

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

The Badger Lapidary and Geological Society, Inc.

Monroe, Wisconsin

Devoted to the Earth Sciences

Vol. 48, No 9

November 2013

President's Message

Dear Badgers:

We've just completed another very successful Lapidary Day at the Trocke family farm. Once again, I'd like to extend my thanks, on behalf of the club, to Dan and Laurie, along with Conner, Jayden, and Erin, for helping to make the day such an enjoyable and productive experience for everyone who was there. Plenty of big rocks got sliced, slabbed, or sectioned, while many smaller ones were enthusiastically shaped, ground and polished. And there was plenty of great food and camaraderie, as usual.

I'd also like to thank those members who signed the get-well card for Garrett Kerl, who fortunately has been released from the hospital and may be closer to a recovery from the viral infection that he contracted. Dan Trocke tried to visit Garrett in the hospital in Madison and was happy to find that he had been released. Deb Grunewald was then able to present the card and the itunes gift card to Garrett.

At our upcoming meeting, on Saturday, November 9, Teri Marché will give an illustrated presentation on her recent inspection and collecting visit to the Sterling Hill Mining Museum in Ogdensburg, New Jersey. She will have along some samples of the fluorescent minerals from this world-famous locality. And yours truly might be convinced to give a similar talk that is an expansion of one that I just delivered at the Geological Society of America's annual meeting in Denver, Colorado, and for

which all participants were limited to twelve minutes! No stopwatches permitted this time!

At the meeting, I will also need to ask for volunteers who can serve upon a nominating committee. As you are aware, we must have elections at our December meeting/party, where a new slate of the four elected officers (president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer) must be proposed and voted upon. Exceptions are the newsletter editor, show chair, field trip chair, and member at large positions, all of which are appointed. So collectively, please begin to think and/or talk about the succession of officers for the club.

With any luck, we should also have the finished copies of the 2014 mineral calendar for sale to members at cost.

Because of the upcoming holidays, there will be no more scheduled field trips for the rest of this year. But to all of those, and especially to Dan Trocke, who have organized and/or led our many field trips this year, to places as far flung as Cave-in-Rock, Illinois (for fluorite) and Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula (for copper and other minerals), I wish to thank them for their time and dedication to planning these field trips, which are one of the most important assets of our club. I'm sure that there will be many others like them in the months and years ahead. I hope to see you at the next meeting.

Jordan Marché

BLGS president

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BLGS 2013 Calendar of Events

November 9th: Meeting – Presentation from the Marche's

December 14th: Meeting - Holiday Party

Join us for the November Meeting at 10:00 on Saturday, November 9th, in the Monroe Public Library. Teri and Jordan Marche' will be our presenters. They are both a wealth of knowledge and information, so it should be a great meeting!



*Happy
Thanksgiving !!*

October Meeting Minutes

The October meeting was called to order at 11:00 on Saturday, October 12th after a great presentation on chain mail and chain mail jewelry from the Trocke kids. We had a guest, Mr. Robert Smith, from south of Monroe join us for this meeting. He brought in a truly interesting rock specimen – the Smiley Teeth Mystery Rock – to see if anyone could identify it. It appeared to be limestone on the bottom, red sandstone on the top and a white layer in the middle that could have been chert. The Geology Museum in Madison may be able to give him a more definite answer, but for now it remains a really fun mystery.

Next, Jordan asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October newsletter. Johnny Fay made a motion, Daisy Peterson seconded it and it was approved unanimously.

Daisy then gave the treasures report. She said that there was not much new to report. The World Buffet is booked again for this year, plus we paid for the small back room and reserved it for 3 hours, so we should have plenty of time for the Holiday festivities!

Next on the agenda were announcements and reminders. Deb Gruenwald let everyone know that Garrett Kerl was in the UW Children's hospital after a virus attacked his heart. They had him hooked up to a heart pump and he may require a transplant. He is only 16 years old. After some discussion, the club all agreed to get Garrett an i-tunes gift card (Erin Trocke suggested the amount of \$42 if possible) and there will be a card to sign at the Lapidary day party.

