



# ARROWHEAD NEWS

Wyoming, Michigan



*Learning at our Junior Rock meeting with LaDonna Siebelink.*

**MARCH 2011**

**VOLUMN #46 ISSUE #3**

**ALL PHOTOS BY BRYAN BREWER**

**[www.IndianMoundsRockClub.com](http://www.IndianMoundsRockClub.com)**

Official publication of the Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club of Wyoming, Michigan.



**Arrowhead News**  
**Visitors are welcome at all Meetings!**  
**When & Where**

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

At 6:30 PM, on the third Tuesday, June through August, our club has a **picnic** at Pinery Park in Wyoming, which is on DeHoop just north of 28<sup>th</sup> St. 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 fourth Tuesday of the month.

**Club Membership** dues are \$15 per family, \$10 per individual and \$5 per junior. Payment is due by the third 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 for the current year. Membership includes 9 issues of the Arrowhead News.

*Our Executive Committee*

## Who's Who

<b><u>President</u></b>  <b>Jim Elliott</b> 7475 Parsonage Saranac MI 48881 616-642-0442 <a href="mailto:jimboell@iserv.net">jimboell@iserv.net</a>	<b><u>Vice President/Program</u></b>  <b>Nancy Spalenka</b> 2119 Waldron St SW Wyoming MI 49519 616-249-0513 <a href="mailto:gnsपालका@sbcglobal.net">gnsपालका@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b><u>Secretary/ Membership</u></b>  Rhonda Leep 11199 Gun Lake Rd Middleville MI 49333 269-795-7629 <a href="mailto:rsleep@chartermi.net">rsleep@chartermi.net</a>	<b><u>Treasurer</u></b>  <b>Dave Lehker</b> 1716 Lotus SE Grand Rapids MI 49506 616-243-1257 <a href="mailto:lehkerd@gvsu.edu">lehkerd@gvsu.edu</a>
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Send here

...or here

The **subscription rate** for the **Arrowhead News** is just \$8.00 per year. Article submission is due to the Editor **before** the 25<sup>st</sup> of the month. Recent back issues of the Arrowhead News are available on our website.  
<http://www.indianmoundsrockclub.com/Arrowhead%20News.htm>

## Arrowhead News



### Rock and Gem Shows March 2011

4-6—RICHMOND, INDIANA: 38th annual show; Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society; Wayne County Fairgrounds, 861 N. Salisbury Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-4; adults \$4, seniors (60+) \$3, students (7-18) \$1, children 6 and under free; jewelry, minerals, fossils, crystals, dealers, demonstrations, displays, silent auctions; contact John LaMont, (765) 647-4894, or Dave Straw, (765) 966-4249

4-6—SHARONVILLE, OHIO: Show and sale; GemStreet USA; Sharonville Convention Center, 11355 Chester Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$7, seniors (60+) and students (12-17) \$5, children under 12 free; gems, jewelry, beads, fossils, minerals; contact Jane Strieter Smith, (216) 521-4367; Web site: [www.gemstreetusa.com](http://www.gemstreetusa.com)

11-13—BEREA, OHIO: Show and sale; GemStreet USA; Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, 164 Eastland Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$7, seniors (60+) and students (12-17) \$5, children under 12 free; gems, jewelry, beads, fossils, minerals; contact Jane Strieter Smith, (216) 521-4367; Web site: [www.gemstreetusa.com](http://www.gemstreetusa.com)

18-20—JACKSON, MICHIGAN: 49th annual show; Michigan Gem & Mineral Society; Jackson County Fairgrounds, 200 W. Ganeson St.; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; jewelry, minerals, fossils, dealers, demonstrations, silent auctions, geode cracking; contact John LaMont, (765) 647-4894, or Dan Hovater, (517) 518-1045

