



# MWF News

Midwest Federation  
of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

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Web Site - [www.amfed.org/mwf](http://www.amfed.org/mwf)

Member of the American Federation of  
Mineralogical Societies



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

David Rich, MWF President and Top Rock in the Pile

Well folks, our convention in South Bend, Indiana was just great. The Michiana Gem and Mineral Society were perfect hosts and made it a memorable event for all those who attended. Thank you very much.

During the delegates meeting, some very important business was conducted. We raised the insurance per member to \$4.50. Any club sending in their dues **postmarked by Jan 15** will only pay \$4.25 per member. **Groups of clubs sponsoring an event or show must ALL be MWF members to qualify for insurance coverage.**



We also will be having a mail-in vote on three proposed bylaws changes:

- ◆ That anyone serving the federation as an officer, state director, committee chair or an assistant must be a member of a MWF club.

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## MARVELOUS MEETING MINUTES!

Donna Moore, MWF Secretary

MWF Council of Delegates Meeting Minutes  
August 20, 2016  
South Bend, Indiana

President David Rich called the meeting to order, J.C. Moore gave the invocation. Tom Whitlatch, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bill Foreman, President of Michiana Gem & Mineral Society, welcomed everyone to its show in South Bend, Indiana.

David Rich recognized the honorary members present, including AFMS President Matt Charsky. MWF Past Presidents present included Anne Cook, Tony Kapta, J.C. Moore, Sandy Fuller, Jim Marburger, Bob Miller, Kathy Miller, Cindy Root, and Dennis Westman.

David then read the names of those rock club members who had passed away since the last convention. Names included were:

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### **MWF OFFICERS**

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### **NEW T. REX FOSSIL FIND**

Andrea Godinez, Public Relations and Marketing  
Burke Museum, University of Washington

Paleontologists with the University of Washington's Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture have discovered a *Tyrannosaurus rex*, including a very complete skull. The find includes vertebrae, ribs, hips and lower jaw bones.



*Tooth of the Tufts-Love T. Rex. Photo by Tom Wolken of the Burke Museum, University of Washington.*

The team, led by UW biology professor and Burke Museum Adjunct Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology Greg Wilson, discovered the *T. rex* during an expedition to the Hell Creek Formation in northern Montana — an area that is world-famous for its fossil dinosaur sites. Two Burke Museum paleontology volunteers, Jason Love and Luke Tufts, initially discovered pieces of fossilized bone protruding from a rocky hillside.

The bones' large size and honeycomb-like structure indicated they belonged to a carnivorous

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### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED**

*(Continued from page 1)*

- ◆ That a new registered agent will be appointed. (No name of proposed agent, as of time of writing this column).
- ◆ That the canceled stamp committee be eliminated.

Please read the minutes of the meeting. There was a misprint on the ballots that were mailed out. I am not running for 2<sup>nd</sup> VP. David Root is running. Donna has too many Davids!

Our awards banquet was attended by just about everyone. The food was very good and there were plenty of awards passed out. Our current AFMS president, Matt Charsky, and his wife looked like they were having a good time chatting with all the club members. E-Bear (Endowment Fund Bear) was auctioned off for a year and he went off to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, with 1<sup>st</sup> VP Tom Whitlatch. So far E-Bear has raised over \$800 for the endowment fund. Watch for him to pop up on our MWF Facebook page. (Yes, we have one – please join!)

I can hardly believe a year has passed and I am soon to be a past president. With November comes a new group of hardworking gals and guys working to make the MWF an outstanding federation. Our federation has grown, and we have been a leader in activities for youth, with the MWF poster contest. MWF has introduced free on-line posters for printing, to promote our hobby and our federation. I think we continue to lead in the American Federation. Please contact us to find out where you can help our federation to thrive and grow, and how we can be of assistance to your club.

I would like to welcome our new president, Tom Whitlatch. Tom is from the middle of the MWF, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

I would also like to thank all the state directors for their hard work in watching over their clubs like a mother hen, and answering questions. The dedication of our state directors is vital to keeping the MWF vibrant and growing.

C-ya all on down the trail!

**COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES, CONTINUED (STATE DIRECTOR REPORTS)**

*(Continued from page 1)*

Delores Knapp and Kay Weygandt, Summit Lapidary and Akron Mineral Society; Steve J. Glades, Black Hawk Gem and Mineral Society; Judy Fogarty, Blossomland Gem & Mineral Society; Lorraine Thomas, Blue Water Lapidary Society; Gene Davis, Brukner Gem & Mineral Society; Mrs. Ed Bender, Carlton County Gem & Mineral Club; Maxine Vandenberg and Gene Tabor, Central Illinois Gem and Mineral Club; Gordon Lewis, Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society; John Perona, Copper Country Rock & Mineral Club; Karen Burns, Grand Traverse Area Rock & Mineral Club; Howard E. Bymers, Heart of Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Club; Olive Sain, Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club; Mike Schramm, Lakeland Gem Club; Joe Sali, former president of Licking County Rock and Mineral Club; Rick Boroweic, Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society; Bob Richardson, Minnesota Mineral Club and registered agent for MWF; Jim Paddock, Oshkosh Earth Science Club; Cleo Tudor, Peoria Academy of Science, Geology Section and Tudor's Rockhouse; Kathy Bauer, Spring River Gem & Mineral Club; John Blue, Parma Lapidary Club and former MWF President; Tammy Long, Summit Lapidary; Charlett Mann, Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society; Jim Benson and Walter "Dutch" Wolfe, Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club; John Huston, West Central Illinois Rock and Mineral Club; Audrey Quisenberry, Wonderland Rock Club; Chet Coleman, Worthen Earth Searchers and Geodeland; Leonard Moellers, Gladys Winykie, Larry DeSalto, and William Mitchell from Cedar Valley Rocks and Mineral Society.

Parliamentarian Cindy Root reviewed the rules of the meeting., which were printed on the back of the agenda.

Donna Moore had copies of the minutes of the Council of Delegates Meeting in Wheaton, Illinois on May 23, 2015. These had also been in the MWF newsletter. J.C. Moore moved to accept the minutes as printed. Cindy Root seconded the motion, which carried.

Sandy Fuller presented the treasurer's report. She said she is expecting another insurance premium, and expenses from the officers who traveled to Oregon to represent the MWF for the AFMS meeting, to be paid



*Unpolished Petoskey stone, the state rock of Michigan.  
Photo by John Mortimore, via Wikimedia Commons.*

this year. Robert Kalis from the Livingston Gem & Mineral Club moved to accept the treasurer's report. J.C. Moore seconded the motion, which carried.

David Root, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, reported on the State Directors Meeting held that morning. He noted there was good attendance.

George and Deb Coursey from **Illinois** had reported that their shows were having good attendance, clubs were adding a few new members, and that dealers were selling more small to medium items, but that some clubs reported there was a problem keeping members interested.

**Iowa** Director Jim Kraai noted that clubs in Iowa were doing well. They had a problem finding new facilities for meetings and shows. There were two Iowa clubs with nice workshops.

John Donker, **Michigan** Director, reported that tailgate sales were popular, clubs were struggling with finding meeting places, but show attendance had been good. The gypsum mine in Michigan is no longer allowing visitors due to deteriorating conditions.

**Minnesota** State Director Dennis Westman reported that clubs are doing really well. The Cuyuna club in Brainerd had 2,500 in attendance at their show this year. They are working to host the MWF in 2017 and hoping to get a field trip planned. Michelle Cauley, the MWF Junior Activities chair, has a school-based club with over 60 kids.

Sharon Marburger reported for **Nebraska** that Lincoln is presently the only MWF club in the state.

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## COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES, CONTINUED (COMMITTEE REPORTS)

(Continued from page 3)

They are doing a lot of activities, including volunteering and community projects, and reaching out to juniors.

Tom Whitlatch asked for reports from the permanent committees.

**Archaeology** – No report.

**Boundaries** – Bob Miller reported that no inquiries had been brought to him.

**Bulletin Editors** – Celia Tiffany had to step down due to health issues. New Chairman is Sharon Marburger.

**Canceled Stamps** – No report. Action later in the meeting will recommend dissolution of this committee.

**Club Rockhound of the Year** – Steve Shimatzi reported that he will rerun the information on submitting a nomination and will get the nominations to the AFMS chairman for their newsletter.

**Conventions and Shows** – J.C. Moore said he will have more later, but has two shows lined up.

**Credentials** – Tony Kapta reported that 18 members of the Executive Committee were present as well as 20 club delegates, so we had a quorum.



*Fluorite, the state mineral of Illinois, from the Spar Mountain Mine in Illinois. Photo by David Boyle of London, UK, via Wikimedia Commons.*

**Director of Supplies and Information** – Dennis Westman said he had supplies at the meeting, including extra copies of the 2016 MWF Directory for \$5 each. He had many, many copies of the AFMS Code of Ethics cards and suggested everyone take

some for their club members. David Rich said that at the American Lands Access Association meeting in Albany, Oregon, it was stressed that the Bureau of Land Management has been quite impressed with our AFMS Code of Ethics.

**Directory and Calendar of Events** – Sandy Fuller reported for Martha Miss, asking clubs to use the form in the newsletter and not to expect her to hunt for information on flyers. Flyers can be sent to Cindy Root for the website.

**Education** – No report.

**Endowment Fund** – The chairmanship of this committee is open. There was a report from the treasurer, Alan Hukill, in the packet. Again, clubs and individuals were encouraged to contribute in memory of club members or as living memorials. This committee also needs a secretary.