Dan Trocke reminded everyone that Lapidary day was coming up in 2 weeks. A signup sheet was passed around and Dan advised everyone that it started at 11:00 – anyone coming early would be put to work. Brian Green offered to come out early and help – Thanks Brian!!!

The 1st door prize drawing was won by Arienne Wehinger. She won a really pretty red garnet. The 2nd door prize was a neat Psilomelane specimen that was won by Deb Gruenwald.

Moving on to old business, Jordan said that they had a quote from a printing company in Middleton that could make the calendars for just over \$10 each. After some discussion, it was decided that we would order 30 calendars and hopefully have them ready by the November meeting.

There is not currently a presentation or activity for the November meeting. Jordan Marche' volunteered to give a geological presentation that he was preparing for a conference in Colorado and that Teri could also do a talk on her trip to New Jersey (she was actually in Franklin, NJ at the time of the meeting!!)

The next two door prizes were drawn. Laurie Trocke won a pretty polished Ammonite and Garrett Gruenwald won a little fish fossil.

The next thing to talk about was new business. Johnny Fay asked if the club would be interested in ordering decals. He said that several of the other clubs he belongs to have decals and he thought they were a good way to get the clubs name out. Deb Wehinger offered to check with the printer and get a quote. If anyone else that has a contact that could do decals, please also bring in a quote.

If any of the new members need name badges or if any of the old members need new badges or replacement pieces of granite or galena, please see Daisy Peterson.

For the show report, Jordan said that there are 10 dealers lined up. The food service is still an issue. Daisy has a contact for the high school groups and will pass it that on to Teri. Another possibility would be a Veteran's group or the American Legion.

Dave will send information on a potential speaker on to Jordan. If anyone else has suggestions for speakers, please pass them on to Jordan as well.

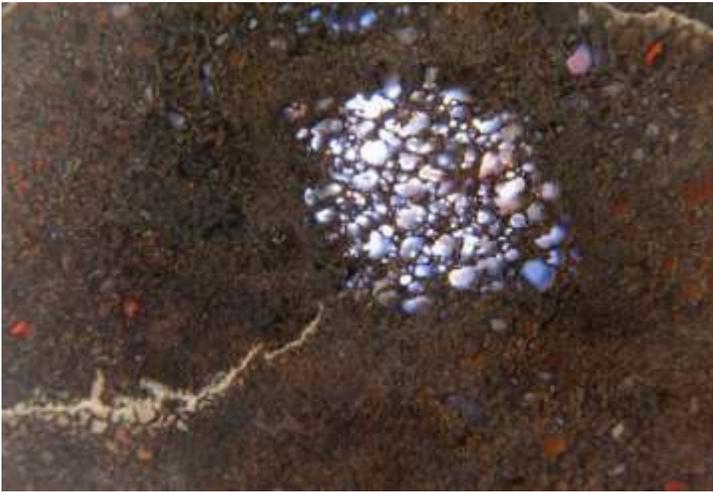
The Freeport Rock Show is the same weekend as our next meeting.

The last two door prizes were a sand concretion won by Deb Wehinger and a nice piece of Sphene on Hornblend won by Linda Trickel.

The Wehinger's will bring treats for the November meeting. The December meeting is the Christmas party and the Trocke's will bring treats in January.

Daisy Peterson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dan Trocke.

