



# Rocky Reader

The Monthly Newsletter Of The  
**Toledo Gem And Rockhound Club**

Volume 56, Issue 6

June 2018

## Message from the President

Dear Club Member,

School is out! Let the summer vacations begin! There are many places in Ohio that you can day trip at or even overnight that you should see while the weather is nice. They include Kelly's Island for the glacial grooves, Flint Ridge to hunt for flint, Old Man's Cave, near Loudenville, and the Olentangy Caverns to sluice for gemstones and more. As always, please remember to stay safe by wearing eye protection and shoes that can prevent injury. Carry water to stay hydrated and don't forget the sunscreen and insect repellent lotions! If your idea of fun is a day of rockhounding, be responsible. Always ask permission when collecting on private land and let them know that you are a member of the Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club. In addition, there are several Rock Shows in our region that you won't want to miss. Lastly, I would like to remind you to start thinking about how you will participate in the annual Rock and Gem Show in September. The volunteer lists will be coming out soon and I hope to see everyone's name on them.

Hope to see you at the June Meeting.

Catherine Clevenz, President

### **Project Patriotic**

Catherine has once again challenged our artists to submit Patriotic themed items in June. Items will be voted on by Club members present at the June meeting. Cash prizes will be awarded for the top three objects or displays.

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

### **May/June Craft Center Update:**

New training sheets have been created for the Metal Crafters and Gem Crafters, allowing for more specific trainings that fit better with what we are currently doing. A list of members who have received trainings is available to the Moderators at each work session.

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.

### **Garden Events & Volunteer Opportunities**

Come walk the gardens and enjoy the beauty of collections and displays, stop in to meet your local artists. Let's celebrate the National Public Gardens Day at Toledo Botanical Garden, your museum of plants at Metroparks Toledo.

For specific questions about volunteering at any of our Metroparks call Trish Hausknecht at (419) 407-9703. In addition, when you volunteer at least 15 hours of your time you can purchase a Metroparks membership at half price. See the Metro parks webpage at [www.metroparkstoledo.com/get-involved/volunteer/](http://www.metroparkstoledo.com/get-involved/volunteer/)

### **METAL CRAFTERS CLASSES FOR JUNE**

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 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).

I 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 me if you would like to come so I know whether to be there or not.

### **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.

### **EXTREME BEADERS**

The Extreme Beaders meet on Tuesdays beginning at 9AM. Participants must be able to work independently on their own projects. If you would like to join, but need instruction, contact Kathy Petersen [mlrlyt@AOL.com](mailto:mlrlyt@AOL.com) for more information. Note: Kathy and Pete will be out of town until Spring so you may want to contact Shirlye Stieb at [sstieb828@gmail.com](mailto:ssstieb828@gmail.com) .

## GEMCRAFTERS

### June 2018 Gem Crafter Update:

#### Open work sessions:

**Saturdays** 10am to 4pm: June 2, 16 and 30<sup>th</sup>. July 21<sup>th</sup>

**Wednesdays** 6pm to 9 pm: June 13<sup>th</sup>. Brian King has agreed to collaborate with gem crafters in a Joint Session. No other Wednesdays staffed in June or July.as we need a moderator for Wednesday nights. Please contact Michelle if anyone wants to volunteer.

**Thursday** Noon to 4 pm: June 7, 14 and 28 and July 5, 19, and 26

**Intro Classes:** To learn to make a cabochon or use the slab saws- Please email Michelle at [mgrigoretgrh@gmail.com](mailto:mgrigoretgrh@gmail.com) with some dates/times that would work for you to take these two beginning classes and get signed off on using the saws/grinders. We also have a limited quantity of blue goldstone for purchase in July.

#### Cabochons of the Month for June/July:



“Banded Iron”; alternating bands of red jasper and shiny specular hematite &

“Mary Ellen Jasper”: Fossilized Stromatolites from Minnesota

(images may be enlarged)

**Needed: People to maintain/clean equipment:** The club needs members who are willing to clean and fix gem crafter equipment at the Craft Center. One of our current maintenance folks has family medical issues that prevent them from doing this. To have working saws, cooling systems and grinders when you come in, please step up and help out. Thank you in advance for your assistance. See Cathy Clevenz, Chet King or Michelle Grigore for more details or to volunteer.

