

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

The Badger Lapidary and Geological Society, Inc.

Monroe, Wisconsin

Devoted to the Earth Sciences

Vol. 52, No 11

Dec 2017

Season Greetings Fellow Badgers ☺

Another year of hunting and collecting is coming to an end. I hope you that you can come and celebrate with your fellow Badgers at our annual club Christmas Party. This year we will be meeting at 1 pm for our party rather than in the evening. Be sure to get your reservations in to Dan. We will have a short meeting to confirm the location for our meetings next year and we will elect our officers for the coming year. After that, we will play the infamous Gold Brick Game.

I hope to see you there!

Clay Schroll

President



The December meeting will be on Saturday, Dec 9th at 1:00 pm. It will be the Annual Christmas Party. We will meet at the World Buffet in Monroe, WI. We'll enjoy their great food, have a short meeting, elect officers for next year and play the infamous Gold Brick Game.

Hope to see you there!

Laurie Trocke

Newsletter Editor



Officer Roster:

BLGS 2017 Calendar of Events

President

Clay Schroll
1238W Stephenson St
Freeport, IL 61032
815-233-2136
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Dec 9: Meeting: Annual Christmas Party

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

Vice-President

Brian Green
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Warren, IL 61032
815-745-2228
Cgreen5472@hotmail.com

Secretary

Tamara Unger-Peterson
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Treasurer

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Field Trip Chair & Newsletter Editor

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Laurie Trocke Newsletter Editor)
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Show Chairperson

Debbie Wehinger
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Officer at Large

Marv Hanner
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Juda, WI 53550
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Here is the proposed slate of officers for 2018

President:	Laurie Trocke
Vice President:	Cliff Thomas
Secretary:	Tamara Unger-Peterson
Treasurer:	Jack Hoxie
Officer at Large:	Clay Schroll

Meeting Minutes November 11, 2017

The regular meeting of the Badger Lapidary and Geological Society held at Mystic Moraine in Janesville was called to order at 10:48am on November 11, 2017 by Clay Schroll.

Approval of Minute

Small snafu with newsletter distribution did not allow for minutes to be reviewed and approved. September minutes will be approved in December. Lapidary day at the Trocke Farm served as our October meeting. Due to rock activities, an official meeting with minutes did not transpire.

Old Business

Calendar –

The 2017 BLGS calendars are here! Deb has put together another great calendar this year. It was available for purchase at the November meeting and will be available again at the December meeting (Holiday party 12/9). Cost is \$11.

Field Trips –

None scheduled

Show Business -

- Vendors have been contacted and most have confirmed to return this year. Tables are at the show location and do not need to be rented.
- The city of Janesville is still working on WiFi availability at Craig center
- Member may have some alternative temporary solution for charter WiFi and Deb will explore options if the city unable to provide WiFi

New Business

2018 Elections –

Nomination for officers 5 posted. The positions of President, Vice-President, Treasure, and Officer at Large are up for reelection. This election will be held at the December 9 meeting (Holiday party).

2018 Meeting Location –

Our meetings in 2017 have been split between Monroe and Janesville. The group would like to locate a singular location for 2018. – Meeting location should have certain amenities, which will all be reviewed and communicated. Locations identified are

- Monroe Bank (First National)
- Monroe Library
- Brodhead Library
- Mystic Moraine in Janesville

Some of the amenities we would like to see in a location are

- mini-kitchen
- AV availability for presentations
- enough space for activities
- ability for rock activities if possible.

Dan/Laurie Trocke will send a survey for the membership to weigh in

Rock Swap! –

The club has been contacted by the Spring River Gem & Mineral Club in Cherokee Village, Arkansas for a rock swap! Ten pounds of specimen will be traded. Specimens we send should be from our region. If donating, identify your specimen. If you donate, the theory is to receive back from the swap. Clay will contact the club and provide more information as it is obtained from Cherokee Village.

Jordan Marche` made motion to participate, which was seconded. All in favor.

