

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

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

***Monroe, Wisconsin***

***Devoted to the Earth Sciences***

**Vol. 51, No 12**

**December 2016**

## ***President's Message***

Happy Holidays Fellow Badgers

We had a short and sweet meeting last month. Deb laid out the plans for our show next year. She has put a great deal of work into it and will need some assistance with the multitude of tasks to complete to make this a great show. She has sent out an email outlining areas where she will need some help. A big thank you to the Trikels who brought some tasty treats for the meeting. Many of us went to the Freeport show after the meeting.

We have our annual Christmas party coming up this Saturday. I hope that you all can make it and share in the festivities. I am looking forward to seeing you there, enjoying a meal, good company, and surviving another Gold Brick game.

Clay Schroll

President

**The January Meeting will be held at 10:30 at Mystic Moraine Minerals in Janesville, WI. The address is 13 N Academy St, Janesville, WI. We will do a pot luck lunch for this meeting, so please bring a dish to share!!!**

*The December meeting will be on Saturday, Dec 10<sup>th</sup> at the World Buffet in Monroe, WI beginning at 6:00. We will eat, have a short meeting, elect officers and then play the Gold Brick Game. Hope you can join us!!!*

*Laurie Trocke*

*Newsletter Editor*



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**BLGS 2016 Calendar of Events**

**Dec 10: Meeting: Annual Christmas Party**

**There is not a field trip in November or December due to the Holidays**

**\*NOTE\* The venue for the meetings has been updated. Please note the changes! Thank you!**

**The December meeting is our Annual Christmas party. For the Gold Brick Game, please bring 2-3 small gifts (under \$5), well packaged and wrapped. We will read the rules for the game at the party. The club pays for half of the meal at the World Buffet – the buffet with a drink is about \$12.00. Please plan to pay Dan for the your half of the meal as the club will pay for everything all at once. Also, this is a great time to pay dues for next year!! Thanks : )**

# November Meeting

## Minutes

### Minutes of the November 12, 2016 BLGS Meeting

The meeting was called to order by president Clay Schroll at 10:15 a.m. in the lower room of the First National Bank, Monroe, Wisconsin. Delicious treats (a veritable lunch!) were provided by Neil and Linda Trickel. Our thanks go to them for their generosity!

A motion was made by Marv Hanner to approve the minutes of the previous meeting (as published in the November *Badger Diggin's*) and seconded by Deb Wehinger. The motion was passed by acclamation.

In treasurer Dan Trocke's absence, the balance in the club's treasury was reported by Laurie Trocke. One or more checks (e.g., for the new mineral calendar) are outstanding at the moment.

Deb Wehinger announced that the 2017 BLGS Mineral Calendar, "Wonders of the Earth," has been printed and is for sale. Copies are \$12 each and may be obtained from her or from Jack Hoxie.

Deb also announced that we have secured a place for the 2017 show. Copies of a short flyer were passed around and will also be distributed at the Freeport and Madison shows, among other places. Details are given below, under the Show Chair's report.

The first door prize was won by Erin Trocke; it was a piece of polished Moonstone from Wisconsin.

Under Old Business, Deb Wehinger raised the question of securing new name badges for club members who may desire them. Pieces of galena and red granite (the state mineral and rock, respectively) are reportedly available. It was unclear what the cost and expected number of badges might be. Laurie Trocke agreed to send out an e-mail in the near future, asking members to respond if a new badge was wanted. The old badges were seemingly made at Monroe Engraving.

Plans for next month's Holiday Party (on Saturday, December 10, at 6 p.m.) were briefly discussed. The treasurer has been the one (in the past) to reserve the room at the International Buffet in Monroe. Instructions regarding the Gold Brick Game, and the number of presents to be brought by each guest, will be printed in the December newsletter.

The second door prize was won by Neil Trickel. It was a piece of blue, lab-grown Chalcantite (copper sulfate) crystals.

Jordan Marché proposed that a nominating committee be formed, to present a slate of officers for election at the December meeting (Holiday Party). While the position of secretary is currently open, the remaining officers could each run again for a second term, barring other changes. Laurie Trocke and Tammy Unger-Peterson agreed to comprise the nominating committee.

The third door prize was won by Linda Trickel. It was a black fossilized vertebra of an unknown animal.

Under Show Business, chair Deb Wehinger announced that the 2017 BLGS Show will be held at the Craig Center, Rock County Fairgrounds, Janesville, March 25 & 26. The vendor's address is 1301 Craig Avenue. All tables and chairs are provided by the vendor. Food preparation and serving will be provided by the FFA. Deb is looking for help in the organization of various committees, that include such things as advertising, exhibits, kids' activities, club sales table, speakers, and scavenger hunt, to name a few. Laurie Trocke agreed to send out an e-mail, asking for people to volunteer their services on one or more committees.

