

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

The Badger Lapidary and Geological Society, Inc.

Monroe, Wisconsin

Devoted to the Earth Sciences

Vol. 48, No 2

February 2013

President's Message

Dear Badgers:

On January 20th, the officers held their planning meeting at the Marchés and drafted the tentative meeting program and field trip schedule that is presented ahead in this newsletter. We hope that you find these activities to be worthwhile in the coming year. Meanwhile, the club's first field trip of the year was held on January 27, with several families traveling to Appleton (to see the da Vinci machines at The History Museum) and Menasha (Weis Earth Science Museum).

By now, you've heard the news of the change in venue for our show. So we will be at the Monroe Middle School, 1510 13th Street, at the same times and dates (9 a.m. – 5 p.m., March 9 & 10). The show will be held in the school's gymnasium, apart from the gemstone panning and usual demonstrations. [Water is not permitted inside the gym, because of its potential to damage the hardwood floors.] Fortunately, the locals already know where the school itself is, and we should have enough lead time for our publicity to reflect that change.

At our upcoming meeting on February 9th (at Dan & Laurie Trocke's farm), we will be preparing bags for the fishpond and gemstone panning activities. If you have any additional materials (rocks, minerals, or fossils) to donate for the fishpond, please bring them with you at that time. We normally prepare around a thousand fishpond bags, and so need lots of materials to fill them. [The gemstone materials are being furnished by Laurie.] Yet, this is always a fun-filled activity, as everyone gets into the swing (and craziness) of the 'assembly line'.

Teri should also have the large show posters printed and ready for distribution at the meeting. Please take a handful of the posters home with you and put them up in public places (grocery & hardware stores, banks, restaurants, etc.), but do ask permission from the store management before doing so, or they may be taken down right away.

We have a full complement of speakers for the show (two on each day), including our own Dan Trocke, who will give a special presentation for kids at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday. Dan's talk will be followed by our own Tyrel Rouse, who will deliver a Powerpoint presentation on geodes and thundereggs. Sunday's speakers include Dr. Richard Slaughter from the UW-Madison Geology Museum and former member Gary Emerson.

There are still openings left for exhibit cases (large and small) to be filled and for other jobs to be undertaken at the show. Please volunteer, especially, to help us during the setup and takedown, on Friday and Sunday nights. With the show only one month away, time is of the essence.

Lunch will be served at the meeting, in the form of sloppy joes and drinks, although we ask that you please provide a side dish to pass.

If you have questions about the show, then please contact either Teri or I at 608-835-2653 or at our respective e-mails. Despite the unexpected circumstances facing us this year, let's all do our best and make this another very successful show! Thank you.

Jordan Marché

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BLGS 2013 Calendar of Events

February 9th: Meeting – Fish Bond Bags at the Trocke's

February 23rd: Field Trip – Kenosha Museums

March 9th & 10th: BLGS Show – Monroe High School

March 23rd: Field Trip – Bellvue & Graf, IA

April 13th: Meeting – Quarry Trip

April 27th: Field Trip – Mazon Creek

May 11th: Meeting – Soap Stone Carving

May 25th: Field Trip – Cave-in-Rock, IL

June 8th: Meeting - BLGS Picnic

June 22nd: Field Trip – Ripon, WI

July 13th: Field Trip – Upper Michigan

July 27th: Field Trip – Cave Trip (tbd)

August 10th: Field Trip – Fennimore & Prairie du Chien

August 24th: Field Trip – Beloit, WI

September 14th: Meeting – Show & Tell

September 28th: Field Trip – Savannah, IL

October 12th: Meeting – Chain mail/Jewelry making

October 26th: Field Trip – Lapidary Day

November 9th: Meeting – Presentation (tbd)

December 14th: Meeting - Holiday Party

January Meeting Minutes

The January meeting was held on January 12th at the Monroe Public Library. It was called to order a little after 10:00 by President, Jordan Marche'. The December meeting minutes were accepted as printed. Daisy Peterson was not there, so we did not have a treasure's report.

We moved on to Announcements & Reminders. Jordan reminded everyone that there would be a planning meeting on January 20th at 1:00 at the Marche's house. All members are welcome to attend, if you cannot make the meeting, please send suggestions to any of the officers.

