INDIAN MOUNDS ROCK & MINERAL CLUB WYOMING, MICHIGAN RROWHEAD NEWS

April is the Spring
Banquet with
speaker Larry Molloy
See page 6 for details

APRIL 21
PUNCH BOWL
AT 6:15

A MINI-SALE WAS PART OF OUR FEBRUARY LINEUP



PHOTOGRAPH BY KREIGH TOMASZEWSKI

VOLUME 46 #4 April 2009

The Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club is a nonprofit organization, incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan.

This club's objective is to develop and encourage interest in, and to further the study of minerals, gems, fossils, rocks, lapidary arts, and earth science.







Affiliated With the Midwest and American Federations of Mineralogical Societies

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Welcome to the ARROWHEAD NEWS, official publication of the Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club of Wyoming, Michigan.



Visitors are welcome at all Meetings!

WHEN & WHERE

Club Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the 3rd Tuesday, September through May, in the fellowship hall located in the basement of the Wesley Park United Methodist Church. The church is on the corner of Michael and 32nd Street, south of 28th Street, in Wyoming.

At 6:30 PM, on the 3rd Tuesday, June through August, our club has a **picnic** at Pinery Park in Wyoming, which is on DeHoop just north of 28th Street. Our usual spot is behind the north parking lot on the west side of DeHoop. Bring a dish to share, your own drinks, and table service.

Board Meetings are held right after the club meeting, or by special announcement on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

Club Membership dues are \$15 per family, \$10 per individual and \$5 per junior. Payment is due by the 3rd Tuesday of September and is for the following January - December. New members that join at or after the annual show, pay only one-half of the yearly dues. Membership includes 9 issues of the Arrowhead News.

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The **subscription rate** for the **Arrowhead News** is \$8.00 per year. Emailing is encouraged - just ask! Article submission is due to the Editor **before** the 1st of the month.

The Arrowhead News is also available on our website. Send exchange newsletters to the Editor.

All articles without a byline have been written by the Editor.

www.IndianMoundsRockClub.com

FROM MY ROCK PILE

By Jim Elliott, President



April is here and it's SHOWTIME! You know that I'm talking about our 34th Annual Mall Show at Rogers Plaza on April 9, 10 and 11. The last minute details are being worked out and soon we'll be Rockin'! This is where we can really shine.

Hold your place here for just a second, and turn to the very last page of this newsletter. Up there on the top of the page ...Do you read where it says, "This Club's objective is to develop and encourage interest in, and to further the study of minerals, gems, fossils, rocks, the lapidary arts, and earth science."? This is directly from our By Laws.

I would like to see all of you at our Annual Mall Show doing this very thing. You are part

of this club, and reading this newsletter because of your interest in at least one, if not several of these things. (For me it's every single one!) So let's share. Lets' have fun! Let's encourage this interest! Let's show off some of these incredible skills and collections! Some of you are club members because of this very show, and you know firsthand what an impact it can make. Let's make this our best show ever!

A big thanks to Ed Krzeminski and the set up volunteers for all of the hard work they put into our first Mini Sale. Please provide the board members with your feedback about this event. What did you like about it? Was there anything you disliked, should we continue with it or drop it? Let us know about this or any other ideas you have, after all, it is your club.

Don't forget our next meeting is the Spring Banquet on April 21!

I look forward to seeing all of you our Mall Show and at the next meeting.

Best to All,

Jim



INDIAN MOUNDS ROCK & MINERAL CLUB EVENTS

April 9, 10 & 11 IMRMC 34th ANNUAL SHOW

Rogers Plaza

Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10 AM - 9 PM

April 21

Come early

IMRMC MEETING and SPRING BANQUET Tuesday - Punchbowl at **6:15** – 9 PM

Drogram: "Life of a Michigan Conner Mi

Program: "Life of a Michigan Copper Miner",

Larry Molloy, Speaker (see page 6)

May 19 **IMRMC MEETING**

Tuesday - 7 PM - 9 PM

Program: "Best Of the Year"

