

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

The Badger Lapidary and Geological Society, Inc.

Southern Wisconsin
Devoted to Earth Science

Vol. 61, No 3

March 2026

Hello Badger Rockers,

Our Annual Badger Lapidary and Geological Society Rock Show is only weeks away! After attending some of the Tuscon Gem and Mineral Shows in Arizona last month, I can't wait to see vendors setting up their tables to display their goods. It will also be enjoyable to watch the faces of all those who come to browse the show and have fun! It is especially rewarding to see folks make their very first purchase. We all know what that feels like.

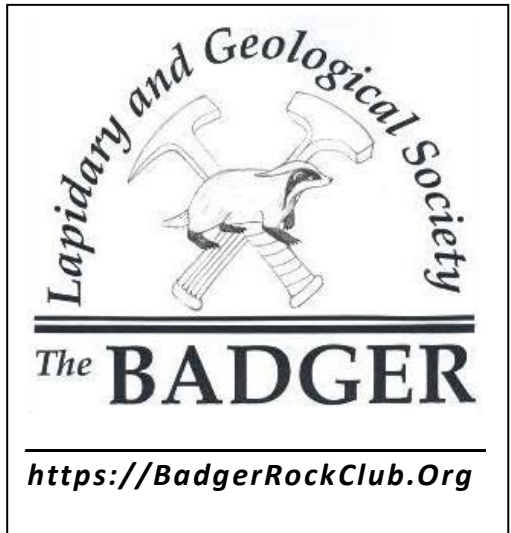
If you have tumbled rocks or small fossils to donate for kids' game prize bags, please bring them to our next meeting on March 14 (see the meeting minutes for location). If you are unable to attend, please reach out to another member to transport them for you. All are welcomed to this 'show-prep' meeting; we'll be assembling prize bags and feasting on a potluck luncheon.

I'm sure we will also be talking about past and future rock-capades, too. Come share your stories! Also, if you have something you would like to submit to the newsletter, please contact me – Ideally by the 21st of the month prior to publication.

Rocking away,

Laura

Laura Petranek Arneson | H: 608-924-7924 (608-WAG-SWAG) | C: 608-513-1751 |
laura_petranek@hotmail.com or LollyPetArn@gmail.com



Pecos Diamonds in
New Mexico

Cecil the Dessert Tortoise from the
Club's Rental House in Tuscon



Ammonite from Morocco

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

Badger Rock Club Business Meeting Minutes Saturday, February 28, 2026, at 10:30 A.M.

By Laurie Ross with input from Laura Petranek Arneson

*Twenty Three rockhounds attended this meeting which was held at Festival Foods in Janesville.

The Meeting called to order by Herb Bunger, VP. At 10:48 AM.

(1. Shannon; 2. Kim)

Meeting Minutes were unanimously accepted from the January 10, 2025, business meeting.

(1. Shannon 2. Laura W.)

The Roll Call process included everyone introducing themselves.

Announcements:

- Show prep meeting is on Saturday, March 14 beginning at 10:30 AM at Herb Bunger's home (W9409 Stader Rd, Whitewater, WI 53190). Please bring rocks for the Fish Pond and Spinner Wheel game prizes. This is a potluck so please also bring a dish to pass. Herb will be grilling hot dogs.
- Treasury Report (Dan): The Club's Midwest Federation dues and venue fees for the March show at the Craig Center have been paid.
- Changes to 2026 Badger Calendar of Events: (
 - September 26: Field Trip to Iron Quarries in Iron Country, MI. A call of hands was requested for those that are interested in attending this field trip. For those not at the meeting today, please RSVP as soon as possible so Brian Diehl can make the necessary plans. (see Calendar of Events for contact information)
 - Change: October 10: Club meeting and wire wrapping, Festival Foods, Janesville, WI
 - Change: October 24: Lapidary Days at Dan and Laurie Trocke, 4771 County Road H, Highland, WI 53543
 - Clarification: The July 11 meeting was discussed for clarity of what was to be expected for that field trip. It will be arranged similarly to the trip from a few years ago. We could possibly meet for an early lunch and then rockhound at certain Chippewa River beaches in/around Eau Claire.
 - A discussion took place about potentially changing or adding an extra field trip date in April to our calendar. Mark Wolf may gain access to 1,000 acres of farm fields in Racine County that will be tilled for spring planting in which we may find bones, arrowheads or other artifacts. This site is less than 5 miles from where the Herbie woolly mammoth skeleton was found. Stay tuned.
- Bob Wesner shared that the **Kettle Moraine Geological Society** has its annual show on March 6 – 8, 2026 at the Washington County Fair Park and Conference Center, 3000 Cty Hwy PV, West Bend, WI. He noted that the Rock River Valley Geological Society and the Kettle Moraine Geological Society share volunteers at each of their annual shows.

