

# The Rocky Reader

The Monthly Newsletter of The  
**Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club**

Volume 56, Issue 12

December 2018

## Message from the President

Dear Club Members,

I want to thank everyone who came out to the last meeting. I also want to thank you for allowing me to continue being your club President for another year. Congratulations to our new Officers and Board Members!! For those of you who did not attend, you should know that we have lost the use of our garage but will get to continue using our craft center for another year while we look for a larger

Make sure the December the Artist building at Botanical That meeting 6:00 pm and having our dinner.



There's nothing like a Gem Tree to put you in the Holiday Spirit.

If your last name begins with A-M then bring a side dish and if your last name begins with N-Z, then please bring a meat dish. Feel free to bring a dessert We will also be voting on the ornament contest and have the induction of Officers.

Happy Holidays!

Catherine Clevenz

## Heralding the Holidays at the Metro-Park

Village resident organizations will be offering artwork and handmade crafts, herbal products, raffles, silent auctions, and

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demonstrations. Try your hand at making a blown glass ornament. Come see the holiday decorations, Father Christmas, food trucks and carolers that will be a part of your shopping pleasure. See the detailed article below for more information.

## **The Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club News.**

### **DECEMBER 2018**

#### **TGRC Board Meeting Report**

On November 9<sup>th</sup> there was a Board Meeting in the Craft Center. All Moderators were invited to attend so that we could have an open communication about policies and procedures.

#### **Upcoming Meeting Announcement**

In December we will once again meet in the TBG Artist's Club. This meeting is our **potluck dinner** where we will enjoy each other's company, pick the winners of our Christmas Ornament Contest and introduce new Officers. If your last name begins with the letters A-M, please bring a meat dish, and if your last name begins with N-Z, then please bring a side dish. Anyone is invited to bring a desert.

#### **Featured Speaker: Dr Quentin Skarbek**

The December **Rock Talk** will be presented by Dr. Quentin Skarbek who will tell us about Ohio's earliest quest for iron tools and machinery. We will learn why the key to smelting iron was found in Ohio's rich geological resources. **Ohio Charcoal Iron furnaces 1803 to 1880** will explain the process of refining iron ore beginning with the most primitive technologies that will make Ohio a key player in the Industrial Revolution and take us into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

#### **Membership Renewal – Final Notice**

All regular Club memberships expired at the end of September. You should know that dues were increased slightly this year! Annual membership dues are now \$21.45 for Individuals and Family dues increased to \$26.81. Membership forms are available on the club webpage at: <http://www.rockyreader.com>. If you plan to use the Craft Center or participate in upcoming activities it is critical that you be renewed. Don't miss out...Renew today.

#### **Field Trip Coordinator Chair Vacancy.**

The FTC's principal duty is to plan and coordinate field trips for the benefit of our members. There are no Field Trips planned for the month of December. Should any of our members elect to organize a field trip they should contact the Club President with information on the activity and planned dates and times. Please check the Club Calendar to confirm open dates as needed.

#### **2018 Fall Open House Report**

The Toledo Gem & Rockhound Open House was held on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> from 9-5pm on Saturday and 11-4pm on Sunday at St James Lutheran Church 4727 West Sylvania Avenue, Toledo, Ohio. Tina Mitten, volunteered to Chair this year's event which, by all accounts was a rousing success with over 530 in attendance. This was likely due in large part to the article in the Sunday section of the Toledo Blade as well as other promotions. Vendors included Joe Motter of Hojo Jewelry, Amy Shufeldt of Elemental Art, Marcia Hintz of Natures Offerings, Ken Hayes of Rocks, Slabs and Minerals, Catherine Clevenz of The Rockhounding Lady, Nick Grieser of Dragonsword Treasures, Chet King of Chet's Rocks and Minerals and



Getting started in Rockhounding is easy...deciding on what to do with your collection is the exciting part.

