

# Rocky Reader

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

Volume 45(6)

June, 2008

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## Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club Meeting Minutes

Because I was confused about the date for submissions to the RR, May's minutes will appear in the July issue. Sorry! - Deb Hoffmaster

## CLASSES

The following schedule is a listing of upcoming classes. To enroll, please **send the all fees to the instructor**. Fees must be received, at the latest, **two weeks prior to the class**.

**June 7. 10AM.** MSHA Mine Safety Class. Instructor Joel Vicary. To register or for more information call Doris Brzezicki, State Line Club, 517-263-1669

**June 7. 1PM.** Soapstone Carving. Instructor Sandy Cline. Fee \$15. To register or for more information call Doris Brzezicki, State Line Club, 517-263-1669.

**June 28 & 29.** MGAGS Rockhound Seminar. Classes on Faceting, Wire wrapping, silversmithing, Gem Trees, Lapidary and more! Goodwin High School (SW metro Grand Rapids), 50 - 35th St., SW, Wyoming, Michigan. Saturday 9-5 & Sunday 9-4. For more information contact - Dan Brown, 734-421-8159 or Bill Hapiuk, mgags2008@yahoo.com. For schedule & advance tickets (\$15/day or \$25 for both days) contact Bill Hapiuk, 26099 Dover St., Redford, MI 48239.

**November 15, 2008. 10AM.** Vertebrae bracelet. Instructor Kathy Petersen. Fee \$60.00. This is a modified 4 in 1 chain maille bracelet, with an inner ring, also called vertebrae pattern.

## Thelma Postlewaite's Family News

Harry Snodgrass	6-1	Tim Wolf	6-10
Christine Goetting	6-2	Linda Maiani	6-19
Elizabeth Cannon	6-3	Gene Wallace	6-25
Carolyn Dion	6-7	Arna Burns	6-27
Linn Petersen	6-7	Peggy Pusateri	6-27
Carol Lake	6-8	Mike Pusateri	6-30

Former member Robert Dittman has died. June King is in Flower Hospital.

Submitted by Lucille Burgy, Sunshine

### GARDEN NEWS

**Volunteer Hours** - If you help out at open houses, Heralding, plant sales, etc., Please **MAKE SURE** that you **fill out a volunteer form**. These are **available from Chet** and may be turned in to him. Volunteer forms are collected 4 times each year for the months/quarters JanFebMar/ AprMayJune/ JulyAugSept/ OctNovDec/.

### FACETEERS

Faceteers meet on the second Thursday of the month at members' houses. Contact Don Ault or Dick Bower for more information.

### FIELD TRIPS

The next local MSHA Mine Safety Class will be on June 7 at 10AM at the State Line show. To register or for more information call Doris Brzezicki, State Line Club, at 517-263-1669.

Agate Rendezvous 2008, a ten day inter-federation field trip campout, will be held on August 23-September 1 at Apache Creek, New Mexico. There will be rock collecting and many attractions to go to. For more information email rockymountainrockhounds@yahoo.com or contact Yonis Lone Eagle, Rocky Mountain Federal Mineral Society and New Mexico/Texas State Director at 505-860-2455. Please RSVP by August 20 if you plan to come.

Reprinted from *Greater Cincinnati Lapidary and Faceting Society Newsletter*, Mar, 08

### BEADERS

The Beaders meet on the third Monday of the month at 6:30PM in the craft center. This month's project will be beaded beads.  
Nancy Grove, Moderator

### GEMCRAFTERS

The gemcrafters meet on Wednesdays (except the third) at 7PM in the craft center. Chet can give classes on any lapidary topic. If there is something that you are interested in learning, contact him.  
Chet King, Jr., moderator

### METALCRAFTERS

The metalcrafters normally meet on the first and third Sundays at 1:30 and the second and fourth Thursdays at 6:3, however, **we will not meet on Father's Day**. We ask that **those members who have never attended**, please call or e-mail Debby to schedule a three meeting slot to complete their instructional pendant.

