

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

The Badger Lapidary and Geological Society, Inc.

Monroe, Wisconsin

Devoted to the Earth Sciences

Vol. 54, No 8

October 2019

President's Message

Hi Badgers,

Hope the fall is off to a wonderful start! It's been a bit on the wet side here.....torrential rains washed out our gravel driveway, creating the Grand Canyon of Wisconsin! Fortunately, my wonderful neighbor brought over a Bobcat and turned it back into a relatively smooth driveway. So if you come to Lapidary Day on October 12th, you won't be swallowed by the giant canyons in our driveway. Lapidary Day is always a fun time, we'll have tons of machines running for everyone to try, great food and of course, a bunch of fun people.....you can even take a cute & fuzzy kitten home with you this year :

) Remember to bring a dish to share for lunch and to RSVP so we have an idea of how many to expect.

Before the fun of Lapidary Day, about a dozen members from the Badger Club are heading south on the Great Georgia Adventure. The Hogg Mine & Graves Mountain are ready to yield their treasures to the crew from Wisconsin. There's still time to join in the fun, just let me know!!

Finally, on Oct 26th, we have our last field trip of 2019! We are currently planning to go to the quarry near Bellevue, IA since this trip was cancelled due to a blizzard in April! Watch your emails for times, meeting places, etc and keep your fingers that we don't get snowed out again!! I'm pretty sure I will need to have a few words with Mother Nature if we do.

Have a wonderful October and hope to see everyone soon,

Laurie
BLGS Pres

*Fall has arrived at
The Badger Diggin's.
Keep rockin'*

*Tamara Unger-Peterson
Newsletter Editor*



1 Just for Fun.... Courtesy of Cathy Romeis

Officer Roster:

President

Laurie Trocke
4771 CTH II
Highland, WI 53543
608-935-0597
laurie.trocke@landsend.com

Vice-President

Cliff Thomas
3321 W Loomis Rd., Apt. 5
Milwaukee, WI 53221
414-982-8619
Cliftco06@hotmail.com

Secretary

Tamara Unger-Peterson
3626 Falcon Ridge Dr.
Janesville, WI 53548
tungerpete@gmail.com

Treasurer

Jack Hoxie
500 W. Milwaukee St.
Janesville, WI 53548
608-563-0223
jhoxie@hotmail.com

Officer at Large

Clay Schroll
1795 S. Demeter Dr.
Freeport, IL 61032
815-233-2136
Mrclay71@me.com

Field Trip Chair

Dan Trocke
4771 CTH II
Highland, WI 53543
608-935-0597
Dan.trocke@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Tamara Unger-Peterson
3626 Falcon Ridge Dr.
Janesville, WI 53548
tungerpete@gmail.com

BLGS 2019 Calendar of Events

- Oct 4-6:** **Field Trip: Graves Mountain, GA & Hogg Mine**
- Oct 12:** **Meeting: Lapidary Day, Trocke's Farm**
- Oct 26:** **Field Trip – Cave Trip (location tbd)**
- Nov 11:** **Meeting: Speaker (TBD)**
- Dec 14:** **Meeting: Annual Christmas Party**

There is not a field trip in November or December due to the Holidays

September Meeting Minutes

Call to Order by President, Laurie Trocke at 11:00am

Approve minutes

Minutes were published in the last newsletter. Jordan Marche made motion to approve. Cheri Zahn seconded motion,. Minutes approved.

Announcements

Photos for calendar will be taken at today's meeting and Lapidary Day. Thank you Gwyn for taking pics.

Treasurer's Report

We have about \$4000 in the bank

Old Business

Update on Georgia Trip – The trip is shaping up nicely, and an itinerary will be sent

First Door Prize

Chrysocola – Ted Tinker

New business

October meeting will be Lapidary Day – Potluck at the Trocke farm in Dodgeville. Will have genie and titan, saws, smelter, etc.

October Field Trip

- Belleview quarry , tentative
- Jefferson club rock show, October 5-6

Snacks for November –

Andrew Jacobson (new member), Kim Schneider, Dave/Sue Cress

Second Door Prize

Mark Wolf, fish fossil

Show Business (Laurie)

Sign-up for planning teams was passed around

- 2 speakers lined up
- Contract for Fairgrounds has been signed
- We will have Food Trucks and have reached out to the several that are in Janesville and secured their commitment
- Committees – Looking for Volunteers

Third Door Prize

Kim Schneider , Arkansas Quartz

Adjourn

Mark Wolf made motion to adjourn. Gwyn Padden-Lechten seconded. Meeting adjourned 1145

Submitted by Tamara Unger-Peterson

September Show & Tell

By Laurie Trocke

We had some fantastic items brought in to share at September's Show & Tell meeting.

Cliff Thomas brought some of the wonderful pieces of Amethyst that had mined in Thunder Bay. He had several of them displayed in cool 'floating' cases that he had recently found.

Jordan Marche' had several nice pieces from their summer travels to the east. He had Fluorite from

Peytonville, PA and Calcite from Mt. Pleasant Mills, PA. Most of the fluorite from these locations occur in inclusions within the white calcite.

Brian & Cheri Zahn brought a number of really interesting items. The first was a shortwave light set-up that Brian had made for Cheri to use in New Jersey. They also had a piece of Fluorescent Tugtupite from New Jersey as well as some fluorescent Sodalite. They also brought a very neat Stone Tree to share, a beautiful purple Lagoon Agate and a Victoria Stone necklace that was gorgeous.

Michelle Bender had several pieces that she has collected this summer. She had some Honey Comb Coral and a fantastic Chain Coral from the trip to Sturgeon Bay. She also had a very nice Calcite piece from a quarry in southwest Wisconsin.

Gwyn Padden-Lechten also had a number of great pieces from field trips this summer. She had Petosky Stones and Beach Stones with Copper from the Michigan trip; Emberlite from the Sturgeon Bay Trip; Sphalerite and Galena from Shullsburg; Calcite Geode/Vug from a quarry in southwest Wisconsin and an Agate that her son found in Bellevue last year.

Andrew Jacobson has just started collected and his main interest (at least at the moment) is fluorescents. He had some Emberlite from Janesville and one from Eagle River as well as some fluorescent gems from local coin and thrift stores.

Mark Wolf brought a huge piece of fluorescent sodalite as well as several smaller pieces from the Rock County area. He also had a couple of agatized geodes from the Sihla Quarry.

Dan Trocke brought a nice piece of Lepidodendron Root that he found in 3 pieces in 2 different areas in Utica, IL. They fit perfectly together and have been reunited. He also brought a collection of the treasures found at Graves Mountain, Ga, including Rutile and Iridescent Hematite. The other items he brought included an Oridant Skull that he's been cleaning out of the matrix rock; a piece of lab grown Magnesium ; and an amazing Vortex Marble from Raven Glass Works.

Lapidary Day - October 12

While the Badger club is known for its educational activities, collecting fieldtrips and splendid show, the club's real treasure is in the camaraderie of its intelligent, creative and fun loving people that make up its membership. In that spirit I hope that all Badger Club Members please accept our invitation to attend a Lapidary Party at the Dan and Laurie Trocke family farm on Saturday, October 12th starting at 11:00 AM till the coyotes howl (late). I think we had our first Lapidary Day in 2008. It has become a wonderful club tradition! We'll plan to have a brief club meeting at 12:30 over lunch.

Please RSVP to dan.trocke@gmail.com with how many will be coming in your party so we can be prepared for the turn out.

If anyone would like to bring a side-dish or desert to pass, drinks and a folding chair if you have one that would be appreciated.

If you have one of the club lapidary machines and plan to attend, please bring the machine with. If you have a club machine and cannot attend, please contact me or another club member to arrange some kind of pick up. Thanks!

The Day's Events:

- Hands on Lapidary Workshop – cutting, grinding, polishing, cracking, trimming, tumbling, etc... Please bring some rocks, geodes if you have them and your ideas.
- Lunch provided: Grilled chicken, hamburgers, brats and potluck. Please bring a side-dish or desert to pass and a folding chair if you have one.
- Drinks provided: juice, milk, Long Island Iced Teas, and beer. ☑ Itinerant Petting zoo on site. Take a kitten home with you!!!
- Collecting Trip: Possible collecting trip to a nearby location.
- Mineral and Crystal Museum on hwy 23 near Governor Dodge State park open to visit.
- Dinner provided: Jambalaya stew and left-overs.
- Campfire: For those able to stay late and weather permitting we're planning to hang out around the camp fire once it gets dark and

enjoy the great company. Please plan to drink responsibly, car pool, or designate a driver.

- Camping: For those willing to brave the unpredictable October weather feel free to set up a tent and camp to eliminate the worry about the drive home.

Lapidary Machines available for you to use:

- 24" Diamond saw (Bring a big stone / boulder you've always wanted to cut)
- 16" Diamond saw (Bring a fist sized stone you've always wanted to cut)
- Belt sander on bench arbor
- Club 10" Diamond saw
- 6" Combination trim saw, grinding bench and polisher (old school bench set up)
- Club "Genie", 6 wheel, 6" grinder / polisher
- A rented "Titan", 6 wheel, 8" grinder / polisher

- 14 lb capacity vibratory tumbler (Do you have some quartz hardness agate or other similar hardness stones to be tumbled? Bring them with).
- Geode cracker
- Club Flat lap or vibratory lap
- Club Facetor
- Kids are welcome to try the machines, but must be assisted by an adult.
- If you have a lapidary machine, tool, rock or project you would like to show or share please bring it.

Donated rock quarry - pick out a rock to work on and take home. Feel free to take or dump unwanted rocks in this area behind the barn.

Directions: It takes about one hour and a half to drive from Janesville to our house, but it is a beautiful drive this time of year. **The address is: 4771 County Road II, Highland, WI 53543** From Madison take Hwy 18 / 151 to Dodgeville. Take the Hwy 18 Dodgeville exit #44. Stay on 18 through town. After going through Dodgeville, take your first right on County Hwy Q. Follow Q for about 6 miles then turn right on County Hwy II just before crossing the Otter Creek Bridge. Our Farm is the first house you will see on your right, second driveway.

We hope you will be able to join us. Your friends, Dan and Laurie Trocke Home Ph: 608-935-0597 Won't you hang out with us?

Searching for Pyrite in Utica Illinois

From Cherie and Brian Zahn

Off we go. It's the crack of dawn on Saturday August 24th, 2019. We are on our way for a 3½ hour trip to Utica to join participants in the Badger Lapidary field trip. We found hundreds of specimens. Some quite small. Some medium sized and a few large ones.....we also found some petrified pieces of wood with pyrite nodules on them. Many of the rocks turn to dust in our hands. So we looked for the pyrite that maintains its form when handled. We found out from someone else after the trip that you need to bathe the pyrite in Iron Out (you know...the powdered stuff in a little water) in order to stop the process that pyrite goes through to break itself down. We purchased a bottle of the stuff and have been putting the ones we found in there to stabilize them a little more. As we review what we found, we did pretty well. And yes, I walked on a part of the pit floor that was muddy and sunk in up to my shins.... It was an anxiety moment until someone suggested I crawl out....I did....but I looked like I was coated with German Chocolate frosting. Actually lots of mud....We stopped at a rock shop on the way out of town just before six P.M. Thanks to Laurie and Dan Trocke for organizing a field trip such as this for the club. Even if pyrite isn't your thing....the people you meet are so interesting and the camaraderie can't be beat. I loved our trip to the pit. Come to the next field trip and experience the fun!

October/November Rock & Gem Shows

October Shows

5-6: BELLEVILLE, MI Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society Rock Swap. Sat 10 am - 5 pm, Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Rd., Belleville. Contact: Bill Barr, (505) 803-4888, wbarr@umich.edu; Tom Morris, Jr., (313) 278-5063 www.mmls.us [FLYER](#)

5-6: JACKSONVILLE, AR Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral & Geology Society Annual Show. 9 am - 5 pm both days. Jacksonville Community Center, 5 Municipal Dr., Jacksonville. Contact: Lorri Norwood, shadowbearvision@aol.com

5-6: SPRINGFIELD, IL Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Orr Building, Illinois State Fairgrounds, 801 E. Sangamon Ave, Springfield. Contact: Ed Wagner, (309) 838-7782; loesseditor@gmail.com www.loess.org

6-7: OMAHA, NE Nebraska Mineral & Gem Club Annual Meeting. Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Westside Middle School, 8601 Arbor St., Omaha. Contact: Bruce Sturges, (402) 680-4051; bsturges@yahoo.com www.nerockgem.org

11-13: WARREN, MI Michigan Mineralogical Society Annual Show. Fri 9 am - 6 pm; Sat 10 am - 7 pm; Sun 11 am - 5 pm. Macomb Sports & Expo Center, Bldg P, 14500 E. 12 Mile Rd., Warren. Contact: John Peters, (313) 255-7774; joopett13@hotmail.com www.michmin.org

12-13: CLEVELAND, OH Parma Lapidary Club Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 4 pm; Sun Noon - 4 pm. Parma Lapidary Club, 2130 W. 110th St., Cleveland. Contact: Amanda Balog, parmalapidary@yahoo.com www.parmalapidary.org

12-13: COLUMBUS, NE The Loup Valley Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. First United Methodist Outreach Center, 3602 -16th St., Columbus. Contact: Greg Johnson, (402) 270-0791; loupvalleynew@gmail.com

18-20: FORT WAYNE, IN Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show. Fri & Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Allen County Fairgrounds, 2726 Carroll Rd., Fort Wayne. Contact: Russell Greim, (260) 403-0450; 3riversshow@gmail.com www.3riversgemmineral.tripod.com

19-20: SPRINGFIELD, MO Ozark Mountain Gem & Mineral Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4:30 pm. Springfield Expo Convention Center, 333 S. John Q. Hammon Parkway, Springfield. Contact: Larry Lillich, omgms.57@gmail.com www.omgms.rocks

18-20: MASON, MI Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society Annual Show. Fri 6 - 9 pm; Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 11 am - 5 pm. Ingham County Fairgrounds, Main Arena, 700 Ash St., Mason. Contact: L. Roger Laylin, (517) 349-3249 www.michrocks.org

19-20: CLIO, MI Flint Rock & Gem Club Annual Show. Sat & Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Carter Middle School, Rogers Lodge Dr.,

Clio. Contact: Bill Wendling, (810) 638-5796, bwrockbarn@centurytel.net www.flintrockandgem.org

19-20: COTTAGE GROVE, MN Minnesota Mineral Club Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. National Guard Training & Community Center, 8180 Belden Blvd., Cottage Grove. Contact: Maureen Scaglia, mascaglia@comcast.net

19-20: DES MOINES, IA Des Moines Lapidary Society Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Iowa State Fairgrounds, Knapp Animal Learning Center, North Gate at E33rd St. & E. University, Des Moines. Contact: Ken Belzer, dmls.2019show@dmlapidary.org

19-20: CHICAGO HEIGHTS, IL South Suburban Earth Science Club Annual Show. 10 am - 5 pm both days. Prairie State College, 202 South Halsted St., Chicago Heights. Contact: Jan Podbielski, jan@janskidesigns.com

26: WOODBURY, MN St. Croix Rockhounds Semi Annual Show. 9 am - 1 pm. Valley Creek Mall, 1750 Weir Dr., St. Paul. Contact: David Rusterholz, (715) 760-0479

26-27: EVANSVILLE, IN Evansville Lapidary Society Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. CK Newsome Community Center, 100 E. Walnut St., Evansville. Contact: Sara Rappee, (812) 589-3079, sararappee@yahoo.com www.evansvillelapidarysociety.com

26-27: CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH Summit Lapidary Club and Akron Mineral Society Semi-Annual Show. 10 am - 5 pm both days. Emidio & Sons Expo Center, 48 East Bath Rd., Cuyahoga Falls. Contact: Gujo Kotch, (330) 929-3798; gemboree@outlook.com www.summitlapidaryclub.com

26-27: DAVENPORT, IA Blackhawk Gem & Mineral Club Semi Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 11 am - 4 pm. Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, 2815 W. Locust St., Davenport. Contact: Craig or Kellie Moore, (563) 299-5740; kalsinean@gmail.com

November Shows

1-3: CLEVELAND, OH Micromineral Society of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History Symposium. Fri 3 - 10 pm; Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 9:30 am - 3 pm. Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 1 Wade Oval, Univ. Circle, Cleveland. Contact: Janet Clifford, janet15clifford@gmail.com

2: TAYLOR, MI Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society Rock Swap. Sales tables 6 pm; Oral auction 7 pm. Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor. Contact: Dwayne Ferguson, (313) 550-9809, shelby0671111@yahoo.com www.mmls.us

2-3: MIDLAND, MI Mid Michigan Rock Club Annual Show. 10 am - 5 pm. Chippewa Nature Center, 400 S. Badour Rd., Midland. Contact: Debra Young, (989) 245-0343; debeyoung50@yahoo.com www.midmichrockclub.com

2-3: STURTEVANT, WI Racine Geological Society Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Fountain Banquet Hall, 8505 Durand Ave (Hwy 11), Sturtevant. Contact: John Lowman, (262) 989-9193; lowman.john@sbcglobal.net

9: QUINCY, IL Gem City Rock Club Annual Show. 10 am - 5 pm. Quincy Mall, 32nd & Broadway, Quincy. Contact: Brad Fanning, (217) 617-2751; bfanning58@yahoo.com

9-10: FREEPORT, IL North West Illinois Rock Club Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Highland Community College, 2998W. Pearl City Rd., Freeport. Contact: Brian Green, (815) 745-2228, bgreen57@hotmail.com NWILRockClubFRPT.BlogSpot.com

11: BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI Michigan Mineralogical Society Annual Auction. Cranbrook Institute of Science, 39221 Woodward Ave, Bloomfield Hills. Contact: Brad Zylman, (612) 600-9484; www.michmin.org

22-24: ST LOUIS, MO St. Louis Mineral & Gem Society Annual Show. Fri 3 - 7 pm; Sat 10 am - 7 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Afton White-Rodgers Community Center, 9801 Mackenzie Rd., St. Louis. Contact: Melissa Perucca, (636) 861-3865; melissa5301@aol.com www.strockclub.com

23-24: CRYSTAL, MN Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Crystal Community Center, 4800 Douglas Dr. N, Crystal. Contact: Martha Miss, (651) 459-0343; martha@rock-biz.biz

23-24: MADISON, WI Madison Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show. Sat 9:30 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Alliant Energy Center. Contact: Nevin Franke, (608) 251-2601; burniesrockshop@gmail.com www.madisonrockclub.org

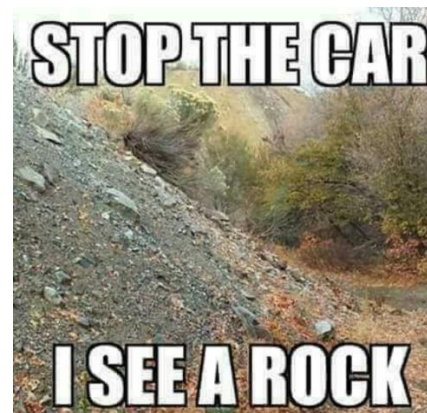


Figure 2 Just for Fun.... Courtesy of Cathy Romeis

Badger Lapidary & Geological Society, Inc.

Tamara Unger-Peterson, Editor

3626 Falcon Ridge Drive

Janesville, WI

53548