**Equipment update:** We have installed replacement blades on 10” and 14” slab saws. We hope to repair the on/off switch on 16” saw if the part we ordered comes in before vacation. Through the auction and on-line sales Gem Crafters sold two surplus grinders and a gem maker. As a result, we anticipate that the Gem crafters account will soon be back in the black. Club members bought two of the items and the third sold on Facebook. We have two more surplus grinders in garage and one vibrating lap to sell. Email Michelle at [mgrigoretgrh@gmail.com](mailto:mgrigoretgrh@gmail.com) if you want details.

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

## JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS

The Juniors meetings are scheduled on the 4th Saturday of every month from 2-4 pm. Our junior members are age 6 (ish) up to age 17 and we focus depending on interest of the regular attendees. If you have something you are interested learning or doing with the Junior group, don't hesitate to ask. Your input is important, and I try and set up the meetings to learn about and do stuff that you and the other Juniors want to know about. More advanced juniors may be given independent projects to share their results with the group.

Junior Rockhounds are a "hands on" type of group where I pass around samples and we learn together. Questions are encouraged by the juniors and I will answer them or identify their rocks from home to the best of my ability. There are usually take-home samples also. We do ask at least one parent be available with you to help and learn with you. It is more enjoyable that way and I know you will get more out of it when you have a "buddy" at home to help.

Any other questions about the juniors, Please ask Steve Shimatzki. E-mail: [sjs132@gmail.com](mailto:sjs132@gmail.com) or call: 567-868-8794.

### Flint Ridge Field Trip

Members of TGRC participated in the Spring Knap-in at the Flint Ridge Memorial Park near Zanesville, Ohio. Over 30 vendors displayed a mix of items for sale from raw and pre-formed flint from Ohio and other States as well as several other continents from around the globe. Many flint arrowheads, knives, drills, spearheads and other tools were also displayed and offered for sale along with many hand-crafted primitive items and accessories. The highlight on Saturday was the Auction to benefit the Flint Ridge Neolithic Club. The low-light was the late afternoon thunderstorm that unsuccessfully tried to put a damper on the activities. As soon as it was over the Knappers were back at their craft and offering advice and support to many that were new to Knapping. The next (and larger) Knap-in is set for Labor Day weekend in September.



### Looking for a Home.

We are still looking for a display case for the beautiful 300 lb, Quartz crystal plate that was donated to our Club. The plate originated from an Arkansas cave and is in storage until we either build or purchase a suitable method to transport and display it.





## Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club

### Meeting Minutes May , 2018

#### Meeting held in the Toledo Artist Guild Building beginning at 7:10pm

#### 1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. **Secretary Report** – Minutes read “Motion to approve the minutes”? The previous minutes were posted in the April Rocky Reader. Tom Marok made a motion to approve the minutes, and Meg Barnhizer seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

3. **Treasurer Report** – Steve Shimatzki reported that he has nearly completed the . All but \$460.00 remains to cover any outstanding checks have been transferred to the new account. Metal Crafters is again in the black with the success of their March Auction and Gem Crafters are well on their way to resolving their deficit.

Tom Marok made a motion to accept the financial report from Steve Shimatzki as Meg B seconded it. The motion was approved.

#### 4. Old Business

A. The proposal to change the organizational status of the Club to a non-profit charity was announced. It was decided to change to a 501.c3 organization at the end of the 2018 fiscal year. One benefit would be to allow for our Club to accept donations and offer tax deferrable receipts for any donated items. In addition, this change allows the Club to apply for grant funds to support educational programs and offer scholarships to individuals or organizations. Please contact your club officers or members of the Board to voice your opinions on the subject.

C. Report from Site Selection Committee – A commercial building in Sylvania across from Fossil Park was discussed. Details of location: 1700 sq ft building with water, 200 amp electric and septic; It has a kitchen and two adjacent restrooms. There is a spacious front lobby (maybe for Beaders). The Metal and Gem crafters could each get their own work rooms with adjacent storage. Parking is sufficient however the building lacks sufficient area for storage of inventory and fixtures. It is currently under renovation, so no quote was given at this time. Other locations are still under review and consideration.

#### 5. New Business

##### A. 2nd Annual Patriotic Contest: June 2018

Artists are asked to submit small table displays or wall decor (no bigger than a sheet of copy paper) or an item of jewelry that would fit the patriotic theme.