Currently, we are formulating our classes for next year. In addition to Kathy's chain maille classes at the open houses, we are considering the following: sinusoidal forming, hydraulic press workshop, woven bead and another ring class. If you have other suggestions, please contact Debby.  
Deb Hoffmaster, moderator

### Coming Events from Chetty King's Flyer Table

**May 31 & June 1.** 2008 Central Ohio Mineral, Fossil, Gem & Jewelry Show, Veterans Memorial, 300 W. Broad St., Columbus, OH. Saturday, 10- 6, Sunday, 11 - 5, Adults \$7.00 (2-day pass \$12), Senior Golden Buckeye discount, Youth 6-16 \$3.00 (under 6 free), Scouts & 4-H in uniform free

**June 6-8.** State Line Show. Junior Fair Building, Fulton Co. Fairgrounds, Wauseon, OH. Fri. noon - 7, Sat 10-7 and Sun 11-4. Parking and admission are free.



Crystals...Minerals  
Cutting Stock.....Tools  
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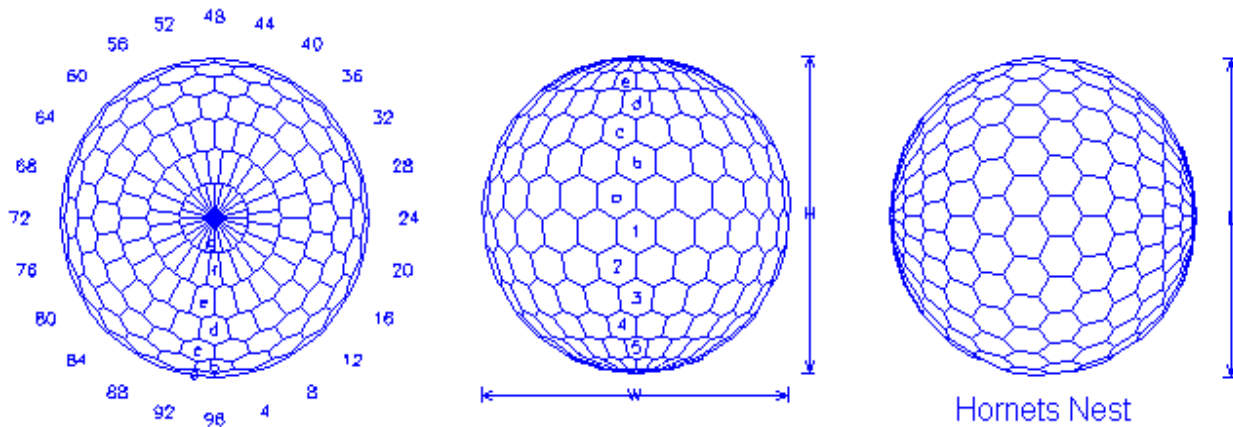
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**July 10 - July 13, 2008.** Agate Conference - the largest agates-only event ever held in the US Weis Earth Science Museum, The University of Wisconsin - Fox Valley, Menasha, Wisconsin Friday -Sunday 10-6; Monday 10-5. Adults \$3.00, children 21 & under Free. For more information see [www.weismuseum.org](http://www.weismuseum.org) or e-mail [fox-wesm@uwc.edu](mailto:fox-wesm@uwc.edu) 920-832-2925.

### Hornets Nest - designed by Bob Keller 12.01.01

Reprinted with permission, Bob Keller, Bob's Rock Shop

[http://www.rockhounds.com/rockshop/gem\\_designs/defibrillator1/index.shtml](http://www.rockhounds.com/rockshop/gem_designs/defibrillator1/index.shtml)