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

- Dan Trocke shared that **Paleo Fest** will be held March 6-8, 2026, at the Burpee Museum of Natural History, 737 N Main Street, Rockford, IL. Many vendors will be there including North Earth Crystals & Gifts (Laurie Trocke's shop)

Show business: (March 28-29, 2026)

- Set-up: We should have access to the Craig Center at noon on Friday, March 27. Mystic Moraine Minerals will pick up the keys to the building; Shannon Holt and Laurie Ross volunteered to pick up the keys as a back-up to Mystic Moraine.
- Kim Schneider said Ray Baird volunteered to haul the show trailer from Herb's house to the Craig Center.
- Mark Wolf volunteered to obtain the hydraulic geode cracker from Mystic Moraine.
- Herb Bunger volunteered to pick up pizzas for Friday night after set-up is complete.
- Worker sign-up sheets were passed around for members to sign-up for 2-hour shifts; this will help lead workers identify which spots need to be filled on the show dates. Reminder: don't overschedule yourself so you can enjoy the event!
- Sign-ups circulated for the Large and Small Case displays
- Please color-code the price of items you wish to at the club table. There is a 10%-selling fee that goes towards paying for the venue and supporting the club.
- Herb Bunger volunteered to contact and reserve tables at *Hacienda Real*, 3001 N Lexington Drive, Janesville, for those that would like to go out together for Saturday night dinner.

Show promotions:

- Dan Trocke passed around show flyers for members to hand out and/or share on social media. He noted that Laurie Trocke shared the show flyer with 30 on-line groups for a reach of over 1 million people.
- Kim Schneider asked whether the Club would pay for radio or newspaper advertising. Members discussed the local radio stations and focused on 105.9 FM "The Hog" (WWHG) which covers Janesville/Southern Wisconsin as a mainstream rock station. Cost is \$27 per 30 second advertisement segment. The proposal: Run five 30-second advertising segments for the March 2026 show at \$27 each, for a total cost of \$135, to be run on the five days leading up to the show, ending on Saturday, March 28. 1. Dan Trocke; 2; Laurie Ross. The motion carried unanimously.
- Chris Jacobson recommended adding the show information to The Isthmus (<https://isthmus.com>) Calendar of Events page (this is a free publication).

Old Business

- Club T-Shirts Order: Herb Bunger mentioned orders need to be in by midnight on Wednesday, March 4. The Club needs to order at least 24 of (each) new design to make it cost-effective. It was noted that the Club usually purchases extras to sell. It was suggested that the Board send out a reminder email to the members as soon as possible.
- Herb Bunger noted that President Darsha Norman shared she had not heard back from Ken Schweitzer regarding the club website and will contact him again next week to report back in April.