Judging will be done by the Members present who will vote for their favorites.



### **R & E ROCKS**

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Prizes: \$30, \$25, and \$15 will be awarded to the top three artists selected.

**B. Resident Org. Update:** Steven Stokford is the new head of Operations at the Garden replacing Doug. We no longer need to update the Metro parks on classes and activities directly. We are asked to submit a notice of any scheduled classes, events or activities within the Park. These records must be submitted monthly. The Club is continuing to address how we can meet the expectations of the Metroparks regarding what we can and cannot do according the type of organization we are.

**Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:** Members must call or email the Metroparks Volunteer Center. Make sure to tell them that you are affiliated with the Rock Club. Greenhouse work is needed as well as individuals to support the Ohio Federation of Garden Clubs Plant Sale in May.

**Group Reports:**

**TBG Liaisons:** see above.

**Gem Crafters:** Going back to 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays 9am to 4pm

**Metal Crafters:**

**Intro to Metalsmithing Class:**

Contact Steve Cielinski for the next session at [77stevec@gmail.com](mailto:77stevec@gmail.com).

**June Open Work Sessions:**

Thursday, June 7th from 9 am – 12 pm

Thursday, June 14th from 6 pm – 9 pm

Thursday, June 21st from 9 am – 12 pm

Thursday, June 28th from 6 pm – 9 pm

Please be aware that if no one shows up to work in the first hour, the moderator may leave/cancel the session.

**Metal Craft Moderators:**

Terri Jones, Gwen Day and Greg Feight (all three out until Spring), Steve Cielinski and Brian King.

**Extreme Beaders:** No Change.

**Beaders:** No Change.

**Faceters:** Ellie is asking for people to email him if they are interested in taking a 2<sup>nd</sup> Intro to Faceting Class. Chet King is open to additional members signing up for a hands-on faceting class in the craft center.

**Sunshine:** No Report.

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**Juniors:** Starting to do fieldtrips again. Met at Fossil Park on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Field Trips:** End of May: Flint Ridge Spring Knap In.

**2018 Rock & Gem Show:** Vender contracts have gone out. Need to get number of hours for security. WiFi might be available. Looking for chips for the kid kits. Looking for enough for 100 kits estimate.

We will possibly order more geodes for the geode cracking station.

Start thinking about what you want to do about your display cases and let Nancy know.

**Fall Open House:** The Club is looking for someone to take-up the reigns for the 2018 Fall Open House in November.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 pm**

**Tom Marok Motioned - Meg Barnhizer 2<sup>nd</sup>**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS FROM CHET KING'S FLYER TABLE**

June 1 - 3

WAUSEON, OH

**Stateline Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show**

Fulton County Fairgrounds, 8514 SR-108, Wauseon  
Fri noon - 6 pm; Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 11 am - 4 pm.

Contact: Glenda Gafner (517) 403-6310;  
ggafner@frontier.com

June 9 - 10

MANSFIELD, OH

**Richland Lithic & Lapidary Society Annual Show**

Arts & Crafts Building, Richland County Fairgrounds,  
750 N Home Rd.

Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 11 am - 5 pm

Contact Tom Kottyan, (419) 562-1152;  
themineralhouse@netzero.net

June 22 - 24

BEDFORD, IN

**Lawrence County Rock Club Annual Show**

Lawrence County Fairgrounds, US Hwy 50, Bedford, IN

Fri 10 am - 6:30 pm; Sat 9 am - 6:30 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm.

Contact: Michael & Marjorie Tweedale (812) 675-6054



# The Greatest Show (& Tell) on Earth!

The Imagination Station and The Arts Commission are hosting a Mini Maker Faire in conjunction with [Momentum](#), a three-day arts and music festival, and have opened the Call for Makers!

Toledo Mini Maker Faire is a celebration of the Maker Movement, a DIY community of tech enthusiasts, scientists, garage tinkerers, artists and inventors – anyone who uses their own wits and hands to innovate, hack, tweak and create!

Join the science center for this family-friendly day of fun, hands-on activities, creativity, arts and technology. Imagination Station will be open that day, and Mini Maker Faire events and activities will take place outside.

