

Rocky Reader

<http://www.rockyreader.com>

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club



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October 2011

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Hello Fellow Rockhounds!

I am writing this from Alaska, sending it to Suzanne in California, and will be looking forward to being back in town for the Club Meeting where we will be presenting the Show results. All this travel brings to mind the unavoidable fact that I am soon to be heading for Florida for good. I cannot begin to describe what belonging to this organization has meant to me. I have connected on a personal level with more people than in any other association I have known. I have enjoyed more friendships, learned more skills and simply had more fun. I have found a lifelong hobby that I have been able to take everywhere I go, and that allows me to connect in an instant with other groups across the nation.

Before I go, I want to do everything I can to encourage others to take up the mantle of leadership to insure the healthy continuation of the club. I have had a number of people tell me that they and the club will miss me and all that I do. While I am grateful that my contributions have meant something to this group that I love so much, I know there are others in our group that can fill my shoes as well or better. In the coming elections, I am asking each of you to take a little time and consider becoming more involved, taking on a position within the club hierarchy. I can only tell you that for all that I have contributed, I have received back tenfold. It has been worth every effort.

We need to fill every elected position – President – Vice President – Treasurer – Secretary – Board Member, as well as some appointed positions – Editor – Show Co-chair – Membership.

As President, I conduct the meetings and act as liaison to TBG. I hold 4-5 Board meetings per year. I am a contact person for outside organizations. It is really not that hard, and the connections I have formed have made everything worth the effort.

Tom Marok has agreed to assist me with the nominating committee. We will be looking at the membership rolls with an eye towards calling on some of you for specific positions. But I urge not to wait for my call, if you feel you can contribute to your club in any of these positions, contact me. I know many of you well, but many others, not so well. Don't hide your light under a bushel, let it shine and be an asset to this club. You will reap much from your efforts!

Sincerely, Jerri Heer, President

TG&RC MEETING MINUTES – September 21, 2011

Vice President Shirley Stieb called the meeting to order at 8:20 pm and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept Tom Marok and second by Ed Reynolds. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Financial condition of club is very good. Show report will be available next meeting. Motion to accept Tom Marok and second by Ed Reynolds

Old Business:

- a. MWF Skills Directory – need volunteers
- b. Seeking new Rocky Reader Editor
- c. Nominating Committee Needed – Tom Marok volunteered
- d. Elected positions to be filled: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sgt at Arms, Board Member

New Business:

- a. MMS Competition Alley
- b. TBG looking for participation from all groups for Friday, Sept.30 and Oct 1st from 4-10 pm providing candy for trick or treats kids
- c. Cart for the gardens discussed, money allocated not more than \$250, move to accept John Kosakowski, seconded by Nona Weideman
- d. John Capuano recommended outdoor and indoor signs – discussion – move to accept by Bonnie Wheeler and accepted by membership. John will investigate.

TBG Liaison: Presidents Meeting Oct. 12

Group Reports

Gemcrafters: Meets Wednesdays 6:30pm and Thursday Noon, new attendees must complete training by making a cab before they can work alone.

Metalcrafters: 1st and 3rd Sundays, 2nd and 4th Thursdays

Beaders: 3rd Monday for October and November, then winter break

Extreme Beaders: Tuesday 9 -5

Faceteers II: still meeting – email or call

Faceteers: no report

Juniors: 4th Sunday, Noon Tom Marok will be moderator since Jerri is out of town

Rocky Reader: Deadline Monday after the meeting

Membership: 42 members, 3 new members, and welcome back Gale!

Sunshine: no report

Field Trips: Indiana, Missouri Oct. 14–17, contact Jeri Heer

Show: Show report next meeting



With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9 pm

Respectfully submitted by Mike Mayers, Secretary

TBG NEEDS VOLUNTEERS SEPT 30-OCT 2

The Toledo Botanical Gardens is looking for volunteers to work 2 upcoming events. Friday, September 30 and Saturday, October 1 they are holding a fall trick or treating event from 4-10 PM both days. Volunteers are needed to pass out candy and supervise kids activities. The same weekend is their fall plant sale. The plant sale runs Saturday, October 1 and Sunday, October 2 from 10-4. Volunteers are needed to assist customers with their plant purchases. If interested, call Toni Moore via phone: 419-536-5592 or email: Toni.moore@toledogarden.org.

IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

Memberships expired at the end of September. If you have not renewed, you will be removed from the membership and this will be your last newsletter. If you were a member last year and our records indicate that you have NOT yet renewed, there will be a final renewal notice attached to this issue of the newsletter or email. If you receive this final renewal notice in error, you MUST contact Steve Shimatzki (419-861-0147 or sjs132@accesstoledo.com) or risk being dropped from the membership (mistakes happen, checks get lost in the mail, etc). If you do not receive a renewal notice, then our records indicate that you have renewed and will continue to receive regular club announcements and newsletters. For liability reasons, ONLY registered members can use the equipment and participate in classes. We must receive your renewal and dues BEFORE you will be allowed to work in the craft center.

MISSOURI FIELD TRIP – OCTOBER 14-17

The first leg is scheduled to be a stop in Indiana for geodes. Some Junior Families are scheduled to join in this part. We will depart early Friday morning and caravan to the geode site, collect for about 90 minutes, and those returning to Toledo will depart to go back. Those continuing to Missouri will move forward to meet up in Bonne Terre, Mo. We will be staying in the Super 8 Motel there. We will then set out for the collecting site in Tiff. We have been invited to partake of a bonfire and party Saturday evening with the Vidaceks, who own the property we are collecting on. We will return to the Motel, and make another trip to the Vidacek's on Sunday. Part of the group will return home after this, but some may be heading on to Arkansas to the Crater of Diamonds State Park (<http://www.craterofdiamondsstatepark.com/>). Contact Jerri Heer for more information. 419-344-9999, jheerx6@aol.com.

FALL OPEN HOUSE

This year's fall open house will be November 12-13. Table space is available to members on a first come first serve basis for anyone wanting to sell. Contact Carla Bureson (419-533-7341) to reserve tables or to volunteer. Anyone needing to cancel their table space must call Carla directly (no emails!).

ROCKY READER

After 3 years of being editor, I have decided to step down and pass the title on to someone else. For logistical reasons, Steve and I have agreed to continue the distribution of the Rocky Reader via mail and email. If anyone is interested in compiling the club's newsletter each month, please contact me to discuss, 419-861-0147 or sshimatzki@gmail.com.

Suzanne Shimatzki, Editor

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MICROWAVE WANTED

The club is looking for a small microwave for the craft center. If anyone has one they are willing to donate, please contact Jerri Heer.

2011 SHOW & MWF CONVENTION

Thanks to everyone for making this year's Show and MWF Convention a success! We received many wonderful comments from the Midwest Federation and visiting delegates. The Show Report will be presented during the October 19th meeting.

BEADERS

Monthly Beaders will be meeting from 6 PM to 8 PM (note time change) on the third Monday of the month through November. Monthly Beaders are currently working on learning various beading techniques and are working on selected patterned projects. Basic materials are available for use by new attendees. This is a good opportunity for new beaders to learn basic techniques and learn what beading is all about.

EXTREME BEADERS

Extreme Beaders are now meeting on the weekly schedule, Tuesdays, 9-5, at the Craft Center. Extreme Beaders attendees should be able to work independently and have their own projects, materials and supplies. New attendees interested in Bead Embroidery should contact Shirley Stieb or Kathy Petersen for a materials list, and to schedule their initial instruction.

METALCRAFTERS

The metalcrafters will meet October 2, 13, 16 and 27. Sunday meetings are from 1:30 - 3:30 and Thursday meetings are from 6:30 - 8:30. If you **HAVE NEVER ATTENDED**, please call or e-mail me (debhoffmaster@gmail.com) to schedule a three meeting slot to complete the instructional pendant. When you do so, please LEAVE YOUR FULL NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION.