Linda Erland of Beaded Creations. Our Gem Tree table was staffed by Shirley Stieb, Pat Hillard and Denise Helmick. Approximately 30 Gem Tree kits were sold. The Club Table was staffed by Tom Barnhizer who displayed a wide range of geologic specimens and provided education and information on all types of rocks and minerals. A small assortment of Florescent rocks was an ever-popular display with the visiting public. Thanks goes out to Meg Barnhizer who help to plan and organize our food offerings this year in addition to serving as a Show runner and table reliever. The BBQ Pulled Pork and Pizza was a new offering this year rounded out by a delicious double chocolate cake. The Open House was free to the public and resulted a quite a few new member applications being turned in with more to come in the weeks ahead.

### **Fall/Winter Access to the Garden**

With Fall right around the corner our hours of daylight are growing shorter. As a reminder, after Sunset we can only enter the park via the Olympia Drive entrance which is between the main gate and the Education Center. Of course, you may still use the parking lot by our Craft Center if space is available. The last one out after sunset closes and locks the gates.

### **Metroparks Events & Volunteer Opportunities**

#### **Decorator Days**

**Friday, Nov 9, Saturday, Nov 10, and Sunday, Nov 11 (9am-8pm)**

#### **Wildwood Manor House**

Get a first peek at all of the Holidays fun by assisting with Decorator Days! Volunteers will help check-in decorators, help them locate their room, and more! This popular volunteer opportunity is a great start to our Holidays festivities! Must be at least 16 years old, or 12 to 15 and accompanied by a responsible adult. Sign up through Volgistics or contact Kelly Griffin at [Kelly.griffin@metroparkstoledo.com](mailto:Kelly.griffin@metroparkstoledo.com) for more information.

#### **Holidays at the Manor House**

**Dec 1-16 (10am-8pm daily)**

#### **Wildwood**

This year our annual Holidays at the Manor House will run from Dec 1-16, with many volunteer shifts still available! Are you interested in volunteering for Holidays but don't know where to start?

For specific questions about volunteering at any of our Metroparks call Trish Hausknecht at (419) 407-9703. Make sure to let them know that you are affiliated with the Rock Club. You can register as a volunteer on the Metro parks webpage at [www.metroparkstoledo.com/get-involved/volunteer/](http://www.metroparkstoledo.com/get-involved/volunteer/) In addition, when you volunteer at least 15 hours of your time you can purchase a Metroparks membership at half price.

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### **The Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies Convention**

The Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, in coordination with The Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society, held its' 2018 Convention on October 7th during annual LOESS Rock and Gem Show in Springfield Illinois. Club Vice President and Editor of the Rocky Reader, Tom Barnhizer represented the Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club as our Delegate. The LOESS Show, whose theme was Prehistoric Predators was located on the Illinois State Fairgrounds. Many of the displays featured

ancient marine fossils as well as fossilized plants, dinosaur and mega-fauna bones and ivory. Of course, there were many displays of gems, jewelry and mineral specimens to tempt the eager buyers as well. A special treat was finding a display that was literally out-of-this world: Meteorites. One of the most unique items on display was a portrait of President Abraham Lincoln that was made from slabs of white Agate, Jasper, petrified wood and green, black and white Jade. Scattered around the Show floor were demonstrations of flint knapping, gem polishing, beading, a Kids Korner and educational displays. Topping it off were many skeletal reproductions of Jurassic and Cretaceous dinosaurs provided by the Illinois State Museum as well as actual fossilized dino bones and teeth. In short, a great show and something for everyone.

