

Rough 'n Tumbled Times



5/16/2019

Official Publication for the Northwest Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society

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NEXT MEETING...

THURSDAY – 5/16/2019

**May - Gemstones of the High Priest's Breast Plate
by Kristi Kringle**

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

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



philipmattin.etc



The President's Pen...

President's Message for 5/9/2019

Greetings fellow Rock Hounds,

We are off to a great start. At our last meeting, Roy presented a rock identification program. He had some amazing specimens and we all did our best to guess what they were. Some of us did better than others, I'm not mentioning names. Our annual roadside garbage pick up is this Saturday, May 11th. We will be meeting in front of the Rice Lake Office Max around 9:15 and head out to our section of County C at 10:00 sharp. The Weather Woman / Man promises us temps in the mid 60's and no rain. A great day for a hike and an opportunity to do something for Mother Nature. Please consider helping out. Many hands make for light work and it's fun to visit while we walk and pick up trash. We have had Dirt Devils members participate and enjoy it. Of course, there is the potential for an additional hike after we are done. The Blue Hills are an impressive natural area and the historic Pipestone Quarry is worth visiting. The First Nations People collected pipestone here to produce their sacred ceremonial pipes. The belief is that the stone is red from the blood of their ancestors. Come join us, you will be glad that you did. I hope to see you there and at our May 16th meeting where Kristy Kringle will be doing a program on rocks that covered a historic breast plate of armor.

Peace,
Dave

1961 – 2019 OUR CLUB IS 58 YEARS OLD!!

MINUTES FROM 4/18/19

Secretary notes taken by Allen Hanson, thank you Allen.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm by Dave Skrupky. Visitors Shawn and Laura Finley were acknowledged. Her interests are jewelry and gemstones. New members included Craig Christian, Faye and Evan ____, Tony and children Brant and Sonarisa.

The secretary's report was read and accepted. (Mike Schmidt and Bill Lea motioned).

Dave Skrupky discussed outdoor safety while rock hunting; lightning, in particular, was covered. Get indoors or in a car, do not shelter under a tree, get off a lake, stay away from any metal objects such as flag poles and fences. If caught in the outdoors, find a low spot preferably among small trees. The best treatment for someone stuck by lightning is mouth-to-mouth resuscitation since the direct current paralyzes breathing longer than the heart is stopped.

The treasurer's report was given: income included \$5 net for lunch, \$32 for dues, and a debit of \$11 to Dave S. for stamps. The checking account balance is 2307.37, savings 632.45, cash 93.95, making a total of 3033.80.

Newsletter Editor Anita reported on the newsletter production.

Laura Finley volunteered to be the **Sunshine Secretary**.

The Chippewa Valley show is April 27/38, and they have one workshop coming up after the next meeting.

Old Business: Best Find certificates were handed out to a number of winners. Name tags were discussed and a sign-up sheet was circulated. Meeting times were discussed, and a consensus of no change was obtained.

Allen Hanson reminded the group of the talk on May 9th, 6 pm, at the Interstate Education Center on the Mammoth Site in South Dakota. The next Indianhead meeting is May 6th, 7 pm, and will be a silent auction and information for beginner rock polishers.

New Business: Kristie Kringle volunteered to talk on the gems in the High Priest Breast Plate at the next meeting. June meeting is the silent auction. The July meeting is the picnic. The August meeting will discuss the rock show and a yet-to-be-named speaker, September speaker will be Al Barsness discussing lapidary techniques.

The annual roadside pickup is scheduled for May 11th, Saturday, meeting at the Rice Lake Office Max parking lot at 9:30, leaving at 10:00 sharp. A post-pickup activity such as visiting the pipestone mine, mounds park, or a picnic will be determined the day of the pick-up.

The educational portion of the meeting was provided by Roy Wickman--a quiz of 48 slabs of rocks and fossils. A few knew most of them, and most knew a few of them. The information was very useful and informative (and humbling).

Door prizes donated by Brian and Ray were given out.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Allen Hanson, Actg. Sec.

Addendum: if anyone wants to read my medical article on lightning, I will be glad to email them a copy. Allen Hanson, doc.allenhanson@yahoo.com.



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 Chairpersons:

Chris Martin, Joyce Jacobson

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

**For further information contact Chris at
or Joyce at**

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

April continued from last month's newsletter:

APRIL

Natal stone....Diamond/Sapphire
Guardian angel.....Ashmodei
His talismanic gem..... Topaz
Special apostle.....Phillip
His gem.....Carnelian
Zodiacal sign..... Taurus
Flower..... Daisy

Besides being known as the King of Gems, the **Diamond** has also been given the title of Gem of Winter. These sparkling beauties start out as crystals of pure Carbon which develop under immense heat & pressure. Because of the way Diamonds are formed, they contain very potent energies which, if they could be released, would cause an explosion of gigantic

proportions. This gem can be found in Kimberlite rich soil, more commonly called "Blue Ground." Evidence suggests that Diamonds form up to 125 miles deep within the earth, and some stones may be as much as 3 billion years old!

This mineral is the World's Hardest substance - 140 times harder than its closest relative, Corundum, and more than 1000 times harder than Quartz. 250 tons of ore must be mined and crushed to yield a single carat of gem Diamond.

