the show. Please bring fish pond material and rocks for the spinner game. We really need donations this year! We will provide barbeque and buns and ask that you bring a dish to share. Dan has the barn sealed up and the wood furnace running, so it will be nice and warm, regardless of what the inconsistent March weather decides to throw at us!! We will send out an e-mail with directions in the next day or two. Hope to see everyone next weekend!! Laurie



Happy  
Saint Patrick's  
Day

## Upcoming Mineral Events

**March 2–4—Richmond, IN.** Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society's 39th Annual Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show, Wayne Cnty. Fairgrounds, 861 N. Salisbury Rd. Info.—John Lamont, 765/647-4894, or Dave Straw, 765/966-4249.

**March 10—Skokie, IL.** 63rd Annual Silent Auction, St. Peter's United Church of Christ, 8013 Laramie Ave. Info.—Jeanine N. Mielecki, 773/774-2054 or [jaynine9@aol.com](mailto:jaynine9@aol.com), or [www.chicagorocks.org](http://www.chicagorocks.org)

**March 16–18—Jackson, MI.** Michigan Gem and Mineral Society of Jackson's "50 is Golden" 50th Annual Show, Jackson Cnty. Fairgrounds, American 1 Event Center, 200 W. Ganson. Info.—[www.mgmsrockclub.com](http://www.mgmsrockclub.com).

**March 24–25—Sayre, PA.** Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club's 43rd Annual Club Show, Athens Twp. Fire Hall, 211 Herrick Ave. Info.—Bob McGuire, 570/928-9238, or [uvbob@epix.net](mailto:uvbob@epix.net), or [www.chehannarocks.com](http://www.chehannarocks.com).

### **March 31 – April 1 -- Badger Annual Rock, Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Show Event Details**

Badger Lapidary & Geological Society, Annual, Rock, Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Show, "The Agate & Crystal Mystery." Ten dealers, excellent speakers, many beautiful club displays, fluorescent mineral tent, lapidary demonstrations, club sales table, hourly door prizes, educational films. Activities for kids: Fishpond, spinner game, "Agate & Crystal Mystery scavenger hunt," quarry quest, fossil casting, and roving rock wizard. Free-will donation at the door and free parking. Food: Full Menu. This is a show that a family with \$10 can come in and have a whole day of fun.



## Upcoming Events

**9 - 11 Delavan - 2012 Delavan Train Show.** Door prizes. Food and beverages are available for purchase. Friday Noon - 5PM, Saturday 9AM - 4PM, Sunday 9AM - 2PM. Free admission. Delavan American Legion Hall, 111 S. 2nd Street. (262) 728-6052.

**9 - 11 Madison - Canoecopia.** Call for admission info - kids 17 & under are free. Alliant Energy Center, 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way. For more information call (608) 267-3976.

**9 - 11 Milwaukee - Cat In The Hat, Cat Show.** These are just a few of the breeds competing: Ragdolls, Siamese, Maine Coon, Sphynx (hairless cat) & more. 3820 S Pennsylvania Ave - Saint Francis. (262) 789-7850.

**10 Sarona - Full Moon Owl Program.** Join Chris Cold and his great horned owl for an evening program (8PM - PM) on Wisconsin owls. Following the program, an optional night hike for owls will be offered. Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary, N2384 Hunt Hill Road. For more information call (715) 635-6543.

**17 Avoca - St Patrick's Day Parade.** Wearing of the Green. Large parade with Cinderella carriage, bagpipers and Irish dancers among other Irish guests. Downtown. For more information call (608) 532-6433

**17 Monroe - St. Patrick's Day Parade / Great Gaelic Gala.** Great Gaelic Gala will precede the parade from Noon-3PM. A festive parade led off by the Irish flag - and full of Irish charm, bag pipers, and plenty of green adorning the local Irish and "Irish for a Day." Gala Noon-3PM (Turner Hall); Parade 3:17PM (Historic Square). Downtown. For more information call (608) 328-4023.

**17 - 18 Rothschild - Wisconsin River Woodcarvers Show and Competition.** The largest woodcarving show and competition in Central Wisconsin. Demonstrations and displays of carving techniques and tools. The Patriot Center, 10101 Market St. Event starts at 9:00AM and ends at 4:00PM. For more information call (715) 355-0011.

**19 Madison - Olbrich Gardens: Kicks for Kids.** Fun family concerts in the Conservatory featuring Family Folk Music, Songs & stories from around the earth(bilingual). \$1 donation appreciated. Olbrich Botanical Gardens, 3330 Atwood Ave. Event starts at 2:00PM and ends at 3:00PM. For more information call (608) 246-4550.

**23 - 25 Fond du Lac - Home & Garden Show.** Learn the latest products and techniques in home remodeling, building, and landscaping at this annual weekend-long home show. Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds, Hwy 45 S. For more information call (920) 922-9067.

**24 - 25 Burlington - Yo-Yo Convention and Toy Celebration.** Sorry, young children not admitted due to space and safety. Fun for ages 7-107! Spinning Top Yo-Yo Museum, 533 Milwaukee Ave. (262) 763-3946.

**24 - 25 Madison - Art Glass and Bead Show.** Nationally known instructors and vendors will be here with every product you need for your

next project at this popular show. There will also be hands-on projects and classes for all skill levels. Sat 10AM-5PM; Sun 10AM-4PM. Alliant Energy Center, 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way. For more information call (608) 267-3976.

**24 - 25 Neenah - Wisconsin Spring Bling Alpaca Show.** Alpaca breeders bring their best alpacas to compete for the best in their class. Judging, education, vendors, genuine alpaca products, fun kids classes, fleece show and spin-off. Sat 8:30AM-5PM, Sun 8AM-3PM or when judging ends. Tri County Ice Arena, 700 E Shady Lane. For more information call (815) 482-1298.