The meeting of the MWFMS Annual Convention was held at the local Knights of Columbus. John Donker briefly summarized the State Directors' meeting from the morning. Written reports said attendance at shows is increasing, clubs with youth and younger people are growing. Membership is gaining. A summary of the Business Meeting of interest to our members is as follows:

**Club Rockhound of the Year** – No report. Steve Shimatzki had asked to be replaced but agreed to finish up 2018.

**Endowment Fund** – Alan report. Sandy Fuller also from which the proceeds Endowment Fund.

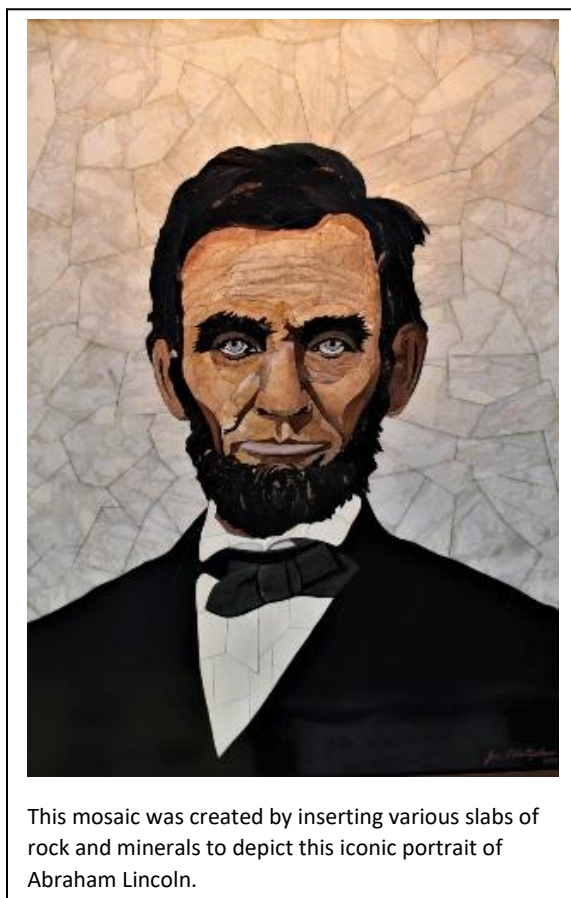
**Merit Awards** – J.C. Moore entries in this year's contest. deadline of January 15. A Rich from the Summit to head this committee and 1166 Broadview, Tallmadge, MAFR43@hotmail.com. Her

**Program Requests** – Pat concern when sharing digital copyright infringement since allowed to be shown to even if no fee is charged. would be much appreciated, original or able to be loaned purposes.

**Website** – Cindy Root their club page for needed. Show flyers can be however, if there is page, point out the errors ASAP so they can be fixed. If your club has a website or a Facebook page, send it to her so she can add a link to our page. Cindy noted that club members can join the MWF Facebook site, but must formally request it. She or Tom Whitlatch must approve and add you.

**Website Competition** – There is a new chairman for the MWF, David Fanger from the Minnesota Mineral Club. The AFMS also has a new chairperson, Darrell Watkins from the Northwest Federation.

**Conventions** – J.C. Moore reported that there was a good turnout for the 2017 MWF Convention in Brainerd, Minnesota and early attendance reports are up for this year in Springfield, Illinois. The Livingston Gem and Mineral Society of Howell, Michigan has invited MWF members to join them at their show in Howell, Michigan for the 2020 Convention. Their show will be the third weekend in September. J.C. Moore noted that he has a Convention schedule for several years in advance and



Hukill had sent a treasurer's showed MWF tote bags, were going to the

reported there were no 2019 will have an early new chairman, Mary Ann Lapidary Club, has agreed the contest. Her address is OH 44278. Her e-mail is cell phone is 330-715- 8866.

Powers stated that a recent programs and materials is many videos/DVD's are not groups without permission Donations of programs but the programs must be to groups for educational

encouraged clubs to check corrections or updates added to your page, something wrong on your

would like Clubs to contact the MWF to confirm their interest in hosting future Conventions. He stressed that the MWF doesn't want to change your show in any way. The MWF would only need a facility for the Convention meeting and awards banquet. Any host Club expenses should be recouped., however, If any club wants to subsidize part of the meal expense, that is fine, but certainly not necessary. He and Donna will help in any way they can with the plans.

