

MWF News

Midwest Federation
of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

May 2019 - Issue No. 582

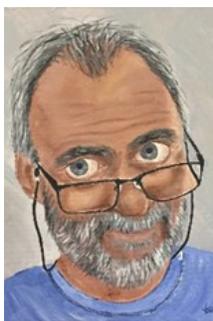
Web Site - www.amfed.org/mwf



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kevin Ponzio, MWF President

Hello Everyone! What can I say except, Bravo! The Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society both presented a wonderful show and made all of us in the MWF and AFMS feel at home! I would love to share this praise with every club in the MWF. Your club CAN do it! We would enjoy helping you. There are many future years to choose from. Plus, you'll have years to plan. I know many of you are rushing to send an entry on your computer or racing to the post office to mail your request. Awesome!



A warm welcome to Catherine Clevenz, our new Environment and Legislation Committee chair. This is such an important committee for all of us. Help her any chance you get. I know you'll be thinking of her every time you're on a field trip. Please remember, when contacting your legislators, to refer to yourself

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COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MINUTES

Donna Moore, MWF Secretary

[Editor's Note: Following are the minutes of the MWF Council of Delegates meeting that was held March 23, 2019, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.]

MWF President Kevin Ponzio called the meeting to order using the jade gavel. The invocation was given by J.C. Moore, past president.

John Donker, 1st Vice President, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

Kevin welcomed everyone and recognized the MWF past presidents and honored guests which included:

- Doug True, AFMS President
- Shirley Leeson, Past AFMS President
- Kathy Miller
- Bob Miller (also past AFMS President)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED

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and your group as “recreational rockhounds.” It’s always a fine line with the laws. Save our collecting lands.

Keith Peregrine stepped up, at the convention, as assistant for the Credentials Committee. He performed as though he’d been doing it for years! Welcome aboard! J.C. Moore is moving into the chairmanship of the Uniform Rules Committee. I’m sure he’ll do a stellar job, as he does with everything else.

Hmm? What’s going on here? Wait for it . . . Yes! There are still positions available. The Endowment, Club Rockhound of the Year and the Bulletin Editors’ Aids committees chair positions are open. And, with the BEAC, you get help for the first year. What could be easier? Don’t answer that. Remember that, as chair, you get to add/name as many assistants as you like. Sounds like a party to me!

One of the heart-warming moments of the convention was when we honored Barbara Sky with an Honorary Membership. Thank you, Barbara, for your continuous service to our hobby!

Congratulations to all this year’s award winners! You worked hard and succeeded. One of my favorite jobs as president is signing awards. If everyone tries next time, you could cause me to get numbing hand cramps signing awards. Let’s do it!

I’m pleased to report that, as I requested in the February issue, no one brought a gift cake for any of our committee chairs. But there were so many more activities at the convention, it would take two newsletters. I guess you had to be there. Cheer up, you can plan to be at the next one!

See you all next month!

MWF OFFICERS

President: Kevin Ponzio
Post Office Box 44
Plymouth, WI 53073
920-980-6413
earthprospect@frontier.net

1st VP: John Donker
29 Edgewood Avenue
Jenison, MI 49428
616-457-0556
jjredon65@comcast.net

2nd VP: Susan Stanforth
850 Palau Parkway
Rockford, IL 61108
815-229-4009
sstanforth123@yahoo.com

Secretary: Donna Moore
25235 N. State Route 97
Cuba, IL 61427
309-789-6501
mwfsecretary@gmail.com

Treasurer: Sandy Fuller
8445 Grange Boulevard
Cottage Grove, MN 55016
651-459-0343
mwftras@rock-biz.biz

EDITOR'S CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Sharon Marburger, MWF Bulletin Editors’ Aids
Committee Chair

The results of the MWF Bulletin Editor’s Contest were announced, in conjunction with the American Federation awards, at an Editors’ Breakfast, held March 24, 2019, during the MWF Convention in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

I discovered at the breakfast that I had two awards certificates with incorrect information. Those certificates have been corrected and will be mailed to the appropriate editors. Also, all certificates are being reissued because I failed to get the president’s signature. The signed certificates will also be sent to the appropriate editors.

Eight editors submitted 13 items to be judged. The 2019 panel of judges consisted of Christina Jungren (Oklahoma); Olivia Provence (California); Valerie J. Meyers (Missouri); and Kate Swanson, Robert Swanson, James Marburger, and Sharon

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June Issue Submission Deadline Is May 8th!



2018 BULLETIN EDITOR'S CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 2)

Marburger (Nebraska). All entries were judged by a minimum of two judges who did not confer with one another, and the scores averaged.

Ranking is determined by a points system. The highest score falling between 90 and 100 in a category achieves first place and the other entries follow according to score. (For example, if there are 11 entries in a category, there could very well be awards from 1st to 11th place, provided they all scored above 70.)

If the highest score in a category falls between 80 and 89, no first place is awarded, but the highest score achieves second place, with the other entries following according to score. If the highest score in a category falls between 70 and 79, no first or second place shall be awarded, but the highest score achieves third place, with the other entries following according to score. All entries with a score of 69 and below receive Honorable Mention.

In the 2018 competition, there was much hoopla and outcry about the prizes awarded. I have provided this explanation of the scoring system to help entrants understand their ranking. Editors and authors should use the scores and comments provided by the judges to improve their writing and editing, not be discouraged by it. This competition is designed to be fun while offering constructive suggestions for betterment. Remember, your club bulletin is the backbone of your organization; without it, how would members keep informed and learn something new?

The following categories had no entries in the 2019 competition: Mini Bulletins, New Editor, Original Articles – Juniors Under Age 12, Original Junior Poetry, Drawn Features, and Special Publications.

Two publications were not eligible to compete in the MWF competition this year, due to having won first place in 2018. They were forwarded to the AFMS Bulletin Contest as Direct Entries. Likewise, two entries competed at the MWF level but were not sent to the AFMS as those authors were winners at the national level in 2018.

SMALL BULLETINS

- 1st Place** **The Pick and Dop Stick.** Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society (IL), Rachele L. Best, editor.
- 2nd Place** **The Quarry.** Cincinnati Mineral Society (OH), Jim and Judy Budnik, editors.

LARGE BULLETINS

- 1st Place:** **Rock Rustler's News.** Minnesota Mineral Club, John Porter, editor.
- 2nd Place:** **Ozark Earth Science Club News.** Ozark Earth Science Club (AR), Madelyn Anderson, editor.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES – ADULT ADVANCED

- 1st Place:** **Fluorescent Uranium Glass** by Rachele L. Best, Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society (IL).

ORIGINAL ARTICLES – ADULT

- 1st Place:** **Montana Agates** by Bev Jenkins, Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (IN).
- 2nd Place:** **Rockhounding in the South Dakota Grasslands** by Aletha Hoogeterp, Sioux Empire Gem and Mineral Society (SD).