New Business

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

- Bob Wesner shared that the **Kettle Moraine Geological Society** has its annual show on March 6-8, 2026 at Washington County Fair Park & Conference Center, 3000 County Hwy. PV, West Bend, WI. He noted that the Rock River Valley Geological Society and the Kettle Moraine Geological Society share volunteers at each of their annual shows.
- Dan Trocke mentioned that **PaleoFest** is going on Friday, March 6 through Sunday March 8, 2026 at the Burpee Museum of Natural History, 737 North Main Street, Rockford, IL. Many vendors will be there including North Earth Crystals and Gifts (Laurie Trocke's shop in Spring Green).
- Dan Trocket displayed the Club's new wizard hat. The original hat is still missing in action.
- Laura Petranek Arneson suggested the club consider printing business cards to hand out to prospective members. Kim Schneider offered Vistaprint.com which is an inexpensive but quality maker of business cards. Discussion led to the proposal that Laura explore the cost and design of cards and present at a future meeting as an action item. 1. Kim Schneider; 2. Shannon Holt. The motion carried unanimously.
- Sue Schuetz donated rock-related books to the Club for door prizes. She also had cabbage sticks that she shared with members. Club members showed their gratitude for the donations. Her book donation rolled into questioning of how the Club obtains door prizes for the annual show. It was noted that each vendor donates one item per day for use as a door prize.

Door Prize Winners: (Recipients to give a short talk at next meeting or submit an article to the newsletter):

1. Laura Wesner (Pink Garnet)
2. Shannon Holt (Fulgurite)
3. Laurie Ross (Apophyllite)

Adjournment: 1. Bob Wesner; 2. Mark Wolf. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 11:48 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 10:30 am - Herb Bunger's home, [W9409 Stader Road, Whitewater, WI 53190](#). We will be working on Show Prep and have a short meeting. **Please bring rocks for the fish pond and spinner wheel game prizes.**

We will be working in a heated garage; you may want to dress in layers.

Also, please bring a dish to pass; Herb will be grilling hotdogs.

Following the club meeting, Penny Petranek began a PowerPoint presentation highlighting her experience, with contributions from other club members, of attending the Tuscon rock shows. Her first pictures showed the beautiful and unique rental home where nine club members shared the cost for a week's lodging (plus two other members stayed in their motor home parked in the driveway). The ranch house was built from Rhyolite harvested from the land.

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

Photos showed visits to Saguaro National Park (which was located just west of the rental house), the Tucson Botanical Gardens, and the Pietre Dure Store (nothing for sale/museum items) which exhibited stone carvings by Scarpelli Studio of Italy which keeps Leonardo DaVinci's art techniques alive. The studio had a pre-power tool demonstration, and our own club member Craig was able to try the technique himself. ***Pietra Dura** (also known as pietre dure or "hardstone mosaic") is a traditional Italian decorative art form that involves the inlaying of highly polished, colored stones into a design, often creating intricate pictures or geometric patterns. These artworks are typically used to adorn tabletops, panels, and architectural elements. Cutting the stones involves using a wire on which grit is applied. It is a slow and laborious technique!*

Penny shared that the immensity of the show is incredible and said it is difficult to put into words or pictures. There were approximately 65,000 vendors involved in 50 different shows around town. It was noted that vendors set up at the Tuscon sports complex, fairgrounds, conference centers, and at many hotels and motels – in their rooms and parking lots.

Penny then showed specific pictures of items purchased by club members as well as unique and very expensive items at the shows they came across.

Shannon Holt described her Tuscon experience and showed many of her beautiful purchases that were displayed on a table in the club room.

Dan Trocke, his son Conner and Herb Bunger shared their travel stories enroute to Tucson while Herb drove a rental Expedition with a U-haul trailer for hauling club member goods back home. They traveled south through St. Louis, and stopped in Springfield, MO to visit the Leather Shop Co. In addition to leather goods and fresh leather hides, the shop displays a mini museum of rocks, minerals, and gems. They even had elephant hide for sale.

In Oklahoma, the guys found rose rocks and a little barite. A person is allowed to collect only six pieces/day. Along the way, the men had to keep rearranging the items in the trailer due to the weight shifting.