Brazilian gold-diggers, who were passionate card players, used as their counters little colorless pebbles that glittered like dewdrops in the sun, never guessing that their weighty pebble-pouches represented far greater wealth than the gold dust they spent their lives patiently sieving out of the river sand. It wasn't until 1721 that the glittering counters were recognized for what they really were: gem-quality Brazilian Diamonds.

Diamonds are said to absorb all energies and should be cleared/ cleaned often. The Greeks named them Adamas which meant "untameable" & "hard." It was their everlasting quality and the belief they had the power to protect one from evil which led to the Diamond's traditional use in betrothal & wedding rings. Romans set the gem in Steel as a charm against insanity.

Next I would like to share two visions of the Diamond that Mr. Kunz relates in his book, "The Curious Lore of Precious Stones." The first gives an explanation of how it became known as the Gem of Winter & the other is a fanciful tale of how the very first Diamond was born... (These passages can be found on pages 325 and 326)

"The Diamond, the gem of winter, typifying the sun, is the gem of light. Its color is that of ice, and as the dewdrop or the drop of water from a mountain stream sparkles in the light of the sun, as the icicle sparkles in winter, and the stars on a cold winter night, so the diamond sparkles, illuminating all."

When the God of the Mines called his courtiers to bring him all known gems, he found them to be of all colors and tints, and of varying hardness's, such as the ruby, emerald, sapphire, etc. He took one of each; he crushed them; he compounded them, and said:

"Let this be something that will combine the beauty of all; yet it must be pure, and it must be invincible."

He spoke: and lo! the Diamond was born, pure as the dewdrop & invincible in hardness; but when its ray is resolved in the spectrum, it displays all the colors of the gems from which it was made.

"Mine," said the God, "must be the gem of the Universe; for my Queen I will create one that shall be the greatest gem of the sea, and for her he created the Pearl." (which is a gem of June)

MAY

Natal stone.....Emerald
Guardian angel.....Amriel
His talismanic gem-Carbuncle (Garnet)
Special apostle...Bartholemew
His gem.....Chrysolite (Peridot)
zodiacal sign..... Gemini
Flower..... Hawthorn

Who first beholds the light of day

In Spring's sweet flower'y month of May,
And wears an emerald all her life Shall
be a loved and happy wife.
No happier wife and mother in the land
Than she with emerald shining on her hand.

The name Emerald has been traced back to the Persian word Zummurrud, which means "green" & later to the Greek Smaragdos and Latin Smaragdus which both translate into "green stone."

Emeralds are basically the green variety of the mineral group Beryl which all are silicates of Beryllium and Aluminum. Emeralds owe their coloring to Chromium (Chromic oxide) and, at times, Vanadium. The color is very stable against light & heat and only alters at temps of 1292-1472 degrees Fahrenheit.

The finest Emeralds are located in Muzo and Chivor in Columbia, where they can be found in veins running through dark Shales and Limestones. This source was mined by the ancient Chibcha Indians who traded them with the Incas of Peru and the Aztecs of Mexico. There, in the early 1500s, the stones were seen by the Spanish who vowed to discover the source. In 1537 the Spanish Conquistadors took control of the Chivor mine and there followed a flooding of the beautiful green stones into Europe and Asia during the 16th Century.

Another source for Emeralds is Mica Schist, where deposits were found in the Ural Mountains of the USSR in the early 1800s. Many of these crystals have Mica and Amphibole inclusions. You may be surprised to learn that excellent Emerald crystals of magnificent color have been found in Alexander County, North Carolina. A congressman from there once urged the state to put in a railroad saying: "Up here in Alexander County we have precious stones so valuable that a June Bug can carry a fortune on its back." And that's how North Carolina got its June Bug Railroad!

The Emerald is considered the Gem of Spring and the birthstone for May because it is then that the lush green of nature is reflected in the stone's verdant coloring. This is believed to be very soothing to the eye, making Emeralds a popular stone for gazing into (early gem cutters would avert their eyes from their work periodically to look into an Emerald they kept on their lapidary tables solely for that purpose.) It has been said that doing so would relieve bleary, tired or weak eyes by relaxing the optic nerve, thus restoring normal sight. A variation on this is to place an Emerald in a glass of water and to focus on or gaze deeply upon its beautiful color. Afterwards the stone can be removed and the water can be drunk, thus spreading the healing properties of the green ray into the heart center and from there throughout the body.

It was once believed that the Emerald had the ability to reveal to one information as to whether their spouse or lover was being faithful to them or not:

"It is a gem that hath the power to show
If plighted lovers keep their troth or no
If faithful, it is like the leaves of Spring
If unfaithful, like those
leaves withering"

So sensitive was the stone felt to be in this respect that the following story is told of King Bela of Hungary, who possessed an exceptionally valuable Emerald set in a ring. It is said that, when the King embraced his wife while wearing the ring, the stone broke into three pieces. (Reference is to King Bela IV who reigned from 1235-1270)

Emerald has been known to confer the power to predict the future. To do this, the stone must be put under the tongue. Another attribute is its ability to strengthen ones memory. For this use, the lighter-colored stones were esteemed the best, and legend told they were brought from the "nest of griffons."

Many people considered an Emerald to be a powerful talisman, conferring wisdom, luck and prosperity in abundance upon its owner. One such stone - a magnificent rich deep green weighing 78 carats, once be- longed to the Mogul emperors of Delhi. It was found bearing this inscription carved in Persian: He who possesses this charm shall enjoy the special protection of God.

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, Almena, WI 54805