June 13 IMRMC SUMMER SUPER SALE

Wesley Park United Methodist Church

Saturday 9 AM - Noon

October 20 IMRMC SILENT AUCTION

Wesley Park United Methodist Church

Tuesday - 7 PM - 9 PM

OTHER THINGS TO DO

April 17 - 19 Mt Clemens Gem & Lapidary Society Show

Roseville Recreation Center; 18185 Sycamore Adults \$3, students \$1, children under 12 free

Auction, raffles, grab bags, lectures, display cases, lapidary demonstrations

Friday 9 AM – 7 PM, Saturday 10 AM – 7 PM, Sunday 11 AM – 4 PM

Contact: Ron Rolfe 42729 Frontier Dr, Sterling Hts, MI 48313

586-726-1578, ymrolfe@comcast.net

April 25 **SWAP N SELL**

Blossomland Gem & Mineral Society

Lincoln Senior Center; 1371 Lincoln Ave, St. Joseph, MI

Swap spaces and tables available Contact: 269-983-4900 St. Joseph

May 1 – 3 **WORKSHOP WONDERS**

Kalamazoo Geological & Mineral Society

Kalamazoo County Expo Center; 2900 Lake St, Kalamazoo, MI

Lapidary creations, door prizes, geode cracking, games

Contact: Kitty Starbuck 269-649-1991, Bill Mitchell 269-375-5678

Donation: \$3, kids FREE

Friday 4 - 8 PM, Saturday 10 AM - 6 PM, Sunday 10 AM - 5 PM

June 13 – 14 MGAGS SEMINARS

Webberville High School (more details to follow)

CLUB MEETING MINUTES

By Rhonda Leep, Secretary

March 17, 2009 President Jim Elliot called welcomed club members and visitors - 55 people attended meeting.

Next Meeting April 21, 2009, is our Spring Banquet/Potluck with program.

Consent Meeting minutes published in the Arrowhead News were approved. **Agenda**

Treasurer Dave Lehker was not present so there was no report, but audit of books went well.

Sunshine No report from Eleanor Brummel.

Editor Brenda Van Dyke is looking for help for editing newsletter. If you did not get a newsletter last month your dues have not been paid - check with Dave Lehker and/or Rhonda Leep for information.

Publisher No report from Donna Griseto.

Webmaster Let Brenda Van Dyke know about links you would like to see on website. We are continuing to update our membership information to publish the updated directory.

Field Trips No report from Roger King, but Kreigh Tomaszewski is working on another field trip to Gypsum Mine.

Show Harry Brummel passed on signup sheets for show – Setup Wednesday evening **Committee** starting at 7pm, Host/Hostesses, and take down on Saturday night.

Library No Report from Arlene King.

Special Mini Auction – Jim thanked Ed Krzeminski for work on mini auction and Ed **Committee** reviewed club rules for our auctions.

MWF Mid West Federation is having Council Meeting May 16, 2009 in Ohio and we need to send a representative from our club. Did have a couple of volunteers who will get more information regarding the trip.

Correspondence Tulip City Rock Club in Holland invited our club members to their spring banquet and did have volunteers to represent our club.

Old Business We have purchased 5 more periodic charts and labeled them for distribution.

Secretary No report from Rhonda Leep.

Membership More new memberships and in process of verifying paid memberships for **Chair** directory.

Meeting Adjourned

SUNSHINE UPDATE

Marve Visser has had a stroke. Keep him in your prayers. attendance at March's Meeting **55!**

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

By Rhonda Leep, Secretary

March 17, 2009 President Jim Elliot called welcomed club members and officers.

Secretary Minutes were approved as published.

Treasurer No report - but audit of books went well.

Editor Covered in club meeting. **Webmaster** Covered in club meeting.

Publisher No report from Donna Griseto.

Program Nancy Spalenka noted that the Spring Banquet was all set for volunteers.