Deb Hoffmaster, Metalcraft moderator

GEMCRAFTERS

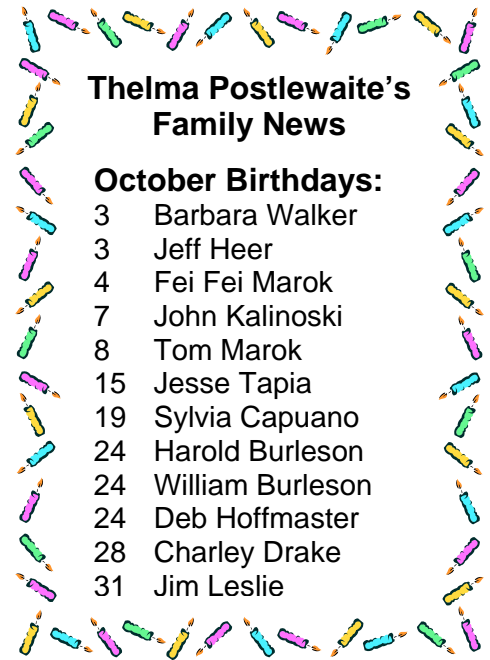
All new members or existing members that need to work in the Gem-craft center to cut and polish cabochon **for the first time**, please call or email Elie or Chet to schedule a meeting slot for your training to complete your first cabochon AND PLEASE LEAVE YOUR FULL NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION.

DAYTIME GEMCRAFTERS

Every Thursday from Noon – 4 PM. This is a great opportunity to cut and polish as we are open for a four hour block of time, and often have fewer people working. We are open to the public for observation, so TBG may be advertising our availability. For more information, contact Jerri Heer, 419-344-9999.

JUNIORS

Juniors had a great meeting in September with Co-Moderator Tom Marok teaching about crystals. The group made three different types of crystals and studied samples of others. Tom will be assuming leadership of the group when Jerri Heer leaves at the end of the year. If anyone is interested in helping Tom, the Juniors would welcome you. Fostering young people's interest in rocks and geology is one of the primary purposes of the Club. The next meeting will be the fourth Sunday In October, 23rd from noon - 2 pm. In addition, some of the Juniors may be accompanying Jerri to a geode collecting trip in Indiana on Friday, Oct 14th. This is the first leg of the Missouri field trip which will be outlined further in another part of the Rocky Reader. For more information about Juniors, contact Jerri Heer 419-344-9999 or jheerx6@aol.com.



CLASSES

The following schedule is a listing of upcoming classes. To enroll, please send fees to the instructor three weeks prior to the class.

November 12, 2011 10AM. Enameling. FULL. Instructor Harriet Nearing. Fee \$40.00 - payable to Debra Hoffmaster. Learn the scrolling technique to produce enamels with swirling patterns of color. Participants will produce several pieces suitable for use as pins or pendants. Copper blanks will be supplied

January 21, 2012 10AM. Chased and hydraulically formed cuff bracelet. (5 spots open) Instructor Debra Hoffmaster. Fee \$20.00. Use the hydraulic press to raise a cuff bracelet from a strip of chased metal. Participants will need to supply a 2.5" X 6" strip of 24 gage copper or Argentium silver

February 18, 2012 10AM. Clasps, Clasps, Clasps. (3 spots open) Instructor Debra Hoffmaster. Fee \$20.00. Not all clasps are hard to make. Learn to make a variety of simple hook and eye or toggle clasps for bracelets and necklaces. A list of the necessary materials will be available upon registration.

March 17, 2012 10AM. Chainmaille. (5 spots open) Instructor Kathy Petersen. Fee \$20.00. The chainmaille project for March 17, 2012, is a variation on the Backbone bracelet that we did a few years ago. It can be seen on the Blue Buddha Boutique website, <http://www.bluebuddhaboutique.com/supplies/instruction/view.php?id=tunnel> where materials can also be purchased. It is referred to as Illuminated Tunnel. Depending on your choice of materials, the cost is quite variable. If you want to make a larger version, information regarding sizes to order and sources can be obtained from the instructor, Kathy Petersen. Remember, you are responsible for purchasing and bringing your own materials, clasp and hand tools.

