



Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club

CONGLOMERATE

Monthly Newsletter of the TCG&MC
PO Box 2082, Holland, Michigan 49422

Website: www.Tulipcity.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/tulipcityclub

June 2023

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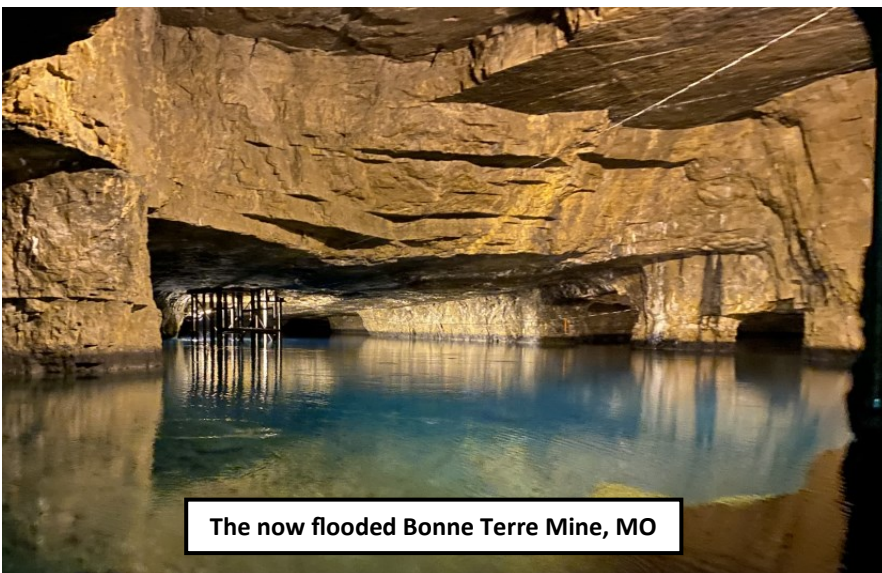
Galena Mineralization In Mississippi Valley Type Deposits

Special Guest: Dr. Renee Sparks

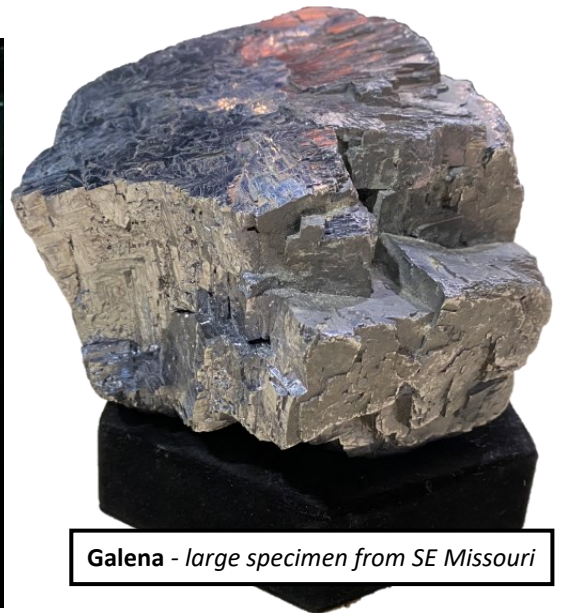
We all missed the February meeting due to poor weather. We are so happy to have this second chance to hear Dr. Sparks speak about Missouri geology.

Join us as we venture outside of Michigan geology "We'll take a tour into the Precambrian igneous rocks as the source of economic metals including lead, zinc, and copper. From there we'll step through the Lamotte Sandstone, a Cambrian aged sedimentary rock overlying a billion-year gap in the geologic record. Finally, we'll dive into the Cambrian and Ordovician dolostones that host the Mississippi Valley Type massive sulfide deposits, to examine their emplacement and strategies for extraction." - Dr. Sparks

A professor of mineralogy and petrology at Hope and Calvin Colleges, Dr. Sparks shares her passion outside of the classroom leading field trips to the St. Francois Mountains. TCGMC members may also know Dr. Sparks as the Director of the Bruce Dice Mineralogical Museum, one of our more recent club field trip destinations thanks to an invitation from the Indian Mounds club.



The now flooded Bonne Terre Mine, MO



Galena - large specimen from SE Missouri

JUNE IS RED/PINK - Monthly Contest

Bring in your favorite red or pink specimen for the monthly contest. Fill out a card (**no name**), place the specimen on the assigned table, and at break we'll vote with pennies. Winners will receive a nice prize!



Events



FOR OUR CLUB AND BEYOND!

