

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

The Badger Lapidary and Geological Society, Inc.

Monroe, Wisconsin

Devoted to the Earth Sciences

Vol. 49, No 2

February 2014

President's Message

Greetings fellow badgers!

Last month we were treated to Jordan Marche's excellent presentation concerning dinosaur tracks. This time, Clay Schroll will be treating us to a geological "murder mystery" and a photo review of Toadstool Geological Park in NW Nebraska.

Now is the time to sort material for the fish pond. With about 600 bags to fill a large variety of material would be very welcome. We will be bagging material at the Trocke's on March 8th. I understand there will be extra nice door prizes available.

Our BLGS calender, Wonders Of The Earth 2014, is still available at \$10.50 to members or \$12.00 to non-members.

The weather has been and will continue to be frightful (as I write, 1-22-14), but, hopefully, it will be warmer in time for this February meeting. Perhaps some tales to hear about the past field trip to the Milwaukee public Museum.

Marv Hanner

*The February Meeting will be held
at the Monroe Public Library on
Saturday, February 8th at 10:00 am.
Clay Schroll will be sharing an
excellent presentation.*



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BLGS 2013 Calendar of Events

February 8th Meeting: Clay Schroll Presentation

February 22nd Field Trip: Phil Burgess Collection in
Prairie du Chien

March 8th Meeting: Fish Pond Bagging at the
Trockes

March 29th & March 30th: Annual BLGS Show

April 12th Meeting: Gem Trees

April 26th Field Trip: Graf, IA & Bellville, IA

May 10th Meeting: Local Monroe Quarry

May 24th Field Trip: Door County

June 14th Meeting: Annual Picnic

June 28th Field Trip: Indiana

July 12th Field Trip: Keokuk, IA (Jacobs Geode Mine)

July 26th Field Trip: Casseville, WI

August 9th Field Trip: Utica, IL

August 23rd Field Trip: South Dakota

September 13 Meeting: Annual Show & Tell

September 27th Field Trip: Local Quarry (Tbd)

October 11th Meeting: Micro Day

October 25th Field Trip: Lapidary Day at the Trockes

November 8th Meeting: Fakes & Manmade
Minerals

December 13th Meeting: Annual Christmas Party

BLGS Minutes – January 11, 2014

Jordan Marche gave a talk about Edward Hitchcock – dinosaur tracks. Lunch was provided by the Trockes

Treasurer's Report: we have \$400 set aside for advertising for the spring show and \$700 collected for the show

Dan Trocke talked about field trips and the Milwaukee Public Museum field trip is scheduled for January 25th. Motion made for the club to pay half of the admission price for members. Connor Trocke moved that the club subsidize half of the admission – motion carried. The Trocke family will cover the cost of the event and the club will reimburse them.

Dan Trocke brought the Genie – looking for someone to take it home – the Wehinger family will take it home

Door prize drawing: Dave Reese got a fish fossil from the Green River

Old Business:

Terri Marche brought up the 2016 Agate Expo to be held in July in Cedarburg, WI. Members could work, volunteer at the show will run Wed – Sun. We will wait until the show gets nearer to decide

New Business:

Dan Trocke mentioned the membership website will be going away – cloud based. The Treasurer and Laurie Trocke will work on a membership spreadsheet. If possible it will be posted on the website and be password protected. Terri Marche suggested publishing member's information once a year in a newsletter. It was decided that this may not be the best location for this information as the newsletter is shared with many outside of the club.

Door prize drawing: Erin Trocke got a fern fossil

Show Business:

Terri Marche indicated all dealers have signed

2 groups will be doing the food – Monroe FCCLA and Monroe SOS.

Bill Rentz – radio spot being made

Special focus exhibit – Phil Burgess is loaning his giant cephalopod for the show

Terri has addresses for all science teachers in Green County. Ask your local library to see if we can put up a show flyer and/or display

Door prize drawing: Marv Hanner got a piece of apatite

Terri Marche asked how many memers want space to sell at the show? There are 10 spaces available. So far, 5 people have reserved spots.