25-27—INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA: 13th annual show, "Spring Indianapolis Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show"; Treasures Of The Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows; Indiana State Fairgrounds, Ag/Horticulture Bldg., 1202 E. 38th St.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$5 (3-day ticket), children under 16 free; jewelry makers, goldsmiths and silversmiths size, reconstruct, repair, design or make original jewelry from customer-selected gems, stones, opals and crystals, wire wrap, wire sculpture, stone beads, pearls, stone setting, dealers, amber, opal, fossils, minerals, door prizes, grand prize, 500 Earth Science Club and Indiana Bead Society displays, silversmithing demonstrations and classes, lampwork bead demonstrations, wire wrapping classes; contact Van Wimmer Sr., 5273 Bradshaw Rd., Salem, VA 24153, (540) 384-6047; e-mail: [van@toteshows.com](mailto:van@toteshows.com); Web site: [www.toteshows.com](http://www.toteshows.com)

26-27—MONROE, WISCONSIN: 41st annual show and sale; Badger Lapidary & Geological Society; Monroe Senior High School, 1600 26th St.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; 10 dealers, speakers, club displays, Earth Haven Museum display, fluorescent mineral tent, lapidary demonstrations, club sales, hourly door prizes, educational films, kids' fishpond, spinner game, treasure hunt, quarry quest, rock polishing, roving rock wizard; contact Teri Marche', (608)835-2653; e-mail: [tmarche@education.wisc.edu](mailto:tmarche@education.wisc.edu)

## Arrowhead News



# Show Time Is Coming!

You can feel the excitement in the air as we approach the Club's 36th annual Gem & Mineral Show at Rogers Plaza Town Center, April 7-9, 2011! The February "Arrowhead News" featured a comprehensive article describing the show, so please refer to it for show details. Don't forget how important your participation is at setup on the afternoon and evening of April 6, as show workers (hosts and hostesses) on April 7, 8 and 9 and at takedown on the evening of April 9.

John Donker, Assistant Show Chairperson, is substituting for me while I'm on vacation during March (thank you, John!), and will handle any questions you may have during that time. Meanwhile, Rocky the Crocky, our friendly sculptured crocodile, says he is eager to greet you at the show. Let's not let Rocky down!

John Kuipers, Show Chairperson.

## Rock Hunting in Arizona

First stop was the enormous show in Tucson. While finding items on our list, we saw exceptional tables made from Moroccan fossils, a meteorite that was sold for \$15,000, about 5' long, thin amethyst cathedrals and an abundance of "crocodile skulls" from Morocco. The crocodiles' larger bottom tooth could not be detected but I was unable to get a scientific answer about it. It was tempting to buy one. Dealer prices ranged from \$320 to \$130 seeming to be the same size and quality. If you have a dream list along, it can easily be filled .....plus!

Next, off to Quartzsite. The show was being torn down but John managed to buy a few nicely priced rocks and a, too good to pass up, leather vest.

It was rush time to be on our way to Lake Havasu. Our hotel there offered a list of minerals found on trails nearby, BUT.....my agenda was to pick up some lava, which we found along the roads in desert areas not on Indian Reservations. John, when hunting rocks, is never as focused as I am; thus **he** found **agates** instead of lava! Of course I then had to hunt for them too and found quite a few small ones. His were so **much** larger in comparison ...again making me green! His words of wisdom were "Look for Big ones not small ones". Next day ...we both found big ones! We hope to find that spot again next year.

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We next visited the National (Navaho Tribal) Monument Park just over the Az. border in Utah. (Well worth the trip.) Along that route north, we stopped just south of Tuba. A hand made sign advertised dinosaur tracks. We were greeted by a Navaho tribesman named Virgil Secody. He led us to the site which had fossilized skulls, eggs, vertebrae, ribs, coprolite, dinosaur tracks and a fossil crocodile. We were shown the large feet imprints of the Dilophosaurus and Velociraptor. The claw prints were magnificent with fantastic clarity! This site also offers petroglyphs. There is no fee but tips are greatly appreciated.