ORIGINAL JUNIOR ARTICLES, AGES 12-17

- 1st Place:** **Odd Ones Out in the World of Minerals** by Brandon Poy, Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society (IL).

WRITTEN FEATURES

- 2nd Place:** **“Field Tripping” on a Shoestring** by Nancy Carper, Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (IN).
- 3rd Place:** **Inferno (Part II)** by Marilyn Russel, Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (IN).

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COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MINUTES, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

Sandy Fuller (also immediate past AFMS President)

J.C. Moore

Cindy Root

David Root

Dennis Westman

Kevin then read the list of those rockhound friends who had passed away since the last meeting of the Council of Delegates. Those included Lloyd Brown, Wisconsin Geological Society; Connie Velpel, Peoria Academy of Science, Geology Section; Lois Zima, Des Plaines Valley Geological Society; Aulden Stewart and Glenn Lyman, Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club; Dorothy Kubat, Show Me Gems & Minerals Club; Allen Lundgren, Honorary Life Member of Minnesota Mineral Club and member of Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club; Don and Muriel Brandt, Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club and Minnesota Mineral Club; Bruce Strohschein, Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club and Minnesota Mineral Club; Dr. Gene LaBerge, Oshkosh Gem and Mineral Club, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh; Marie Zigler, Three Rivers Gem and Mineral Society; Estel Jones, Eastern Indiana Gem and Geological Society; Johanna Blowers and Christine Ott, Northwest Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society; Roger Kehret, Ozark Earth Science Club; Donna Reese, Rock River Valley Gem & Mineral Society; Milton Wilson, Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society; Donald Sommerfield, Tri-County Rocks & Mineral Society; Jay Ross, Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society; the Iowa Chapter of the Gold Prospectors Association of America lost Timmy Leroy Hopkins; Fred Holbert, Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club.

Parliamentarian Cindy Root reviewed the rules of the meeting.

Donna Moore, Secretary, reported that the minutes of the 2018 Council of Delegates meeting had been printed in the MWF News. Copies were also on the table for anyone who wished a copy. Pierre Couture moved to accept the minutes as printed. Sandy Fuller seconded the motion, which carried.

Treasurer Sandy Fuller said the printed reports were on the information table. They included the year-to-date actual income and expenses. She also had a comparison to actuals last year and the year before. She was expecting to receive the bill for approximately \$28,000 for insurance any day. She had included the number of clubs that had renewed, which was 116. Adult members had increased by 300. There were 884 youth, which also showed an increase. J.C. Moore moved to accept the treasurer's report. George Coursey seconded the motion, which carried.

Susan Stanforth gave a short review of the State Directors meeting which included George and Deb Coursey Illinois State Directors, and herself, Illinois Assistant Director; Betty Novak, Illinois Assistant; Michele Yamanaka, Assistant from Indiana; Dennis Westman, Director from Minnesota; Harlan and Aletha Hoogeterp, Directors from North Dakota and South Dakota; Julia Donker, Assistant from Michigan; and Sharon Marburger, Assistant for Nebraska. Most had reported shows doing well with increased attendance, often attributed to social media. There was concern over lack of places for field trips. Many clubs are having problems getting volunteers to serve as officers and in other positions. Ideas were shared on how clubs are doing advertising and other means they were using to get the word out about shows.

John Donker, 1st Vice President, asked for reports from Permanent Committees.

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EDITOR'S CONTEST WINNERS, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 3)

POETRY – ADULT

- 1st Place:** **Malachite** by Janet Norse, Show-Me Rockhounds of Kansas City (MO).
- 2nd Place:** **Oh, Simple Opal** by Antonio Peso, Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society (IL).
- 3rd Place:** **Eons of Eras** by Rick L. Janssen, Sioux Empire Gem and Mineral Society (SD).

COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MINUTES CONTINUED (PERMANENT COMMITTEE REPORTS)

(Continued from page 4)

Archaeology – No report.

Boundaries – Bob Miller reported that no issues had been reported.

Bulletin Editors' Aids – Sharon Marburger reported that the awards for the annual contest would be given out at the Editor's Breakfast on Sunday. She would like to be replaced in this position.

Club Rockhound of the Year – No report.

Conventions and Show Advisory – J.C. Moore reported he would cover this later in the meeting.

Credentials – Keith Peregrine was filling in for Tony Kapta, who was ill. We had a quorum.

Director of Supplies – Andrea Morehead was not present, but sent a report that supplies are all listed on the MWF Website. If anyone needs anything, contact her.

Directory – Sandy Fuller reported for Martha Miss that the new directory would be printed and mailed very soon.

Education – No report.

Endowment – Alan Hukill had sent a treasurer's report. A new Endowment Fund Chairman is needed.

Environment and Legislation – Kevin introduced the new chairman, Catherine Clevenz.

Geology – Dr. Bill Cordua continues to write articles for the MWF Bulletin as well as other newsletters.

Historian – Cindy Root added to her written report by asking members to send her an email to gain access to articles, photos, etc. that are stored on the cloud. Just be sure to give credit if you use any of the material.

Insurance – No report.

Junior Activities – No report.

Lapidary Arts – David Root had a written report that he still maintains a database of persons who are available to answer questions regarding the various lapidary skills.



Like making a gorgeous azurite-malachite cabochon, perhaps? Photo by Gemstones, via Wikimedia Commons.

Long Range Planning – No report.

Membership – Sharon Marburger reported for her husband Jim, who was a dealer at the show, that we had voted to accept a new club in Decatur, Illinois. Another club had expressed interest, but Jim had not heard back. He had a written report.

Merit Awards – J.C. Moore reported for Mary Ann Rich that there were no entries in the All American Awards Contest this year, probably because of the early deadline.

Mineralogy – Kevin Ponzio noted that Kreigh Tomaszewski is an assistant for this committee.

Newsletter – Valerie offered thanks for sending club information to her. The deadline for the May issue is April 3.

Paleontology – No report. The new chairman, Debbie Hamilton, was not able to attend because of family illness.

Program Competition – Cindy Root had nothing to add to her written report. Marge Collins

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SOCIAL MEDIA ALLOW ROCKHOUDS TO STAY CONNECTED

Donald Baumgartner, Assistant Chair
MWF Paleontology Committee

Certainly, we rockhounds have a passion for minerals and/or fossils, and continually seek that “fix” through field trips, club activities, live auctions, shows, eBay/Etsy purchases, educating school children, and more. In years past, particular email host sites (Yahoo, Google) also allowed the formation of email group lists so we could further share our passion/addiction and disseminate information, but the use of these groups has faded with the advent and widespread acceptance of social media [Facebook (FB) specifically].