Holiday Party –

Scheduled to occur at our December meeting, which is December 9, at the World Buffet in Monroe. Member requested time of the meeting to be scheduled earlier in the day, such as 1pm. Motion made, seconded, and approved. ½ of the holiday meal is paid by the club. More communication to follow.

Upcoming Events –

- December Meeting/Holiday Party, Monroe WI December 9, 2017
- 2018 Dues – January 2018

MSHA Recertification –

Deb will contact Tom our trainer about a winter schedule for recertification.

Treasurers Report –

Accounts in check. Recently renewed our Web hosting site which will extend that out until 2020.

Door Prizes –

Cindy Green – Geode; Jordan Marche – Amethyst; Tracy Paulson – cephalopod

1st - Kevin – tray amethyst

2nd - Cliff - Trilobite

3rd – Dave Cress – (I didn't catch what the prize is)

4th – Deb Wehinger - archaeology book

Agenda for Next Meeting

Holiday Party, World Buffet Monroe WI (1pm)

December 9, 2017

- Elections will be held
- ½ meal paid by club
- Gold Brick game will be played!

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 by Clay Schroll to allow members to attend the Freeport Rock Show.

Dave Cress Door Prize Article

Received a nice geode, about 2 inches in diameter, cut in half, rather than cracked open. Inside are various size clear quartz crystals and some very tiny white crystals.

“Geodes are geological secondary structures which occur in certain sedimentary and volcanic rocks. They are themselves of sedimentary origin formed by chemical precipitation. Geodes are essentially hollow, vaguely spheroid to oblate masses of mineral matter that form via either of two processes:

- by the filling of vesicles (gas bubbles) in volcanic to sub-volcanic rocks by minerals deposited from hydrothermal fluids or
- by the dissolution of igneous nodules or concretions (that were deposited syngenetically within the rock formations in which they are found) and partial filling by the same or other minerals precipitated from diagenetic water, groundwater or hydrothermal fluids.

Geodes differ from vugs in that the former were formed as early, rounded, structures within the surrounding rock and are often removed intact, whereas vugs are irregularly shaped pockets, voids or cavities within a formation, often along a vein or in

breccia. Geodes also differ from "nodules" in that a nodule is a mass of mineral matter that has accreted around the nodule nucleus. Both structures had the minerals contained within, deposited from groundwater or hydrothermal processes. Geodes commonly have a chalcedony (cryptocrystalline quartz) shell lined internally by various minerals, often as crystals, particularly calcite, pyrite, kaolinite, sphalerite, millerite, barite, celestite, dolomite, limonite, smithsonite, opal, chalcedony and macrocrystalline quartz, which is by far the most common and abundant mineral found in geodes. Geodes are found mostly in basaltic lavas and limestones. The Warsaw Formation in the Keokuk region near the area where Missouri, Iowa, and Illinois join contains abundant geodes.” From Wikipedia

December Rock & Gem Shows

December 8-10—LONGMONT, COLORADO:

Annual show; Flatirons Mineral Club, Boulder Fairgrounds Main Exhibit Hall; 9595 Nelson Road; Daily 10-5, Daily 10-5, Daily 10-5; Admission \$5, Children 12 and under free; Gems, rocks, jewelry, model railroad layouts, toy train items, tools from a variety of dealers and vendors. Club displays, demo's, kids area with games, grabs. ; contact Raymond Gilbert, 4629 W. County Rd 4, Berthoud, CO 80513, (303)-774-8468; e-mail: hoss@q.com

December 9-10—FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE:

Annual show; Mid-Tennessee Gem and Mineral Society, Inc., Ag Exp Park; 4215 Long Lane; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults/Seniors \$5, Students \$1, Children Free; Dealers plus classes, speakers, exhibits, demonstrations, silent auction, and door prizes hourly. Show features handmade silver, stone, and Native American jewelry, lapidary and faceting rough, slabs, fossils and mineral specimens, supplies, tools, and more.; contact Mardy Smith, TN, (615)-417-1416; e-mail: show@mtgms.org