April 21, 2012 10AM. Fold Forming. (3 spots open) Instructor Debra Hoffmaster. Fee \$20.00. Learn to fold metal to create surface texture and volume. A list of the necessary materials will be available upon registration.

April 28, 2012 10AM. Enameling. (4 spots open) Instructor Harriet Nearing. Fee \$40.00 - payable to Debra Hoffmaster. Learn to enamel on flat and fold-formed copper. You do not have to have taken the fold-forming class to register for this class

NEW GEM TREE CLASS

I have had several requests to repeat my Gem Tree Class series before I move to Florida. It consists of 2- three hour classes, usually scheduled a week apart. The first is a basic class to develop initial skills and make your first tree. You then have a week to practice for the advanced class, which consists of discussion of advanced design, patterns and different leaf and branch treatments; developing your own patterns and studying mine. Cost for each class is \$10, materials are provided for both and additional materials are available for sale. The possible dates are: Tuesday evenings (5:30-8:30pm), Oct 11 & 18, or Oct 25 & Nov 1, or Saturdays (12 - 3 pm), Oct 22 & 29. If you are interested in the class series, please contact me with your date availabilities. I will select the dates that meet the most needs, and inform everyone of those dates. I would like to have at least 5 students to offer the classes. Contact: Jerri Heer 419-344-9999 or jheerx6@aol.com.



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COMING EVENTS from Chetty King's Flyer Table

October 14-16: Warren, MI. Annual Greater Detroit Show, Michigan Mineralogical Society, South Macomb Community College, Expo Center, Bldg P, 14500 12 Mile Rd, Fri 9:00-7:00, Sat 10:00-7:00, Sun 11:00-5:00, Contact: Carol Werner, 3401 Briarhill Rd, Hartland, MI 48353, (248) 887-3906, briarhillwerner@comcast.net

October 15-16: Clio, MI. 44th Annual Show, Flint Rock & Gem Club, Carter Middle School, Rogers Lodge Dr, Sat 10:00-5:00, Sun 10:00-5:00, Contact Ed Hearn, 10395 Ataberry Dr, Clio, MI 48420, (810) 687-2339, edleo324@comcast.net

October 21-23: Ft. Wayne, IN. 50th Annual Show, Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society, Allen County Fairgrounds, 2726 Carroll Rd, Fri & Sat 10:00-7:00, Sun 11:00-5:00, Contact: Michele Yamanaka, 4336 Charter Ln, Ft Wayne, IN 46815, (260) 424-5070, yamanakam@cs.com

October 22-23: Cuyahoga Falls, OH. Semi-annual Gemboree, Akron Mineral Society & Summit Lapidary Club, Emido Expo Center, 48 E Bath Rd, 10:00-6:00, Contact Evelyn Tryon, 2028 Tallmadge Rd, Kent, OH 44240, (330) 673-9664, gemboree76@yahoo.com, lapidaryclubofohio.org

November 4-6: Cleveland, OH. Annual Micromineral Symposium, Micromineral Society of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 1 Wade Oval, Fri 7:30-9:30P, Sat 8:30-5:00, Sun 9:30-3:30, Contact Dick Green, 1745 13th St, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223, (330) 929-2395, igreen2@neo.rr.com

FOSSIL ID DAY

<http://lsa.umich.edu/exhibitmuseum/programs/calendar>

Celebrate National Fossil Day with the **University of Michigan's Exhibit Museum of Natural History** ID Day on Sunday, October 9th from 12-5 pm. Visitors are invited to bring in objects and collections for identification by experts at the Exhibit Museum's annual ID Day. Experts will be on site from the fields of paleontology, anthropology, archaeology, botany, zoology, and geology. Visitors may bring in such items as shells; rocks and minerals; invertebrate fossils; arrow heads; shards of pottery; vertebrate bones; insects; skulls; seeds, leaves and twigs; and fish. The event is also fun for visitors who don't have objects to bring in. Learn about the specimens and artifacts in the experts' collections, and find out what surprises other visitors have brought in! Sorry, no appraisals will be given. To learn more about National Fossil Day, visit <http://nature.nps.gov/geology/nationalfossilday/index.cfm>