If you are not connected these days to FB and the numerous rockhound groups out there, you are missing out on various announcements, reports on new discoveries, amateur and professional dialogue, occasional sales of specimens, and more. Certainly, there are numerous silly and non-informative posts to sift through on the rock groups’ pages, but I bet that daily you will discover something new and of interest.

You do not have to have a huge number of “friends” to use FB. Over the years, I have reduced my FB friends to a mere dozen, and I use FB mostly to satisfy my fossil hobby interests.

As a “fossil nut,” I am a member of several FB fossil groups that interest me. I enjoy reading the posts about new discoveries and new research, or just viewing fantastic specimens that people show off. The professionals have their own FB pages on which they post at times, and occasionally you can monitor or engage in professional discussions.

Many geological clubs and professional associations have FB pages and post interesting news and announcements. In fact, some clubs rely only on FB for member communications, announcements, and show advertisements.

The following are some FB groups that may interest fossil lovers like myself (list of member numbers current as of March 6th). FB also hosts groups for minerals and crystals. That stuff really has no interest to me, but may to you.

Association of Applied Paleontological Science
(1,213 members)

Dinosaurs (17,094)

Fossils and Minerals for trade/sale (779)

Fossil Collectors (6,760)

Green River Fossils (1,523)

Midwest Federation (391)

Paleoartists (11,838)

Paleontology (34,747)

Pleistocene Megafauna (260)



Skeleton of Smilodon fatalis at the University of Michigan Exhibit Museum. Photo by Matt Rolfes, via the Pleistocene Megafauna Facebook page.

The Cambrian Period (233)

The Carboniferous (2,115)

The Devonian (2,100)

The Ediacaran Period (899)

The Jurassic (774)

The Ordovician (2,134)

The Precambrian (522)

Trilobites (7,546)

Membership in groups varies, depending how the group was set up and the preferences of the site manager. Some groups are instant access when you hit the “like” or “join” buttons. In others, you have to petition the site manager to join, and wait for acceptance. And there are groups you can join, but in which you are not allowed to post. The latter I personally dislike the most as those sites are limited in

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SOCIAL MEDIA AND ROCKHOUNDS, CONT.

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content by the feelings of a single person and there is no possible engagement or discussion/involvement. Several groups really dislike posts by members that have nothing to do with the group subject, are vulgar and disrespectful, foul-mouthed, or who just express political views. Those “bad” members are often booted off the group immediately.

So, in conclusion, if you still live in the dark ages and fear social media, it is about time you pushed yourself and caught up to the 21st Century! Try it and I am sure that you will like it. Learning and challenging yourself is shown to keep us young (at least in mind). And for you seniors out there, just ask a friend or younger relative to help get connected. You will love it – I guarantee it! Face the truth. You are addicted, as am I. Anyone reading this has to be a “rock-head,” just looking for that next “fix” to get high!

Donald Baumgartner is a Medical Entomologist employed as a Life Scientist in pesticide regulation at the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Chicago. Donald is also Adjunct Faculty in Biology at W.R. Harper College in Palatine, Illinois, and is president of a small fossil retail company named The Fossil Hut Ltd., through which he sells common and unusual fossils throughout the upper Midwest at club rock shows.

NEW TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE SEEKS INPUT FROM CLUBS

Sandy Fuller, MWF Treasurer

The MWF has a new (or actually renamed) committee to assist clubs. The Publications Committee has become the Technology Resources Committee. And you are a member! In the fast pace of everyday changes all around us, it is often difficult to keep up with all the many technological advances that could benefit our clubs and members. Yet most of us have some pieces of the puzzle. So let's share.

As the coordinator for this initiative, I need your assistance. How is your club using technology? Are there things you have learned that others might want to emulate? Lessons learned that others should avoid learning? Pointers that could help others do things better? Okay, let's share.

Send your ideas and suggestions via email to me, mwftreas@rock-biz.biz. We will publish some of the ideas for easy access by everyone. Eventually, we will move some of this information to an online site for continuous access by those who choose to register and keep these resources handy.

SPOTLIGHT YOUR GREAT JUNIOR MEMBERS

By Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS and CFMS Juniors Chair

I write articles for the Kids' Page section of *Rock & Gem* magazine (the official hobby magazine of the AFMS). I have occasionally run articles about outstanding juniors in an informal series called “Spotlight on Juniors.” In the past few years, I've spotlighted seven kids, but I would like to spotlight many, many more. For this, I need your help!

The intent of my “Spotlight on Juniors” series is to highlight interests and accomplishments of kids, both to honor those who deserve special recognition and to provide role models for other kids. Do you have a pebble pup or junior member (up to age 18) in your society who is completely gung-ho about our hobby? If so, please contact me with names and details, along with a photo or two. I'll be happy to do a write-up on them for publication in *Rock & Gem Kids*.

As a start, consider kids that your club has nominated for Junior Rockhound of the Year within the regional and AFMS recognition program. I know that many such kids have been honored in this way in recent years. Please contact me (805-659-3577, jbraceth@roadrunner.com) and we will get the ball rolling on an article honoring and sharing the unique and individual fun and joy each child brings to our hobby!



FIELD-TRIPPING ON A SHOESTRING: YOU CAN STILL EAT DELICIOUS FOOD!

Nancy Carper, Vice President
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (IN)
From the June 2018 Strata Data

(Editor's Note: This article was an award winner in the Written Features category of the 2018 MWF Bulletin Editor's Contest.)

It is almost time for our big trip to New York! This will be the third one my daughter Angela and I have been on. It is such a great experience. I want to give you some tips that make our trips fun and save us money!

We freeze our drinks and use them in the cooler. Make sure you empty or drink some of each one to make room for expansion when freezing. It usually lasts all week! Plus it keeps our food cold in the cooler without melting and seeping into plastic bags or boxes.

We pack our food for breakfast and lunch. The evening meal we usually eat out. Breakfast: Bacon pre-cooked in the oven at 400 degrees for about 20 minutes. We warm it in the microwave as needed. Also we like individual egg omelets. Small containers of chopped onions, peppers, jalapenos, mushrooms and black olives are packed. Using half-pint deli containers, spray with Pam add some of each vegetable you want, microwave for about 20 seconds, add an egg and seasoning and microwave for about a minute and 15 seconds. Turn it upside down on a paper plate and add cheese. Ham or bacon can be added too. We are having our bacon on the side!

Lunch will go with us to our diggings. It will be lunch meat or ham sandwiches and 7-layer salad we have made in pint deli containers and put in the cooler with the frozen drinks. Any salad can be made in advance. The pint containers are just the right size for us.

We also have fruit, snack mix and drinks for when we go to digs, sometimes cut vegetables.

Some places (Arkansas was one) are dry counties. If you like a cold alcoholic beverage, take it with you. Arkansas was hot, in the 90s. Unknown to

me, Angela had put wine coolers in our refrigerator before we left. I seldom drink alcohol, but when she handed me one that had frozen into a slushee, it was welcome and cooling!