336 facets	96 index
L/W = 1.000 H/W = 1.000	Vol./W <sup>3</sup> = 0.515

Hemisphere A		
a	83.6	02-06-10-14-18-22-26-30-34-38-42-46 50-54-58-62-66-70-74-78-82-86-90-94
b	70.8	96-04-08-12-16-20-24-28-32-36-40-44 48-52-56-60-64-68-72-76-80-84-88-92
c	57.98	02-06-10-14-18-22-26-30-34-38-42-46 50-54-58-62-66-70-74-78-82-86-90-94
d	45.13	96-04-08-12-16-20-24-28-32-36-40-44 48-52-56-60-64-68-72-76-80-84-88-92

e	32.32	02-06-10-14-18-22-26-30-34-38-42-46 50-54-58-62-66-70-74-78-82-86-90-94
f	19.37	96-04-08-12-16-20-24-28-32-36-40-44 48-52-56-60-64-68-72-76-80-84-88-92
g	6.45	02-06-10-14-18-22-26-30-34-38-42-46 50-54-58-62-66-70-74-78-82-86-90-94
<b>Hemisphere B</b>		
1	83.6	96-04-08-12-16-20-24-28-32-36-40-44 48-52-56-60-64-68-72-76-80-84-88-92
2	70.8	02-06-10-14-18-22-26-30-34-38-42-46 50-54-58-62-66-70-74-78-82-86-90-94
3	57.98	96-04-08-12-16-20-24-28-32-36-40-44 48-52-56-60-64-68-72-76-80-84-88-92
4	45.13	02-06-10-14-18-22-26-30-34-38-42-46 50-54-58-62-66-70-74-78-82-86-90-94
5	32.32	96-04-08-12-16-20-24-28-32-36-40-44 48-52-56-60-64-68-72-76-80-84-88-92
6	19.37	02-06-10-14-18-22-26-30-34-38-42-46 50-54-58-62-66-70-74-78-82-86-90-94
7	6.45	96-04-08-12-16-20-24-28-32-36-40-44 48-52-56-60-64-68-72-76-80-84-88-92

Hornets Nest Cutting Notes

The Hornets Nest Design File is available for GemCad users.

This design employs what could be termed "alternating index" step cuts. The only meet points are at the pole (g and 7) facet apexes. Due to the absence of meet points and the lack of a constant chord or facet edge length determining the placement of each course, this is a very challenging and difficult sphere design to cut well and produce a sphere that is round all around. Hornets Nest is appropriately named in several ways...

If you cut a Hornets Nest of your own, be sure and let me know what you've cut and how you made out.

## THE STORY OF MONTANA AGATE

It has always been a mystery how the peculiar little scenes got inside a rock as hard as agate. It is the claim of geologists that the spots were caused by infinitely minute seams or fissures in the softer parts of the rock being filled with metallic oxides when the world was young. These oxides created four different colors that form various combinations of color when blended together, or appear in single colors in each rock.

The red color is oxide of iron. The black is oxide of manganese. The green is oxide of copper. The blue is oxide of nickel. This theory has been elaborated upon by the help of high powered microscopes which show the tracings of little canals so tiny that the naked eye could not detect them, but the oxides remained staining the rocks in wonderful designs. The fern-like and branch effects of the trees, grass, and shrubbery come from the fact that the tiny canals branched out in various subdivisions forming smaller canals from a common center. In addition to these canals, the rock became flawed through shrinkage while passing through a period

of evaporation, which, according to scientists, has taken more than three million years to reduce the stone to the hardness of 7 on the Mohs scale.

These canals and flaws have been perfectly healed by soft silicate formations of which the stone is a part and the evaporation has caused the oxides to take on such forms as seen on the window after a frosty night. Technically, Montana agate is known as "dendritic" agate and the moss spots are called "dendrites". It is the third hardest stone in the world and is cut only with a diamond saw. There can never be two pieces alike even though cut from the same stone. AUTHOR AND ORIGINAL SOURCE UNKNOWN. From the *Glacial Drifter* January 2008, via *The Leaverite News* 6/07 & *Quarry Quips* 7/07

### **FOSSIL CLEANING TIPS**

In most cases when a fossil is cleaned, the surface is usually left with a dull or chalky look, even if you're very careful. This is caused by the abrasion of the tool against the fossil's surface.

In an effort to make the fossil look better, some collectors use a quick method and cover their specimens with clear plastic sprays to bring out the details and to lessen the scratchy appearance. These collections are easy to recognize because every specimen looks as if it is wet or dipped in plastic. The trouble with this method is that it puts an unnatural glossy appearance on the fossil as well as the matrix, giving your specimen poor contrast.