Based upon previous informal discussion at Lapidary Day, Jordan Marché asked whether the club might wish to change its regular meeting location to Janesville, if Jack Hoxie's new shop is expanded and is able to accommodate us. His reason for posing the question is that our reservations for the upstairs room at the Monroe Public Library must be made on December 1, 2016, if we wish to continue meeting there. It was agreed that additional discussion with Jack was necessary, and that if an offer from him is made to host the meetings in Janesville, then that question will be

proposed (via e-mail) for a vote by the entire membership. Even the downstairs room at the bank must be reserved in advance, should it be chosen as an alternate to the Library.

Linda Trickel moved, and Deb Wehinger seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting, so that members could drive down and attend the Freeport Show. The motion was passed by acclamation and the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Marché  
Acting Secretary

## *What's Rockin'*

Hello everyone! It's time again for the SUPER AMAZING "WHAT DID EVERYONE BRING AND LEAVE ON THE TABLE FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS!!!" segment. Today I would like to begin with a message! But I can't tell you, because the government reads my emails... (unless I put it in parentheses! (now is the time to revolt! follow me and we'll overthrow the government, and instate the perpetually potentially, infinitely possibly, always sorta maybe, useful governmental system: The Connarchy! (tm) (C) (P) (R) (ETC))) anyways, now that that we're done with the large blank space in the middle of (dog stop licking my hand! (sorry, that's Cinder...)) the article (don't tell the government what's there!!!). Anyways, what was I talking about. OK right. This time, we didn't have a whole lot of entries, (or I just lost a bunch of em... that could be too...) but I guess I'll just get started then! I'll start with Dan Trocke (HI DAD!!! (that's my dad)) who obtained and brought forth with him; an agate and some trilobites, both apparently from mysterious unknown locations!!! ooooh... next (in terms of card placement, not chronological rock unpacking or formation or on a scale of favoritism among said rocks) he

brought a grape agate (yum!) from Indonesia, a Cuprite from the Russian Motherland da?, and that's all. Next, a "Dan" was brought from Southeastern Russia, by the active rock club member: "Sikhote - Alin Meteorite". Harold Carter then brought a Fossilized corral head (where the body of the corral is, no one knows, but some say, on halloween night, it rises again to search for it's long lost head... watch out Harold!), it was collected in Linn County, Iowa, in an abandoned Quarry near Urbana in October 2016, thank you for the detailed location description (if anyone has a time machine, they know where and when if you want to collect it yourself) someone brought a Coral from Wapsipinicon River, in Littleton Iowa in 2016, it doesn't say who collected it then and there, but I can reasonably extrapolate based on the level of detail in the location description, the similiar time frame, and location, along with the fact that it is also a coral just like the previous item, that the person who collected and brought this piece to the meeting, was none other that Vermin Supreme, who ran for president this year, and also wears a boot on his head (although his idea for pony based economics has merit, I'm afraid his great beard just wouldn't fit in with the rest of the white house staff :( (<-- sad face...)) ...unfortunately...) anyways, enough extrapolation! on to the next one! this one was a "STRANgE GEoDE" brought to you by Cathy Romeis, from the location of "hmmm?" which I believe may be in Italy based on the number of "m"s. and Finally, we have two specimen groups from Bob Gilbert, one of which is a Coral from Avon TWP. Rock County, and the other is a set of Arrow heads that he collected himself also from Avontop Rock county (he put the descriptions in the wrong places, but I already made fun of dad for that, and Bob is awesome so he's allowed to do that.) ok, that about sums it up for the segment of

"What did people bring and leave on the table for a couple of hours" thank you all for reading and enjoying, and happy holidays! (no pun intended...)

## My Article Of Rock Jokes Because I Won A Door Prize And Was Forced To Do This. By Erin Trocke

I'm Back with another **article of Rock Jokes Because I won a Door Prize and was forced to do this.** Because I won the door prize. Twice in a row now, I'm going for a third time next month. Anyways, I'm back with More! And you can't do anything about it! SO THERE!

What rock did the boxer punch someone with?  
Amafist

What do you close cows in with? A-gate

What rock sells the most? Sell-anite (or celestine whatever floats your goats)



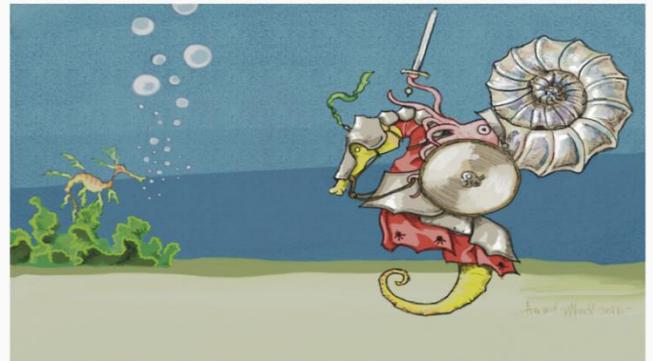
What do rocks eat with? Their Bis-mouth

Which rock cleans up all your messes? A-rag-onite

Which rock goes around in threes, is short, and bites a lot? A Tri-low-bite

What's a dog's second favorite rock? Wolf-enite

If you protect a king, what are you? I Am-a-knight



Jack Hoxie's input: How many rocks does it take to screw in a light bulb? None Rocks don't screw in lightbulbs. (Good job, Jack....)