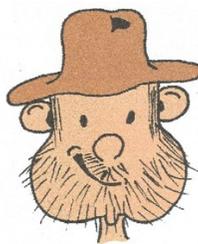
Plan and prepare ahead, both for food, tools and supplies. Check your route and allow extra travel time. Socialize with others as well as your own club members. They are a wealth of information! These trips are great for all ages. Enjoy the adventure!

SHOULD YOU GET MINI MINERS MONTHLY?

Sandy Fuller, MWF Treasurer

Clubs who renewed their Midwest Federation dues by January 15th should now be receiving a copy of Mini Miners Monthly, an email publication with fun activities for young rockhounds (of all ages). Subscriptions will run from April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020. Pages from the publication may be copied for use at club meetings or included in mailed copies of your newsletter. Please do not post any excerpts from the publication on a website.

Who receives the publication? Juniors program leaders got first chance at the subscription, if the club included their email. Second choice went to newsletter editors, third choice was club presidents, and final choice was the highest ranked officer for whom the club provided an email address. In a few cases, the club did not get a subscription because no email addresses were provided.



Diamond Dan is the symbol of Mini Miners Monthly. diamonddanpublications.net is the source of the photo.

If no one in your club is receiving Mini Miners Monthly, and you paid on time, contact me at mwftreas@rock-biz.biz (preferred method) or call 651-459-0343. Be prepared to verify the email address of the individual who should be receiving your copy.

COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MINUTES CONTINUED (PERMANENT COMMITTEE REPORTS)

(Continued from page 5)

noted that the AFMS has a new chairman for this committee who will be more active, so we may hear more about new programs. Also, if a club has access to a digital projector, they can use the CD programs available through the library. It is pretty easy to author a program using PowerPoint. The program library is not being used as it should be. We need new programs to be added. There is a \$200 cash prize for a winning program if the score is high enough. Live presentations could be recorded and added to the library. The AFMS is going to have the cut-off for competition on December 31st each year. However, programs can be submitted at any time. Cindy would like to step down from this position.

Program Requests – Pat Powers' report noted that only six programs had been borrowed since the last convention in October. She has slide programs that have been discontinued, which she will send to the author or club which did the program. Just e-mail her which one you want by number (see old directories for listing) and what address to mail it to.

Program Review – This committee is to review commercial programs that might be added to the library and make recommendations. If you have suggestions, contact the chairman.

Public Image – No report.

Publications – There will be an item in old business to eliminate this committee and replace it with Technology Resources.

Safety and Field Trips – No report from David Rich, who is in the Southwest on his own field trips.

Scholarship – Marge Collins had a written report. She would have certificates at the awards banquet for clubs who had met a new thousand-dollar level in their donations. She said the process for the scholarships is a bit complicated: the money is donated to the MWF, then she sends it on to the AFMS where it is pooled, and six federations each get two

scholarships, right now in the amount of \$4,000 each, to award. These are grants that are awarded to the specific students, not the school in general. The new MWF Honoree will be honored tonight and the two recipients will be introduced. Donations are needed at a constant rate. It can be a Living Memorial, doesn't have to be after someone passes away.

Silent Auction – Susan Stanforth encouraged the clubs to donate to the Silent Auction to help out. She noted she needs an assistant or two to help with the auctions at the conventions. She asked if people knew what the money from the auction was used for. It goes into the Endowment Fund, the interest from which funds special projects for the MWF, including part of the AFMS dues.

Uniform Rules – Jim Marburger has asked to step down from this position, which deals with the competitive exhibits.

Website – Cindy said she had just received eleven items to be updated on the website. She will be checking that the website agrees with the directory when it is mailed out in the near future.

She also reminded folks that when the dues forms come in from the clubs, if she can't read it, she can't put it on the website. She needs all the information. She received show information that had no dates. Look at your club page and let her know if there needs to be a correction made. If you don't let her know, it won't be corrected! Your club page can have pictures, your show flyer, etc. If something isn't working, let Cindy know.

Mention had been made of committee chairmanships that needed new chairmen. Michele Yamanaka asked why the Endowment Fund was so important. Sandy Fuller explained that money from the endowment fund interest is set aside for special projects. We use that to pay for the increase in MWF dues to the AFMS. Special publications were paid for by the Endowment Fund in the past. Subscriptions to Mini Miner's Monthly for each club that paid dues by

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COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MINUTES CONTINUED: CONVENTIONS AND OLD BUSINESS

(Continued from page 9)

January 15th and has juniors is being paid for by the Endowment Fund interest. These clubs will be receiving this for a full year.

The Endowment Fund Chair is the spokesperson and cheerleader for the fund. E-Bear is a way to support the fund. He has been auctioned off at meetings starting April 30, 2011. He has been traveling throughout the MWF, and beyond, since then. He has earned \$2,124.29.



With shades on and buttons from different clubs, E-Bear was ready to go when he was in Cedar Rapids! (He travels light.) Photo from the "About Us" page of the MWF website.

Conventions – J.C. Moore thanked the Cedar Valley Rock and Mineral Club for allowing us to come to Cedar Rapids this year.

He reported that the Springfield, Illinois convention went well last year. The club was pleased, but cautioned future hosts to pay attention to cost details.

The 2020 MWF Convention will be held in Howell, Michigan. Sherlynn Everly from the Livingston Gem & Mineral Society invited everyone to come September 18-20, 2020. They are located just about 60 miles northwest of Detroit, Michigan. There are many nearby things to see including the Henry Ford Museum, Greenfield Village, and the Cranbrook Museum. More information will be coming later.

Cathy Clevenz from Toledo, Ohio invited everyone to the Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club Show for the 2021 MWF Convention, September 10th through 12th, for their 50th-anniversary show. She said

they would love for everyone to come. They have a venue that is spacious and elegant.

David Root moved to accept the Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club bid to host the 2021 MWF Convention. Cindy Root seconded the motion, which carried.

J.C. suggested people go back to their home clubs and discuss possibly hosting a future convention. He noted it is great to get around and see what other clubs are doing and to make new friends. We all have the same addiction!

Old Business

At the 2018 Council meeting, there was a proposal to eliminate the Publications Permanent Committee. The proposal being suggested is to replace it with a Technology Resources Committee. This would include hints and resources, how to make better use of online resources, and help with Facebook, websites, social media, etc. This committee would also include the Website Contest Chair. Donna Moore moved to eliminate the Publications Committee and add a Technology Resources Committee. J.C. Moore seconded the motion, which carried.

Convention packets were not mailed to the clubs and Executive Committee Chairmen this year. It was felt that posting them on the MWF Website as well as the host club website would allow anyone wishing a packet to download it, saving printing costs, time and mailing costs for the MWF. The question was, did it work as well as going to the work of printing and mailing packets?