Julia Donker

### Rock and Gem Shows April 2011

7-9—WYOMING, MICHIGAN: Show, "Unburied Ancient Treasures"; Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club; Rogers Plaza Town Center, 972 28th St., 0.25 mile west of US 131; Thu. 9:30-9, Fri. 9:30-9, Sat. 9:30-8; free admission; Science Museum of Minnesota display, museum-quality exhibits, mineral and fossil identification, club sales, children's collectibles, demonstrations, dealers, micromounts, crystals, stone beads, carvings, meteorites, jewelry, specimens; contact Don Van Dyke, 4296 Oakview, Hudsonville, MI 49426, (616) 669-6932; e-mail: [donvandyke@tm.net](mailto:donvandyke@tm.net); Web site: <http://indian?moundsrockclub.com/index.htm>

9-10—ROSEVILLE, MINNESOTA: Show; Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club; Har Mar Mall, 2100 Snelling Ave.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5; free admission; gems, minerals, jewelry, fossils, agates, collectibles; contact Martha Miss, 8445 Grange Blvd., Cottage Grove, MN 55016; e-mail: [rockbiz@cs.com](mailto:rockbiz@cs.com)

9-10—WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN: 49th annual show; Kettle Moraine Geological Society; Waukesha County Expo Center, 1000 Northview Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$2.50, children 50 cents; demonstrations, displays, sales; contact Richard Rosenberger, (262) 691-3130; e-mail: [rosenber.w@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rosenber.w@sbcglobal.net)

16—WOODBURY, MINNESOTA: Show; St. Croix Valley Rock Hounds; Valley Creek Mall, 175 Weir Dr.; Sat. 9-3; free admission; educational show, no vendors, rock and mineral identification; contact Bill Cordua, (715) 425-3139; e-mail: [william.s.cordua@uwrf.edu](mailto:william.s.cordua@uwrf.edu)

16-17—BENTON HARBOR, MICHIGAN: Show and sale; Blossomland Gem & Mineral Society; Orchards Mall, 1800 Pipestone Rd.; Sat. 10-7, Sun. 11-4; free admission; special presentations on gem faceting and gold panning in Michigan; contact Nancy Wolff, 2816 Thayer Dr., St. Joseph, MI 49085, (269) 983-4900; [nancyswolff@hotmail.com](mailto:nancyswolff@hotmail.com)

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16-17—COLUMBUS, OHIO: Show, "Many Facets of Quartz"; Columbus Rock & Mineral Society, Licking County Rock & Mineral Society; Veterans Memorial, 300 W. Broad St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$7 (2-day pass \$12), ages 6-16 \$3, under 6, Scouts in uniform, and 4-H free; 27 retail dealers, demonstrations, educational and display exhibits, ID booth, demonstrations, swap area, silent auction, speakers, children's games, free specimens for children, gold panning; contact Ken Harsh, (614) 433-9778 e-mail: [Karmakenha@aol.com](mailto:Karmakenha@aol.com)

16-17—EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN: 48th annual show; Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society; Eau Claire County Expo Center, Lorch Ave., corner of Hwy. 93 and I94; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; silent auction, minerals, fossils, crystals, gems, rocks, artifacts, jewelry, demonstrations, hands-on booth for kids; contact Mike Schoenfess, (715) 456-0664

23-24—CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO: Show and sale, "Gemboree: A Celebration of Spring"; Akron Mineral Society, Summit Lapidary Club; Emidio & Sons Expo Center, 48 E. Bath Rd.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6; adults \$5, seniors and students \$4, children \$1; vendors, door prizes, silent auction, lapidary demonstrations, Gem Mine, make-and-take crafts for children, Easter Egg display; contact Evelyn Tryon, 2028 Tallmadge Rd., Kent, OH 44240, (330) 673-9664; e-mail: [gemboree76@yahoo.com](mailto:gemboree76@yahoo.com); Web site: [www.lapidaryclubofohio.org](http://www.lapidaryclubofohio.org)