HALLOWEEN PARTY – U of M's Exhibit Museum

<http://lsa.umich.edu/exhibitmuseum/programs/calendar>

Have a Halloween that's fun, safe — and educational as well! By combining entertaining activities with informal science learning, the Exhibit Museum's Family Halloween Party has become one of the most popular Halloween activities in the area. On Sunday, October 30th, partygoers will journey through the Museum, discovering special stations and displays full of hands-on activities. Many favorite stations will be back, along with new stations, and live animals! Come in costume (not required, but recommended) and don't forget your goodie bag — we'll be handing out treats. The party is suitable for all ages, and is FREE! No reservations or tickets are necessary. For more information, call 734-764-0480 or email kelsul@umich.edu.

LECTURE ON AGATES

Karen A Brzys, the Agate Lady (AgateLady.com) & owner of the Gitchee Gumees Agate Museum in Grand Marais, Michigan will again give an amazing lecture on agates on October 25 from 5:30p to 8:30p at the Rock Shoppe, 6275 Gotfredson Road in Plymouth, Michigan (Rock-Shoppe.com - click on Dick Segal's cool song about Rocks). Karen will have a raft of stuff to purchase including her books, trail guides and Lake Superior agates. The Rock Shoppe is easy to find, just north of M-14.

Popular Mineralogy

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Minerals in the Spring

by Andrew A. Sicree, Ph.D.

Mineral springs

Travel the back roads and by-ways of America and before long you will encounter a town or hamlet bearing the name “Mineral Springs.” Sometimes the town name is more specific, such as “Alum Springs” in Virginia or “Radium Springs,” a town of about 1700 residents northwest of Las Cruces, New Mexico. Towns bearing the name “Sulfur Springs” appear in Texas, California, and Kentucky, as well as other states, and there is a village called “Hot Sulfur Springs” in Colorado. This is only a small sampling of the “Mineral Springs”-type place names that speckle America. As one might suspect, these towns are named for nearby mineral springs. But what is a mineral spring and how does it differ from an ordinary spring?

A little hydrology

Rain falls on the ground and that which doesn't evaporate or run into nearby streams, percolates underground. Once below ground, rainwater will descend to the “water table” which is the upper surface of what is called the “saturated zone” underground. In the saturated zone water fills all of the cracks and joints in the bedrock and all of the spaces between grains of sediments.

If the saturated zone (the water table) comes to the surface at any point, water can flow out of the ground. The water table hits the ground surface at the banks of many streams and ponds and they gain water from underground. This, by the way, is what keeps many streams flowing even when it has been weeks since the last rainfall.

When the water table intersects with the ground surface at points uphill from the local

streams, springs will result. Water will seep out of the ground and trickle downhill to the nearby streams. Often, but not always, these springs produce good quality water and they were utilized for drinking purposes. Many people still prefer to drink “spring water” and a good portion of the bottled-water industry exploits natural springs for this purpose.

Mister, can I drink from that waterhole?

Early settlers soon noticed that not all springs were so refreshing. Some springs were warm or even boiling – these we call “hot springs” – and others tasted bad, smelled worse, or were hard on the digestion. In a few cases, spring water might even be poisonous. There is more than just water coming out in these “mineral springs.” For instance, Wilson (James Wilson, *A Collector's Guide to Rock, Mineral, and Fossil Localities of Utah*, 1995) notes occurrences of springs made poisonous by dissolved selenium in the uranium-rich Poison Strip area east of Crescent Junction, Utah.

It wasn't long, however, before resourceful speculators and quack doctors decided to turn a liability into an asset by promoting mineral springs as healthful. Throughout the late 1800s and into the 1900s, patients suffering from a wide variety of ailments were sent off to spring-side sanitariums, spas, and resorts to “take the waters.” They swam and soaked in the springs and drank mineral waters for their therapeutic values. Health benefits may have been uncertain, but popular vacation resorts grew up around the springs as first one then the next became the trendy spot for the wealthy and famous. The popularity of mineral spring resorts continues to this day.