Sign up sheets were sent around for exhibits and for volunteer work times for the show

We currently have 3 out of 4 speakers for the show

Bob Wiese – Stromatolites

Augustana College – Antarctic dinosaurs

Terri – fluorescent minerals

Possibly the Geological Society in Madison? Or Mike Risch – mineral hunting out west

Steve Simpson

Neil Trickle – demonstration

Door Prize drawing: Jayden Trocke received halite crystals and Debbie Wehinger got an ammonite

Food/treats for February will be brought by Clay Schroll

March will be a potluck at the Trocke's when we fill bags for the fishpond

April will be the Trickels

May will be the Marche's

Dan Trocke mentioned there will be some Bud Higgins pieces for door prizes for helping with the fishpond bagging at their home in March

Meeting was adjourned

Show Report from Teri Marche'

From the Showchair

Things are going along now a bit more quickly as our show dates near. Jack Hoxie has printed up posters and flyers and will bring them to the meeting this Saturday. Because of his offer to print for the cost of materials only, we can do the work in color this time.

An issue we discussed earlier is how to get these materials to members who cannot make it to these winter meetings. So I will try something new. I will be sending digital PDF files to everyone by email, and if anyone wishes to print out some posters or flyers, they are more than welcome to do so!!! The posters are on regular letter sized white paper, which should be available to everyone. You might even want to post one in the rear driver's side window of your vehicle.

Jordan will have the sign-up sheets for working at the show, for set-up and tear-down, for showcases, and for sales table. There are still many spots on all of these sheets.

We have a super nifty radio add from Bill Rients. I'll send along a digital file of it for everyone to hear at the meeting. If anyone knows of Barb Woodruff's contact with the local radio station, I could use it. We usually do an interview there for the show. Anyone with any other TV or radio contacts who can get us some airtime, please do. I am always available in March.

However, you may notice that all of these items are coming to the meeting with somebody besides me. I will be leaving for Tucson in a few days, to stay for a while and will not be back in time for the meeting. I will have lots to share with you when I get back.

Reminders:

The March meeting will be for doing up Fishpond bags. You can bring fishpond material to the February meeting or in March to the Trocke's for the Pot Luck lunch (with door prizes).

February Mineral Events

February 1-15-TUCSON, ARIZONA

Martin Zinn Expositions, LLC; Hotel Tucson City Center; 475 N. Granada; Daily 10-6; free admission; 300 dealers, Gallery of Artists displays; contact Regina Aumente, PO Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004, (505) 867-0425; e-mail: mzexpos@gmail.com; Web site: www.mzexpos.com

February 1-15-TUCSON, ARIZONA:

Mineral & Fossil Marketplace; 1333 N. Oracle; Daily 10-6; free admission; contact Regina Aumente, PO Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004, (505) 867-0425; e-mail: mzexpos@gmail.com; Web site: www.mzexpos.com

February 7-10-TUCSON, ARIZONA

Annual Westward Look Show; Fine Mineral Shows; Westward Look Resort; 245 E. Ina Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6, Mon. 10-5; free admission; Al and Sue Liebetrau collection display; contact Dave Waisman, Fine Mineral Shows, PO Box 8543, Spokane, WA 99203, (509) 998-5987; e-mail: dave@finemineralshow.com; Web site: www.finemineralshow.com

February 13-16-TUCSON, ARIZONA

Tucson Gem & Mineral Society; Tucson Convention Center; 260 S. Church Ave.; Thu. 10-6, Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$10, seniors and active military get \$2 off on Fri., children (under 14) free; contact TGMS Staff, PO Box 42588, Tucson, AZ 85733, (520) 322-6031; e-mail: tgms@tgms.org; Web site: www.tgms.org

February 21-23-INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Indiana State Museum; Indiana State Museum; 650 W. Washington St.; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-4; adults \$10, seniors \$9, children \$5.50; dealers, adult and kids' activities; contact Peggy Fisherkeller, 650 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46204, (317) 232-7172; e-mail: pfisherkeller@indianamuseum.org; Web site: www.indianamuseum.org

February 21-23-VERO BEACH, FLORIDA:

Treasure Coast Rock & Gem Society; Vero Beach Community Center; 2266 14th Ave.; Fri. 12-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$3 (\$1 off with this notice), children (under 12) free; faceted gems, cabochons, gold and silver jewelry, rough slabs, faceting material, beads, craft supplies, hourly drawing; contact David Wayment, PO Box 531, Vero Beach, FL 32961-0531

February 22-23-JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society; Mississippi Trade Mart; State Fairgrounds; Sat. 9-6; adults \$5, students \$3; dealers, gems, fossils, minerals, beads, jewelry, demonstrators, faceting, flint knapping, wire wrapping; contact Keith Peacock, 176 Tazan Ave., Florence, MS 39073, (601) 863-6535

February 22-23-MESA, ARIZONA:

48th Annual Jewelry, Gem and Rock Show; Apache Junction Rock & Gem Club; Skyline High School; 845 S. Crismon Rd.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$3, students \$1, children free; dealers, jewelry, gems, cabochons, beads, rocks, specimens, slabs, fossils, lapidary equipment and supplies, door prizes, silent auction, gem tree-making activity, wheel-of-rocks, raffle; contact Katy Tunnicliff, (918) 440-9152; e-mail: katydidnt2007@gmail.com; Web site: www.ajrockclub.com

February Events in Wisconsin

- **8 Kenosha - KTEC Craft and Vendor Fair.** Craft and Vendor Fair to support KTEC 8th grade students Washington DC trip. 6811 18th Ave. For more information call (262) 359-3800.
- **9 Baraboo - Chili Dinner at Durward's Glen.** Support Durward's Glen at their All-You-Can-Eat Chili Dinner featuring five varieties of chili including a vegetarian option. Durward's Glen, W11876 McLeisch Road. Event starts at 3:00PM and ends at 6:00PM. For more information call (608) 356-8113.
- **12 Baraboo - Seth Peterson Cottage Tour.** Take a tour of the beautiful Frank Lloyd Wright designed Seth Peterson Cottage at Mirror Lake State Park. Mirror Lake State Park, E10320 Fern Dell Rd.. Event starts at 1:00PM and ends at 4:00PM. For more information call (877) 466-2358.
- **14 - 16 West Allis - Milwaukee Muskie Expo.** If you're into muskie fishing; this is an event you won't want to miss! There will be hundreds of booths, exhibitors, how to seminars, a huge tank for lure demonstration, custom lures and much more! Learn something new by talking with top muskie professionals and check out everything the muskie industry has to offer. Wisconsin State Fair Park, 640 South 84th Street. For more information call (608) 445-4645.
- **15 - 16 Cedarburg - 40th Annual Winter Festival.** Come to the 40th Annual Winter Festival in Cedarburg for a fun, family-friendly weekend featuring tons of "Snolympic" activities! Featured activities include an Olympic themed ice carving contest, camel rides, egg hunts,

sledding, ice skating, sports tournaments, races, chili contest, live music and much more! Cedarburg festivals bring thousands of visitors to the area and are an excellent time for everyone in attendance. Downtown Cedarburg. For more information call (262) 377-5733.

- **15 - 16 North Freedom - Snow Train at the Mid-Continent Railway Museum.** Take a 55 minute train ride in steam heated coaches built in 1915. See the scenic Sauk County countryside in its winter setting. Trains depart Saturday and Sunday at 10:00am, 11:30am, 1:00pm and 2:30pm. Dinner trains will depart Saturday evening at 6:15pm. Mid-Continent Railway Museum, E8948 Diamond Hill Rd. For more information call (800) 930-1385
- **22 Hayward - 41st American Birkebeiner.** The largest and most prestigious cross-country ski marathon in North America. Spanning more than 50 K from Cable to Hayward, the Birkie is part of the Worldloppet series of 15 international races. Events for all ages and abilities. Cable-Hayward. For more information call (715) 634-5025
- **Jan 29 through Feb 8 Lake Geneva - Winterfest & US National Snow Sculpting Championship Competition.** Visit Lake Geneva for their Winterfest and the US National Snow Sculpting Championship Competition. The Annual Lake Geneva Winterfest will be a fun-filled event featuring family activities, helicopter rides, music, magic, shopping, dining and much more! The US National Snow Sculpting Championship Competition will be a site to see including the crowning of the Champion's Award, second place, third place and the Peoples' Choice Award. The Riviera Park. For more information call (262) 248-4416.



Tips for Creating a Good Showcase Exhibit. – Teri Marché

1. Start **early!**

Don't wait until the last minute and just throw something together.

2. Pick a **theme**, something that connects the pieces you will display. It might be:

all from the **same** locality

various examples of the **same** type material (i.e. different forms of pyrite)

different minerals, **same** shape

different minerals, **same** color

etc., but something should be the **same!**

3. Consider **scale**:

put large items in a large showcase,

and small items in a small showcase.

4. Plan a **background** color:

Our small showcases will have a medium blue color showing in the bottom, but if that will not show off your pieces well, find material of a color that will, and line the case first. The **large showcases** have a fairly ugly painted wooden base, and **should be covered** with something!

5. Plan the **arrangement**:

Lay out a space equal in size to the showcase size, (see images below) and start placing your pieces in it. Put the smaller ones toward the front. For the large showcases, note height, and lay out a space for the top shelf as well. Remember to leave space for the exhibit title, identification tags and other information as needed. Do not try to crowd in every rock you own!! **"Less is (often) more."**

6. Plan the **texts**:

The exhibit **title**, should convey the theme in as few words as possible.