In their natural state, fossils are not usually glossy, and professional museum preparers will tell you that making a fossil something it never was is poor practice. Clear sprays have a tendency to become cloudy over time, and the temptation to spruce up the collection by re-spraying specimens becomes a habit, which only puts more cloudy layers on the specimen. These coatings make photographing fossils difficult; they are very hard to remove and will sometimes render specimens useless for scientific study. A simple common sense way to get around these problems is to use alcohol soluble, clear shellac. Just mix two parts shellac to eight parts alcohol. The ratio can vary slightly to suit personal tastes. This mixture will leave a pleasing, natural matte finish.

When using this method, make sure the fossil is clean of dust. With a small artist brush, carefully coat only the fossil with the dilute shellac. This will reveal the specimen's actual color and allow the fossil to stand out against the natural matrix, giving excellent contrast. The more attention you give to coating the delicate structures, the more beautiful the specimen will be. If you accidentally sure too much or if it runs on the matrix, just dip the brush in alcohol and whisk the coating away. It dries in seconds.

Make no doubt about it, fossil collecting has become very sophisticated in recent years, and collections quickly prepared by obsolete or improper methods are now readily noticed by other collectors. From *The Glacial Drifter*, January 2008 via *Backbender's Gazette* 7/98, *The Pick and Dop Stick* 3/04, *The Show Me Geode* 7/04 & *Show Me Rockhounds* 12/05  
Dear Friends at the AMFS,

### **AFMS Scholarship Winner Describes Work**

My name is William Amidon. I am a graduate student at Caltech where I was the recipient of the AFMS scholarship award in 2006, and am now in my second year of funding by this award. I wanted to take a moment and thank the AFMS for making this scholarship available, and to update the officers and members on how I have been using the money.

My area of research involves the production of "cosmogenic"  $^3\text{He}$  in common accessory minerals such as zircon, apatite, titanite, ilmenite and magnetite. Cosmogenic  $^3\text{He}$  is produced in these minerals by atmospheric neutrons which induce nuclear spallation reactions on elements within the minerals. By understanding the production rates and production systematics of  $^3\text{He}$  in these minerals, we hope to develop a methodology for cheaper and easier cosmogenic dating of surfaces and sediments in the landscape. Because  $^3\text{He}$  is a stable isotope, we hope that this research may someday lead to the ability to understand exposure and erosion histories of ancient surfaces and sediments as well. This project is interesting from a mineralogical perspective because production and retention of  $^3\text{He}$  is highly dependent on composition and structure of mineral phases, requiring detailed analysis of each mineral phase that we work with.

The funds awarded from the AFMS have allowed me to develop several side projects related to this research. One of the side projects I have been working on is an experiment to determine how production of cosmogenic  $^3\text{He}$  changes with elevation. We have reason to believe that the production of  $^3\text{He}$  increases

more. rapidly with elevation than other cosmogenic isotopes such as  $^{10}\text{Be}$ ,  $^{26}\text{Al}$ , and  $^{21}\text{Ne}$ . If we can conclusively demonstrate this effect, paired measurements of  $^3\text{He}$  and other cosmogenic isotopes in mineral phases may provide a new approach to paleo-altimetry. To document this effect, I designed an experiment in which I created "targets" containing a variety of mineral phases, and mounted them on ridge tops between 8000 and 14000 ft in the White Mountains. I plan to recollect these targets in three or four years, and measure the accumulated  $^3\text{He}$ . I hope to use the remainder of my funds to design an experiment in which synthetic minerals are subjected to neutron and/or proton bombardment to better understand the energy dependence of  $^3\text{He}$  production in these minerals. Funds from the AFMS make it possible for me to initiate projects such as this. These dollars are particularly well spent at a place like Caltech, where the projects will also benefit greatly from access to the many analytical facilities here at Caltech.