*Salem limestone, the state rock of Indiana, from Bloomington. Photo by Michael P. Klimetz, via earthphysicsteaching.homestead.com.*

**Geology** – Dr. Bill Cordua had a written report.

**Historian** – Cindy Root had a written report, but added that she has scanned in six boxes of materials. This material is on the cloud. She will give you access if you e-mail her at [d-root@comcast.net](mailto:d-root@comcast.net) and ask. J.C. Moore had brought three more boxes of materials donated by Dean Stone. Regina had a box of materials and Marge Collins had brought photos. She also had slides to scan. David Root added that the old newsletters were good sources of articles for present-day newsletters.

**Insurance** — Marge Jensen had sent a written report. We would be dealing with a proposed rate hike in new business.

(Continued on page 5)

**COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES, CONTINUED (COMMITTEE REPORTS)**

(Continued from page 4)

**Junior Activities** — No report.

**Lapidary Arts** – David Root had a written report reminding members of his data base for those who are interested in contacting persons who are able to help with their lapidary hobby.



*Cabochon of Mozarkite, the state rock of Missouri. Photo from Wanelo.com.*

**Long Range Planning** – Nothing at this time.

**Membership** – Jim Marburger reported that the membership packet will be updated after this meeting.

**Merit Awards** – Assistant J.C. Moore reported that two clubs had submitted All America Club Awards books and that results would be announced at the banquet that night.

**Mineralogy** – No report.

**Newsletter** – Valerie J. Meyers from the Show-Me Rockhounds of Kansas City, Missouri, was introduced as the new newsletter editor. She greeted everyone and said she had an idea for a series of articles as well as a letters to the editor column for the newsletter. She asked representatives from all the committees to send her articles for the newsletter.

**Paleontology** – No report.



*Skeleton of a Teleoceras major, preserved at the Ashfall Fossil Beds in Nebraska. Photo by Ammodramus, via Wikimedia Commons.*

**Program Competition** – Cindy Root's report said no entries have been made this year.

**Program Review** – Jim Travis reported no new programs at this time.

**Public Image** – Regina Kapta has created three new posters to make the public more aware of the existence of rock clubs. These are available for download on the MWF Website. She shared how e-mail marketing is exploding and she wants to try marketing our hobby. There is a free website where you can schedule messages.

**Safety and Field Trips** – No report. David Rich did say there are several people offering MSHA training for clubs to make arrangements.

**Scholarships** – Marge Collins had a written report on donors from the MWF. She added that donations are lower this year. Last year there was a surge because of the announcement that we needed more donations to keep our status tax-free. Three awards would be given that night to clubs who reached new thousand-dollar levels in their giving. She reminded people that a living memorial is also an option for honoring club members.

**Silent Auction** – Susan Stanforth thanked everyone for last year's auction, which took in \$1,600 in just four hours. She had homemade chocolate chip cookies for those who had brought donations for the auction this year. She hoped some people would stick around on Sunday to help and to bid and buy.

**Uniform Rules** – Barbara Sky reported that at the AFMS Uniform Rules Meeting in Oregon, a new category of Meteorites had been added for competitive cases. There were no competitive cases at the South Bend show. One was brought, but not put up because of miscommunication on the size of case needed.

**Website** – Cindy Root reminded people that the website cannot be fixed if she isn't told of a mistake or misinformation. She also reminded clubs that whoever fills out the forms for the MWF dues and information to use a pen, not a pencil, and to send them to Martha Miss or Sandy Fuller. Cindy said if she can't read it, it doesn't go on the website. Send show flyers straight to Cindy who will link your flyer with information about your show. These flyers should not be sent to Martha or Sandy. Asterisks can be used if officers don't want their information on the website. Sharon Marburger

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## COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES, CONTINUED (FUTURE CONVENTIONS)

*(Continued from page 5)*

noted that there had been no MWF entries in the website competition for three years. There was a question about who designed the website contest.

David introduced American Federation of Mineralogical Societies President Matt Charsky. He shared some information about where the AFMS dues are spent, including the scholarship foundation, which has given out over 610 scholarships to 132 universities amounting to about \$1.7 million. The AFMS sponsors five contests, including Rockhound of the Year, Program Competition, All American Club Awards, Website Contest, and Bulletin Editors. The Junior Activity Program has handed out over 10,000 badges to juniors. This is funded by the AFMS Endowment Fund. Matt announced that the 2017 AFMS Convention will be in Ventura, California, June 8-11.



Communication



Field Trips



Leadership



Earth Processes

*Four of the badges that can be earned by AFMS Future Rockhounds of America.*

J.C. Moore reported on conventions. In 2015, the Chicagoland Group had a good show and made a nice effort to help the MWF Celebrate their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. He has not seen a report, but knows they did not lose any money on hosting. The 2017 convention will be in Brainerd, Minnesota, hosted by the Cuyuna Rock, Gem, and Mineral Society May 6-7, 2017. J.C. showed a portion of a video of one of their previous shows. The 2018 convention will be in Springfield, Illinois, hosted by the Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society the first weekend in October.