A short paragraph of additional **information** may be useful.

Every specimen needs individual tag with **identification** and, often, locality.

7. Create the text:

Use a **computer** (do not write, print , or scribble these by hand!). Consider

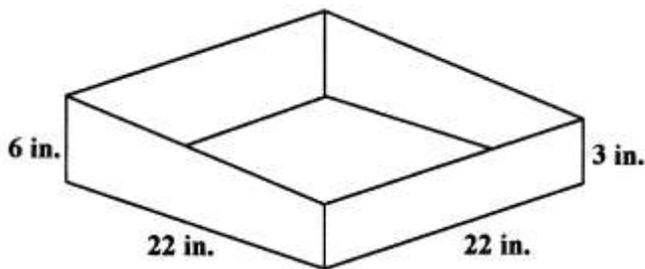
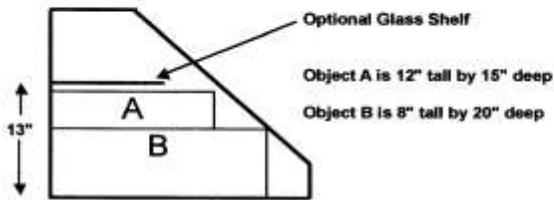
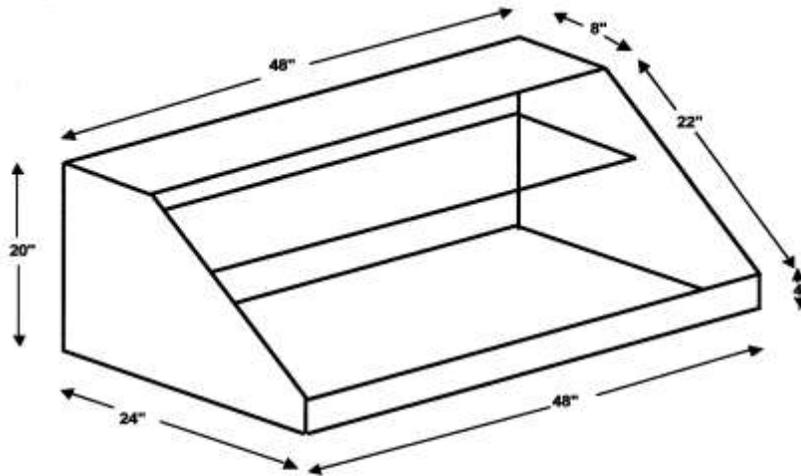
the distance at which they will be seen. Depending on the font chosen,

14-16 point size is the minimum. The title should be MUCH larger!

Simple paper tags tend to curl with heat or humidity, and become unreadable

in the showcase. They should be **mounted** on sturdy card stock using either glue sticks, or mounting film on the bottom, or clear plastic packaging tape on top.

However, the key point is to **START NOW!!!** You still have time to do it RIGHT!



Small showcase

**KETTLE MORAINE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
52nd ANNUAL SHOW
AGATES, MINERALS, FOSSILS & LAPIDARY**

NEW DATES

MARCH 8, 2014

10AM – 5PM

MARCH 9, 2014

10AM – 4PM

LOCATION

Waukesha County Expo Center
South Hall
1000 Northview Road
Waukesha, Wi. 53188
Exit 294 (south) from I 94

ADMISSION – ADULTS \$3.00 CHILDREN \$1.00

PRESENTATIONS

**SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 11:00AM UNDER THE MICROSCOPE PRESENTED
BY MILT WILSON OF KMGS.**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1:00PM LEARN ABOUT LAPIDARY SCHOOL AND
WORKSHOPS PRESENTED BY MONTANA REDSKY OF SKY VELL IN
WAUKESHA.**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2:30PM CHILDREN'S PRESENTATION ON GEODES
AND THUNDER EGGS (INCLUDES A FREE GEODE TO CRACK AND TAKE
HOME) BY MARY NETTESHIEM OF KMGS.**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 11:30AM PREPARATION OF CABOCHONS BY MILT
WILSON OF KMGS.**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 1:30P NATIVE AMERICAN LORE BY PETER GRAETZ
OF KMGS.**

COME SEE THE FANTASTIC FLUORESCENT ROCK & MINERAL DISPLAY

“DIRTY KETTLE” (BUCKSKINNER & NATIVE AMERICAN LORE)

DEMONSTRATIONS, DEALER & CLUB SALES

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CONTACT: LARRY 262-443-0365 OR kmgsocks.com



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Museum



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