Where are the minerals?

Mineral springs produce more than just water. Water can dissolve minerals, and waters that contain a substantial portion of dissolved minerals are termed mineral waters. Typically, these waters contain gases, sulfur compounds, and a variety of salts. You may hear the term “total dissolved solids” or TDS used to describe the concentration of dissolved minerals. The US Environmental Protection Agency recommend that drinking water contain less than 500 parts per million (500 milligrams per liter of water) or total dissolved solids. Waters with more than 1500 ppm (1500 mg/L) TDS are labeled as having “high mineral content.”

So where do the dissolved solids originate? As ground water passes through rock, it will dissolve any minerals it encounters. Of course, many minerals (e.g. quartz, corundum, etc.) aren't very soluble, especially in cold water. Carbonate minerals such as calcite (CaCO_3) and dolomite ($(\text{Ca,Mg})\text{CO}_3$) and sulfate minerals such as gypsum ($\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$) will dissolve, and halide minerals such as halite (NaCl) and sylvite (KCl) dissolve very readily. When a mineral like halite goes into solution in the groundwater, it dissociates into sodium (Na^+) and chloride (Cl^-) ions. Much of what makes up the total dissolved solids of many natural waters is in the form of ions such as calcium (Ca^{2+}), magnesium (Mg^{2+}), carbonate (CO_3^{2-}), bicarbonate (HCO_3^-), sodium (Na^+), and chloride (Cl^-) ions. If you evaporate these waters, compounds such as calcium carbonate (calcite) and sodium chloride (halite) will precipitate as solids. Warmer waters found in thermal springs will dissolve more minerals than cooler water and at higher temperatures even sparingly soluble minerals like quartz begin to dissolve.

Types of mineral springs

Not all “mineral springs” are the same. Some are called “sweet springs” but because the water is quite low in dissolved solids, they scarcely deserve to be called mineral springs.

Alum is $\text{KAl}(\text{SO}_4)_2 \cdot 12\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and alum springs contain higher levels of potassium (K^+), aluminum (Al^{3+}), and sulfate (SO_4^{2-}) ions. You may be familiar with synthetic crystals of alum that are often sold at mineral shows. Alum can also be found in your grocery store with the canning supplies. Drinking water from alum springs can give one diarrhea and other gastrointestinal problems.

Chalybeate springs produce ferruginous, or iron-rich, waters. Containing dissolved iron(II) carbonate (siderite) and manganese(II) carbonate (rhodochrosite), the water has a distinct taste of iron. Among the notable chalybeate springs are Tunbridge Wells in England and the Sweet Chalybeate Springs of Allegheny County, Virginia.

Sulfur (sulphur) springs are notable for their strong rotten egg smell. Dissolved hydrogen sulfide (H_2S) escapes from the water and gives it a brimstone odor. Our noses are extremely sensitive to hydrogen sulfide and we can detect extraordinarily low levels of hydrogen sulfide in air (most people can discern it at levels of 0.5 ppb – that's parts per billion!). The source of the hydrogen sulfide can be sulfide minerals such as marcasite and pyrite (FeS_2).

Saline spring waters typically contain dissolved chloride salts of sodium, calcium and/or magnesium. They have a strong salty taste, much like seawater.

Alkaline springs contain higher levels of alkalis or alkaline earth elements, such as sodium, potassium, lithium, calcium or magnesium ions, along with carbonate or hydroxide ions. Alkaline waters are more bitter and more basic ($\text{pH} = 8$ or higher) than other spring waters. Lithia springs contain lithium ions and calcic springs are high in calcium.

Soda springs contain excess dissolved carbon dioxide in the form of sodium carbonate or as the dissolved gas itself. At depth and under pressure, natural waters can dissolve carbon dioxide gas. Upon rising to the surface, some of these soda waters may effervesce (bubble up) like so much natural

champagne, releasing bubbles of carbon dioxide. Carbonated water is also called “seltzer water.” Seltzer water originally referred to the effervescent mineral water obtained from the natural springs near the village of Niederselters in Germany but today seltzer water is produced artificially. Interestingly for mineralogists, the Yale chemistry professor Benjamin Silliman (for whom sillimanite was named) bottled and sold artificial seltzer water beginning in 1807. Flavored seltzer waters followed eventually leading to the flavored artificial mineral waters sold as Coca-Cola and Pepsi.