In New Mexico, they searched for Pecos diamonds. Dan and his son Connor followed a wash (dried out creek bed/ephemeral stream) and found adult mammoth teeth and a skull. Dan called the UW Geology Museum Director to alert him to the GPS location. Dan and Connor reburied the remains to preserve it, and would ideally like to offer a contract to purchase the remains/stake claim with the private landowner.

Herb, Dan and Conner They explored Rockhound State Park, New Mexico, which is close to the Mexico border seeking Rhyolite and thunder eggs. They traveled to an old apache mine where turquoise and precious minerals were mined. They then walked through the dry wash and had better pickings. At one point, they crossed paths with a seasoned Border Patrol agent who was very friendly and knowledgeable.

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

Dan continued the presentation by showing goods at the show, including many top-end sellers. He then highlighted some of his personal purchases. He noted that one has to exercise caution when purchasing because some items may be enhanced or altered. He gave a few examples with fossil purchases and what kinds of questions to ask to ensure you know what you are getting.

Following this presentation, there was a discussion on maintaining rocks that need to be kept wet - how to keep the water fresh and not allow it to get stinky and nasty? Example: water opals. Recommendations included keeping in glass bottles with a lid, using distilled water and keeping the jar out of direct sunlight. Adding a drop of rubbing alcohol to the water may help as well.

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THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

2026 (REVISED) 2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Description	Location
March 14, 2026	Meeting Show Prep/Potluck	Herb Bunger's House, Whitewater, WI
March 27, 2026 12:00-6:00pm	Set-up for Annual Show	Craig Center, Janesville , WI
March 28, 2026 9am-5:00pm	Annual Show	Craig Center, Janesville, WI
5:30pm -?	Group Dinner (optional)	Hacienda Real, Janesville WI
March 29, 2026 9am-4:00pm	Annual Show	Craig Center, Janesville, WI
4:30pm -?	Pack-up/Tear Down/Clean Up	
April 11, 2026	Meeting Rock ID and Mystery Rock Identification	Festival Foods, Janesville, WI
April 25, 2026	Field Trip Phil Burgess's 'Houseum'	Prairie du Chien, WI
May 9, 2026	Meeting Dan Graf Lapidary Demonstrations	T.B.D.
May 23, 2026	Field Trip Fossil Quarry	Monroe, WI
June 13, 2026	Meeting Annual Summer Picnic & Optional Swap/Sell	Brigham Park Shelter #2 Blue Mounds, WI
June ~27, 2026	Field Trip Geodized fossils, crinoids, other treasures & the Bedford Show	Bedford/Bloomington, IN
July 11, 2026	Field Trip Chippewa River Beaches	Eau Claire, WI
July 25, 2026	Field Trip Rock Quarries (2)	Janesville WI
August 8, 2026	Field Trip Moonstone & Soapstone	Wausau, WI
August 22, 2026	Field Trip Lion's Den Gorge	Cedarburg, WI
September 12, 2026	Meeting Show and Tell	Festival Foods, Janesville, WI
September 26, 2026	Field Trip Iron Quarries * *Email brian@dielinsurance.com ASAP	Iron Country, MI (Iron River) if you want to attend!
October 10, 2026	Field Trip Wire Wrapping	Festival Foods, Janesville, WI
October 24, 2026	Meeting Lapidary Days	Trocke's Farm, Highland, WI
November 14, 2026	Meeting Speaker (T.B.D.)	Festival Foods, Janesville WI
December 12, 2026	Meeting Annual Holiday Party	Richmond, WI

Rev. 3/5/26

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

*****Reminder*** - Club members can sell at the club table for only a 10% fee of what you sell! Bring your color-coded priced specimens!**

The Badger Rock Club Presents the 55th Annual Rock, Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Show!