Field Trips No report from Roger King, Mine Safety Certification: contact John

Lindsay okami@chartermi.net for information; another field trip to

Gypsum Mine?

Show Committee Harry Brummel reported that we will have 12 tables set up for the club

area – generally the same set up as last year. We will have 10 dealers present this year. Also Harry needed a copy of insurance policy for Mall. Still need club table donations & egg cartons. Need to verify owner of cashbox at show, maybe for each day. Nancy will post signs outside.

Publicity Nick Van Dyke, Ed Krzeminski, and Eleanor Brummel all working on show

publicity. Ed's quote cost for advertising was approved.

Sunshine Eleanor Brummel shows that Arlene King and Mike Steigenga have signed

up for May's Lunch.

Library No Report from Arlene King. **Historian** No Report from Arlene King.

Membership Rhonda Leep to send invitations to our Spring Banquet to local clubs.

Best of Year Show Donna Griseto and others will help Nancy on event. There will be a board

May 2009 meeting after spring banquet to review rules for best of show program.

Correspondence Covered in club meeting. **New Business** Covered in club meeting.

Old Business Discussed state of Michigan requirements for Non-Profits but Dave not

present, so we did not get an update.

Meeting Adjourned

Members Present (The Board consists of the members in the left hand column)

President	X Jim Elliot	Sunshine	X Eleanor Brummel
V.P./Program	Nancy Spalenka	Dealer Co-Chair	Kris Quint
Secretary/Membership	X Rhonda Leep	Dealer Co-Chair	Nancy Wolff
Treasurer	Dave Lehker	Librarian/Historian	Arlene King
Sales	X Ed Krzeminski	Field Trip Chair	Roger King
Publisher	Donna Griseto	Asst. Field Trip Chair	Nancy Wolff
Publicity	X Nick Van Dyke	Show Chair	X Harry Brummel
		Asst. Show Chair	John Kuipers
		Editor/Webmaster	X Brenda VanDyke

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FIELD TRIP FLASH

Reported by Roger King, Field Trip Chair

Just in...The Holland Tulip City Gem & Mineral club has invited the membership of the Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club to join them on a field trip to the Pendleton Quarry in Anderson, Indiana on Saturday, May 16. Calcite and marcasite, among other minerals can be found there. Stay tuned for more information or contact Roger King for more information.

DONATED ITEMS NEEDED!

Please don't forget to get your donated items ready for the show next week. Dust off your unwanted material (specimens, rocks, fossils, etc.) for donating to the clubs sales table. For "specialty" or "special" items, you set the price for donations, and if the item(s) don't sell, you get them back.

PROGRAM REVIEW AND PREIVIEW

By Nancy Spalenka, V.P./Program Chair

Our March 17 meeting was well attended by 55 adults and children. Following the DVD program on agates, the sales tables set around the room by club members were open for business. Many interesting and beautiful specimens were available for purchase. It was also a learning opportunity about the various rocks and minerals.

Tuesday, April 21, 2009, will be our annual Spring Banquet. Be there at 6:15 PM for time at the punch bowl. The banquet will start at 6:30 PM. Please note the time is earlier than for our regular meetings.

Everyone is to bring their own table service and a hot and cold dish to pass. The meat and beverages will be provided by the club. Invitations have been sent to other gem and mineral clubs. We hope many of our members will be on hand to great these guests as well as the speaker, Larry Molloy.

Our speaker for the evening, Larry Molloy, is a professor of Computer Science at Oakland Community College at the Royal Oak campus. However, his other career is that of author, tour guide and historian of Michigan's Copper Country, the Keweenaw Peninsula. For many years he and his wife, Nancy, have led historical tours of the Keweenaw for several conferences at Michigan Technological University including Elder Hostels, Earth Science Training Institutes, and the Keweenaw Week/Red Metal Retreat rock hound conferences.