Please extend my warmest thanks to all of the members of the AFMS who made this scholarship possible. I realize that the size of this award is quite large for an organization like AFMS, and I assure you that it has had a correspondingly large impact on my ability to develop my own projects here at Caltech. I look forward to producing some interesting results which I can share with you, and to acknowledging your great generosity in some public presentation of the work.

Best wishes, and thank you.

William Amidon

From the A.F.M.S. Newsletter, February, 2008

## EXHIBITOR'S RULES & ADVISORY

We would like to encourage you to submit an exhibit at the 2008 show. If you have an interesting rock or mineral collection, nice cabs, faceted stones, jewelry work, etc., that you think others would like to see, than sign up to put an exhibit in the show. Here are the rules:

1. **HOURS:** The Show will open to the public as follows:

Friday	2 PM to 8 PM
Saturday	10 AM to 6 PM
Sunday	11 AM to 5 PM

2. **REGISTRATION AND RIBBONS:** Exhibitor is to check in at the control desk to receive his/her display space location number(s) and exhibitors ribbon. Exhibitor's ribbon authorizes free admission to the show.

3. **JUDGING:** There will be no competitive judging this year.

4. **DISPLAY SET UP AND REMOVAL:** Each exhibitor must have his/her display installed and in proper order before 2 PM Friday, and preserve it intact until the show closes Sunday at 5 PM. Displays may be set up after 8 AM on Friday, and must be removed by 6 PM on Sunday. We will try to have the hall ready for display set up from 4 to 7 PM Thursday. **Check with the display chairperson if bringing a display in on Thursday.**

5. **RESTRICTIONS:** The Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club reserves the right to restrict any exhibit which for obvious reasons is objectionable, and also prohibit any exhibit which in the opinion of the display committee may hinder the general character and atmosphere of the Show. Distribution of advertising matter in any part of the Show is strictly forbidden without the written authorization of the Show Committee.

6. **SECURITY & LIABILITY:** The Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club will furnish around-the-clock security and will take all reasonable and expected precautions to protect the property and person of each exhibitor. However, it is mutually agreed that the Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club, its members, its officers or its authorized agents shall not be liable to any exhibitor for any damage to or for loss or destruction of any exhibit in whole or part. This includes the property of any exhibitor or injury to his

person from any cause. All claims for any such loss, damage or injury is expressly waived by the Exhibitor. Submission of your signed application for exhibitor's space constitutes acceptance of all the rules and regulations as outlined above.

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Application for a Display case in the September 2008 TG&RC Club Show

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

I will furnish my own case \_\_\_\_\_ Special electrical needs \_\_\_\_\_

Your case size \_\_\_\_\_ Table top space \_\_\_\_\_ Floor space \_\_\_\_\_

Exhibitors are urged to furnish their cases. The club has a limited number of cases that are available on a first come basis. Check here if you need a case:

\_\_\_\_\_ Club Case 46"W x 30"D x 11"H

\_\_\_\_\_ New Cases 48"W x 18"D x 22-3/8"H

**\*\*\*\* PLEASE COMPLETE A SEPARATE APPLICATION FOR EACH EXHIBIT\*\*\*\***

The undersigned exhibitor agrees to abide by the terms of the Committee as stated on the Exhibitor's Rules & Advisory" form.

**There will be no competitive judging this year. There will be voting for the People's Choice Awards**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Exhibitor's signature

RETURN TO DISPLAY CHAIRPERSONS: Nancy & Rita Grove  
1200 Rawson Ave.  
Fremont, OH 43420  
(419) 332-3624

**PLEASE RETURN CASE APPLICATIONS BY AUGUST 20<sup>th</sup>.**

This form can be reproduced if additional cases are needed.

# June

# 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Metalcraft @ 1:30	2	3	4 Gemcraft @7	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Gemcraft @7	12 Metalcraft @ 6:30	13	14
15 NO Metalcraft	16 Beaders @ 6:30	17	18 Show meeting @ 6 Club meeting @ 7	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Gemcraft @7	26 Metalcraft @ 6:30 Faceteers @ 7	27	28
29	30					

The Rocky Reader  
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Adrian, MI 49221

Toledo Gem And Rockhound Club