Jack Hoxie's second input: What did the rock say when it fell down the mountain? Schist. (Again, thanks Jack.....)

Remember when I used the joke: when will this article end? Now-tronite. Well....Now-tronite isn't an actual rock or a reference to an actual rock. . SO THERE I TRICKED YOU AND NO ONE NOTICED!! HA! (If you didn't read my last article then you are dead to me)

## December Rock & Gem Shows

**10-11—FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE:** Annual show; Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society (MTGMS), Williamson County AgExpoPark (Nashville area); 4215 Long Lane ; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$4, Students \$1, Children free; This show features items that will fascinate and please every age group. From crystals, geodes, and sharks teeth for the kids to artisan & native American jewelry, to mineral and fossil wonders that the discriminating will love. Plus hourly door prizes, silent auction, exhibits, and demonstrations such as silversmithing, stone cutting, and faceting. ; contact Mardy Smith, TN 37214, (615)-417-1416; e-mail: [show@mtgms.org](mailto:show@mtgms.org); Web site: <http://www.mtgms.org/>

**10-11—EDMONDS, WASHINGTON:** 5th Annual Winter Bazaar; Maplewood Rock and Gem Club, Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse; 8802 196th St. SW; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-6; Free Admission; contact MaryAnne Collins, (650)-383-7625; e-mail: [info@maplewoodrockclub.com](mailto:info@maplewoodrockclub.com)

**10-11—PINECREST, FLORIDA:** Show and sale; Miami Mineralogical and Lapidary Guild, Evelyn Greer Park; 8200 SW 124 Street; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$4, Children free; The Miami Mineralogical and Lapidary Guild is celebrating its 63rd anniversary by holding a Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, and Fossil. There will be exhibits, displays, demonstrations, raffles, and vendors showcasing mineral & fossil specimens, gemstones, fine jewelry, and artisan-crafted collectibles. Children's activities include jewelry-making sessions, surprise grab-bags, gem prospecting, and geode splitting. ; contact Sandy Mielke, 2434 Swanson Avenue, Miami, FL 33133, (305)-858-6967; e-mail: [webguy@mmlg-inc.org](mailto:webguy@mmlg-inc.org); Web site: [www.miamigemandmineral.com](http://www.miamigemandmineral.com)

**30-1—HILLSBORO, OREGON:** Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, Washington County Fairgrounds; 873 NE 34th Ave; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission: \$7 weekend pass, Children free (ages 0-11); Fine jewelry, precious & semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, gold & silver, minerals & much more at manufacturer's prices. Exhibitors from around the world. Jewelry repair & cleaning while you shop. Free hourly door prizes. ; contact Yooy Nelson, (503)-252-8300; e-mail: [info@gemfaire.com](mailto:info@gemfaire.com); Web site: <http://www.gemfaire.com>



## Wisconsin December Events

### THE POLAR EXPRESS™ TRAIN RIDE WITH WISCONSIN & SOUTHERN RAILROAD

**December 8, 2016 - December 11, 2016  
Middleton**

**Step onto the train and into the pages of the children's classic story. The whole family will delight to holiday characters: each child will receive the first gift of Christmas!**

**Event Date Detail**

**Dec 8, 2016 - Dec 11, 2016**

**1pm, 3pm, 5:30pm, 7:30pm, not all dates have all departure times.**

**Dec 15, 2016 - Dec 23, 2016**

**1pm, 3pm, 5:30pm, 7:30pm, not all dates have all departure times.**

### East Troy Electric Railroad's Christmas Express Train

**December 10 - December 11**

**The magical ride will take you a half hour from the East Troy Depot (2002 Church Street, East Troy, WI) to Santa's workshop located at the Elegant Farmer. Here children can visit Santa and get a photo taken with the jolly elf himself! Santa's workshop wouldn't be complete without a craft project and some hot chocolate and cookies to enjoy after working on those crafts! Advanced reservations are required.**

**9:30am; 12pm; 2:30pm on  
Saturday and Sunday**

### Holiday Light Show

**December 9 - December 11**

**Rotary Botanical Gardens, 1455 Palmer Drive  
Janesville, WI 53545 United States**

**Follow the illuminated garden pathways on an evening stroll through the 20 acre botanical gardens, where the wintery garden**

paths are brought to life with over 400,000 lights, 100 beautifully decorated trees, over 2,500 luminaries, animated displays, more than 500 dangling icicle lights hung from the tallest trees in the Garden and more. Back by popular demand are the Selfie Stops, with fun props and amazing backdrops that offer holiday photo opportunities. Step inside to enjoy a warm beverage or other treat from the Polar Pit Stop, along with festive local musicians and holiday shopping in the Cottage Garden Gallery. Santa himself will stop by on certain dates. Please visit the Rotary Botanical Gardens website below for additional details.