In 2019 we will be hosting the AFMS also. J.C. reported that Cedar Rapids is looking at hosting for that show. Dates after 2019 are open. J.C. noted that we appreciate the efforts of the Michiana Gem and Mineral Society in hosting this convention. He stressed how every club represented should consider hosting. We all like to visit other areas and going to a convention gives us a reason to visit another club's show.

Old Business: David Rich reported that the theme of the Youth Poster Contest this year was Amazing Agates. Several of the posters were in the back of the room to view. Summit Lapidary sponsored the contest again this year.



*Agate slice; photo by Hannes Grobe, via Wikimedia Commons.*

New Business: Sandy Fuller addressed insurance rates. Last year, based on the number enrolled as of January 15, the cost was \$3.95 per member. Several clubs were late paying dues and insurance this year, which caused our rate to rise. We thought the last rate hike would last a couple of years, but this year we had to supplement the cost of insurance slightly. The Executive Committee recommended a possible break for those clubs who pay their insurance/dues on time.

After a short discussion the motion was made by J.C. Moore to raise the insurance rate to \$4.50 per person, but clubs with renewal postmarked by January 15 would only pay \$4.25 per person. George Coursey seconded the motion, which passed with no negative votes.

Multiple clubs sometimes combine to sponsor shows or other events. The insurance company needs a list of all clubs participating. Each club must have all MWF dues and insurance paid up to date. David Rich said some of the federations are paying as much as \$13 per person for insurance.

David went on to explain the suggested changes to the MWF By-Laws. These three things will be voted on by mail.

First, a Section 5 will be added to Article III, stating:

*(Continued on page 11)*



**IN MEMORIAM**

The MWF was just recently notified that **Esther Mullaly**, President in 1986-87, died in February 2013. She was a resident of Alpena, Michigan, and is survived by a daughter, a brother, a sister, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Anne Cook, MWF President in 1994-95, wrote the following piece about **John Blue**, President in 2001-02, who died May 30, 2016: "A soft-spoken man, he was helpful to those just starting to learn about rocks and minerals. In addition to serving as an officer, John kept the program library for many years, sending programs out to clubs that wanted them for meetings. He was a member of the Mineralogical Society of Cleveland, where he was the long-time secretary, and had been a member of the Parma Lapidary Club, where he was the editor of its newsletter. He was skilled in lapidary arts, specializing in faceting and in making spheres, and was a familiar figure at local shows, demonstrating his sphere-making machine. He was also a good cook. His wife, Rose Blue, was President in 2008-09; he is also survived by three sons, four granddaughters, and several great-grandchildren."

Donna Moore, the current MWF Secretary, added her own thoughts about John: "I will always remember how helpful he was to me when I took over the job of secretary. My predecessor, Mary Hanning, had passed away, so I could not consult her when I had a question. John was so good to make suggestions and encourage me when I had problems or questions."



Jim Kraai, MWF State Director for Iowa, stated in his written report to the convention that the Central Iowa Mineral Society and the Des Moines Lapidary Society had both lost an important member when Celestino Robert "**Bob**" **Silvan** died on May 7th. "Bob was a veteran, a radiology technician, and former instructor at Des Moines University. He contributed much to the knowledge of both CIMS and DMLS and greatly to the lore of the hobby. He was a DMLS Shop Supervisor on Wednesdays and led the huge task of repairing and refurbishing much of the equipment with great expertise and diligence. He is missed."

**A WORD FROM THE NEW BEAC CHAIR**

Sharon Marburger, Bulletin Editors' Aids Committee

At the 2016 MWF Convention in South Bend, President David Rich appointed me as the Bulletin Editors' Aids Committee chair. The previous chair, Celia Tiffany, needed to step down due to health concerns. I graciously accepted the appointment. As the time draws closer, information and rules for the next bulletin editors' competition will be published in the MWF News.

At this time, I would like to encourage every editor to begin reviewing his or her club bulletin for features, articles, original poetry, and original drawings, as well as any special publications produced by the club, and consider such items for entry in next year's competition. It is really simple to do. I have entered items for the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club for several years, and the results always made the authors proud.

Give it a try in 2017!

**IN MEMORIAM, CONTINUED**

This notice appeared in the September issue of the Rockpile, the newsletter of the Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society of Taylor, Michigan: "**Linda Swisher**, Leonard Swisher's wife, who was our Rockpile editor for almost nine years, passed away on June 6, 2016. Even though Linda was not a member of the club, she took on the Rockpile editor's job, when [the previous editor] gave it up, as a favor to MMLS. We remember her fondly. Our condolences to Leonard and his family."