December 16 —West Allis, WI

Wisconsin Rummage-O-Rama
640 south 84th street, West Allis, Wisconsin 53214 (State Fair Park)
Admission \$2.00

Wisconsin December Events

SANDHILL CRANE CONGREGATIONS

December 8, 2017 - December 9, 2017

Aldo Leopold Foundation
E13701 Levee Road - Baraboo, WI 53913
Each fall, thousands of sandhill cranes use the sandbars and islands in the Wisconsin River for staging prior to migration. The river just behind the Aldo Leopold Shack and Farm property provides the most premier vantage point for crane viewing available in the region. Join us for this breathtaking wildlife experience! Programs will be led by world-renowned bird expert Dr. Stan Temple, Senior Fellow at the Aldo Leopold Foundation and Beers-Bascom Professor Emeritus in Conservation in the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology at University of Wisconsin—Madison. He is a respected authority on bird conservation and has published several research papers on sandhill crane migration. Each date is limited to 25 people. Advance registration required. Registration begins in August. Call or email

AN IRISH CELTIC CHRISTMAS WITH TARTAN TERRORS

December 9, 2017

Historic Waupun City Hall Auditorium
201 E. Main St. - Waupun, WI 53963
Taking the Celtic scene by storm, the Tartan Terrors, North America's premiere Celtic Event, featuring the best in music, comedy, and dance is coming to Waupun for a concert you won't forget!

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS CAROL STARRING DAVID ZUM BRUNNEN

December 9, 2017

Monroe Arts Center
1315 11th Street - Monroe, WI 53566
Join Charles Dickens in his study for a very special night, Friday, the thirteenth, 1843. It is on this evening that Charles Dickens dreams up his idea for a ghostly little Christmas book that becomes world famous. This critically acclaimed, historically accurate, and highly humorous and spirited holiday performance, actor David zum Brunnen cleverly portrays Charles Dickens and over seventeen familiar Dickensian characters from the famous story. As Dickens composes his winter morality tale, the audience peers into the life of the real Dickens as he explains his inspirations, sharing personal and social context about himself and his celebrated classic tale.

UGLY SWEATER FUN RUN, WALK & ROLL

December 9, 2017

Riverfront, Inc.
1107 Barberry Dr - Janesville, WI 53545
Riverfront is hosting the 4th Annual Ugly Sweater Fun Run, Walk and Roll to raise money for a great cause, and showcase their favorite ugly sweater. Both 5K and 2 mile routes will be offered. Early bird registrants will receive a t-shirt. Come early and bring your ugliest sweater to the Ugly Sweater Competition. Hot cocoa and light snacks to follow run.

HOLIDAY LIGHT SHOW AT ROTARY BOTANICAL GARDENS

December 8, 2017 - December 10, 2017

Rotary Botanical Gardens
1455 Palmer Drive - Janesville, WI 53545
This annual holiday event is a seasonal escape into a winter wonderland of 425,000 twinkling lights and family-friendly fun, unparalleled in the region. Enjoy fun activities, including, on select nights, a chance to visit with Santa and enjoy live entertainment. Free shuttle service is available nightly from Dawson field. Last ticket sold at 8:30pm, lights go dark at 9pm. Tickets are available online and in RBG's Cottage Garden Gallery during regular business hours. Skip the lines, buy online!

THE JOHN ALTENBURGH CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

December 15, 2017

Grand Theater
401 Fourth St - Wausau, WI 54403
With over a decade of sold-out performances, John Altenburgh's Christmas Extravaganza returns to The Grand! A true Wisconsin Christmas tradition, this has long been the hottest ticket in town. Nothing says Christmas in Wausau like Altenburgh's Christmas Extravaganza! With an all-star lineup, the show features Janet Planet, Mitch Viegut, Randy Sabien, Brad Emanuel, Dave Saindon, Chris O'Keefe, and many more! It's a night of the best of jazz, blues, and the holiday songs you know and love! Don't miss the most talked about show of the year; celebrate your holiday with The Grand and The John Altenburgh Christmas Extravaganza!

