

Rocky Reader

The Monthly Newsletter Of The
Toledo Gem And Rockhound Club

Volume 54, Issue 1

January 2016

January Program: The January 20th meeting will feature the Scholarship Raffle check awards and a short research presentation.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you to all who contributed to the gift collection for Lucas County Children's Services. These very needed gifts have gone to brightening Christmas for children in our community.

A very Merry Christmas and a happy New year to all of you. In this season, when we wish for Peace and Joy to all mankind, remember to extend the same to each other.

Tonia & Debby

LETTERS TO THE BOARD

This month we will inaugurate a new article in the Rocky Reader that will attempt to disseminate information and/or correct misinformation based on letters, e-mails and conversations with board members. This month's article pertains to reimbursement of club funds by the Treasurer and relates to an e-mail sent to me which suggested that it was necessary "...to wait up to a month or more to be reimbursed by the club treasurer."

Reimbursement of monies spent is dependent on the timely submission of the request. The request can be a receipt from the vendor for purchases made by cash, check or credit card and may be either handed to, or mailed (for quicker turnover) to the treasurer. It may also be a filled out order form submitted to the Treasurer and sent by her/him to the vendor along with a check. So, for example, when Gerry Lewy came in 2009 for a three-day setting workshop, I submitted a list of Gerry's itemized fees to Steve and he had a check ready to pay Gerry at the workshop. As a second example, when the metalcrafters bought the hydraulic press from Rio Grande, Pete sent a check along with that order. The same was true of Jim and Shirley.

In general, working groups that have their own budgets make independent decisions regarding how the money is spent, however, to be reimbursed, they must submit documentation of any purchases. Other entities, such as the show and open house chairs, must submit a budget to the board/club for approval, after which, they may be reimbursed. Individual club members, with ideas for expenditure of club funds, should bring those ideas to the board for consideration.

I hope this clears up any confusion.

Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of November 29. The attendees of the Board Meeting November 29, 2015 that started at 2:15pm and was held at the Craft Center: Tonia Wallace, Harold Burleson, Deb Hoffmaster, Kathy Peterson, Linn Peterson, Greg Freight, Steve Shimatzki

1. A discussion regarding two open Board positions of President and Vice President. A review of the By-Laws of the Presidents responsibilities indicated the Club requires the role be filled. The Vice President role primarily supplies programs for those months that do not have a auction, sale or potluck (estimated at 5). The Vice President also fills in for the duties of the President in his/her absence. Deb Hoffmaster offered to be a nominee for Club President. The role of Vice President would be shared potentially by two board members.

2. A lengthy discussion of events involving Steve Shimatzki and Jeff and Bonnie Wheeler. Steve supplied several emails of correspondence between the parties. Future events or others that have significant impact between club members that are brought to any Board member in writing will result in publishing the correspondence in the Rocky Reader. Specifically Steve petitioned the board and membership for actions resulting from the interaction and comments from Bonnie and Jeff Wheeler.

3. Deb Hoffmaster volunteered to chronologically document the series of email correspondence and send it to board members for comments. The resulting documentation will be sent to Bonnie and Jeff Wheeler by Tonia Wallace for their comments and potentially a future meeting with Steve and the Board.

Meeting adjourned 3:45pm as moved by Greg Freight and Linn Peterson
Respectfully Submitted, Mike Mayers, Club Secretary

Free to good home

Lee Floyd is looking to re-home an unused Wax carving pen. Based on the description, I believe it is similar to the Foredom version, item # 700-331 in the Rio Grande catalog.

Also, he has wood available plus a motor to build a base of a metals polisher. Interested? Contact Lee 419-474-9983 for more information.

Minutes Dec 20. The meeting began promptly at 4PM. Board Members present: Tonia Wallace, Debra Hoffmaster, Linn Petersen, Greg Feight, Harold Burleson, Kathy Petersen, Steve Shimatzki. Absent: Mike Mayers, Elie Ghanime.

Bonnie and Jeff Wheeler presented a lengthy rebuttal of Steve Shimatzki's allegations from the November 29 meeting. After consideration, the board found no basis for sanctions against any party at this time.