The February meeting will be held at the Trocke's farm to prepare fish pond bags for the show. Sloppy Joes will be provided, but please bring a dish to share. Also, if you have any donations for the kids games, bring those also.

The first door prize was won by Neil Trickle. He won a very neat fossil of Crinoid columns.

We then turned to Old Business. There are still a few calendars left, if anyone would like one, please contact Jordan. Jordan said that he sent a letter to Mary Ward, regarding the trim saw that she donated to the club. He has a copy of the letter if anyone would like to see it.

Ken, our wonderful webmaster, took the floor. He is seeking suggestions for renaming the categories on the website. Some of the suggestions that were offered were: education, resources, rock shops, hunting, etc. If you have any ideas, please send them to Ken using the webmaster link on the site.

A couple of popular suggestions were a place on our website to submit stories from the club and a list of club equipment. It was decided that a list of club equipment and the location of this equipment will be compiled and will be in the March newsletter.

Dan asked for suggestions for the January field trip. One possibility was the Lizzadro museum in Elmhurst, IL. Details for this field trip will be sent out as soon as plans are finalized. Dan also

reminded everyone that the Physics Fair will be held at the UW Madison on January 16th.

Harold Carter won the second door prize. It was a very pretty piece of Kyanite.

No one had any new business.

Next on the agenda was Show Business. The web advertising is nearly done and Dan will also be putting an ad in the paper. The Green County homemakers and the dealers are set and 2 of the 4 speakers are set. Rich Slaughter will be giving a talk on the LaBrea Tar Pits and Gary Emerson will be giving a talk on his recent activities of surveying local caves and looking for signs of the white nose disease in bats. A couple of other suggestions were a photographer that does micros or Tyrel. If you have any other ideas, send them to Jordan.

We then drew spots for selling at the club table. There are 10 spots available and 7 people at the meeting that were interested. There are 3 spots still available. If you are interested in selling at the club table, please contact Teri. We also passed around signups for the displays and for working at the show. These will be available at the February meeting as well. We also need people to help run the kids activities. We did a brain storming session on good ways to get the word out about the show, suggestions ranged from inviting senior centers to displays at local schools and from Facebook to TV to local radio stations.

The final door prize was a beautiful piece of bright blue Hemimorphite. It was won by Connor Trocke.

The meeting was adjourned and we all got to sit back and enjoy a very enlightening and informative presentation on mineral identification by Marv Hanner with help from Dan Trocke.

Laurie Trocke
Secretary

Show Chair's Report – Teri Marché

I would just LOVE to write that the show is coming together smoothly. Such is not to be. I expect that by now most of you have heard about the heartstopping phone call that informed me that the gentleman at the high school who schedules events made an error (he is MOST apologetic!) and put our show in the building at the same time as the FFA Toy Show. It almost worked out, except that we both use the kitchen.

He worked overnight and called again early the next morning talking about the Middle School and the YMCA. With just a few hours of sleep, it took a while to understand that he had talked the YMCA out of their regular Sunday games in the M. S. gym, and that we would have the use of the Middle School for the weekend. The school principal and staff were on board, if we could make the space work.

That afternoon Jordan and I drove down to check it out, and with some measuring and negotiating, we have a facility that will answer all of our needs. By the next morning I had a floor plan worked out, measured and to scale. That, along with a letter of explanation and map went out to dealers, speakers, and the Green County Homemakers. I am including both here.

Luckily, I had not yet had the long posters printed, however, they will be available at the February meeting. The gentleman from the high school is putting notices about the venue change into the local paper, and on the radio, so apologetic is he.

Now our only problem is that we have no tables; the ones we usually use are taken for the Toy Show. Our apologetic friend is working on that too, but if anyone in the club has any ideas about where to get 90 – 100 tables inexpensively, I'm open to a backup plan!!!



Now on to some typical issues:

Club Display Cases

There are still four large and about 8 small showcases to be filled. PLEASE consider filling one, and pop me an email.

Work Sign-up Sheets

There are many jobs yet to be filled for the show. I am especially concerned about the kids' activities. I would like an adult to oversee the gem panning area if someone could step up.

Fishpond Bags

We plan to do them at the February meeting. I pray for good weather, and for many, many hands. We usually do about 1,000 bags a year, and the job is fun and quick with enough participation. Anyone with material to fill them, bring it along.