**MWF dues are requested to be paid by January 15th.** This year any club with juniors, who pay their dues on time will be eligible to receive The Mini Miners Monthly by email. Details will be forthcoming. Diamond Dan had ceased publication for a while but is back to doing the monthly newsletter aimed primarily at juniors. Sandy Fuller reminded members that the MWF Endowment Fund interest pays 25 cents per member of the insurance for all clubs that pay dues **on time**. The November issue of the MWF Newsletter will have the club renewal and calendar forms.

**Rock & Gem magazine** wants to use articles from our newsletters. David said anything used by Rock & Gem would need to be fully credited to the author, however, the organizations logo is not to be used. Article use can be coordinated with Valerie J. Meyers, Newsletter Editor, acting as the MWF liaison. Rock & Gem also needs club information by September. They are completely redoing their club information section. **Each club needs to submit their information to Rock & Gem directly.** Members were reminded if they do not want their information on the MWF website, there is a box to check so it won't be used, however, it will still go in the directory. We (MWF) need contact information for the officers of the club so we can reach them if necessary.

**AFMS Endowment Fund.** J.C. Moore reminded members he had raffle tickets for the AFMS Endowment Fund Drawing to be held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa next March 23. They can be purchased by mail at 25235 N. Illinois Highway 97, Cuba, IL 61427. They are \$5 each and \$20 for five. One of the big things funded by this fund is the junior badges for the Future Rockhounds of America program. See the entire minutes of the MWF Convention on line at [www.amfed.org/midwest.htm](http://www.amfed.org/midwest.htm) or pick up a printed copy of their newsletter.

I attended the Midwest Convention as a Delegate representative of the Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club. In 2019 the MWF Convention will meet in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on March 23-24. If you are interested in serving as a Delegate to the 2019 convention you may submit your name to the TGRC Board of Directors at their next meeting.

### **Heralding the Holidays: November 30 through December 2nd**

Village resident organizations including the Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club, will be offering artwork and handmade crafts, herbal products, raffles, silent auctions, and demonstrations the first weekend of December at The Toledo Botanical Gardens Metro-park, 5403 Elmer Drive (between Reynolds and Holland-Sylvania). Try your hand at making a blown glass ornament. Come see the holiday decorations, Father Christmas, food trucks and carolers that will be a part of your shopping pleasure. TGRC will have three tables in the Conference Center and additional tables in our Craft Center where you can display your hand-crafted lapidary creations. The hours for this event are Friday 11/30 5-9, Saturday 12/1 10-5 and Sunday 12/2 11-4. Admission and parking are free, however, the latter is



Our President, Catherine, is also a great Leather Crafter as exhibited by her display at a recent HH Show.

limited so a Shuttle service will be provided between Wildwood Metro-park on Central Ave. and The Toledo Botanical Gardens. You are invited to share the attached flyer on the final page of this month's Rocky Reader.

## **GEMCRAFTERS**

### **December 2018 Gem Crafter Update:**

**Training Sessions:** To learn the correct steps to make a quality cabochon or how to use the Slab Saws please contact Joanna Toepfer or Catherine Clevenz, Intro Gem Crafters Classes are scheduled as needed so to take beginning classes let them know of your interest as soon as possible.

### **The December Cabochon of the Month is Brazilian Agate!**

**Open work sessions:** (Some sessions have been omitted due to the Christmas holiday).

**Saturdays;** December 3rd and 17th from 10am to 4pm with Joanna Toepfer moderating.

**Wednesdays:** December 7, 14, and 21 from 6 to 9 pm with Chet King and Catherine Clevenz moderating.

**Thursdays:** December 1, 8, 15 and 29 from noon to four pm with Chet King moderating.

**Work Session Fees are as follows:** \$1 for the Club to provide for operations. \$1/hr for use of Craft Center to provide for programs and maintenance of equipment. Please make sure that you sign in each time that you use the Craft Center. Cab of the Month Slabs are available for various prices. The Fee for a Workshop is \$15.00 plus the cost of materials. At present there are no workshops scheduled. Remember, our clubs insurance policy requires that you be a member to use the Craft Center and any of its equipment.