Meeting adjourned 6:20PM
Respectfully Submitted, Debra Hoffmaster

TOLEDO GEM AND ROCKHOUND CLUB MEETING MINUTES

December 16, 2015

1. Meeting started 7: 00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Secretary Report moved for approval by Tom Marok seconded by Jim Leslie.
3. Treasurer Report /Finance Report moved for approval Tom Marok, seconded by Deb Hoffmaster.
4. Old Business None to report.
5. New Business
 - a. Thank you to all who participated in Heralding the Holidays.
 - b. There is a board meeting on Dec. 20 at 4pm in the Craft Center.

- c. The 2016 Board members were installed following a motion from Steve Shimatzki to elect the new board members that was seconded by Elie Ghanime and approved by the membership. The President Tonia Wallace then performed the installation. Deb Hoffmaster, President, Mike Mayers, Secretary, Linn Peterson, Treasurer, Greg Freight, Sgt. At Arms, Kathy Peterson, open Board member.
6. Group Reports
- a. Gardens: Please call Nikki at 419-536-5592 to volunteer. The next will be the seed sale in February.
 - b. Gemcrafters: A cabochon of the month continues and members can purchase for a minimum fee. See the Rocky Reader for details. Moderators for 2016 are Chet King, Bonnie Wheeler, Greg Freight and Natalie Hill.
 - c. Faceteers: Contact Elie if you have interest in a class. Also Chet King will offer an intro to a max of two persons January 9 & 10 so contact Chet if interested.
 - d. Metalcrafters: Contact Deb Hoffmaster if you want to meet.
 - e. Beaders: November is the last class and then probable break for the winter.
 - f. Extreme Beaders: See Rocky Reader for dates.
 - g. Wire Wrap: Elie may offer in January.
 - h. Juniors: January will be on volcanism.
 - i. Sunshine: No news to report.
7. Membership: 32 members and 3 juniors.
Some Membership dues are unpaid \$16.10 single, \$21.45 family
9. Field Trips: none planned
10. RockyReader: - Email info to Deb Hoffmaster by the Monday following the meeting.
11. January meeting will include presentation of checks to UT and BG from the Scholarship raffle and a will include a short program.
- The meeting concluded at 7:35 pm
- Respectfully Submitted, Mike Mayers, Club Secretary

Thelma Postlewaite's Family News

			January
Shimatzki	Stephen	1	22
Slawinski	Michael	1	24
Markowiak	Linda	1	29

CLASSES

January 9 and 10, 2016 Introduction to Faceting. Instructor Chet King. So, did you wonder what faceting was all about but you weren't sure you wanted to commit yet? Well, this class is for you! Chet will take up to TWO people for this short introduction. No cost. Easy. Call Chet (419-841-4272).

November 19-20, 2016. Ronda Returns! (Brought to you with proceeds from the metalcrafter auction)
Ronda Coryell (www.rondacoryell.com) returns for another fantastic workshop. This time the projects will be two rings and a hollow bead. The workshop price is \$300 with substantial discounts for early registration, work at the club show and donation to the metalcrafter auction. E-mail Deb Hoffmaster (debhoffmaster@gmail.com) for details and a registration form.

GARDEN NEWS

TBG is currently taking applications for the Crosby festival through Zapplication (www.zapplication.org). The next event for TBG will be the seed swap February 27, 2016: 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm at Scott High School in Toledo OH.

FACETEERS

On January 9 and 10, 2016, Chet King will do an introductory class. Chet will take up to two people for this short introduction. Call Chet (419-841-4272) for more information. Otherwise, the faceteer group is taking a sabbatical for a few months. Contact Elie Ghanime 419-450-0160, eghanime@buckeye-express.com for more information.

FIELD TRIPS

Contact Harold Burleson hburle@msn.com to be informed of future field trips. Many quarries now require up to date Mine Safety training for admission.

BEADERS

The Beaders are off for the winter months. If you are interested in beading, contact Nancy Grove nancy7536@att.net for more information.

EXTREME BEADERS

The Extreme Beaders meet on Tuesdays beginning at 9AM. Participants must be able to work independently on their own projects. If you would like to join, but need instruction, contact Kathy Petersen mlrlyt@AOL.com for more information.

GEMCRAFTERS

Gem Crafter Moderators elected for 2016 are Bonnie Wheeler, Natalie Hill, Greg Feight and Chet King. The January Cab Of The Month will be Snowflake Obsidian. A pretty black volcanic glass with lots of snowflake detail. A gentle hand will bring out the best cabochons. Price per slab is \$2 with a limit of one slab per member per month.