**Robert H. Weikert** of Milaca, Minnesota died August 30, 2016. He was a longtime seller at the annual show of the Cuyuna Rock, Gem & Mineral Society, specializing in lapidary work on Mary Ellen jasper and Binghamite, and had a display at Moose Lake Agate State Park. According to Marcia Opatz, editor of the club's newsletter, Weikert was featured in the book "Stromatolites: Ancient, Beautiful, and Earth-Altering."

## NEW T. REX FOSSIL FIND, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 2)

dinosaur. Upon further excavation, the team discovered the *T. rex* skull along with ribs, vertebrae, and parts of the jaw and pelvis.

*T. rex* was one of the largest meat-eating dinosaurs to ever roam the Earth. Measuring an average of 40 feet long and 15 to 20 feet tall, *T. rex* was a fierce predator with serrated teeth and large jaws. It lived about 66–68 million years ago in forested river valleys in western North America during the late Cretaceous Period.

The *T. rex* found by the UW/Burke team is nicknamed the “Tufts-Love Rex” in honor of the two volunteers who discovered it. The skull, about 4 feet long, weighs about 2,500 pounds in a protective plaster jacket. Excavation in the field revealed the right side of the skull from base to snout, including teeth. Burke paleontologists believe it is very probable the other side of the skull is present, but will need to carefully remove the rock surrounding the fossil before they can determine its completeness.

“We think the Tufts-Love Rex is going to be an iconic specimen for the Burke Museum and the state of Washington and will be a must-see for dinosaur researchers as well,” said Wilson.

Based on the size of its skull, Burke paleontologists estimate this dinosaur is about 85 percent the size of the largest *T. rex* found to date. At the hips, the *T. rex* would have been nearly as tall as a city bus, and as long as a bus from tail to head.

The Tufts-Love Rex is 66.3 million years old. *T. rex* lived at the end of the Cretaceous Period, 145–66 million years ago, and became extinct during the Cretaceous-Paleogene mass extinction 66 million years ago. Burke paleontologists could determine that the Tufts-Love Rex lived at the very end of the Cretaceous because it was found at the bottom of a hill, a rock layer at the top of which marks the Cretaceous-Paleogene mass extinction. Based on the size of the skull — a good indicator of *T. rex* age — the team estimates the dinosaur was about 15 years old when it died. Adult *T. rex* lived up to 25–30 years.

Although it is arguably the most well-known

dinosaur, fossils of *T. rex* are rare. The skull found by Wilson’s team is only the 15<sup>th</sup> reasonably complete *T. rex* skull known to exist in the world. Next summer, Burke paleontologists will search for additional parts of the dinosaur at the site.

More than 45 people helped excavate the *T. rex* over the course of a month this summer. The team was collecting fossils in the area for the Hell Creek Project, a multi-disciplinary project examining animals, plants and geology of the area to learn more about the final 2 million years of the dinosaur era, the mass-extinction event that killed off the dinosaurs, and the first 1.5 million years post-extinction that gave rise to the age of mammals. Burke paleontologists, volunteers, undergraduate and graduate students from the UW and other universities and K–12 educators participating in the Burke’s DIG Field School contribute to the project.



*Paleontologists prepare to move the plaster-jacketed T. Rex skull. Photo by Dave DeMar of the Burke Museum, University of Washington.*

The *T. rex* skull and other bones are currently covered in a plaster jacket — similar to a cast used to cover a broken bone — in order to protect the skull during transport. The public can see the plaster-covered *T. rex* skull, along with other *T. rex* fossils and paleontology field tools, in a lobby display at the UW’s Burke Museum until October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Special *T. rex*-themed activities will take place on Sunday, September 25.

After removing the fossil from display, the Burke’s paleontology team will begin preparing the fossil by removing the rock surrounding the bone, which may take a year or more. The museum plans to display the *T. rex* skull in the New Burke Museum when it opens in 2019.



## AMETHYST AS A THERAPEUTIC TOOL

By Chris Goin

A once popular idea that is returning is that sickness of the body is the result of sickness of the soul. We can see a lot of evidence of this because we know that worry causes ulcers, stress exacerbates high blood pressure, etc.

As one of my favorites stones to use as a therapeutic tool, amethyst deserves its own article. I first experienced its power when I had the opportunity to sleep on a 5' amethyst mat. My dreams that night were wild and wonderful! Since then I made a flat 'pillow' I put under my normal pillow and use it almost every night.



*Small 14th-century copper reliquary, studded with amethyst and rock crystal, in the Museum of Laon, Picardy, France. Photo by Vassil, via Wikimedia Commons.*

Historically, ancient leaders, such as Cleopatra, would meditate on amethyst to know when to go into battle and when to stay home. Edgar Cayce once wrote that in the days of Atlantis a speaker would use an amethyst at the third eye to convey his or her thoughts instead of using words, which are much more cumbersome and inadequate.

People who use amethyst therapeutically believe that amethyst is useful for the endocrine and immune systems, blood, and pineal and pituitary glands. It cuts through the illusion of the 3-D world and is therefore valuable in meditation to inspire love, peace and serenity. That's why we feel so good when we wear it. Enjoy!