It was noted that an article in the newsletter offered for the secretary to print and mail information to any club that had no one who could download and print the information for their club members. Donna noted that at least 200 copies had to be printed and mailed when we did it by paper. There was a question about being able to register by e-mail. That would depend on the host club.

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**COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MINUTES CONTINUED: BARBARA SKY NAMED HONORARY MEMBER**

(Continued from page 10)

Kevin announced that a new club had been accepted into the MWF. Rockhounds of Central and Southern Illinois is in Decatur, Illinois.

David Root noted that he is looking for people to join the Executive Committee. Right now he and the nominating committee are searching for someone to serve as second vice president next year. This person should have served on the Executive Committee in the past or be serving presently. He noted that serving is fun, because you get to go where you wouldn't otherwise, maybe participate in some field trips, meet new people and go sight-seeing on the way or while there.

There was a short discussion about newsletters going by e-mail or snail mail. Valerie Meyers, MWF Newsletter Editor, said clubs have the option to request printed or e-mailed copies on the dues form. Some clubs make no choice. The MWF Newsletter is always posted on the MWF website at www.amfed.org/mwf if someone wants to see it. A club can receive two or three printed copies and as many email copies as they wish. Once a club member receives the email newsletter, he or she can forward it to the rest of the club members.

David Root noted that there is some concern with clubs being skittish about giving out contact information. J.C. Moore said there was a club that requested to have all their contact information removed from the website because of an email scam. However, the information they wanted taken off the MWF website was in their newsletters, which are on their club website.

New Business

Kevin asked AFMS President Doug True if he had a few words for the group. Doug said this was a great group. The host club had obviously put out a lot of work for their show and to host us all.

J.C. Moore reported that, at the AFMS business meeting the preceding day, some discussion was held about clubs that were out of boundary and some

disputes were being worked out. Also, inter-regional field trips are being worked out for 2020. Keep your eyes open for more information. The AFMS Convention for 2020 is not set yet, but may be in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Michele Yamanaka asked what an out-of-boundary club was. J.C. explained that the AFMS is divided into seven regional federations. Some clubs have petitioned to be included in a federation other than the one they physically lie in. The MWF has clubs in Arkansas that were originally in the South Central Federation. The AFMS is trying to keep peace among the federations.

After explaining the contributions Barbara Sky had given to the Midwest Federation, many of which were related to uniform rules and competitive exhibits, Donna Moore moved to have her name placed in nomination as an MWF Honorary Member. Sandy Fuller seconded the motion, which carried.

Shirley Leeson, President of the American Lands Access Association, spoke to the group about the importance of ALAA and why our clubs and members should belong. After a short explanation of the background of ALAA, she noted that they were starting a database about field trips. She is asking each field trip chairman to fill out forms each trip the club takes. There are two forms, one for government sites and one for private collecting sites. Send this information to Shirley after each field trip so information can be entered about the trip. This will create a third party with records about field trips if there is any problem. This will only be for ALAA's use, not public records.

"This data will be useful when asked to submit comments to Public Land Managers during the Public Comment Period on potential Public Land Access Closures proposals. Your information could save your collecting sites from route closures and access restrictions," according to the ALAA website, amlands.org.

(Continued on page 12)

COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MINUTES CONTINUED: ALAA PRESENTATION

(Continued from page 11)

The government entities talk about multiple entities. We are considered recreational rockhounds. We have to be responsible and only collect what we can use. There was trouble when some people were collecting by the truckload, then selling online. The Bureau of Land Management's Barstow Field Office in California saw the material being sold online. This does not help our cause to keep collecting sites open.



Orbicular rhyolite from East Ord Mountain in the Mojave Desert, one of the recreation areas controlled by the BLM's Barstow Field Office. Via Wikimedia Commons, photo by Rockman12 (who hopefully didn't screw the rest of us up by taking out truckloads of the stuff!).

Shirley stressed that ALAA is a 501(c)(5), not a part of the AFMS, but conceived by the AFMS. The field trip forms will be on the ALAA website, www.amlands.org.

Kevin Ponzio said we don't have a lot of land issues in the Midwest, but many of us like to travel out West to collect. Shirley stressed to let ALAA know right away if there is a threat of closing public lands. If aware, they will try to disseminate information. There is only a specific time frame for comments. Government agencies are usually pretty clear about where to send comments. Don't be afraid to contact the media – local television and newspapers. Copy the information to your local congressman. Get to know his or her staff.

ALAA has been working with off-roaders. We all use the same roads. We use them to get to the collecting sites.

She ended by complimenting the club and the show. She said the hospitality was the greatest.

Susan Stanforth gave out the certificates for the MICA Awards. These are the Member Increase Club Awards. Places are based on percentage of new members. AAA Class is clubs with 25 members or less, AA Class is for clubs with 26-100 members, and A Class is 101 or more members.

Sandy Fuller announced that she had membership cards available if a club had not received them and still wanted them.

J.C. Moore was still selling AFMS Endowment Drawing tickets. They were \$5 or 5 for \$20. (He is selling them again this year and will mail them to you if you wish to purchase some to help with the AFMS Endowment Fund.) The best known use of AFMS Endowment Fund funds is the AFMS Junior Badges Program.

Sherlynn Everly from Toledo asked if anyone had updated their by-laws recently. Her club wanted to update their by-laws and hoped to find some examples.

Susan Stanforth auctioned off E-Bear, the bear that travels throughout the federation after members bid for the privilege of taking him home with them. He often shows up on the MWF Facebook page on his travels.

Kathy Miller moved to adjourn the meeting. George Coursey seconded the motion. Kevin adjourned the meeting.