Jeff and Bonnie purchased 45 pounds of art glass on a recent trip to N.C. and will offer some for a future Cab Of The Month. Art glass contains none of the contaminants found in china dinnerware and will finish similar to obsidian. We have a variety of vibrant colors with tight accent colors swirled within. We now have enough material to offer a different Cab Of The Month through 2016.

Elie Ghanime agreed at the December potluck meeting to teach a Wire Art Cabochon Wrapping class. He does awesome work and you won't want to miss it. We hope to schedule the date for January, depending upon Elie's schedule. Email notifications will be sent as soon as we confirm the date.

We hope to host our Findings Swap Meet in January if there is a Saturday open on the club calendar. The Swap Meet will be an opportunity for members to trade and sell their extra jewelry making components, wire, chain, cord, mountings, etc. Participants will be asked to sort by variety and metals and place a value on their items so equal value trades or sales can be conducted. Cost will be the usual \$2 fee for those wishing to trade/sell and free to any club member who wishes to stop by to shop. Watch your email for details.

Cabochon Training Class: If any member wishes to learn the art of cabochon creation please contact Natalie Hill. Her contact information is in the club directory. We will not schedule a January training class unless at least two members request training.

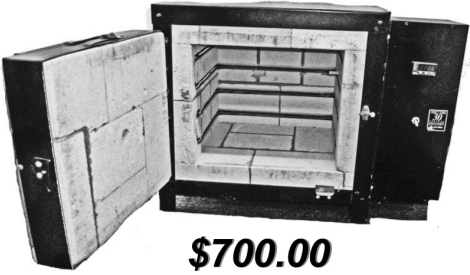
THANK YOU TONIA WALLACE for serving as the 2015 President of the club!!
Your Gem Crafter Moderators: Bonnie Wheeler, Natalie Hill, Greg Feight, Chet King

JUNIORS

The Juniors group meets on the fourth Sunday of the month, January 24, at 1PM. Juniors ages 6 to 18, accompanied by a parent or guardian are welcome. January's meeting will be building volcanoes!! For more information contact Steve Shimatzki sjs132@gmail.com.

METALCRAFTERS

The metalcrafters meet by appointment on the first and third Sundays at 1:30 and the second and fourth Thursdays at 6:30. In January, these meetings will be January 14, 17, and 28. To confirm your attendance at any meeting, e-mail or call Deb Hoffmaster 24 hours in advance. Please note: if you have not confirmed your attendance, you may show up and have no one there. Participants must pay the \$2.00 session fee, and wear long pants and sturdy shoes (no sandals).



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DISCOVER NETWORK

We are a collaborative group. We expect that members have their own materials and sufficient experience to work independently. If you are new to silver work, please register for one of the beginning pendant classes. If you are new to the group but have previous experience please e-mail me (debhoffmaster@gmail.com) to arrange orientation during a scheduled meeting. For more information contact Deb Hoffmaster moderator, debhoffmaster@gmail.com

Coming Events from Chetty King's Flyer Table

January 23-24-CINCINNATI, OHIO: Annual show; Intergalactic Bead Show, Sharonville Convention Center ; 11355 Chester Rd. ; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$5; Looking for a relaxing way to spend the weekend? Then shop the Intergalactic Bead Show! Intergalactic Bead Shows unites beaders, jewelry makers and enthusiasts

with some of the world's finest and rarest beads as well as precious stones, gems and finished jewelry from all over the world. We provide buyers with a relaxing, beautiful ambiance in which to shop as well as high quality products from some of the best artisans in the industry. ; contact Shawna Whitson - e-mail: Info@beadshows.com; Web site: beadshows.com

See <http://www.rockngem.com/ShowDatesFiles/ShowDatesDisplayAll.php?ShowState=ALL> for more dates

Downloadable Jeweler's at-a-glance bench chart available as a .pdf from Rio Grande:

http://marketing.riogrande.com/acton/attachment/9764/f-0754/0/-/-/-/-/jewelers-chart-edited.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=Act-On+Software&utm_content=email&utm_campaign=Your%20new%20and%20improved%20At-A-Glance%20Bench%20Chart!&utm_term=Fixed%20chart&sid=ii5l7Pg3g

Fossils of strange species may reveal how worms evolved

The spiky 'mud dragon' that lived half a BILLION years ago: Fossils of strange species may reveal how worms evolved By Ellie Zolfagharifard for Dailymail.com

Fossils of a 535 million-year-old 'mud dragon' have been discovered in China. The creature had an armored body, rows of spines and a mouth ringed with sharp teeth, causing some to liken it to the terrifying sandworms from the 'Dune' sci-fi novels. But while its appearance may sound fearsome, the marine creature was just a few millimeters in length and an early ancestor to today's 'kinorhynch'. The discovery, made by researchers in China's Nanjiang County, could

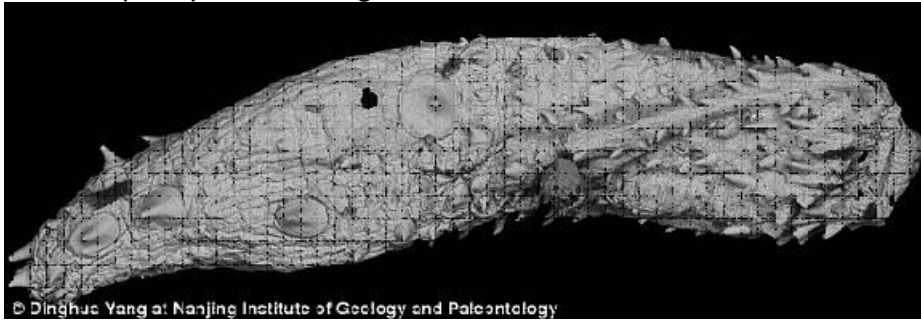


provide important clues on how creatures with segmented bodies, such as worms, evolved.

The area studied was once covered by a phosphate-rich ocean, where the newly-discovered creature, dubbed *Eokinorhynchus raru*, thrived. 'These tiny worms probably lived in the interstitial spaces within sandy sediments, so they likely used the spiky spines to anchor themselves when navigating among sand grains,' Virginia Tech's Shuhai Xiao told IFLScience. 'They may have also functioned as defensive structures.'

The phosphate in the oceans fossilized the worm-like creatures, causing their bodies to transform into the same material that makes teeth and bones, according to an in-depth report by Live Science.

Today, around 240 kinorhynch species exist, and their bodies are divided into three segments; the head, the neck and the trunk. The head includes a mouth cone with circlets of teeth, and the trunk is further split up into 11 segments.



Earlier studies suggested that the species diverged just before the Cambrian, but, up until now, no kinorhynch fossils have been found.

The team found a number of similarities between the new extinct species and today's kinorhynchs to suggest that they

may be related. Both creatures have trunks that are divided into segments, each made up of small plates. They also both have hollow spines called spinose sclerites. The main difference is that *E. rarus* has five pairs of large spikes arranged around the trunk, one spine located in the middle of its body and two pairs of spines located near the anus.

Despite being around for a billion years, the fossil record of kinorhynchs has huge gaps. The latest discovery could help provide a clearer understanding of the species, as well as provide vital clues to how segmented bodied evolved.

Reprinted with modifications from: Rock Talk, December, 2015 via

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-3335440/The-spiky-mud-dragon-lived-half-BILLION-years-ago-Fossils-strange-species-reveal-worms-evolved.html>

MICHIGAN SEPTARIAN AS A MINERAL? by Kevin Ponzio, Mineralogy Chair, Midwest Federation

For years, lapidarians have been polishing Michigan septarians, but they also have interesting minerals within them. The Michigan septarian nodules, a.k.a. "Lightning Stones," are attractive when polished. They can be found primarily in Allegan County, Michigan. The nodules are most prolific around Glenn, Michigan and surrounding communities. This includes the shoreline of Lake Michigan. The septarian nodules are in such abundance that it is likely they will be around for years to come.



For decades, they have been on display and for sale at rock and gem shows. I have been given some as gifts and have bought some, too. Initially, I would look at them and see the calcite filled cracks that had been polished. Then I began to see that there were other minerals in the calcite. The first to catch my eye was golden chalcopyrite crystals. To date, all the septarian nodules with

chalcopryite crystals have been a tetrahedral crystal habit. Chalcopryite wasn't the only sulfide mineral that I observed. Sphalerite crystals were also in some of the nodules.