## AGATE WORKSHOP, START TO FINISH

Jim Magnuson, a member of the Minnesota Mineral Club, will present a two-day workshop as part of the "Fabulous Fall Nature Geek-Out" at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center in Finland, Minnesota. The course is titled "Agate Hunting and Finishing: The Lake Superior Agate – Beautiful, Elusive, Enigmatic."

The workshop runs Friday evening through Sunday afternoon, September 30<sup>th</sup> through October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The cost, \$375, includes instruction, supplies, meals, and lodging at a Wolf Ridge dormitory. More information can be found at <http://wolf-ridge.org/camp/fabulous-fall-nature-geek-out/>.

The workshop will begin with an introduction to Lake Superior regional geology, focusing on volcanism and prominent agate formation theories. Participants will go agate-hunting in a gravel pit and on the shore of Lake Superior, involving a roughly one-mile hike, and then take part in a lapidary and jewelry-making workshop, using agates they found or supplied by Magnuson.

Magnuson is the author of a field guide, "Lake Superior Agates – Identify Agates & Imposters," and several other works.

## NATIONAL FOSSIL DAY



National Fossil Day™, celebrated this year on October 12th by the National Parks Service as part of Earth Science Week, will be observed with events in most MWF states (and, of course, other states). At the time of publication, details of most events have not been released, but a list of the institutions holding National Fossil Day activities can be found on <http://nature.nps.gov/geology/nationalfossilday/events.cfm>. Hopefully those institutions will have details about their activities available on their websites soon.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Date and Time	Organization	Place	Contact
<b>Sept. 23-25, 2016</b> Fri & Sat 9-6; Sun 9-3	Tri-State Gem & Mineral Society	Joplin Museum Complex, 504 Schifferdecker, <b>Joplin, MO</b>	Chris Wiseman, <a href="mailto:jmc-cwiseman@sbcglobal.net">jmc-cwiseman@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>Sept. 24-25, 2016</b> Sat 10-5; Sun 11-4	Grand Traverse Area Rock and Mineral Club	Carnegie Building, 322 Sixth Street, <b>Traverse City, MI</b>	Lauren Vaughn, <a href="mailto:maple2b@aol.com">maple2b@aol.com</a> <a href="http://www.trockhounds.com">www.trockhounds.com</a>
<b>Oct. 1-2, 2016</b> Sat & Sun 9-5	Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral & Geology Society	Jacksonville Community Center, 5 Municipal Drive, <b>Jacksonville, AR</b>	Tom Sharp, <a href="mailto:thom61847@yahoo.com">thom61847@yahoo.com</a> <a href="http://www.centralarrockhound.org">www.centralarrockhound.org</a>
<b>Oct. 1-2, 2016</b> Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4	Rock River Valley Geological Society	County Fair Park, 503 N. Jackson Street, <b>Jefferson, WI</b>	Steven Streich, <a href="mailto:stevesrockshop@yahoo.com">stevesrockshop@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Oct. 1-2, 2016</b> Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5	Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society (LOESS)	Orr Building, State Fairgrounds, <b>Springfield, IL</b>	Ed Wagner, <a href="mailto:loesseditor@gmail.com">loesseditor@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.loess.org">www.loess.org</a>
<b>Oct. 1-2, 2016</b> Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4	Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society SuperSwap	County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Road, <b>Belleville, MI</b>	William Barr, <a href="mailto:wbarr@umich.edu">wbarr@umich.edu</a> <a href="http://www.mmls.us">www.mmls.us</a>
<b>Oct. 7-9, 2016</b> Fri 6-10, Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5	Sac & Fox Lapidary Club	Fairfield Arts & Convention Center, 200 N. Main, <b>Fairfield, IA</b>	Betty Morris, <a href="mailto:elizabethmorris1974@outlook.com">elizabethmorris1974@outlook.com</a> <a href="http://www.sacandfoxlapidary.com">www.sacandfoxlapidary.com</a>
<b>Oct. 14-16, 2016</b> Fri 9-6, Sat 10-7, Sun 11-5	Michigan Mineralogical Society	Macomb Sports & Expo Center, Building P, 14500 E. 12 Mile Road, <b>Warren, MI</b>	Patti Graves-Wesolosky, <a href="mailto:mmsgeograves@hotmail.com">mmsgeograves@hotmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.michmin.org">www.michmin.org</a>