Agatized Dinosaur Bone



This is a nice saw cut slab of agatized dinosaur bone which is a rare form of fossilized dinosaur bone where the original fossilized bone was typically first permineralized with calcite and later re-mineralized (replaced/substituted) with silica compounds like agate, jasper, chalcedony, or opal. Each of the cavities in the bone (vesicles) is filled with translucent chalcedony quartz – many cavities even show banding like little agates. Backlighting is a marvelous way to see the preserved details of the bones internal structure. This specimen came from my Grandpa Mike Trocke's collection and likely came from the Colorado Plateau area that spans Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona. In a unique and isolated circumstance, the strata on the Colorado Plateau were uplifted during the tertiary intrusions, about 35 million years ago, when the San Rafael Swell and the La Sals, Henry, and Abajo Mountains were formed. As these laccolithic structures were forming, local strata layers were flooded with silica-rich, superheated groundwater. This aqueous intrusion provided the appropriate environment to begin the replacement of the calcite in the original fossils with silicates. Technically, this is known as "chalcedony pseudomorphs after bone". The most prolific layers of gem agatized bone come from the Morrison Formation, identifying the remains as late Jurassic (146 to 156 million years ago). This means that

the bone was agatized over 100 million years after the dinosaur died and was buried.

Submitted by Dan Trocke

November Mineral Events

November 2-3-MIDLAND, MICHIGAN

19th Annual Show; Mid-Michigan Rock Club; Midland Resort Convention Center; 1500 W. Wackerly St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$1, students 50 cents, children (12 and under) free; Michigan minerals, agates, copper, coins, gems, jewelry; contact Deb Acord, (989) 430-4471; e-mail: jackdanred2@aol.com; Web site: midlandrockclub.com

November 2-3-STURTEVANT, WISCONSIN

Racine Geological Society; Fountain Banquet Hall; 8505 Durand Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; contact John Lowman, (262) 554-5370

November 9-10-FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

Northwest Illinois Rock Club; Highland Community College; 2998 W. Pearl City Rd.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; donations accepted; speakers; contact Brian Green, PO Box 396, Warren, IL 61087, (815) 745-2228; e-mail: bgreen57@hotmail.com; Web site: <http://nwilrockclubfrpt.blogspot.com>

November 16-17-LEBANON, PENNSYLVANIA

Mid-Atlantic Gem & Mineral Association; Lebanon Fairgrounds Expo Center; 80 Rocherty Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-4; adults \$5 (discount coupon on Web site); Gem Miner's Holiday Show: gems, jewelry, beads, minerals, fossils, collectibles; contact Teresa Schwab, PO Box 15513, Chevy Chase, MD 20825, (301) 565-0487; e-mail: beadware@rcn.com; Web site: www.gem-show.com

November 23-24-MADISON, WISCONSIN

Madison Gem & Mineral Club; Alliant Energy Center, Exhibiton Hall; 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way; Sat. 9:30-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, children (12 and under) free; jewelry, crystals, rough rock, specimens, fossils, gold and sapphire panning, crystal and jewelry exhibits, displays, fossils, agates, faceted stones; contact Richard Zweifel, 3633 Ice Age Dr., Madison, WI 53719-5413, (608) 206-4981; e-mail: zweifel@chorus.net