He has written five books about the Keweenaw. His latest, <u>A Guide to Michigan's Historic Keweenaw Copper District</u> contains over 125 historic photographs as well as maps listing over 350 mining localities and over 300 names of towns, locations and railroad names. His book, <u>A Visitor's Guide to the Historic Quincy Mine</u>, is a tour of the famous Quincy Mine site in Hancock, Michigan.

His topic for our meeting will be "Life of a Michigan Copper Miner", a PowerPoint program that uses old photographs to discuss what it was like to be a miner in the Keweenaw. His program has been highly recommended by those who have seen it. Hope to see you there.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR CLUB NAMETAG TO CLUB EVENTS!

TREK TO TEXAS

By Don Van Dyke

Two years ago we took a trip to Texas and New Mexico, beginning at the Woodward Ranch near Alpine Texas. We had no idea of what we would find, though our expectations were not very high, since the ranch has been heavily hunted for over seventy-five years. After two days we left with what we thought was mostly marginal material. However when we returned home and started to work the agates we were surprised to find a nice piece of black & red plume agate and some nice specimens of green and gold moss agate.

Fast forward to the winter of 2008-9. The winter had been long, gas prices were way down, and the hip injections had relieved the pain so we decided to go back down to the Woodward Ranch for a couple weeks.

After slip-sliding from the Kalamazoo River to the Indiana border we had an uneventful trip and arrived at the Ranch on Wednesday evening to find several other RV's in the camp-sites. The program on the Discovery channel had obviously created some interest in the plume agate the ranch is famous for.

After the snow and cold of Michigan the upper 80's and very low humidity was hard to take. Add a bad hip and the 'state' of being out of shape made serious 'rockhounding' tough. Thursday we went back to the area where we had scratched for agate two years ago. Though very hot, we did well. The agate is located in the top 6-8 inches of very hard-packed soil. When we reached a layer of white ash it was time to stop digging down. Apparently the layer of soil below the ash has very little material. (Later we were told that about 6 feet down there is another agate bearing layer.) A geologist's hammer or mini-pick is needed to break up the soil. Many 'rocks' are broken out, a small percentage are agates. After five hours, sun burnt and dehydrated we headed back to the trailer. Friday was a repeat, and number of larger nodules was found.

Saturday we took the day off and drove the highway loop from Alpine to Marfa to Fort Davis. Several 'rockshops' were visited and some beautiful local agates were salivated over. Another worthwhile stop was at the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Center south of Fort Davis. They have botanical gardens, hiking trails and have constructed a replica of an 1800's silver mine.

Monday we hunted the ends of the lava flows, it was tough, and the easy finds had been picked up long ago. It was also discouraging to see the imprints of the large 'biscuits' (nodules) that earlier rockhounds had removed from the host rocks, oh for the good old days! Four hours was all we could take before we retreated to the AC in the trailer. Tuesday we tried the 'east pasture' with the longhorn cattle. The hurricane last August had washed away the 'cushioning soil' from the bedrock in portions of the 'two-track', so it was a bruising, nail-biting drive back to the lava flows. There was lots of agate, most of it was not worth bending over for. On Wednesday we checked more lava flows. All three days were marginal days as far as finds were concerned.

The last two days we spent back at the 'scratch patch.' Again, these days were much more productive than the days we spent walking. We found nodules, broken nodules, and pieces of ledge agate, several pieces in excess of 4 pounds were found.

What a variety of agate is found on this ranch, supposedly over 60 different kinds! It is world famous for it's red plume. We found multi-colored jasp-agate, flame, pompom, yellow, red, and green moss agate, blue fortification agate, and hopefully, black and red plume agates. Only time and some elbow grease will tell. We have over 100 pounds to check out.



COURTESY CORNER



Kitchen Hosts for April

Everyone!

Bring a hot and cold dish to pass and your table service.

Punchbowl starts at 6:15. Meat and beverages provided by the club.

Kitchen Hosts for May

Arlene King and Mike Steigenga

From a Member:

Naida House is sorry she won't be at our show this year.

She sends her greetings to the club members and will be thinking about them during the show week.