Set-up and Tear Down

This club has always been characterized by great participation. I am praying that the trend continues, and soooo appreciate every person who helps!



The February meeting will be held at Dan & Laurie Trocke's farm, on Saturday, February 9th at 11:00. The address is 4771 CTH II, Highland, WI. Please come and help fill the fish pond bags and stay to enjoy good food and good company. Sloppy Joes will be provided, bring a dish to share. Please RSVP so we know how many to expect!

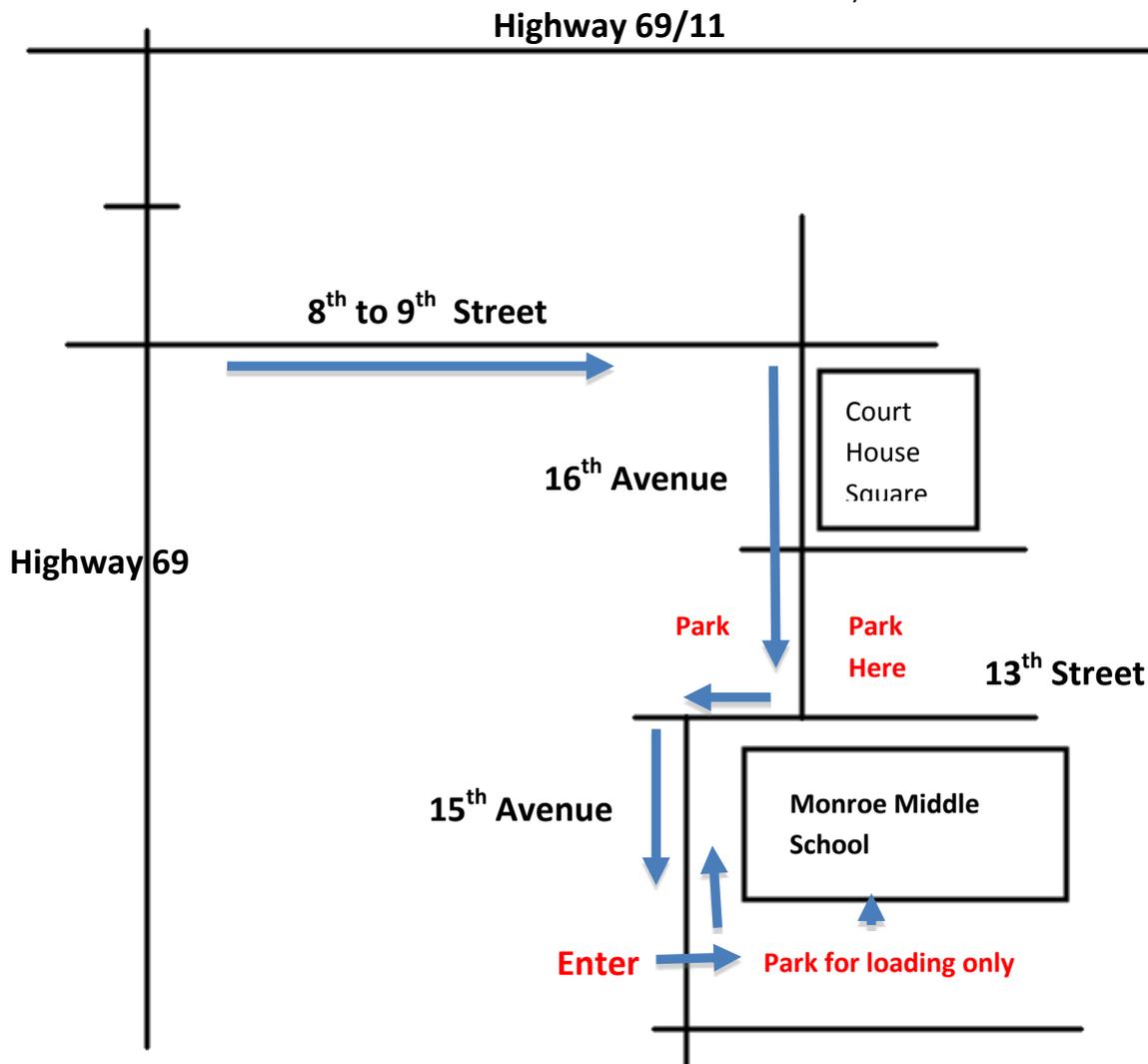


Map to Monroe Middle School

1510 13th Street Monroe, Wi

Note: East/West roads are numbered STREETS

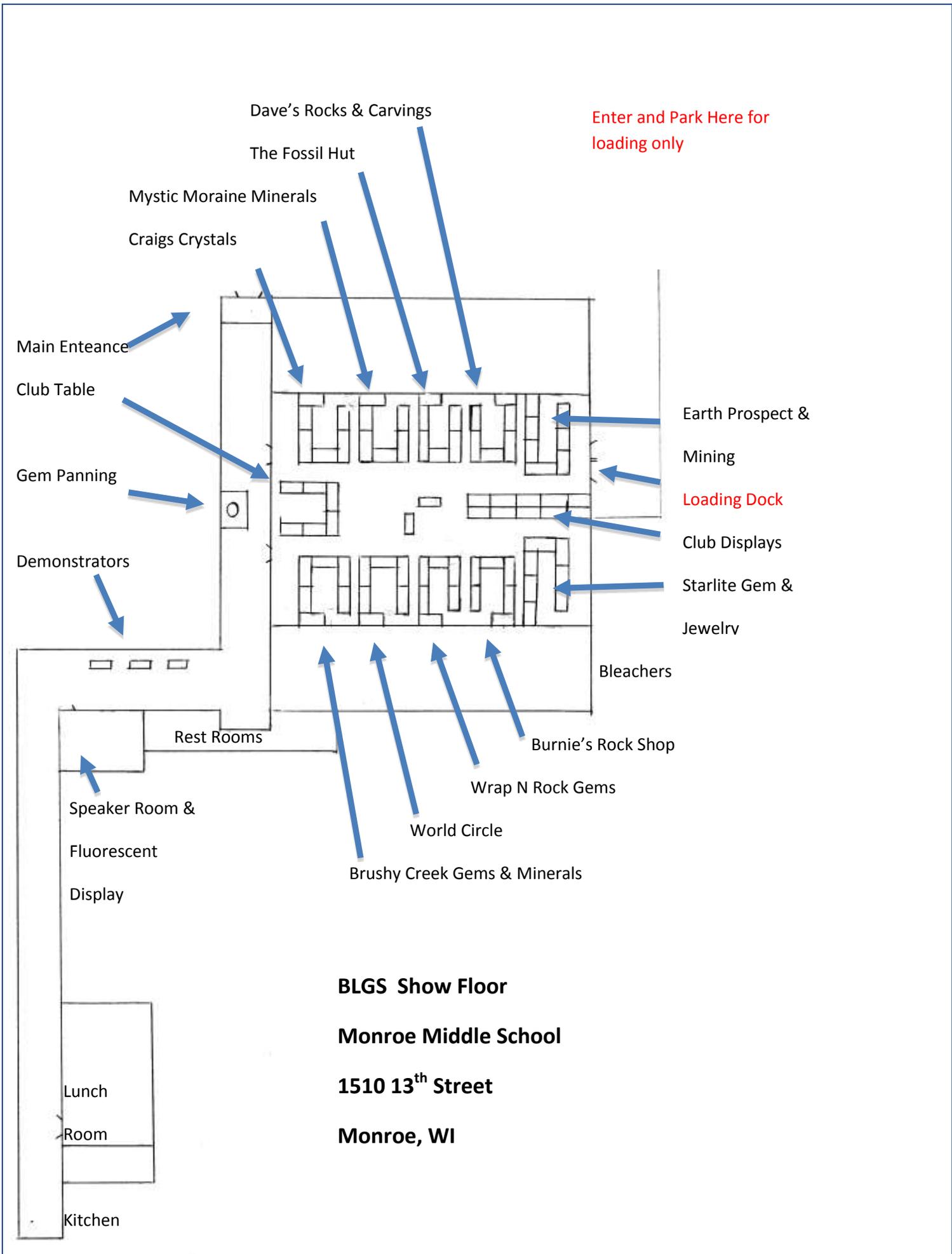
North/South roads are numbered AVENUES



Directions to Monroe Middle School

- * Come into Monroe on Rte 69
- * Turn east at the traffic light at 8th Street. This soon becomes 9th Street.
- * Go to 16th Avenue. Turn right. At this point you can see the building straight ahead. You will cross the city square, and go one more block.
- * Jog right, then left at 13th Street to get onto 15th Avenue

Large gates will be opened at the rear of the school for access to loading area. They will not be open on Saturday, so then you will have to use the handicapped ramp from the sidewalk. You may park on the playground to unload and load, then move your vehicle to the lots.