Dates: **Saturday March 28** and **Sunday March 29, 2026**
Hours: **9am-5pm** **9am-4pm**

Location: **Rock County Fairgrounds, Craig Center Building**
1301 Craig Ave, Janesville, WI 53545 [Download Map](#)

Description: **Ten dealers, excellent speakers, beautiful club displays, fluorescent mineral tent, lapidary demonstrations, club sales table, hourly door prizes, educational films, kids' games and activities, The Rock Wizard, and Delicious Food on site.**

Saturday Speakers

- 11:00 AM- Scott Rippe, Owner (Rippeology) "Nothing in Moderation"**
- 1:00 PM - Marv Hanner, Rock Wizard Extraorinaire - "Old Mines and Historic Collecting Sites"**
- 3:00 PM - Donald Baumgartner, Owner (Fossil Hut) "The Science of Jurassic Park"**

Sunday Speakers

- 11:00 AM- Robert Humpries (Dir. Of Great Plains Welsh Heritage Center) "The Welsh in Wisconsin's Lead Mining Region"**
- 3:00 PM- John Dean, Ownder (FS Hunter) "Fluorescents - Catch the Wave!"**

Thank you for your support!

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

2026 Officers Roster

Chair	Name	Contact Information
President	Darsha Olsen	darshakay@gmail.com
Vice-President	Herb Bungler	herbertbthree@yahoo.com
Secretary	Dawn Dennis	muirwyn@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Dan Trocke	Daniel.trocke@slh.wisc.edu or glowyrocks@gmail.com
Officer at Large	Laurie Ross	laurie.j.ross@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Laura Petranek Arneson	laura_petranek@hotmail.com or LollyPetArn@gmail.com

If you have any questions, please contact a Club officer. For Member information changes, please notify the treasurer.

CLUB INFORMATION

Meetings are typically held on the **2nd Saturday** of each month at 10:30 A.M. at FESTIVAL FOODS in the 2nd Floor Community Room (2233 Humes Rd / Janesville WI 53545).

Field Trips are usually held on the **4th Saturday¹** of the month. Trip Announcements are made on our Facebook Page, but locations and details are shared through emails addressed to *paid* Club Members.

- **Website:** BadgerRockClub.Org
- **FACEBOOK – “Badger Rock Club”**
Private group - 1.4K members
Members can post pictures to this site. Note – when placing pictures on Facebook, members are giving BLGS permission to use them in the monthly newsletters.
- **Membership Email Address:** glowyrocks@gmail.com
 - \$15 for an individual/per calendar year
 - \$20 per family/per calendar year
 - Dues are payable at meetings and field trips, or you can mail your check to the club Treasurer. Please remember that dues must be paid *before* you can take part in field trips with the club
- **Newsletter Submissions:** Send to Laura_petranek@hotmail.com or LollyPetArn@gmail.com by the 21st of each month



¹Except in January (Brrr), March (our show!), November (Thanksgiving) and December (Christmas Holiday)

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

Future Rock/Gem/Mineral/Fossil Shows in Wisconsin, NE Iowa and Northern Illinois

March 7-8, 2026—WEST BEND, WISCONSIN: Annual show; **Kettle Moraine Geological Society**; Washington County Fair Park & Conference Center, 3000 County Hwy PV; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults: \$4, Children Under 12: Free; Come and see geological and earth science displays, demonstrations, minerals, fossils, Native American artifacts, and our fluorescent rock and mineral display. There are club sales, as well as rock and mineral dealers/sales. Fun and activities for the entire family; contact John Rettler; Email: johnrettler@gmail.com; Website: <https://kmgrocks.com>

March 7-8, 2026—NEENAH, WISCONSIN: Annual show; **Kluessendorf Memorial Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show**; Bridgewood Resort Hotel & Conference Center, 1000 Cameron Way; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Rock show that kicks off the season with door prizes, a silent auction, and dealers from around the region. Find a variety of Rocks, Minerals, Jewelry, and Fossils. General admission tickets are \$2 at the door. No longer affiliated with the Weis Earth Science Museum