TREK TO TEXAS

Continued from page 7

The ranch is teeming with game; from the trailer we observed deer and javelinas on their daily trips to the water holes. Almost everyday we passed a herd of Pronghorns, as they grazed near the driveway. Many small birds were singing their spring songs and several roadrunners crossed our path. The amount of stars is unbelievable, the ranch is located at an elevation of over 5,000 feet, the air crystal is clear and there is no atmospheric light from cities. There is not even a yard light on the ranch. There are a few snakes in the summer, and I uncovered a scorpion while turning over rocks. There were no mosquitoes, but quite a number of bothersome flies. It was extremely dry; the last rain was in August. One evening, returning from town we had a unique road-race, as we slowly drove up the 1.7 mile driveway a skunk, (maybe Pe-pe Le-pew himself) entered our lane from the left, and proceeded at less the speed limit the same direction we were going. Well, I was more in a hurry than he was, and pushed him as much as I dared, still but cautious, that stripped tail was up and waving a caution flag! I checked the speedometer and discovered that his top speed was 7 MPH. He had stamina, and raced ahead of us for about a quarter mile before finding an exit ramp that he liked. When we told Trey, he was not too excited, he already had too to many skunks around the buildings eating the dog's food.

Woodward - worthwhile!



Well, how well have you done so far? 25%, 50%, 100%? I hope that these quizzes make you understand that almost every name has a 'history'. So lets try another 4 words this month.

Are you writing your answers on a separate paper so everyone in the family can do the quiz? So far who is the smartest in your family?

1. Asbestos

- A/ Asbestos is named after a special quality that it has
- B/ It is named after an island off Greece
- C/ G. Asbestos discovered it in 1783 when he was crushing a kind of rock found on his farm

2. Barite

- A/ Barite is named after Bariteville MO. where it was discovered
- B/ It is named because of a quality that it has that is noticeable when you pick it up
- C/ Barite is named after a Mr. Bar who discovered it
- 3. Biotite (Biotite is a dark brown or black mica)
 - A/ Biotite is named after Mr. Biot who studied its optical properties
 - B/ Biotite is a mineral associated with biology
 - C/ Biotite is named after a shade of the color brown

4. Celestite

- A/ Celestite is named after a color
- B/ Celestite is named after a religious term
- C/ Celestite is named after Cele, a Roman God

Answers on page 12

TURRITELLA SHELLS

by Ed Wengerd via Gem Cutters News, Nov. 05 via the Breccia, November, 2008

Twenty to thirty million years ago, small turritella shells were laid down on an ancient sea floor at the foot of the Wind River Range in what is now Wyoming. These tiny spiral shells then solidified to form a compact mass pressed into very thin slabs. When sliced, the black jasper-like matrix highlights the unique beauty of these agatized fossils. If you want to hunt for Turritella agates, you'll have to hike the country roads and trails around Superior and Wamsutter, Wyoming, as the gems are found nowhere else in the world.

FLAT LAPPING TIPS FROM ED REIBER

via CFMS newsletter 6/03, via the Breccia, November, 2008

My machine is a 20-inch rotary cast iron lap. I bond slab as thin as 0.030-inch to plywood using a mixture that is half beeswax and half paraffin wax. Then, for a 5-inch diameter slab, I use a minimum of a 3 lb. weight glued to the plywood.

In the preparation phase, to remove saw cuts and bumps from the slab, do not use 80 or 100 grit; start with 220. I usually spend 4 hours each with 220, 400, and 600 SiC grit, cleaning up carefully in between each step. I spend 8 hours on polishing and have found that tin oxide is the best for lapping. Put some in a bottle and shake it up before applying. I use carpet for polishing, securing it to the lap with contact cement and hitting it with a mallet.

When it comes time to remove the slab from the plywood, put it in the sun or under a 250-watt bulb. The heat will soften the wax and the slab can be removed. To handle small slabs or split nodules, make a cylinder from 0.010-inch thick aluminum sheet, set it on a smooth surface, set agates face down in the bottom, add lead weight, add plaster, and let harden.