23-24—TROY, OHIO: Show; Brukner Center Gem & Mineral Club; Miami County Fairgrounds, North End Activity Bldg., County Road 25-A; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$1, children free; dealers, specimens, gems, jewelry, demonstrations, displays, silent auction, door prizes, free rock for children, mineral identification, children's activities; contact Gene Davis, (937) 667-4160

### **Bench Tips** **MODIFY TOOLS FOR PRONG SETTING**

When setting stones in a prong mount, avoid slipping by grinding a groove in the face of your prong pusher, or one jaw of your flat-nose pliers. Easiest way to cut the slot on the pusher is with a file, and the easiest way to cut the slot on your pliers is with a cutoff wheel in the Freedom or Dremel.

### **SANDING DISKS**

One of the flex shaft tools that save a lot of time is the snap-on sanding disk. I mainly use the medium and fine grits but sometimes need the very fine ones sold for working with platinum. Ordinarily, you'd think of placing the disk on the mandrel with the grit side facing away from your hand, but notice that you end up with your

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elbow up in the air. Instead, try flipping the disk so that the grit side is towards your hand. It's a much more comfortable pose because the elbow is down near your side, and it gives me a better view of what I'm sanding. I use these snap-on disks so frequently that I keep multiple mandrels with different grits already mounted in the bur stand. Some mandrels have the grit facing out and some facing in.

Acknowledgement to be included with each publication:

More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at [groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/)  
or [facebook.com/BenchTips](http://facebook.com/BenchTips)

## Mineral Study Group

There are at least 575 minerals that contain Manganese as a component, but only pyrolusite, hausmannite, manganite, romanechite, braunite, rhodochrosite, holl andite, cryptomelane, franklinite, and rhodonite are commercially viable and can be called ores. Most of the manganese minerals are rare, but the ores are collectable -- four species at our meeting were represented by specimens collected in Michigan (and a fifth from Ontario).

While the United States has large but non-commercial quantities of low grade Manganese ores, we depend almost entirely on imports for the metal. South Africa is the largest producer worldwide; about 70% of our imports come from Gabon. About 10% of ocean floor is covered with manganese nodules created by bacterial action, and some of it is mined.

Manganese is essential to iron and steel production and accounts for just over 85% of its use. It is also used as an alloying element in aluminum and copper alloys, and for decolorizing green glass. As an oxide it is used in dry cell batteries. High manganese steels are very tough and are used for things like dipper teeth and tractor shoes.

Because of their very high thermal coefficient of expansion, manganese based alloys are used in bimetals for switching operations; you probably have some in the thermostat that controls your furnace. Manganese copper alloys have outstanding vibration damping properties. Manganese is the 12th most common element in the Earth's crust.

It was a small group this time because of the deep snow and cold, but we had specimens of all but one of the manganese ores to hold and study. Hand identification is imperfect, but by holding and studying enough specimens you can learn to identify the most common 10% of minerals. By sharing our specimens and a little research we are learning from each other.

The next meeting of the West Michigan MWF Mineral Study Group will be held on Tuesday, Mar 8, 2011, from 7pm to 9pm, at the home of Kreigh Tomaszewski, 653 Burton St. S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49507. We will be studying the ores of Nickel (pentlandite, millerite, nickeline, skudderudite, nepouite, vaesite, and bravoite), many of which are also collectible within a few hundred mile

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We like to start (and end) on time (but we often finish early), but please do not arrive more than 20 minutes early. All West Michigan rockhounds are invited to attend. Please look up a few facts about the topic mineral(s), and bring along specimens of the topic mineral(s) to let others look at (the more, the merrier, but feel free to come even if you can't bring a specimen). We hope you can join us as we learn about minerals from each other.