CAVE AFTER DARK

December 16, 2017

Cave of the Mounds
2975 Cave Of The Mounds Rd - Blue Mounds, WI 53517
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.

ICE FESTIVAL

December 16, 2017

Wehmhoff Square Park
355 N. Pine St - Burlington, WI 53105
Burlington will be hosting the 2nd Annual ice sculpting contest in Wehmhoff Square Park. The City plans to have eighteen ice blocks placed around the park that will be delivered on Saturday about 7:30 am. Carving will begin around 9 am until 2 pm. Judging will begin after 2 pm. Each sculpture will be carved from a 300-pound block of ice that has been frozen in a special process to ensure that the blocks are crystal clear. Live sculpture carving, a favorite viewing attraction, showcases ice carvers using hand tools transforming massive blocks of ice into an array of giant masterpieces. There is no cost to attend this all-day event. Please spend the day with us viewing the artists in action and also exploring our wonderful downtown!

PLAID TIDINGS

December 21, 2017 - December 23, 2017

Pump House Regional Arts Center
119 King St - La Crosse, WI 54601
A holiday spin-off of the comedy hit Forever Plaid, this Pump House production follows a fictional 1950s boy band that has been miraculously brought together for one performance. Directed by Matthew Lucas.

VICTORIAN HOLIDAY HOUSE SPECTACULAR!

December 21, 2017 - December 23, 2017

103 N Chatham St - Janesville, WI 53545
Tour this historic home filled with 15 Christmas trees, a Christmas village display, several doll houses, a North Pole display complete with Santa's workshop, and many more decorations! Admission is free with a donation to the Rock County Humane Society

CHRISTMAS IN THE BARN

December 24, 2017

Squire's Chocolates & Caramel Apples
26715 Church Rd - Burlington, WI 53182

Reading of the Nativity Story, in a barn, sitting on straw bales. Live nativity, animals, Bay Jesus, shepherds, wise men, Angels, Mary, Joseph and Christmas carols. New show every half hour.

CASCADE MOUNTAIN NEW YEARS EVE FIREWORKS

December 31, 2017

Cascade Mountain Ski, Snowboard & Snow Tube
W10441 Cascade Mountain Rd - Portage, WI 53901

Ring in the New Year slope side at Cascade Mountain. The evening is full of fun for all ages with a rail jam and fireworks. Tubing and skiing will stay open until midnight. We hope everyone can make it out to celebrate the New Year with us!

DROPPIN' OF THE CARP

December 31, 2017

Downtown

400 W Blackhawk - Prairie du Chien, WI 53821

A unique countdown to the New Year. Festivities begin at 9pm. Bonfire, music, food, and the special "Lowering of the Carp" countdown at 11:59pm.

PLYMOUTH'S NEW YEAR'S EVE "BIG CHEESE DROP"

December 31, 2017

Plymouth Arts Center
520 East Mill St - Plymouth, WI 53073

The Plymouth Arts Center proudly presents its annual Big Cheese Drop and New Year's Eve party in the Cheese Capital of the World, Plymouth, WI. Join us for a unique experience, "only in Plymouth, WI." We have consistently made the national news and have been on the list for the top 10 things to do on New Year's Eve for many years!

COOL FOOL KITE FESTIVAL

January 1, 2018

Veteran's Park
Milwaukee, WI 53202

This Milwaukee tradition is free to the public and will start at 11am just prior to the Polar Bear's jump into Lake Michigan, and will run until we can no longer stand the cold, probably around 5pm. Kites and hot food are available for purchase or bring your own. FREE Hot chocolate, coffee, and snacks will be served while it lasts, compliments of the Gift of Wings. A group of local Milwaukee Ice carvers, The Quiet Ice Carvers, will also be on hand, carving some great designs.



Badger Lapidary & Geological Society, Inc.

Laurie Trocke, Editor

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