**Needed: Members to maintain/clean equipment:** The club needs members who are willing to clean and fix gem crafter equipment at the Craft Center. To have working saws, cooling systems and grinders along with a comfortable, safe working space when you come in, please step up and help out. Thank you in advance for your assistance. See Joanna Toepfer, Cathy Clevenz, or Chet King for more details or to volunteer.

### **Donations:**

If you have tools, machines or lapidary materials and have been thinking of donating items to the Club please call or e-mail any of our Club Officers listed above for information.

**Gem Crafter Moderators:** Thanks to Joanna Toepfer, Cathy Clevenz and Chet King.

### **FACETERS:**

Ellie is asking for members to email him at [eg.therockman@gmail.com](mailto:eg.therockman@gmail.com) if they are interested in taking a 2<sup>nd</sup> **Intro to Faceting** Class. This class, which will be limited to 10 members, will cover technical/design aspects and include a hands-on Faceting Machine session. In addition, Chet King is open to additional members signing up for a hands-on faceting class in the craft center.

## **METAL CRAFTERS**

If anyone is still interested in another class on Fire Enameling, please let me know and we can get another class scheduled. I also would like to invite everyone to

## **Nuggets**



S130E012141

"I don't care what you saw, I am not calling in a sleigh and eight tiny reindeer."

come to open sessions. I can help with or give some direction on any project that you would like to do. I can make myself available so please email me at [bking3@me.com](mailto:bking3@me.com).

Brian will be available Saturdays the 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> for Weekend open sessions. This is in addition to the regular Metal Crafters Sessions on Thursdays at 5:00 pm. Again, please email Brian at [bking3@me.com](mailto:bking3@me.com) if you would like to attend so we can have the facilities ready.

### **BEADERS:**

The Beaders meet on the third Monday of the Month at 6PM. If you are interested in beading, contact Nancy Grove [nancy7536@att.net](mailto:nancy7536@att.net) for more information.

### **ADVANCED BEADERS:**

The "Extreme" Beaders meet on Tuesdays beginning at 9AM. Participants should be able to work independently on their own projects. If you would like to join, but need more information, contact Kathy Petersen [mlrlyt@AOL.com](mailto:mlrlyt@AOL.com)

**SUNSHINE:** Member, Patti Ross lost her husband Emerson Ross recently. They stay in Mexico during the winter. He took ill, and Patti drove to a hospital in California. Sadly, he passed. Patti is one of our Extreme Beaders. She also was a deputy sheriff and volunteered to guard at our September show for many years. Joe Motter and he is sending a card. Here's her address in case you need it.

Patti Ross  
3825 Hillandale  
Orr Away Hills OH 43606

### **TRGC Junior Rockhounds:**

With the approach of the holidays, Juniors will not be meeting in the months of November and December. All juniors are invited to participate in all of the Clubs activities and events through the end of the year. We will, of course, welcome their participation in Heralding the Holidays on November 30<sup>th</sup>, through December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Following the holidays. Juniors will once again meet at the Craft Center on the 4th Saturday of each month from 2-4 pm when we plan to introduce a new youth program entitled Future Rockhounds of America. Hope to see you then.

**FIELD TRIPS:** Club member, Dr. Quentin Skarbek would like to invite Club members to tour selected areas of the Toledo Art Museum with a focus on rocks, minerals and geology. This tour could be scheduled as early as January 2019. The tour would be open to all members including Junior Rockhounds. The Museums hours of operation are Tuesday and Wednesday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Thursday & Friday: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday: noon - 5 p.m.. Admission is FREE. Parking is \$7 (FREE to Friends of the Museum members). Should you be unable to participate in the above tour we hope that you will consider visiting the Museum on you own this winter.