Dave's Rocks & Carvings

The Fossil Hut

Mystic Moraine Minerals

Craigs Crystals

Enter and Park Here for loading only

Main Enteance

Club Table

Gem Panning

Demonstrators

Earth Prospect &

Mining

Loading Dock

Club Displays

Starlite Gem &

Jewelrv

Bleachers

Rest Rooms

Burnie's Rock Shop

Speaker Room &

Fluorescent

Display

Wrap N Rock Gems

World Circle

Brushy Creek Gems & Minerals

BLGS Show Floor

Monroe Middle School

1510 13th Street

Monroe, WI

Lunch

Room

Kitchen

Mineral Events

February 1-28th - QUARTZSITE ARIZONA

Desert Gardens RV Park; Desert Gardens RV Park; 1055 Kuehn St.; Mon. 9-dusk, Sun. 9-dusk; free admission; crystals, minerals, rough, polished, jewelry, lapidary equipment; contact Sharon (manager), 1055 Kuehn St., Quartzsite, AZ 85346-2818, (928) 927-6361; e-mail: info@desertgardensrvpark.net; Web site: www.desertgardensrvpark.net

February 2-17th-TUCSON, ARIZONA

EVERYWHERE, just go pick up a guidebook, you'll find them everywhere.

February 15-17th-KIRKWOOD, MISSOURI

Cabin Fever Productions; Kirkwood Community Center; 111 S. Geyer Rd.; Fri. 4-9, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$3, seniors and students \$2, children (12 and under) free; rocks, minerals, fossils, jewelry, gems, upscale jewelry; contact Bruce Vick, (618) 973-7222; e-mail: cabinfeverprod@aol.com; Web site: www.cabinfeverprod.com

February 16th-UPPER MARLBORO, MARYLAND

Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club; The Show Place Arena; 14900 Pennsylvania Ave.; Sat. 10-5; adults \$3, children (6 and under) free; exhibitors, dealers, original jewelry designs using rough, polished, and faceted stones, fossils, minerals, geodes, beads, findings, tools, demonstrations, bead stringing, wire wrapping, gold panning, kids' mini-mine and crafts; contact Michael Patterson, 11000 Thrift Rd., Clinton, MD 20735, (301) 297-4575; e-mail: michael.patterson@pgparks.com; Web site: www.smrmc.org

February 16-17th-GEORGETOWN, TEXAS

43rd show; Williams County Gem & Mineral Society; Community Center; San Gabriel Park, 445 E. Morrow St.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-5; adults \$3, students (6-15) \$2, children (under 6) free; silent auction; contact Wanda Reynolds, 2100 Magazine St., Austin, TX 78727, (512) 461-0084; e-mail: dragon.reynolds@hotmail.com; Web site: www.wcgms.org

February 16-17th-MESA, ARIZONA

47th annual show; Apache Junction Rock & Gem Club; Skyline High School; 845 S. Crismon Rd.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$3, students with ID \$1, children (12 and under) free; dealers, jewelry, gems, cabochons, beads, rocks, specimens, slabs, fossils, lapidary equipment and supplies, hourly door prizes, silent auction, grand raffle, gem tree-making activity, Wheel of Rocks; contact Kelly Iverson, (480) 325-2705; Web site: www.ajrockclub.com

February 16-17th-PLAINVIEW, TEXAS

Hi Plains Gem & Mineral Society; Ollie Liner Center; 2000 South Columbia, Business I-27 South; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, children \$1; silent auction, kids' wheel, geode cutting, demonstrations, hourly door prizes, grand prize; contact Josephine Macha, 2298 FM 788, Plainview, TX 79072, (806) 293-8572; e-mail: josefcmacha@aol.com

February 23rd-LAKELAND, FLORIDA

Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society; First Presbyterian Church of Lakeland; 175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr.; Sat. 9-4; adults \$3, children (under 18) free; hourly door prizes, Spin & Win game, kids' Treasure Dig, demonstrations, educational displays, silent auction, Chinese auction; contact Clarence Razabdouski, (863) 858-5905; e-mail: crazabdouski@tampabay.rr.com; Web site: www.bonevalley.net