After the plaster column is wet, remove the aluminum and cut away a bit of the plaster around the agate faces (so it wouldn't cause drag on the lap). Put inner tube around the plaster column and secure with rubber bands, then add a bumper ring.

CLOTH OF GOLD

From Hard Rock News via Dops and Digs, 5/08; via the Hound's Howl 6/08

Until the Middle Ages, underwater divers near the Mediterranean Coastline collected golden strands of the pen shell, which used the strands to hold itself in place. Called "byssus", the strands were woven into a luxury textile "cloth of gold" and made into ladies' gloves so fine that a pair could be packed into an empty walnut shell. Examples of this lost art exist in some museums, where the cloth retains its color and softness.

WANTED!

Editor for the Arrowhead News.

Contact: Brenda Van Dyke at 616.735.1235 or brenick@gmail.com

Please!



Rocks & Minerals 2009 Summer Super Sale

Host: Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club

Date: Saturday, June 13, 2009

9 am to Noon (Rain or Shine)

Place: Wesley Park United Methodist Church

1150 32nd Street SW Wyoming, Michigan

Admission: Free! Free! Free!

Sellers & Dealers: Anyone may sell; no table charge, but 20% of total sales is paid immediately to Club.

Club members and anyone else are invited to buy and sell anything & everything; generally rock-related items, but if it might sell, bring it! There will be tables & tailgates full of bargains – outside in the parking lot if the weather is nice; inside if it's not. Sellers should bring your own tables; and 20% of your sales are paid immediately to the Club before leaving. Buyers, plan on lots of bargain-priced items: specimens, crystals, slabs, rough, fossils, equipment, jewelry, supplies & more! A non-profit organization.

<u>Directions:</u> From Holland: Take I-196 to M-6, then exit north onto Byron Center Avenue for about 3 miles, then right onto 36th Street for a mile and a half. Turn left onto Michael Avenue for a half mile to 32nd Street. <u>From US-131</u>: Take US-131 to the 36th Street exit in Wyoming, turn west onto 36th Street for about a mile, then turn right onto Michael Avenue for a half mile to 32nd Street. <u>On the SE corner of 32nd & Michael Avenue in Wyoming, Michigan.</u>

For Information: Visit our website: www.IndianMoundsRockClub.com. Or contact Club President Jim Elliott, 616-642-0442 (evenings).



- 1. A/ Aspestos comes from the Latin/Greek word aspestos which means inextinguishable (will not burn.) The Greeks & Romans used it for their lamp wicks.
- 2. B/ Barite comes from the Greek word heavy or dense. When you pick it up it is noticeably heavier than many other minerals.
- 3. A/ Biotite is named after a French scientist named Jean Baptiste Biot who studied its optical properties.
- 4. A/ The name Celestite is adopted from the Latin word caelestis 'heaven' for its pale blue color.

FOR SALE

Forwarded from Alan Hukill, the Huron Hills Lapidary & Mineral Society

I found a 1995 Graves catalog in the box. Judging from the pictures I think the stock numbers are correct.

The facet machine is a Graves Mark IV.

The motor worked and then stopped and then started. There looks to be a short somewhere? There is no belt from the motor to the main fly wheel. The big wheel spins freely. The water bottle is cracked but does not leak.

- There are assorted brass dops. (Standard dop set 02-040?)
- Dozen Assorted faceting laps of assorted numbers.
- One (13-102) 6" trim saw with motor. Motor works but dirty and in need of new wiring.
- One (13-103) 6" small trim saw. Motor works but in need of new wiring.
- Both saws have blades but I have no idea of the status.
- Miscellanous other stuff and manuals.

My father was a "FacetMan." He passed aways 15 years ago and his equipment has been in the garage since then.

Regards, Birney - (517) 339-6966



PICTURE PROTES



PHOTOGRAPHS BY KREIGH TOMASZEWSKI & MICK VAN DYKE