<b>Oct. 14-16, 2016</b> Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5	Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society	Allen County Fairgrounds, 2726 Carroll Road, <b>Fort Wayne, IN</b>	Russell Grein, <a href="mailto:3riversshow@gmail.com">3riversshow@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://members.tripod.com/3riversgem_mineral">members.tripod.com/3riversgem_mineral</a>
<b>Oct. 15-16, 2016</b> Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4	Des Moines Lapidary Society	State Fairgrounds, Animal Learning Center, <b>Des Moines, IA</b>	Karen Leibold, <a href="mailto:kcleibold@aol.com">kcleibold@aol.com</a> <a href="http://www.dmlapidary.org">www.dmlapidary.org</a>
<b>Oct. 15-16, 2016</b> Sat & Sun 10-5	Flint Rock and Gem Club	Carter Middle School, 300 Rogers Lodge Dr., <b>Clio, MI</b>	Bill Wendling, <a href="mailto:bwrockbarn@centurytel.net">bwrockbarn@centurytel.net</a> <a href="http://flintrockandgem.org">http://flintrockandgem.org</a>
<b>Oct. 15-16, 2016</b> Sat 10-5, Sun 10-5	Minnesota Mineral Club	National Guard Center, 8180 Belden Blvd., <b>Cottage Grove, MN</b>	Maureen Scaglia, <a href="mailto:mascaglia@comcast.net">mascaglia@comcast.net</a> <a href="http://www.minnesotamineralclub.org">www.minnesotamineralclub.org</a>
<b>Oct. 15-16, 2016</b> Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4:30	Ozark Mountain Gem & Mineral Society	Expo Center, 635 E. St. Louis Street, <b>Springfield, MO</b>	Larry Lillich, <a href="mailto:larrylillich@outlook.com">larrylillich@outlook.com</a> Facebook, Ozark Mountain Gem & Mineral Society
<b>Oct. 15-16, 2016</b> Sat & Sun 10-5	South Suburban Earth Science Club	Prairie State College, 202 S. Halsted, <b>Chicago Heights, IL</b>	Daniel Bolm, <a href="mailto:danielbolm096@gmail.com">danielbolm096@gmail.com</a>
<b>Oct. 21-23, 2016</b> Fri 6-9, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5	Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society	Ingham County Fairgrounds, Main Arena, <b>Mason, MI</b>	Roger Laylin, <a href="mailto:l.r.laylin@gmail.com">l.r.laylin@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.michrocks.org">www.michrocks.org</a>
<b>Oct. 22-23, 2016</b> Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5	Summit Lapidary Club and Akron Mineral Society	Emido & Sons Expo Center, 48 E. Bath Road, <b>Cuyahoga Falls, OH</b>	Bob Powers, <a href="mailto:akronmineralnews@aol.com">akronmineralnews@aol.com</a> <a href="http://www.lapidaryclubofohio.org">www.lapidaryclubofohio.org</a>
<b>Oct. 29-30, 2016</b> Sat 10-7, Sun noon-5	Evansville Lapidary Society	Washington Square Mall, 5011 Washington, <b>Evansville, IN</b>	Sara Rappee, <a href="mailto:sararappee@yahoo.com">sararappee@yahoo.com</a> <a href="http://evansvillelapidarysociety.tumblr.com">evansvillelapidarysociety.tumblr.com</a>
<b>Oct. 29-30, 2016</b> Sat 10-6, Sun 10-3:30	Blackhawk Gem & Mineral Club	Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, 2815 W. Locust Street, <b>Davenport, IA</b>	Craig or Kellie Moore <a href="mailto:kalsinean1@gmail.com">kalsinean1@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.blackhawkgemandmineralclub.com">www.blackhawkgemandmineralclub.com</a>
<b>Nov. 4-6, 2016</b> Fri 8-10, Sat 8:30-5, Sun 9:30-3	Micromineral Society of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History Symposium	Museum of Natural History, 1 Wade Oval, University Circle, <b>Cleveland, OH</b>	Dick Green, <a href="mailto:igreen2@neo.rr.com">igreen2@neo.rr.com</a> <a href="http://cmnh.org/c-r/mineralogy/micromineral-symposium">cmnh.org/c-r/mineralogy/micromineral-symposium</a>
<b>Nov. 5, 2016</b> Sat 6-10	Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society auction	Democratic Club, 23400 Wick Road, <b>Taylor, MI</b>	Dan Gumina, <a href="mailto:rtbrains@aol.com">rtbrains@aol.com</a> <a href="http://www.mmls.us">www.mmls.us</a>
<b>Nov. 5-6, 2016</b> Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4	Racine Geological Society	Fountain Banquet Hall, 8505 Durand Ave. (Highway 11), <b>Sturtevant, WI</b>	John Lowman, <a href="mailto:Lowman.john@sbcglobal.net">Lowman.john@sbcglobal.net</a> <a href="http://racinegeologicalsociety.weebly.com">racinegeologicalsociety.weebly.com</a>