*June Issue Submission
Deadline Is May 8th!*



UPCOMING EVENTS

Date and Time	Organization	Place	Contact
April 20 Sat 9-1	St. Croix Rockhounds	Valley Creek Mall, 1750 Weir Drive, St. Paul, MN	Dave Rusterhaz, 715-760-0479
April 27-28 Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5	“Gemboree” co-sponsored by Akron Mineral Society and Summit Lapidary Club	Emidio & Sons Expo Center, 48 E. Bath, Cuyahoga Falls, OH	Sandy Shorter, sandyshorter25@gmail.com
April 27-28 Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4	Chippewa Valley Gem and Mineral Society	Eau Claire Expo Center, 5530 Fairview, Eau Claire, WI	Paul Tubbs, bizpam1@gmail.com
May 4-5 Sat 10-5, Sun noon-4	Blackhawk Gem & Mineral Club	Putnam Museum & Science Center, 1717 W. 12 th Street, Davenport, IA	Craig or Kellie Moore, Kalsinean@gmail.com
May 4-5 Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5	Cincinnati Mineral Society	Convention Center, 11355 Chester Road, Sharonville, OH	www.geofair.com
May 4-5 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4	Heart of Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society	Fieldhouse, Marshfield High School, 1401 Becker Road, Marshfield, WI	Cynthia Kelman, kelman@tznet.com
May 11-12 Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4	Cuyuna Rock Gem & Mineral Society	Curling Arena, County Fairgrounds, 2000 SE 13 th Street, Brainerd, MN	Sharon Smith, sharon@agatesrock.com
May 17-19 Fri & Sat 9-5, Sun 9-3	Tri-State Gem & Mineral Society	Joplin Museum, 504 Schifferdecker, Joplin, MO	Chris Wiseman, jmc-cwiseman@sbcglobal.net
May 18-19 Sat 9-6, Sun noon-6	Blossomland Gem and Mineral Society	Lake Michigan Catholic Elementary School, 316 Washington, St. Joseph, MI	Nancy Wolff, nancyswolff@hotmail.com
May 18-19 Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5	Parma Lapidary Club	Soccer Sportsplex, 31515 Lorain Ave., North Olmsted, OH	Holly Zewalk, parmalapidary@yahoo.com
May 18-19 Sat & Sun, 10-5	Wisconsin Geological Society	Muellner Bldg., Hart Park, 72 nd and State Street, Wauwatosa, WI	Paul Schmidt, pvs@wi.rr.com
May 25-26 Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5	Chicagoland Gems & Minerals Association	County Fairgrounds, 525 S. Randall, St. Charles, IL	Debby Ballot, demarrex1@att.net
May 31, June 1-2 Fri noon-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-4	State Line Gem & Mineral Society	Junior Fair Bldg., County Fairgrounds, 1814 SR 108, Wauseon, OH	Sherman Kardatzke, sakardatzke@gmail.com
June 1 Sat 10-4	Gem City Rock Club	Boudreaux Visitor Center, Mark Twain Lake, Monroe City, MO	Brad Fanning, bfanning58@yahoo.com
June 1-2 Sat & Sun 10-5	Coulee Rock Club	Omni Center, 255 Riders Club Road, Onalaska, WI	Allison Conrad, rockinbabe@acegroup.cc
June 1-2 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4	Ozark Mountain Gem & Mineral Society	Institute of Natural Science, 2327 W. Farm Road 190, Springfield, MO	Larry Lillich, omgms.57@gmail.com
June 8-9 Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5	Richland Lithic and Lapidary Society	County Fairgrounds, Arts & Crafts Bldg., 750 N. Home Road, Mansfield, OH	Tom Kottyan, TheMineralHouse@netzero.net



UPCOMING EVENTS

Date and Time	Organization	Place	Contact
June 14-16 Fri & Sat 9-6, Sun 9-4	Mineral Area Gem and Mineral Society	Missouri Mines State Historic Site, 4000 State Highway 32, Park Hills, MO	Boneta Hensley, mojellybean63@yahoo.com
June 15 Sat, 10-2	Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club	Parking lot, United Methodist Church, 16 2 nd Avenue SE, Osseo, MN	Martha Miss, info@rock-biz.biz
June 21-23 Fri 10-6:30, Sat 9-6:30, Sun 10-4	Lawrence County Rock Club	County Fairgrounds, U.S. Highway 50, Bedford, IN	lawrencecountyrockclub.org
June 28-30 Fri 2-6, Sat 9-6, Sun 9-3	Osage Rock & Mineral Club	Community Center, 309 E. 2 nd Street, Eldon, MO	Steve Rudloff, srudloff@fastmail.com
July 9-14 Tues-Sun, 10-7:30	Lake Agassiz Rock Club	Red River Valley Fair, 1805 Main Avenue West, West Fargo, ND	Chris Patenaude, lakeagzrc70@yahoo.com
July 13-14 Sat 9-5, Sun 10-3	Carlton County Gem & Mineral Club	Riverside Arena, 20 Earl Ellens Drive, Moose Lake, MN	Lynn Svercl, danlynnsunrisfarm@yahoo.com
July 19-20 Fri 10-6, Sat 9-5	Lakeland Gem & Mineral Club	Lakeland Union High School, 9573 Highway 70, Minocqua, WI	Ron Zimmer, rzimmer@charter.net
July 27 Sat, 9-2	Sioux Empire Gem and Mineral Society rock swap	Jack Fox Park, north of the county courthouse, Canton, SD	Harlan Hoogeterp, hhoogeterp@iw.net
July 27-28 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4	Indianhead Rock and Mineral Society	Frederic High School, 1437 Clam Falls, Frederic, WI	Roy Wickman, 715-357-3223
August 5-9	Copper Country Rock & Mineral Club Keeweenaw Week	Various locations on the Keeweenaw Peninsula in Michigan	Norm Gruber, ngruber@charter.net
Keeweenaw Week, sponsored by the Copper Country club, includes four field trips, metal detector training, lecture, and banquet and live auction. It is followed on August 9-11 by the club's annual show and silent auction, the location of which will be announced later.			
August 9-11 Reception Fri 4:30-8; Seminar Sat 8:30-5:30 and Sun 8:30-5	Midwest Faceters Guild Faceting Seminar	Tallmadge Township Hall, O-1451 Leonard Street, Grand Rapids, MI	Barbara Yost, midwestfaceters@gmail.com
August 10 Sat, 9-4	Flint Rock & Gem Club	Flint Rock & Gem Club, 11350 N. Saginaw Road, Clio, MI	Bill Wendling, bwrockbarn@centurytel.net
August 10-11 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4	Northwest Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society	Expo Building, County Fairgrounds, Highway 48 North, Rice Lake, WI	Dave Skrupky, dskrupky@centurytel.net
August 16-18 Fri 3-8, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5	Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs	Machinist Hall, 12365 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, MO	Robert Morse, rmorse@centurytel.net
August 16-18 Fri noon-7, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5	Michiana Gem & Mineral Society	County Fairgrounds, 5112 S. Ironwood, South Bend, IN	Joshua Klosinski, jklos9@yahoo.com

STATE DIRECTORS' REPORTS FROM THE 2019 CONVENTION**Illinois**

By George and Deb Coursey, State Directors

Welcome from Illinois. The show season is well under way for this year. Shows that started early dealt with bad weather at times, it did affect the real early shows. The weather is moderating nicely. This will also have its effect on attendance.

The shows continue to use more social media to advertise and get the word out. It has brought a younger crowd to the shows that we were missing. More of our schools are requiring a .pdf form of flyers and posting it on school web sites. This does limit the personal contact, but makes for easier access. Illinois schools are limiting the people allowed into schools with more scrutiny. As schools move to add their own television and radio stations, this may be another interview in the future for show personnel. Our teenagers have become more adept at the technology at younger and younger ages. We need to find more ways to encourage these technology-flooded youngsters to come to our shows. The programs offered at our venues need to offer for the adults, but we need new programs to entice this group in.