March 14-15, 2026—LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN: **Archeology Artifacts** - Valley View Mall, 3800 State Rd 16; Sat. and Sun. 10-5; Come to Valley View Mall and see artifacts representing the area's long history. Local collectors will display their personal collections, and Mississippi Valley Archeology Center (MVAC) staff will bring artifacts recovered from local excavations. Archaeologists will be on hand to answer questions. Bring in your own artifacts for help in their identification. Call MVAC at 608.785.8454 or email mvac@uwlax.edu if you would like to display your Artifacts. Website: <https://www.uwlax.edu/mvac/> Types: Rock & Mineral Shows

March 28-29, 2026 JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN: Annual show; **Badger Lapidary & Geological Society**; Annual Rock, Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show. Rock County Fairgrounds/Craig Center 1301 Craig Ave; Sat. 10-5 and Sun. 10-4. *This is us!*

March 25-26, 2026—EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN: Annual show; **Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society**; Eau Claire County Expo Center, 5530 Lorch Avenue; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Free; 62nd Annual Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society Show & Sale. Jewelry, Gemstones, Minerals, Agates, Geodes, Fossils, Petrified Wood, Rock Art, Beads, Supplies, Copper & Silver Finds, Crystal, Amethyst, Books & Activities for children & Demonstrations; contact Paul Tubbs, (715) 834-5747; Email: CVGMS2017@gmail.com

April 25-26, 2026—EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN: Annual show; Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society; Eau Claire County Expo Center, 5530 Lorch Avenue; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Free; 62nd Annual Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society Show & Sale. Jewelry, Gemstones, Minerals, Agates, Geodes, Fossils, Petrified Wood, Rock Art, Beads, Supplies, Copper & Silver Finds, Crystal, Amethyst, Books & Activities for children & Demonstrations; contact Paul Tubbs, (715) 834-5747; Email: CVGMS2017@gmail.com

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

May 1-3, 2026—ROSEMONT, IL: Annual show; **International Gem & Jewelry Show** - Donald E Stephens Convention Center (Hall G), 5555 N River Rd; Fri. 12-6; Sat. 10-6; Sun. 11-5.

Website: <https://www.intergem.com/>

May 2-3, 2026—ROTHSCHILD, WISCONSIN: Annual show; **Heart of WI Gem & Mineral Society**; Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center, 10101 Market St; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free admission; silent auction, kid's activities, door prizes, dealers & displays; contact Kim Aschbrenner, (715) 212-4238; Email: moonstonemystics@gmail.com;

Website: www.heartofwisconsinrocks.com

May 16-17, 2026—WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN: Annual show; **Wisconsin Geological Society**; Waukesha Expo Center-Forum Building, 1000 Northview Rd; Sat. 10-4:30, Sun. 10-4:30; Adult Admission: \$5, Kids 12 & Under: Free; contact Paul Okruhlica, (414) 573-6421;

Email: p.okruhlica@gmail.com; Website: wigeo.org

June, 2026 TBD—ONALASKA, WISCONSIN: Annual show; **Coulee Rock Club & Gem Show**; Onalaska Omni Center, 255 Riders Club Road. Email: rockinbabe@acegroup.cc

July 17-18, 2026—MINOCQUA, WISCONSIN: Annual show; Lakeland Gem and Mineral Club; Lakeland Union High School, 9573 WI-70; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 9-5; Free; Educational displays about gems, minerals, fossils and geology; lapidary demonstrations; silent auctions and raffles; activities for kids; and dealers with rough and finished products for sale; contact Ron Zimmer; Email: rzimmer@charter.net; Website: <https://www.lakelandgemclub.org/>

July 25-26, 2026—FREDERIC, WISCONSIN: Annual show; **Gem & Mineral Show**. Door Prizes. Demonstrations of Cabbing, Faceting, Flint Knapping & Sphere Making. Agates, Minerals, Fossils, Gems and Jewelry on display and for sale. Lunch and snacks available by the 4-H Club; contact Roy Wickman, (715) 357-3223

August 19-23, 2026—MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN: Annual show; **The Milwaukee Mineral, Fossil, Gem & Jewelry Show**; Baird Center, 400 W Wisconsin Ave. Wed. 12-6; Thur/Fri/Sat 10-6; Sun. 11-6p. This annual show is a see-touch-buy event where you'll find meteorites, dinosaur bones, fossils, investment grade minerals, crystals, geodes, metaphysical, Earth art, sapphires, gemstones, larimar, amethyst, opals, pearls, cabochons, designer and estate jewelry, beads, buttons, copper, silver, gold, turquoise, diamonds and so much more. Priced from \$1 to \$100,000. Many items are sold by the geologist, miner, prospector, faceter, goldsmith, diver or geologist who did the hunting, digging and prepping. Other vendors are factory reps, direct importers, wholesalers, collection buyers, mining outfits, entrepreneurs, crystal growers, bead & buttoners, dinosaur skeleton mounters, estate buyers, quarrymen and so many more roles (and characters!)

August 22-23, 2026 —RICE LAKE, WISCONSIN: Annual show; **Northwest Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society**; Barron County Fair Grounds - Youth Expo Center, 101 Short Street - (On Highway 48 - North End of Rice Lake); Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free; Door Prizes, Children's

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

Activities & Children's Museum. Demonstrations & Displays. Museum quality minerals, specimens, Lake Superior agates, fossils, jewelry & more. Bring in your rocks, fossils, minerals, crystals & artifacts for free identification. Lunch available for purchase; contact Roy Wickman, (715) 357-3223; Website: <http://www.cameronamericanlegion.org/rockclub.html>

August 29-30, 2026 —ELK MOUND, WISCONSIN: Annual show; Rock Swap Meet & Sale; **Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society**; Town of Wheaton Ball Parks, 3900 38th Street; Sat. 8-4, Sun. 8-4; Free; Vendor Spots - 20' x 40' - \$25.00 per day. Gems, Minerals & Rock Related Equipment. Make payment the dates of the show. Payable to: Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society. Rain or Shine! Something for everyone! Shop & Swap. No Overnight Camping. Food & drinks available for purchase; contact Paul Tubbs, (715) 834-5747; Email: CVGMS2017@gmail.com

September 12-13, 2026—AMANA, IOWA: Annual Rock Auction; **Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society**; Amana RV Park & Event Center, 3850 C St; Sat. 8:30-6, Sun. 9:30-4; Free; This is our annual auction in the Amana Colonies. The auction is free and open to the public. Over 1200 flats of rocks, fossils, minerals, and equipment to be auctioned off. Food is available. Stop by on Friday evening from 5-7 to view items; contact Marv Houg, (319) 350-9435; Email: M_Houg@Yahoo.com; Website: <https://www.cedarvalleyrockclub.org/auction.html>

September 27-28, 2026—OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN: Annual show; [Oshkosh Earth Science Club Annual Show](#); Sunnyview Expo Center, 500 E County Rd. Y.

October 3-4, 2026—EAST MOLINE, ILLINOIS: Annual show; **Worthen Earth Searchers**; Rock Island County Fairgrounds, 4200 Archer Drive; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; \$1, kids 12 and under are free; Worthen Earth Searchers annual show has around 40 vendors. Activities include sluice, geode cracking, pearl picking, and a great silent auction; contact Cindy M Cottrell, (563) 210-4744; Email: cc31068@yahoo.com; Website: worthenearthsearchers.org

October 3-4, 2026—JEFFERSON, WISCONSIN: Annual show; **Rock River Valley Geological Society**; Jefferson County Fair Park Activity Center, 503 N. Jackson Avenue; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Will Offering; Mineral, Fossil and Gem Show. Dealers. Children's Activities. Demonstrations of Jewelry and Lapidary; contact Steven Streich, (608) 655-1011; Email: srockshop@gmail.com; Website: www.stevensrockshop.com

October 10-11, 2026—FAIRFIELD, IOWA: Annual show; **Sac and Fox Lapidary Club**; The Old Armory Building, 122 East Broadway Ave, One block east of square; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Free; Activities for kids; contact Ron Brown; Email: Ron1947@ronbrownfamily.net