Kreigh Tomaszewski

### Rock Collection took a Field Trip

A Webelos Den, in a Cub Scout Pack, in Rockford, recently contacted our Club (via our website). The young Scouts were working on their Geology Merit Badge and needed help in connecting mineral resources to their every day experiences. They also needed to see a significant mineral collection.

As an Eagle Scout I jumped on this opportunity to take my rock collection out for a field trip. I also shared flyers for our club show (to satisfy another requirement).

I was able to cover three classroom tables with specimens from my traveling collection. I got to spend almost two hours teaching 10-11 year old kids about minerals and geology. They asked great questions. They were obviously engaged in earning their Geology Merit Badge.

I have hopes a couple of the kids will become lifelong rockhounds. Please take your collection out for occasional field trips. Collections need to be shared to be fun.

Sharing your collection, at a club meeting, or at an outside event, helps us meet our club's education goals.

You belong to our club. **So what have you done this month to promote our shared hobby and the club?**

Kreigh Tomaszewski

## Treasure Report

**Dave Lehker**

**January Beginning Balance:**

**\$6434.87**

**Expenses:** Show Flyers: \$69.00

**Newsletter:** \$163.77

**Sunshine, Christmas, and**

**Lunch:** \$134.00

**Patches:** \$150.00

**Total Expenses:** \$373.05

**Income: Raffle:** \$26.00

**Lunch:** \$17.05

**Book Sales:** \$130.00

**Memberships:** \$200.00

**Total Income:** \$373.05

**Ending Balance: \$6,285.54**



**Having fun!!!! Did we bring back Mohawks?**

***Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club of Wyoming, Michigan board meeting minutes February 15<sup>th</sup>. 2011***

*Rhonda Leep*

<b>Sunshine</b>	Please contact Ruth Allen for sunshine items for the next month or so.
<b>Librarian</b>	No new report
<b>Historian</b>	No new discussions
<b>Membership</b>	2011 Directory is published- copies will be available at spring banquet and May's meeting. If you would like a PDF file, please contact Rhonda Leep. Thinking about adding a new member slot in newsletter...
<b>Sales</b>	No report.
<b>Old Business</b>	1) Name tags-Not ordered yet – we are still investigating less costly options. 2) Club badges- Ordered! 3) Scholarship proposal- details to follow. Should be ready by fall. 4) Club T-shirts and Vests- working on logo graphics for T-shirts and working on price for vests.
<b>New Business</b>	No new business was discussed.
<b>Adjourned</b>	
Rhonda Leep	2011

**Board Members Present**

<b>President</b>	X Jim Elliot	Publicity	Need
<b>Vice President</b>	X Nancy Spalenka	Historian	X Nancy Spalenka
<b>Secretary</b>	X Rhonda Leep (membership)	Librarians	X Rance Westover
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dave Lehker		X Anne Westover
Liaison	X Don VanDyke (past President)	Field Trip	X Kreigh Tomaszewski
Sales	Ed Krzeminski		Nancy Wolff
Editor/Publisher	Donna Griseto	Show Chair	X John Kuipers
Sunshine	Eleanor Brummel		X John Donker
	Ruth Allen	Board Member	X Bob Beauvais

Dealer Chair	Kris Quint	Board Member	X	Bryan Brewer
	Nancy Wolff	Board Member	X	Skip Schipper

President Jim Elliot welcomed members and visitors to club and reminded everyone about the show in April. Introduced club member Steve Crabbs who shared his knowledge of Thompsonite. Nancy Spalenka reminded everyone to sign in on the attendance sheets.

Secretary	January's minutes were approved as published in the Arrowhead News.
Treasurer	Rance Westover gave the treasurers report.
Program	Thomsonite
Editor/ Publisher	Donna thanked Bryan Brewer for the great photos he takes for the newsletter. Donna would like to thank people for sending articles to her for the newsletter on time and encourages everyone who can to receive the email version of newsletter to help keep publishing costs down.
Web	No new reports.
Field Trip	Kreigh reported on recent and future trips – the next trip to Alabastine mine is full, but another trip is in the works. Please contact Kreigh if you are not on his email list for trip activities.
Show Committee	If you did not sign up to volunteer at the show please contact John Kuipers, to demonstrate contact John or Julie Donker, for display cases contact Gordon Spalenka. Nancy Spalenka is accepting donations for sale at the club table [will be returned if not sold-put name and price on article], and articles for the Memorial case that will be returned to owners.
Publicity	We still need someone to manage our basic notices for meetings. Please contact Nancy Spalenka for if you are interested.
Sunshine	Please contact Eleanor Brummel or Ruth Allen.
Librarians	Rance and Anne Westover brought our Michigan and Lake Superior rock books to the meeting and there is only 1 or 2 books left to be picked up.
Historian	No report
Sales	No Report.
Correspondence	Thank you card from Don Van Dyke.
Membership	2011 Directories were available and will be again at the April Banquet.
Old Business	No additional old business.
New Business	No additional new items.
Mineral Study	Check Newsletter or contact Kreigh for schedule and location of meetings.
Adjourned	
Rhonda Leep	Secretary 2011

## **We Need YOU!**

With Rocky the Crocky (our members' personal pet name) being our visitor, we want any and all members to have an opportunity to be near his location at the show. The Science Museum of Minnesota (the lender) has required that no visitors are allowed to touch him. We will carry him, while wearing gloves, to his site. Then willing members will help with information at the show and give advice for taking photos. There will be a signup sheet at the March meeting and welcome any e-mail and phone calls from volunteers.

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We are also taking a survey to see how visitors found out about our show. This will also require volunteers. If you can work for two hours or, as have some members for various host positions, for all day, please call or see me at the meeting. John and I have been members for just over a year. There are many of you we don't know and look forward to getting to know **all** of you.

Thank you in advance!!!!

Julia Donker - Show Publicity Chairman

John Donker - Assistant Show Chairman

### **You Might Be a Rockhound if....**

Reprinted from Rocket City Rocks and Gems December 1210

You think road cuts are built as tourist attractions.

You describe your vacations by the rocks you brought home.

The rock pile in your garage is over your head

Your PC screen saver features pictures of rocks.

You find rocks when you empty your pockets at night.

You went to a rock festival and you hate music.

You gave rocks, tumblers, or rock tools for Christmas.

When friends say they're going to Tucson, you assume it'll be in February.

You can find Quartzsite on a map in less than 5 seconds.

When someone mentions "Franklin" you think of New Jersey rather than Ben

The bookshelf in your home holds more rocks than books; and the books you have are about rocks.

You are thinking about giving out rocks for Halloween.

You watch the scenery in Western movies instead of actors.

You can't remember the last time your car till fit in the garage.

Local science teachers plan field trips to you back yard.

You have a two car garage and you 4WD pickup has to sit in the garage.

Thanks to all that have contributed: Anne & Rance Westover, Kreigh Tomaszewski, Dave Lehker, BenchTips by Brad Smith, John Kuipers, Julia and John Donker, Rhonda Leep, and Bryan Brewer

Each month gets a little easier, thank you everyone because this is your newsletter. Please let me know when something is spelled wrong or grammar errors. Let it be known that anything that has to do with rock and mineral spellings is up to the one writing the article. Don't come to me, refer to Kreigh. Hope that everyone has a great St. Patrick's Day and may the digging begin!!! Daylight Savings Times Begins!!! I had to finish this newsletter early because I am flying to WA. State to visit my second grandson!!! It is great to be a grandparent!!! Until next month...

**Nothing happens unless first a dream. –Carl Sandburg**



Steve Crabbs and his Thomsonite, what a wonderful evening and a great experience! Thanks Steve!!!

**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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## **ARROWHEADNEWS**

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