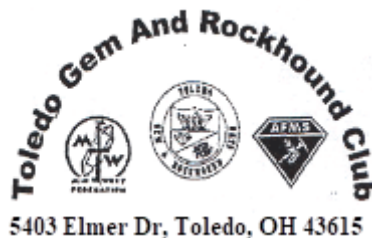
### **Tool Talk**

To bring out the beauty of natures creations the Lapidary artist relies on his or her tools to cut, shape, grind and polish objects of great natural wonder into timeless treasures. Without those tools the effort required to achieve the desired level of perfection would be difficult indeed. We all realize that we need to spend more time in caring for our tools but too often we are distracted or get too busy to take the time to perform that needed level of maintenance. At a minimum we need to remember to inspect your tools before you begin to make sure that they are ready to do the work. Most rock cutting requires cutting oil or some soluble lube added to water to keep the cutting surface cool and the cut itself smooth. Check to make sure that the saw blade itself is in contact with the oil or water to perform its task. Saw blades must be securely attached to the motor shaft and free of nicks, cracks or

broken teeth to be safe and cut cleanly. Similarly, belts and pulleys should be checked for tightness or worn areas. Repair or replace any loose or broken items and add lubricants as needed before you begin work. Grinding and polishing wheels must also have water dripping continuously while in use. Once you begin a project technique become critical. One should never use too much pressure as it could damage or even break the saw blade or wear out the wheels. A light touch preserves the tool and assures that the project itself will not be damaged. Saw blades require laser-strait cuts. One should never attempt to cut curves or circles on a saw but use a grinding wheel to round out surfaces one the rough outline is cut. Conversely, a cabochon must be in constant motion on the grinding or polishing wheel to prevent uneven wear or even grooving of the surface. Shortcuts rarely provide for a high-quality result and often make for an unsafe condition. Once you have finished an operation, turn off the tool and give it a good cleaning. Spray surfaces with oil to prevent rusting and add oil to the reservoir if needed. This will preserve the tool for the next time that you or another club member will want to use it. Finally, turn off all water and electricity to machines and any auxiliary equipment like dopp pots. The above applies to all Craft Center equipment in general. Future **Tool Talks** will focus in on the safety, operation and maintenance of particular tools and equipment. We all depend upon each other to keep our Craft Center operation safe, clean and efficient. Always feel free to share your own knowledge with other members who may not be as familiar as yourself.

For a full calendar of events and activities visit the "Events Page" of the Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club web-site at <http://www.rockyreader.com/Home/Events> and use the arrow pad to select the month. Printed calendars will be available in the craft center and distributed at monthly meetings.

On Facebook? So is the club along with postings from members and lots of pictures! Please, comment, post your own photos and "LIKE" us! <https://www.facebook.com/ToledoRockhounds>





# *Heralding the Holidays*

*at*

*Toledo Botanical Gardens Metropark*

*5403 Elmer Drive (between Reynolds and Holland-Sylvania)*

*Heralding the Holidays hours are Friday 11/30 5-9, Saturday 12/1 10-5 and Sunday 12/2 11-4.*

*Parking and Admission is free.*

*Shuttle service provided between Wildwood Metropark and Toledo Botanical Gardens*



*Village resident organizations will be offering artwork and handmade crafts, herbal products, raffles, silent auctions, and demonstrations. Try your hand at making a blown glass ornament. Come see the holiday decorations, Father Christmas, food trucks and carolers that will be a part of your shopping pleasure.*

*Organizations participating include:*

*The Garden Club Forum, Anthony Wayne Garden Club, Toledo Area Glass Guild, Maumee Valley Herb Society, Toledo Area Weavers Guild, Toledo Gem and Rockhounds Club, Stained Glass Guild, Branching Out fiber studio. Hands On teaching studio, Unruly Arts Gallery, Toledo Artists Club, Photo Arts club and the Blair Lithopone Museum and Gift shop*