Spring water can be radioactive. Radon gas dissolves readily into groundwater but will rapidly escape from water on the Earth’s surface. “Radium springs” contain traces of radium derived from underground uranium or thorium deposits. One hundred years ago, radium was valued as a wonder drug reputed to cure many diseases including cancer. A mineral spring that contained traces of radium was thought to be particularly healthful. Radium Springs near Albany, Georgia, produced radium-laced water and became the site of a spa and a casino. Radium Springs, New Mexico, is a village of about 1700 people just northwest of Las Cruces.

*Dr. Andrew A. Sicree is a professional mineralogist and geochemist residing in Boalsburg, PA. This **Popular Mineralogy** newsletter supplement may not be copied in part or full without express permission of Andrew Sicree. **Popular Mineralogy** newsletter supplements are available on a subscription basis to help mineral clubs produce better newsletters. Write to Andrew A. Sicree, Ph.D., P. O. Box 10664, State College PA 16805, or call (814) 867-6263 or email sicree@verizon.net for more info.*

More Words to Dig By

Fossil: Farmers in medieval Europe dug trenches and ditches to drain rainwater off their fields. These trenches were called “fosses” after the Latin expression meaning “to

dig.” Often enough, the ditch diggers uncovered what appeared to be ancient bones, teeth, or shells and called them “fossils” because they came from a fosse.

Erosion: Mice and other gnawing animals plagued the ancient Romans, and it is from their term *rodere*, “to gnaw,” that we derive the word “rodent.” Later, the alchemists experimented with acids and discovered that they would attack metals, slowly dissolving them. This slow corrosive action was labeled “erosion.” Geologists then adopted the term erosion to describe how glaciers, streams, and rivers gnawed away sediments and rocks.

Goldbrick: Goldbricking is the shirking of one’s duties, but the term had its origins during the Gold Rush days. An unscrupulous promoter would cover a block of lead with a layer of gold and offer it at a “discount” to unwary investors. The man who bought the “goldbrick” was cheated and the word came to be a verb meaning “to swindle.” During World War I, however, the term acquired a somewhat different meaning. A soldier who avoided doing his duty was called a “goldbrick.” The term retains its original meaning as a secondary definition.

Bonanza: Bonanza is another word that entered general use during the Gold Rush days. Derived from the Latin bonus for “good,” the word bonanza was coined by Spanish sailors to describe days of clear weather coming on the heels of a storm. The term came to mean any good fortune and was applied to very rich gold discoveries. Today, the term is applied to any source of great wealth.

Ref.: Garrison, W., *445 Fascinating Word Origins* (Galahad Books, New York, 2000) 248 pp.

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October

2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Metalcraft 1:30p	3	4 Extreme Beaders 9a-5p Faceteers II 6:30p	5 Gemcraft 6:30p	6 Gemcraft 12-4p	7	8
9	10	11 Extreme Beaders 9a-5p	12 Gemcraft 6:30p Faceteers 7:00p	13 Gemcraft 12-4p Metalcraft 6:30p	14	15
16 Metalcraft 1:30p	17 Beaders 6-8p	18 Extreme Beaders 9a-5p	19 Club Mtg 7:00p	20 Gemcraft 12-4p	21	22
23 Juniors 12-2p	24 Rocky Reader Deadline	25 Extreme Beaders 9a-5p	26 Gemcraft 6:30p	27 Gemcraft 12-4p Metalcraft 6:30p	28	29
30	31 					

Group meetings and classes are for members only. Our club meetings are open to the public on the third Wednesday of every month. To learn more about our club, visit us during our Open House held every May and November.



**Rocky Reader Editor
Suzanne Shimatzki
107 Florentine Dr
Holland, OH 43528**