**24 - 25 Sturgeon Bay - Door County Home & Garden Show.** Over 30 booths showcasing builders, electronics, interior decorating, landscaping, appliances, banking, cabinets, ponds, window treatments, flooring and numerous other home seminars throughout the day. Stone Harbor Resort, 107 N 1st Avenue. For more information call (920) 743-6303.

**25 Monona - Maple Syrup Fest.** This year's Maple Syrup Fest will feature ten stations set throughout the nature center grounds that will lead visitors, at their own pace, through the history of maple syruping and related craft and activities. Call ahead for admission info. Aldo Leopold Nature Center, 330 Femrite Drive. For more information call (608) 221-0404

Think Spring!!  
Collecting Season  
is Just Around the  
Corner!



## A Few Quiet Moments in Tucson: The Tale of a Trademark Attack

Tucson was a blast this year. We had quite a crew, with all the Riesch clan, Mike, Ruth, and Shawn, along with their friend Paul, and our favorite Canadians, Jane Lagacé and Dave Zimmerman. The weather held fine and warm, and the shows fulfilled their promise, even if the prices on everything were notably higher this year. Still, there was plenty of beauty, lots to learn, and new things to see.

By the end of the week, when Dave and Jane (with whom I shared a room) had to leave early for home, I found myself with an hour to spare at our hotel. With a room facing west, the afternoon sun was pouring in, so I decided to take a break from looking (we were at the Quality Inn, which sponsored a show) and I pulled up a chair in front of the open patio door. Iced tea in hand, I put my poor tired feet up and found a Tucson Guide for browsing.

It was like the others in most respects, advertisements for dealers and shows, short articles about rocks, and events listings. However, I soon noticed a difference; everything here was about healing, balance, and wellness. Yup, it was the *Metaphysical Guide to Tucson*. The photos were pretty, so I kept browsing, and that's when I noticed what seemed to be a disturbing trend. So many of the rock and mineral names in the articles had the little trademark™ symbol attached.

These were names I had never heard before, like Astaraline, Rosophia, Azeztulite, Auralite, and Anandalite, to name just a few. Actually the guide came into my possession when Dave and I purchased some of the latter from a dealer at the hotel. We were looking for a variety of quartz known as rainbow quartz for the multicolored reflections it throws off due to

its peculiar crystal structure. Anandalite™. It was right there in the book.

Now, I have to wonder, what does a trademark on a crystal name mean? Should I be paying some kind of royalty for writing about these minerals? If I sell them, do I owe a royalty to someone? What kind of ownership does that trademark imply?

In the world of science, names and knowledge are public domain. You never see Quartz™ because the name is common usage and free to everyone. How could anyone own the rights to Quartz?

Then there is the issue of what these names indicate. For instance, "Rosophia is a mixture of feldspar, quartz, and biotite mica found in the Rocky Mountains of the USA."

Care to guess what that is? That's right, granite! Moreover, according to the photo, it is red granite, Wisconsin's state rock!!! Has our state rock now been trademarked? Auralite is actually Canadian amethyst with hematite, (it looks a LOT like Thunder Bay amethyst), and Astaraline is quartz with muscovite mica. Oh, and it also has "Cronstedtite (a rare iron silicate)." Hence the new, trademarked name. Azeztulite comes in a dozen colors, and seems to indicate forms of several different minerals, but is mostly shards of quartz. In any case, all of the above come from the western slopes of the Rocky Mountains, except for the Anandalite, which is Himalayan.

I was amazed and aghast. This looks to me like a grand marketing scheme, in which common rocks and minerals are analyzed for trace amounts of other elements, then given a trademarked name and marketed for the "special properties" they contain. I would simply chalk it up to "let the buyer beware," and ignore it, except for the likelihood that these concocted names will eventually slip into the mainstream field.



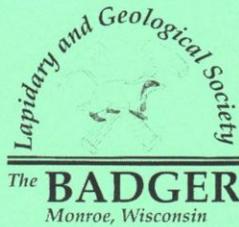
**Madison Geology Museum**

**Badger Lapidary & Geological Society, Inc.**

**Laurie Trocke, Editor**

**4771 CTH II**

**Highland, WI 53543**



**42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Monroe**

# **Rock, Gem, & Mineral Show**

**March 31 & April 1, 2012**

*9:00 am to 5:00 pm – Saturday and Sunday*

Monroe High School, 1600 26<sup>th</sup> St. Monroe, WI (off Route 69 south)

Admission: Free Will Donation – Free Parking

**WHO? WHAT?  
WHERE? WHEN?**

Become a rock and mineral sleuth and try your hand at solving the geological mystery by tracing the series of clues hidden throughout the show. Each clue builds a piece of the picture as you visit the people and places in the hall to win a prize.



***THIS YEAR'S THEME – THE  
AGATE N' CRYSTAL MYSTERY***



**Ten Dealers in Minerals, Fossils, Gems, and Jewelry**

**Speakers, Educational Exhibits, Demonstrations,**

**Hourly Door Prizes, Great Food**

**Wonderful Pieces from Around the World!**

*For the Kids*

**Fish Pond, Spinner Game, Scavenger Hunt, Wandering "Rock Wizard"**

**Hands-on Activity – Fossil Casting.**

**For More Information, Contact Teri Marché, 608.835.2653**

Or email [tmarche@usnetizen.com](mailto:tmarche@usnetizen.com) Web Site: [www.badgerrockclub.org](http://www.badgerrockclub.org)

**Presented by the Badger Lapidary and Geological Society**

*A Non-profit organization dedicated to promotion of earth science study for children, adults, and families.*  
MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION AND MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES