

Rough 'n Tumbled Times



6/20/2019

Official Publication for the Northwest Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society

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Currently vacant, (this could you)

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NEXT MEETING...

THURSDAY – 6/20/2019

June - Silent Auction

Business Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month, March – November

<http://www.cameronamericanlegion.org/rockclub.html>





The President's Pen for June 20, 2019

Greetings fellow Rock Hounds,

What is it that makes a good organization great? It's people who aren't afraid to step up and help when it's needed, even better, its people who anticipate what needs to be done and go ahead and do it. I'm happy to say that our club is a group of such people. Whether it is the road side pick-up, setting up for our show, helping at the visitor's or kid's tables, or filling vacant positions, it always gets done. We still have a vacant Secretary position, but members have been filling in until the right person (that could be you), decides to take it on. Please let me know if you are interested.

Our next meeting on Thursday, June 20th at the Cameron American Legion post will be a Silent Auction. For those of you who are new to our club, it works like this. Members go through their collections of specimens and bring in those that they would like to sell (so they can purchase other specimens of course with those earnings), and decide on a selling price, (this is what they receive). Create a list for each specimen with the starting price; your name should be on that paper. During the auction, other members come around to inspect each specimen and bid on the item(s) they'd like to purchase. Bids should be increased in increments of .25 cents. Other members can up your bid, and you can come back and up their bid. After a certain amount of time I will end the bidding and you claim your specimen and pay for it. Anything over the starting price goes into the Club treasury. This is one of the few ways our Club makes money, so bid high and often. Many collections have grown in this way. It's fun, and usually you can get some good deals. So look through you rocks and bring some in to sell.

The last thing is that I'd like to place the order for name badges after this meeting. Here are the people who have signed up. The cost is \$8.00. Shawn Finley, Laura Finley, Bill Lea, Mike Smith, Allen Hanson, Kristie Kringle, Rylee Elbe, Deb Elbe, and Vayola Richie. Please let me know at by meeting time if you'd like to add your name or if you've changed your mind. I would encourage everyone to wear name badges to the meetings as it helps our new members know who we are. I would also like everyone to wear them at the show so that visitors can see the pride we take in our club, that many people belong, and so they can approach us to ask questions.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at this fun meeting.

Peace,
Dave

1961 – 2019 OUR CLUB IS 58 YEARS OLD!!

MINUTES FROM 5/16/19

Secretary's Notes by Temps Joe Elbe and Bill Lea May 16, 2019

The meeting called to order by Dave at 7:30. He welcomed eight new members. Many youth attended the Dirt Devil's meeting.

Secretary's Report: We are still in need of a Secretary. The April minutes were read by Brian. Mike Smith made a correction to the minutes. Brian made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction. Paul seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Roy Wickman reported that we have \$2307.36 in checking, \$134.98 in petty cash, \$632.45 in savings with a total of \$3074.80. Paul Tubbs motioned to accept the report, Brian B. seconded and the motion passed unopposed.

Editor's Report: Anita was not present. Dave reported that 4 postal mailings were made, while the rest were emailed.

Indianhead Club Report: Dave said that the meeting was held at the Luck Museum due to a scheduling mix up at the Senior Center. The topic was 'rock tumbling' tips. There were lots of new people at the meeting. Two members brought in rock tumblers to sell, which they did.

Chippewa Valley Club Report: Paul T. reported that the show at Eau Claire. Attendance was good. There was a dealer from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan who was selling Upperlite, apparently he was a 'card'. There was a workshop scheduled for the weekend at the clubhouse. The Club picnic is scheduled of the 4th at Mark Pierog's place. There is a swap meet scheduled August 24th at the fairgrounds. It will be advertised.

Old Business: The Roadside Trash pickup was discussed. While attendance has been better in the past only 3 members participated, which wa disappointing. While this is a very worthwhile activity, Dave wondered if the club had lost interest and we should discontinue this project. Bill Lea discussed the Pipestone Quarry in relationship to the roadside pickup. It was decided to continue this discussion.

New Business: Club name badges were discussed. The cost is \$8.00 per badge. A number of members have signed up to get one. We want to place the order in time to have them for our show in August. Let Dave know if you would like one.

We discussed a location for our annual picnic. Allen Hanson might be hosting it at his house. We should know soon.

We are looking for a theme for our show, one of our youth members suggested volcanoes, which could work nicely.

The Dirt Devils meeting was held downstairs at the same time as our business meeting. It was well attended, we had somewhere near 15 kids with parents or guardians. Kris did a program on Lake Superior agates and reported that the kids really seemed to enjoy it. Some of them stayed for the program and lunch after their meeting. Dave spoke to them after they joined us and told everyone that Rock Hounding is fun and that you never quit learning about the hobby. He also encouraged parents to join the club and that membership for kids is free with a paid adult.

Door Prizes were drawn and many members gave the prizes they had won to the youth members.

The meeting was adjourned and lunch was served. Kristy Kringle gave an interesting presentation on a historic breastplate, and the significance of the rocks attached.



OUR SUNSHINE PERSON:

Laura Finley

If you know anyone that has been ill or could use some sunshine in their lives – please contact us.