November Events in Wisconsin

- **9 Appleton - A Touch of Christmas.** Meet the artists, see artist demos & classes, door Prizes, music & more. Atlas Coffee Mill and Art Gallery. For more information call (920) 734-6871.
- **9 - 10 Blue Mounds - Armed Forces Appreciation Day at Cave of the Mounds.** Cave of the Mounds would like to honor those who have served in the military by offering discounts to those with military ID. Cave of the Mounds, 2975 Cave of the Mounds Road. For more information call (608) 437-3038
- **9 Fort Atkinson - Holiday Parade.** A lighted parade culminating with chili sampling at the Municipal Building and the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus. Downtown Fort Atkinson at 5:30pm. For more information call (920) 563-3210.
- **9 Madison - Family Saturdays: Musical Instrument Petting Zoo.** Spark your little one's interest in music by giving them the rare opportunity to try a wide variety of instruments! Students who take more art and music classes tend to outperform their peers academically, and our event is the perfect place to introduce budding music lovers to the many different sounds of the symphony. From guitar and harp, to drums and tambourines, kids will love this hands-on exploration of the world of music. DreamBank. 1 N Pinckney St. Event starts at 10:00AM and ends at 12:00PM. For more information call (608) 286-3150.
- **9 - 10 Milwaukee - Trainfest 2013.** Join over 23,000 families and model train hobbyists for enormous fun and endless discovery at Trainfest®, America's LARGEST operating model railroad show. Spend hours entertained by 60 intricately-detailed running railroads. Returning this year is the popular concert series by Choo Choo Bob and the Holy Smokestacks Revue. More kids' highlights include the Thomas the Tank Engine Jump house, racing trains on a dog-bone shaped track, a circus train ride, and more. Rounding out this spectacular show are model train manufacturers and retailers from coast-to-coast. Admission Information: Adults: \$12 (\$1 off online coupon) Kids 4-12: \$5 (FREE with online coupon) 3 & Under: Always FREE Exposition Center, Wisconsin State Fair Park 8200 . For more information call (262)782-4637.
- **9 Mount Horeb - 5th Annual Holiday Craft Bonanza.** 9AM-4PM. Admission: \$2. Our kick-off to the holiday season in Mount Horeb along with the Small Town Holidays event downtown. Events include bake sale, silent auction, raffles and door prizes. Donations to the food pantry welcome. Mount Horeb Middle School, 900 East Garfield Street. For more information call (608) 437-5914.
- **22 Baraboo - Downtown Baraboo Christmas Light Parade.** 14th Annual, featuring lighted floats, live music, equestrian units, marching band and much more. After the parade Santa will light the tree at the Al. Ringling Theatre. Downtown Baraboo. Event starts at 6:00PM. For more information call (608) 356-3133.
- **23 Lake Geneva - 9th Annual Turkey Trot.** Clear Water Outdoor's super-popular Turkey Trot is for the whole family. Participate in the 10K Run/Walk, 5K Run/Walk, Kid's Run and Raffle. All proceeds benefit the Friends of Big Foot Beach State Park. Big Foot Beach State Park. For more information call (262) 348-2420.
- **Nov 30 - Dec 1 North Freedom - Santa Express at the Mid-Continent Railway Museum.** Ho, ho, ho join Santa as he climbs aboard the Santa Express. Ride in steam-heated coaches built in 1915. See the scenic Sauk County countryside in early winter. Enjoy a 55 minute trip with Santa bringing good cheer and visiting everyone on board. Trains depart Saturday and Sunday at 10:00am, 11:30am, 1:00pm and 2:30pm. Mid-Continent Railway Museum, E8948 Diamond Hill Rd. For more information call (800) 930-1385.
- **30 Prairie du Sac - Wollersheim Winery's A Vintage Christmas.** Experience old world charm as you prepare for Christmas. Taste Wollersheim wines paired with festive foods, find unique gifts, plus Christmas carolers will be on hand to set the mood. The winery is a picturesque place to take your family Christmas card photo, so be sure to bring your camera. (No admission fee. Open to the public.) 7876 Hwy. 188, Prairie du Sac, WI 53578. For more information call (608) 643-6515.

Northwest Illinois Rock Club's 2013

JEWELRY, GEM, FOSSIL & MINERAL SHOW

NOVEMBER 9th & 10th
FREEPORT, ILLINOIS



Demonstrations • Speakers
Dealers • Displays
Fun-filled Children's "Fish Pond"
Holiday Shopping and more!

Saturday, November 9th from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, November 10th from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE CAMPUS

Student Conference Center

2998 West Pearl City Road, Freeport, Illinois 61032

Free Will Donation

QUESTIONS? Call Brian Green 815-745-2228 or e-mail to bgreen57@hotmail.com

Chain Mail



by

Connor, Jayden
& Erin Trocke



LAPIDARY DAY

OCTOBER
2013



See You in 2014!!

Badger Lapidary & Geological Society, Inc.

Laurie Trocke, Editor

4771 CTH II

Highland, WI 53543