Patty Valentine, of the tulip City Gem & Mineral Club, pointed out some pink orbs in the calcite filled cracks that she had found. It just looked like an iron stain at a glance. I decided to take a closer look at the samples when I returned home. A closer look under the microscope revealed a little more to me. The pink orbs measured about 2 to 4 millimeters in diameter. The orbs seemed to exhibit a radiating bladed pattern and have a pearly luster, unlike the surrounding calcite. I thought to myself, "It looks a lot like barite." The specimen was a broken piece not suitable for lapidary. I put the specimen with the orbs into a bucket of diluted Muriatic acid to dissolve the calcite and see if the orb would remain. A short

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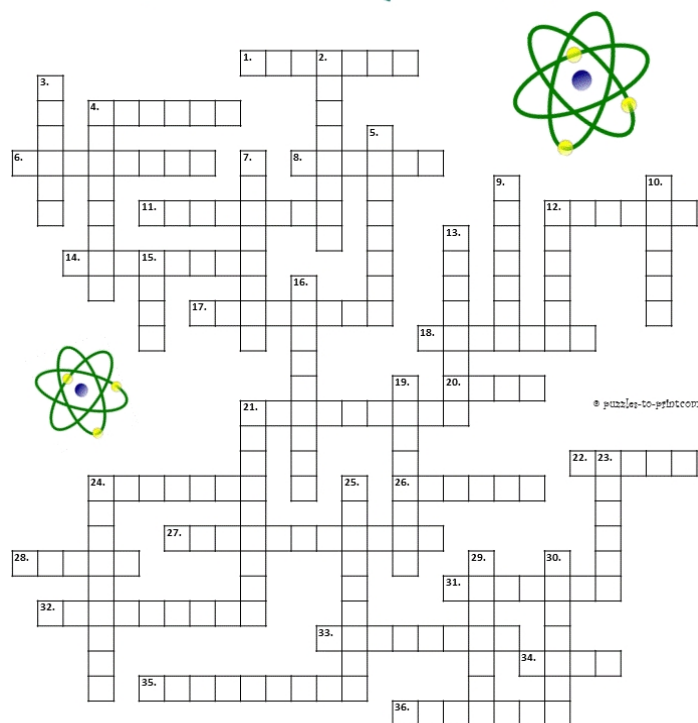
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6. V	18. Br	27. P	35. Ge	4. Sc	13. Cl	24. Sr	
8. Na	20. Ne	28. Ar	36. Ca	5. Ti	15. Fe	25. Be	
11. F	21. Mn	31. Kr		7. Cr	16. Zr	29. As	

time later, the sample had stopped fizzing in the acid. I removed it and placed it in a baking soda solution to neutralize the acid. As I rinsed off the specimen, I could see that the pink orbs were still there. Now I could see bladed terminations on the outside of the orbs. The outer blades were superb twinned barite crystals that had grown into rosettes! (Barite Roses) The orbs are an incomplete, pink aggregate growth of barite, measuring in the center at about 1 to 2 millimeters. This primary growth acted as the seed for the 2- to 8-millimeter milky white barite crystal blades on the outside of the rose. It appears that the center barite was partially dissolved and may have aided in the outer secondary growth development. A sulfate mineral could be added to the list. In addition to the barite roses, microscopic brick red bladed barite crystals lined the surface of the space where the calcite was removed. A 12 millimeter sphalerite crystal was also visible in the calcite void. The study specimen was an elongated nodule with two septarian cavities completely separated. The second cavity was completely void of any minerals other than calcite.

With the additional minerals I observed in just a few samples, I feel that more study of the

septarian nodules is definitely needed. There may be some minerals that are yet to be discovered! From now on, when I see a polished septarian nodule, I will think of it as both a beautiful lapidary specimen and a mineral! Reprinted with modifications from: MWF News December 2015, Issue No. 547

January						2016
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 No metalcraft	4	5 Extreme beaders 9AM No Faceteers	6 Gemcraft 6:30PM	7 Gemcraft 12 noon	8	9 Introduction to Faceting Chet King
10 Introduction to Faceting - Chet King	11	12 Extreme beaders 9AM	13 Gemcraft 6:30PM	14 Gemcraft 12 noon Metalcraft 6:30	15	16
17 Metalcraft 1:30	18 No beaders	19 Extreme beaders 9AM No faceteers	20 Club meeting 7PM	21 Gemcraft 12 noon	22	23
24 Juniors 1PM	25	26 Extreme beaders 9AM	27 Gemcraft 6:30PM	28 Gemcraft 12 noon Metalcraft 6:30	29	30
31						