MEETING TIME -- 7:00 p.m. -- Just before the adult meeting

Dirt



Devils

Dirt Devils Chairpersons:

Kris Martin, Joyce Jacobson

If there will be children attending, please let us know BEFORE the day of the meeting.

For further information contact Kris at kristine.e.martin@hotmail.com

The following is a segment from "A Year Full of Gems!" by KK

JUNE

Natal stone.....Agate
Guardian angel.....Muriel
His talismanic gem....Emerald
Special apostle.....Thomas
His gem.....Beryl
Zodiacal sign..... Cancer
Flower..... Honeysuckle

Who comes with summer to this earth,
And owes to June her hour of birth,
With ring of agate on her hand
Can health, long life,
and wealth command.
Thro' the moss-agate's charm,
the happy years
Ne'er June's golden sunshine turn to tears.

As far as the 12 months go, June is a bit complex in the way of birthstones. Let us begin with the Agate which heads the list according to George Frederick Kunz. Since there are too many varieties to list them all here, we shall address only general issues regarding all species.

The name Agate comes from the Sicilian river Achates, and refers to rocks composed of the mineral Chalcedony, a cryptocrystalline variety of Quartz that often forms in striking patterns.

Agates were used for ornamentation and physical healing amulets dating back to Babylon. Their medicinal uses continued throughout Ancient Greek and Egyptian civilizations, spreading through Africa and the Middle East into Russia. Folklore mentions the use of Agates as early as the 8th Century. They were said to have the ability to secure the wearer from danger and protect children from harm. An Agate was often tied to the hair of an ass and attached to a baby's crib for this very reason. These pretty stones were believed to endow their owners with strength, courage and security

It was also thought that an Agate held in the mouth would relieve thirst and one applied to the forehead could reduce a fever. The story is told of a mother who weighed an Agate, then taped it to her son's brow while he rested in bed due to illness. The next morning, the boy's fever was gone, and (upon being reweighed) the stone was heavier by a few ounces- proof that it had absorbed the inflammation into itself.

On a personal note, I can attest to the healing powers of Agate, as I used one in a similar manner, combined with guided visualization techniques, to cure my daughter of a migraine headache in just a couple of hours. One she'd had previously had lasted two days! To date, she has not suffered from one since.

The traditional jewel assigned to June is the Alexandrite - the gem variety of the mineral Chrysoberyl that was named for Czar Alexander II of Russia. Various sources say it was discovered either on his birthday or upon his coming of age, one of which was in 1830.

Alexandrite displays an effect known as Pleochroism (appearing to change colors when viewed from different directions or in varying types of light.) The natural color ranges from emerald to yellowish or brownish green, but in candlelight (or any light source rich in red rays) it can appear anywhere from a fiery purplish to a turbid blood red. Green & Red were the Russian Imperial colors at the time of this mineral's discovery.

The original deposits of Alexandrite in the Ural mountains have been worked out, and today it is mainly mined in Sri Lanka and Rhodesia where it is becoming extremely rare. Because of the prohibitive cost, this stone is often synthetically made. A form of created Corundum with a color change of violet to red is often sold as Alexandrite. Since many people never have seen (and probably never will see) a natural Alexandrite, the Pearl has been named as an alternative birthstone for June.

A Pearl is an organic gem consisting of calcareous layers of Nacre which is composed of 92% Aragonite/Calcium Carbonate, 6% Conchiolin and about 2% water. Mother-of-Pearl (Abalone, Paua) has a similar chemical composition but with less Calcium Carbonate (about 66%) and more water (about 31%), and is used as the nucleus in cultured Pearls.

It is believed Pearls were known and esteemed 3500 years before Christ. Julius Ceasar has been reported to have paid the equivalent of \$300,000 for a single gem!

Mystically, Pearls symbolize the Moon and Water and have been used as protection against shark attacks. In early Chinese belief, Pearls fell from the sky when dragons fought among the clouds (i.e. during storms), and were subsequently swallowed by oysters. Another Eastern Legend, quoted by Pliny the Elder, a Roman scholar and gem expert who lived between 23-79 AD, is similar. It tells of how, during the Spring of the Year, oysters rose to the surface of the sea beneath the moon's rays, opened their shells and were fertilized by drops of dew (thought to be a product of the Divine tears of the Gods) which turned into Pearls.

Most round Pearls (up to 90%) are now "cultured" (grown) on huge Oyster farms. What is known as the Freshwater variety (or Rice Pearls) can be found in mollusks that inhabit waters such as the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico.

The color of each Pearl is influenced by many factors - among them the mineral content of the water and the food supply of the oyster, but is always identical to the lining of the shell and is said to have its own specific attributes...Black and those with Blue tints are thought to bring luck to the owner, White confers good health, Lavender attracts love, Pink are worn to manifest an easy, comfortable life and Yellow Pearls bestow wealth and prosperity.

submitted by KK



***PLEASE PAY YOUR 2019 DUES NOW
THANK YOU.***

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – pass to anyone that might join

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ PH _____

Email Address _____

(CHILDREN ARE FREE WITH EACH PAID MEMBERSHIP)

Send \$8 for each adult member to:

Roy Wickman, 1127 7th St, Alma, WI 54805