**When:** Saturday, September 15

**Where:** Downtown Toledo, Festival Park

**Application Deadline:** Friday, June 8

## Call for Makers

Do you think outside the box? Are you an innovator, tinkerer, artist, dancer, musician, crafter, techie or Do-it-yourselfer? Do you have a fringe skill set and a passion for sharing it? Then Imagination Station and The Arts Commission want you to apply as a Maker for the Toledo Mini Maker Faire!

For more information go to <https://www.imaginationstationtoledo.org/toledo-mini-maker-faire> and for an application go to <https://toledo.makerfaire.com/call-for-makers/application/>

## Ring of Remembrance

Have you ever wanted to preserve a memory of your loved ones? Ever thought about crafting a piece of jewelry that you could wear that represents your most heartfelt feelings? You may have asked yourself if you have the skill, knowledge, tools and time to craft something that would meet your own expectations. Shortly after my wife, Meg, joined the Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club she began to wonder if she could learn the skills necessary to craft a ring. It wasn't long before she created her first cabochon and soon mounted it in a Silver bezel, however, it became apparent to her that crafting a ring in precious metal with faceted stones was a project that was going to require whole new skill-sets and a lot of time to acquire them. Over time Meg learned that there were other members of the Rock Club that might be able to pull off her vision. She approached several members with her concept, offered some sketches and even began to collect some materials from her own collection of older jewelry. When she approached our own Rodney Guy with her idea for a custom ring he was inspired and agreed to take on the project.

Rodney began by sitting down with Meg to go over her drawings, making suggestions and scaling the ring down to accommodate the faceted gemstones as well as provide for a comfortable fit. Rodney then began by cutting a carving block before casting. he added wax sprues that would the mold. The final carving was placed into a carefully controlled hours leaving a hollow cavity for The precious metal was placed in aid in melting. Once the mold was the plaster was broken releasing



some careful filing and polishing it was ready for the next step. As Meg was able to provide the already faceted materials from her own collection, it was a simple process of carefully mounting the gemstones.

facsimile of the final design from a wax Once Meg approved of Rodney's carving allow the molten metal to evenly flow into "invested" into a container of plaster and oven to slowly burnout the wax over 12 the molten metal that was to form the ring. a crucible along with some flux material to removed from the oven and allowed to cool the ring. The sprue was removed and after

So, if you have an idea for a special item of jewelry you may want to consider talking to your fellow members of our Club to see if they can help you to make it a reality and a cherished memory in precious metal and gems that will last forever.



## **Mary Ellen and Red Banded Jasper**

A very interesting rock is the "Mary Ellen Jasper ". It is named after its occurrence in the Mary Ellen mine. This mine is situated in the iron ore occurrences of the Mesabi Range, St Louis County, Minnesota.



The Mary Ellen Jasper is a witness of the emergence of life on earth. In its silicified structures very old blue algae are conserved. Evidence of fossil stromatolite formations have been found throughout the world, as these mushroom-shaped mounds dominated the shores of all the newly developing landmasses, including the area where the Mary Ellen Jasper developed.

Unless you live in Minnesota, you may not be familiar with this interesting form of microcrystalline quartz. This rock formed more than two billion years ago in the area that is now the Mesabi Iron Range in Northern, Minnesota. At that time one of the early life forms evolved in the ancient seas. These blue-green single-celled cyanobacteria contained chlorophyll and were able to harvest the energy of the sun to photosynthesize and produce their own food. Energy from sunlight was used to split carbon dioxide into carbon and oxygen. The carbon was absorbed, becoming part of the growing organism, and the oxygen was released into the atmosphere over millions of years. Prior to the evolution of cyanobacteria, there was almost no oxygen in the atmosphere. Once these organisms developed, they proliferated and helped to trigger drastic changes in the earth's atmosphere, climate, and environment.



It is not only a coincidence that these fossilized Stromatolites are in close proximity to oxidic iron ores - they are the cause for it. This form of primitive life, beginning in the pre-cambrian era (in



this case 2.4 billion years ago), produced the first free oxygen that enriched the atmosphere. When the native iron was confronted with the radical oxygen - it oxidized or rusted. The iron settled in layers, which form the today's striped or banded iron ores. Rarely, when collectors find non oxidized "Mary Ellen Jaspers" they remained greenish.

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>



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