I think we may have to look at shorter days of shows, different types of venues, and more hands-on demonstrations.

Today's children have different experiences and ways of learning. Like education, we must be evolving too. Kids nowadays have many draws for their available time and interests. We need to find a way to attract them.

We have a group forming a new club that would like to join the MWF, which is exciting. We wish this group the best of luck.

Clubs are voicing a problem with field trips, as more and more areas are closing down. Many people are traveling out of state to find field trips. This does limit who and how many can attend. We would be interested in how others are handling this situation. We are thankful that the state has reopened many of the museums that were closed for a while.

Indiana

By Dawn Cramar, State Director

Indiana has approximately 600 members in eight clubs throughout the state. Clubs report that membership is up slightly. Five of the eight clubs responded to my requests for information. Each club seems to have different areas of focus, though all have robust junior programs. Several participate in community outreach programs by visiting schools, libraries, scout troops, boys and girls clubs and sponsoring 4H projects and trophies. Each has an

(Continued on page 16)

PERMANENT COMMITTEE REPORTS**Program Requests**

By Pat Powers, Committee Chair

From October 2018, after the last convention, to December 2018, there was only one DVD program request.

For 2019 there have been six DVD programs mailed.

Scholarship

By Marge Collins, Committee Chair

Please see this year's Scholarship Contributions Report on page 19.

Silent Auction

By Susan Stanforth, Committee Chair

Last fall at Springfield, Illinois, our MWF Silent Auction was under the superior care of the LOESS (Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society) experts. We combined our auction and MWF came out with \$834.50 for the Endowment Fund. Yippee skippee! We had tons of donations thanks to the John and Judy Washburn collection, B. Sky, D. Rice, B. Green, the Hechts, the Whitlatches, and the Courseys, and so many more.

STATE DIRECTORS' REPORTS FROM THE 2019 CONVENTION, CONTINUED

(Indiana, Continued from page 15)

educational mandate in its constitution. One area of focus is lapidary arts (faceting, cabbing, etc.), especially when the club owns its own building and can purchase and store the equipment. Field collecting trips, education about rocks and minerals, and paleontology were other areas that clubs highlighted.

Club Shows: The Indiana clubs report that their shows are doing very well, with several reporting record numbers attending. They attribute some of this to their use of social media for advertising (mostly Facebook), used in conjunction with more typical forms such as posting flyers at various public outlets, local community calendar pages, and television and radio ads.

Concerns: Several clubs report that they have some difficulty getting volunteers to fill their officers positions on their Board of Directors. At-Large positions were not affected. Clubs reported scam emails to their treasurers that appeared to be from their presidents asking for money on various pretexts. One president reported that her treasurer was getting at least one per month and that they had instituted new procedures to combat the scammers' efforts.

In Memoriam: Estel Jones, 1945-2018, of the Eastern Indiana Gem and Geological Society, and Marie Zigler, 1925-2019, of Three Rivers Gem and Mineral Society. Marie was a 35-year member of Three Rivers, and served in many capacities during her tenure, including Vice President, Newsletter Editor, Secretary, and Show Chair. She was also our very own "Gem Tree Lady." She will be missed.

Michigan

By Julia Donker, State Director

Michigan clubs are preparing for spring shows and summer field trips. They are getting ready for summer tailgate sales. They are also working on fall shows and programs.

Michigan clubs are just about at 100% paid up to the MWF on dues. It took many phone calls from the State Director to remind them that the dues were due.

Many Michigan clubs give out scholarships to different colleges to help students with further education. They are looking forward to a good year of shows, field trips, and membership growth.

Minnesota

By Dennis Westman, State Director

Minnesota is a fun state for rockhounding. We have clubs ranging from 100% adults to two adults and 22 juniors. We have nine clubs and Minnesotans are beginning to know we exist. Most kids are fascinated by rocks and along with kids, adults. Clubs grow and their shows draw more and more people. These are adults who can't imagine a world without Facebook and social media.



*Minnesota's state gemstone, the Lake Superior agate.
Photo by Lech Darski, via Wikimedia Commons.*

The Minnesota Mineral Club had a surprise. The normal attendance is 1,000. 2017 had three times that attendance, with long lines. In 2018 the attendance was way down to 2,000, which is still twice the traditional attendance. They had remote parking, but because of the lines and crowds the year before there was bad press on social media. It is a good news-bad news situation. The good news was the huge attendance and the bad news was the huge attendance, because no one was prepared for the change. They have gone back to the drawing board for 2019 and solving the big attendance changes with happy customers.

Your membership in the MWF gives you names of clubs that can be tapped for information on how they

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STATE DIRECTORS' REPORTS FROM THE 2019 CONVENTION, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 16)

make shows more fun and how they draw in the crowds. If your club grows, you have more people to volunteer.

Ohio

By Tom Kottyan, State Director

And Judy Budnik, Assistant State Director

State Director's Report: All of the clubs in the northwestern portion of Ohio are gearing up for their respective shows. The Stark County Gem & Mineral Club in Canton has their show at the fairgrounds on March 30th to 31st. The Columbus Rock & Mineral Society is again growing in membership, good leadership. Their show is April 13th to 14th. They had a huge crowd at their show last year.

The Richland Lithic & Lapidary Society in Mansfield adds new members each month, usually having 45 to 50 at a meeting. Their show is June 8th to 9th, and their theme this year is "Fantastic Fluorites." The Akron Mineral Society will be having its semi-annual show on April 27-28.

Assistant Director's Report: The Cincinnati Mineral Society is getting ready for its May 4-5 mineral show May 4th to 5th at the Sharonville Convention Center. The society is doing good, outside of the children's group.

The kids' group is out of kids and having trouble getting kids because new members do not know what is going on. New members claim that an older club member is telling them there is no kids group, then they get back to me and ask what is going on, I tell them that there is a kids' group, and that's the last you see of that member. I run the kids' group, and am there every meeting just in case someone comes.

The Greater Cincinnati Lapidary and Faceting Society is meeting at a club member's home who has set up a workshop for their business and lets the club use it. They plan to not do a newsletter but put

things on the Facebook page that would have gone into the newsletter. They are doing field trips and workshops for the club members.



An elephant carved in rose quartz, the state mineral of South Dakota. Released to the public domain by Adrian Pingstone, via Wikimedia Commons.

South Dakota and North Dakota

Harlan and Aletha Hoogeterp, State Directors

Sioux Empire Gem and Mineral Society, Sioux Falls, SD: The club continues to be active with a fairly consistent membership. We are anticipating continued growth of our third annual rock swap, which will be held in July. Our swap is held in conjunction with the Saturday in the Park celebration held in Canton, SD. This has been a win-win combination for both organizations as our swap provides extra draw for visitors, and the city celebration provides food booths, live musical entertainment, kids' activities and other vendor booths which may be of interest to our rock-loving customers.