### **Arboretum Walk: Winter Birds.**

**December 11, 2016**

**UW-Arboretum Visitor Center**

Chickadees, nuthatches, blue jays, and other birds spend the entire year here. Some species consider our area "south for the winter." Prepare for the Christmas bird counts on this informative walk. Free, no registration required. Meet at the Visitor Center.

### **The Nutcracker**

**December 17, 2016**

**Overture Center for the Arts**

Ring in the holiday season with this timeless story filled with treasured characters.

Children will delight in the towering 30'

Christmas tree and Mother Ginger with her playful Pulcinellas. Adults will be thrilled by the athleticism and romance of classical ballet, set to Tchaikovsky's familiar score played live by the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra. A trip to Madison Ballet's

"Nutcracker" in Overture Hall is an unforgettable experience for everyone.

### **Cave After Dark - UNDERGROUND COCKTAIL LOUNGE**

**December 17, 2016**

**Cave of the Mounds, National Natural Landmark**

Specialty cocktail tasting and live "lounge" music inside the Cave! Enjoy holiday music, tasty treats and cash bar in the Visitor Center. Cave After Dark is a new series of themed events for adults 21 and older at Cave of the Mounds - National Natural Landmark. Each event includes a unique at-your-own-pace in-cave experience and theme-related reception in our Visitor Center with cash bar. These special events do sell out, so reservations are required.

### **Miracle on 34th Street**

**December 16 - December 18**

**Janesville Performing Arts Center, 408 S Main St**

**Janesville, WI 53545 United States**

Miracle on 34th Street is a holiday classic and its message of generosity and faith remain more important today than ever. Join Stage One, Inc. as they present this story of Kris Kringle, Macy's department store Santa, who claims to be the real Santa Claus, and the little girl who learns to believe in fairy tales.

**Performances Thursday, Friday & Saturday, December 8, 9, 10, 16, & 17 at 7:30pm and Sunday, December 11 & 18 at 2pm**

### **Arboretum Night Walk: Solstice.**

**December 21, 2016**

**UW-Arboretum Visitor Center**

Join us for sunset on the shortest day of the year. Free, no registration required. Meet at the Visitor Center.

## **Mamma Mia!**

**December 29, 2016 to February 26, 2017**

### **Fireside Dinner Theatre**

**Over 60 million people all around the world have fallen in love with this sensational musical. Featuring the music of ABBA, the show has just completed a 14 year run on Broadway and is still playing to sold out houses in the West End of London. The Fireside is the very first area theatre to bring to life the characters, the story and the music that make MAMMA MIA! the ultimate feel-good show! A mother, a daughter, a Greek island paradise, a trip down the aisle you'll never forget, and the story-telling magic of ABBA's timeless songs propel this enchanting tale of love, laughter and friendship, creating an unforgettable show. Seven shows weekly Wednesday through Sunday**

## **Kiwanis Holiday of Lights**

**November 19 @ 5:00 pm - December 31 @ 11:55 pm**

**Free**

**Bring your family to see a Racine holiday tradition. The huge Kiwanis Holiday of Lights display includes a waterfall, a boat, zoo animals and Santa himself. Lighting ceremony Saturday, Nov. 19. Lights may be viewed evenings from Nov. 19 through Dec. 31. Free; donations welcome.**

## **47th Annual Badger Lapidary & Geological Society Rock, Gem & Mineral Show**

**SAVE THE DATE March 25th & 26th, 2017**

**NEW LOCATION! Rock County Fairgrounds 1301 Craig Ave, Janesville, WI 53545**

For More Information Contact: Debbie Wehinger at [jdrules3@gmail.com](mailto:jdrules3@gmail.com)

Web Site: <http://badgerrockclub.org>

Be sure to check out the show committees that were sent out in a previous email and sign up to help out!!!! Also, spread the word far and wide and invite everyone to the show. Let's break in the new location in style!!! We'll have flyers at the January meeting or you can print up the Save the Date flyers yourself, post them at your local libraries, send them to nearby schools, post the info on facebook, etc, etc, etc!!

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

**Laurie Trocke, Editor**

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