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Date and Time	Organization	Place	Contact
Nov. 12-13, 2016 Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4	Northwest Illinois Rock Club	Student Conference Center, Highland Community College, <b>Freeport, IL</b>	Brian Green, <a href="mailto:bgreen57@hotmail.com">bgreen57@hotmail.com</a> <a href="http://nwilrockclubfrpt.blogspot.com">http://nwilrockclubfrpt.blogspot.com</a>
Nov. 14, 2016 Mon 7:00	Michigan Mineralogical Society auction	Cranbrook Institute of Science, 39221 N. Woodward Ave., <b>Bloomfield Hills, MI</b>	Brad Zylman, <a href="mailto:bzylman@t.mi.rr.com">bzylman@t.mi.rr.com</a> <a href="http://www.michmin.org">www.michmin.org</a>
Nov. 18-20, 2016 Fri 3-7, Sat 10-7, Sun 10-5	St. Louis Mineral & Gem Society	Rogers Community Center, 9801 McKenzie, <b>St. Louis, MO</b>	Melissa Perucca, <a href="mailto:show@stlrockclub.com">show@stlrockclub.com</a> <a href="http://www.stlrockclub.com">www.stlrockclub.com</a>
Nov. 19-20, 2016 Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4	Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club	Crystal Community Center, 4800 Douglas, <b>Crystal, MN</b>	Martha Miss, <a href="mailto:info@rock-biz.biz">info@rock-biz.biz</a>

## November Issue Deadline for Submissions: October 4th!



Got a comment? Write a Letter to the Editor! [vjmwriter@yahoo.com](mailto:vjmwriter@yahoo.com)

**COUNCIL OF DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES, CONTINUED (PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGES)**

*(Continued from page 6)*

“BY-LAWS CLARIFICATION. Any person serving in a leadership position in the federation shall be a member in good standing of any adult society, which is a member of the federation. This includes officers, state directors, permanent committee chairmen and all assistants thereof.”

To accommodate this change, we will be changing Article V, Section 1 by removing the second sentence – “All officers shall be members in good standing of an adult Society which is a member of the Federation” – which is strengthened by the new Article III, Section 5. This was brought to our attention because a member of the Executive Committee was a member of a club that had not paid its MWF dues before the convention. This was taken care of in this case, but the feeling was that it needed to be clarified in the bylaws.

The second area that needs attention is the registered agent for the federation. Our registered agent passed away this spring and needs to be replaced. Since the MWF is registered in Minnesota, we have had the same agent as the Minnesota Mineral Club as well as the AFMS. The decision was made that as soon as the Minnesota Mineral Club selects a new agent, we

will use the same person. His or her name must be listed in the by-laws, so we are waiting for the Minnesota Mineral Club to act on this.

The third change is eliminating the Canceled Stamp Committee as a permanent committee. This committee gathered commemorative postage stamps and made bookmarks and pins of them. It is getting much harder to get the bookmarks to shows to sell them, and fewer people are using bookmarks.

Each member of the Executive Committee and each club will receive a ballot to vote on these bylaws changes later this fall.

Announcements: Dennis Westman noted that any Executive Committee Member who needed a name tag should let him know. Cindy Root announced that she would put a link on any club’s page to their Facebook page. Tom Odom of the 500 Earth Science Club asked how long clubs should keep records. Sandy Fuller replied that it is good to keep minutes. She also reminded members that club bank accounts should be in the name of the organization, not an individual member. Jim Kraai suggested that any documents dealing with non-profit status should be kept permanently. A group presently trying to dissolve is

*(Continued on page 12)*



Valerie J. Meyers, Editor  
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**Please notify the Secretary of any violations.**  
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### MEETING MINUTES, CONTINUED

*(Continued from page 11)*

having problems because they don't have required paperwork.

A question was asked about cataloguing specimens in personal collections. Members noted there are free program available, it just depends on personal preferences. There are also apps for tablets, etc. You may have to pay for better versions.

J.C. Moore noted that he had tickets for the AFMS Endowment Fund Raffle to be held in Ventura on June 10, 2017, so if you didn't buy that day, he will hit you up again in Brainerd next May.

Cindy Root asked if it was okay to post photos of the poster contest winners. Tom Whitlatch reminded everyone we don't publish children's names on our website.

Steve Shimatzki moved to adjourn. George Coursey seconded the motion. David Rich declared the meeting adjourned.

### AND IN ADDITION. . .

Valerie J. Meyers, MWF News Editor

Among the written reports submitted to the Council meeting was one by Tom Kottyan, Ohio State Director, who stated that the northern part of the state is covered very well but that help is needed with the southern part of the state. "The Mansfield club is growing in leaps and bounds, membership is up 30% this year," he wrote. He added that he was very impressed with the quality of the Cuyahoga Falls show put on by clubs in the Akron area.

Dr. Bill Cordua, chair of the Geology committee, submitted a report stating that members of the committee had been active giving programs, writing articles, providing displays, and other activities. He himself has given four public geology talks, staffed rock and mineral identification tables at three shows, and written several articles for the MWF newsletter (including a review of 2015 geological news.) "A review of geological news for 2016 is in preparation." *[Editor's note: Hooray!]*