February 23-24th-ALBANY, NEW YORK

Capital District Mineral Club; New York State Museum; Empire State Plaza, Madison Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, children (under 12) free; kids' sand dig for minerals; contact Bill Cotrofeld, PO Box 235, East Arlington, VT 05252, (802) 375-6782; Web site: albanyrockclub.com

February 23-24th-JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

54th Annual Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show; Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society; Mississippi State Fairgrounds - Trade Mart Bldg.; 1207 Mississippi St.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, students and children \$3; more than 24 dealers, gems, minerals, fossils, jewelry, beads, lapidary tools, club demonstrations, cabochon cutting, faceting, flint knapping, junior demonstrations, club exhibits, Touch and See with Braille labels; contact Keith Peacock, 176 Tazan Ave., Richland, MS 39073; Web site: missgems.org

February 23-24th-LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO

Friends of the Museum; Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum; 4100 Dripping Springs Rd.; Sat. 8-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, children (under 4) free; gems, minerals, fossils, jewelry; contact Diane McMellen, (575) 522-1232; e-mail: Diane@HelpingHandsEvents.com; Web site: www.LCMuseumRocks.com

Wisconsin Events

9 Cambridge - 8th Annual Dip for Dozer Football Scholarship Fund. Join the hundred Dippers or be one of several hundred spectators. Events include turkey bowling, kites on ice, ice sculpting, costume contests, hot food and more! Lake Ripley Park. For more information call (608) 423-3241.

15 - 17 Reedsburg - Frosty Fest. A weekend of family events to celebrate winter in Wisconsin. Snowshoeing, cookie decorating. Reedsburg Area Chamber of Commerce, 240 Railroad Street. For more information call (800) 844-3507.

16 - 17 Cedarburg - Winter Festival. Theme is "Winter Safari". Historic Downtown Cedarburg. For more information call (888) 894-4001.

16 - 17 Madison - DreamBank Village at Madison Winter Fest. Let the spirit and excitement of winter sports warm your winter and maybe even inspire some

gold medal dreams at the corner of East Washington Avenue and the Capitol Square. Bring your family to the DreamBank Village where you'll get to experience ice hockey and curling as if you're an Olympic athlete. Step inside for your free Winter Fest Medal and a photo op on the winners stage. Complimentary tea and treats are available - you can even watch the sports from our windows! 1 North Pinckney Street. For more information call (608) 286-3150.

23 Medford - Outhouse Races. In the spirit of tradition and history of the Perkinstown area, local outdoor enthusiasts have organized the Perkinstown Outhouse Race. Join the excitement at this rare race of thrones to show off your one-of-a-kind racing commode or come to enjoy the unforgettable food and watch this comic event. There's fun for the whole family, so come out and support a good cause. Gates open at 11AM. Food will be hot 'n ready! Kids Races from 11AM to 1PM. Flag drops for the Main Event at 1PM. Perkinstown Winter Sports Area. For more information call (715) 427-1002.

UW Madison Physics Fair

You are invited to attend the 6th Annual Physics Fair! This will be an open house in which members of the public can come to learn about the research and teaching that are a part of our department. The Physics Fair will include laboratory tours, hands-on demonstrations, activities for kids and families, and informal conversations with scientists. We will have exhibits representing research groups in the department as well as displays on more general physics topics. Additionally, the Ingersoll Physics Museum will be open and the 30th Annual Wonders of Physics public presentations will take place.

When? Saturday, February 16, 2013.

Drop in anytime from 11 am - 4 pm **No tickets required**

Where? Chamberlin Hall, UW-Madison Campus, 1150 University Ave., Madison, WI 53706

Free Parking is available in Lots 17 and 20 ([campus map](#))

Who? Everyone!

Physics Fair Events:

- Physics Fair Exhibits open (11:00 am – 4:00 pm)
- Research laboratory tours will be given throughout the day
- [Ingersoll Physics Museum](#) open (11:00 am – 4:00 pm)
- 30th Annual [Wonders of Physics](#) Presentations (1:00 pm, 4:00 pm, and 7:00 pm) [Click here for tickets](#)

For more information:

email: wonders@physics.wisc.edu call: 608-262-2927



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