We also continue to have a booth at the Sioux Empire Fair each year, which provides good exposure for our group, and we participate in the Sanford Research Center Science Festival in June.

Lewis & Clark Gem and Mineral Society, Yankton, SD: The club continues to meet. However,

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STATE DIRECTORS' REPORTS FROM THE 2019 CONVENTION, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 17)

the current membership is continuing to age and numbers are declining.

Lake Agassiz Rock Club, Fargo, ND: No report.

Wisconsin

By Allison Conrad, State Director

Club Shows: Fortunately clubs are doing great jobs marketing and promoting their shows. Unfortunately we have individuals that look at our shows as opportunities to steal, which makes me very sad from what the Badger Lapidary & Geological Society experienced at their show this year. Please have as many boots on the ground as you can at your shows with watchful eyes. If anyone looks suspicious or is actually seen stealing, your club should have immediate steps in place.

A few ideas: Consider investing in trail or video cameras and point them towards vendor booths during the day and/or activate them for lock down. Place, where it can be easily read entering and leaving the venue, signage stating, "Facility is under video surveillance." Make sure venue is not unlocked before a club member can be on site. Check to see that the venue has been completely cleared (including vendors and venue personnel) before lockdown, and consider having at least two people stay at the venue overnight. If anyone else has ideas you would like to share to deter sticky fingers, I would be happy to pass them on to clubs.

Please remember to send me your club show flyers and newsletters and I will be happy to help advertise your show or other club events: rockinbabe@acegroup.cc.

Social Media: Facebook pages continue to be the biggest social networking site of choice with the largest number of users, although slowing down somewhat. Other social media starting to ramp up are:

Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+, YouTube, Pinterest, Instagram and Tumblr.

Whatever form of social media you choose to use to promote your club and club events, please be sure to not post personal information about yourself or anyone in your club, i.e., "I will be out of town the next three months at the Tuscan Rock and Gem Show." This could be an open invitation to individuals who do not have your best interest at heart. Be sure to send your website address or Facebook links to Cindy Root at d-root@comcast.net so she can post it with your other club information. By now all Wisconsin clubs should have checked their club information on the MWF website to make sure it is all correct.

MWF Scholarship Honorary Award 2018:

Bernice McCloskey was nominated and chosen as the candidate for the 2018 MWF Scholarship Honorary Award. Bernice recently celebrated her 95th birthday and is still very much actively involved in the education and promotion of geology and all aspects of the hobby. Bernice was the MWF President when the AMF/MWF Show was in Lincoln, Nebraska in 1980, and has also been Wisconsin State Director Assistant.

Bernice is a *charter* and *honorary* club member of two MWF clubs, the Kettle Moraine Geological Society (KMGS) since 1960 and Wisconsin Geological Society (WGS) since 1993. In her 58 years with KMGS she has held every possible position of leadership, as well as being the founder of the club newsletter and editor for the first ten years. Bernice is the gracious hostess of the WGS Mineral Study Group and holds group meetings every month at her house.

MWF Insurance: From time to time, questions regarding what is or isn't covered under the MWF insurance umbrella have been coming in from clubs. My first line of reference for clubs who have questions is to first review the insurance policy and read through the FAQs on the MWF website. If more information is needed or you still have questions, you can reach out to Chris Ivancic, 260-433-2699, or email Ivancic.chris@gmail.com.

REPORT FROM THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE SPELLS OUT CONTRIBUTIONS**SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS FROM 2018 CONVENTION TO 2019 CONVENTION
In Order Received**

Submitted by Marge Collins, Chair, MWF Scholarship Committee

Donations	Club and Notes	Participation	Cumulative
\$ 500.00	Fuller, credited to Minnesota Mineral Club.	2,700%	\$7,862.00
1,000.00	Minnesota Mineral Club (replaces 2017 check lost in the mail).	3,000%	8,862.00
100.00	Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society.	1,900%	2,650.00
100.00	Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society (WI). Living Memorials honoring charter member Marvel Newton and Dr. William Cordua.	500%	337.00
400.00	Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club (MI).	3,900%	5,288.00*
50.75	Collins, credited to Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society.	2,000%	2,701.00
100.00	Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society (MI) (auction profits.)	5,000%	6,348.00
20.00	Kettle Moraine Geological Society (WI). Memorial honoring Milton Wilson.	1,200%	837.00
1,000.00	Minnesota Mineral Club (2018 donation).	3,200%	9,862.00*
150.00	Tri-County Rocks & Minerals Society (MI). Memorials honoring Earl L. Mitchell, Jr. and Donald L. Sommerfield, and Living Memorial honoring June Sommerfield.	1,900%	650.00
10.00	Tri-County Rocks & Minerals Society (MI). Memorials honoring William Houvener, Marlene Wilson, Basil Quick, Eleanor Mell, Arline Beach, Kenneth Mack, and Charles and Esther Shelley.	1,900%	660.00
25.00	Sky, credited to Show Me Gems & Minerals (MO). Memorial honoring Dorothy Kubat.	1,500%	650.00
25.00	Collins, credited to Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society. Memorial honoring Jay Ross.	5,000%	6,373.00
<u>\$ 3,480.75</u>	TOTAL		

* Clubs that reach a new thousand-dollar level in cumulative donations receive a certificate at the annual Awards Banquet.

Valerie J. Meyers, Editor
Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies
vjmwriter@yahoo.com
Post Office Box 13456
Overland Park, KS 66282-3456

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SEND US YOUR NOMINATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIP HONOREE!

Susan Stanforth, VP

Every year since 1972, each of the six participating Federations have chosen an Honorary Award Winner (an individual or couple, nominated by a club in recognition of their “service above and beyond”). It is the Scholarship Honoree who selects a school, and two graduate students at that school, to receive a one-time scholarship grant of \$4,000.

It is now time to send in your nomination for the Scholarship Honoree for 2020. It can be someone from your own club, or another club, or an individual in the professional world such as a professor at a university/college.

You will need to supply information about the candidate, including service to rock clubs and contributions made to the earth sciences. List degrees, papers, books written, etc. Include personal information, and, if possible, a black-and-white photo of the individual(s).



2018's Scholarship Honoree, Bernice McCloskey, with her scholarship recipients. For more information about McCloskey, see page 18. Photo by Pierre Couture.

Send your nomination to:

MWF Board of Selectors
c/o Susan Stanforth
850 Palau Parkway
Rockford, IL 61108

Or to sstanforth123@yahoo.com. If you have any questions, call 815-229-4009. Let's get an early start on this process. Please discuss at your next club meeting. Thanks!!!