2023 TCG&M Board

President - C.H. Falstad
cfalstad3@gmail.com

Co-V.P. - Alexandria Vanderski
alexandria.vandervest1029@gmail.com

Co-V.P. - Julia Sherwood
bobandjulia@accn.org

Secretary - Teresa DeMol
t.demol@yahoo.com

Treasurer - Kurt Brinks
kdbrinks1@gmail.com

Field Trips - Gary Katt
kattfiles@gmail.com

Historian - Betty Hoekstra
kbhoek@att.net

Junior Club & Show Co-Chair
Shari Luttikhuizen
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swordfly247@yahoo.com

Social Coordinator - Michelle Lanting
michlyngal@gmail.com

Dir. at Large - Tom DeMol
t.demol@yahoo.com

Dir. at Large - Bill McDonald
bobmaciv@gmail.com

Past President - Michael B. Larson
mblarson300@yahoo.com

6/23 Lawrence Cty RC Annual Show - Lawrence Cty Fairgrounds
Hwy 50, Bedford, IN - Fri 10-6:30, Sat 9-6:30, Sun 10-4

6/28 Tulip City General meeting - Wed, 7pm
Howard Miller Library, Zeeland

7/15 Moose Lake Agate Days - Carlton Cty GMC Annual Show
Riverside Arena, 20 Earl Ellens Dr, Moose Lake, MN - Sat 9-5, Sun 9-3

7/22 Tulip City TAILGATE - Sat 9-2
Zeeland HS East Parking lot (see additional details)

7/29 Tulip City PICNIC - West Side Cty Park

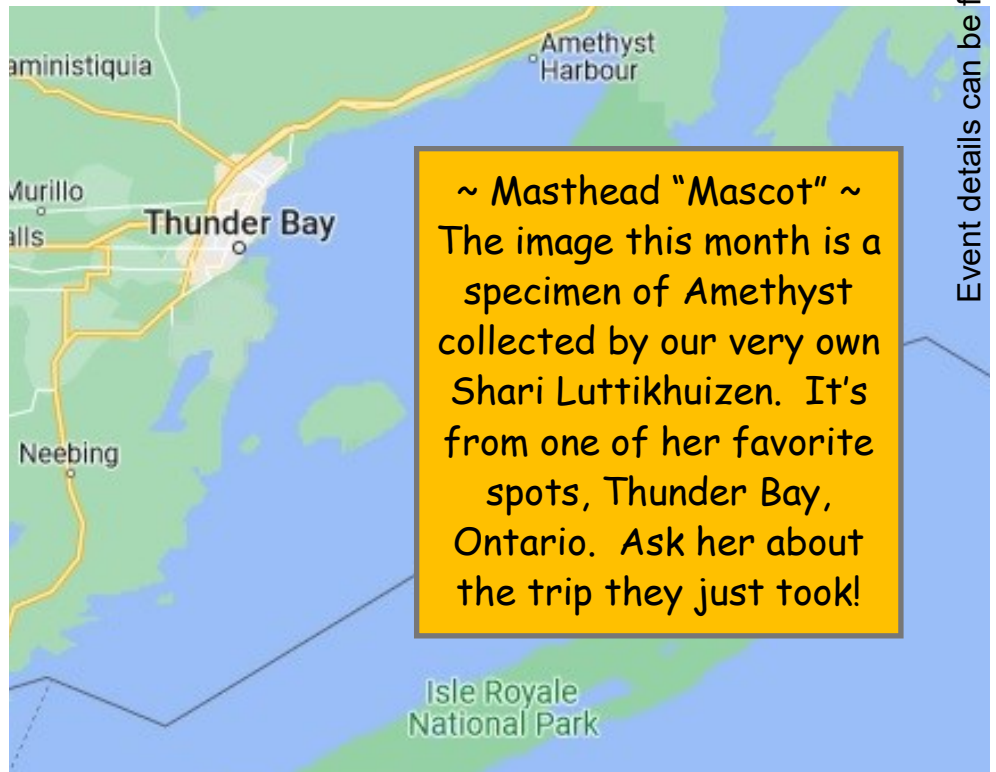
8/16 Tulip City Board meeting - Wed, 7pm
Howard Miller Library, Zeeland

8/18 Michiana GMS - Annual Show, St. Joseph 4H Fairgrounds
5117 South Ironwood Road, South Bend, IN - Fri 12-7, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5

8/26 Peoria Academy of Science Show - Geology Section
#1 EastSide Dr, Peoria, IL - Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5

8/30 Tulip City General meeting - Wed, 7pm
Howard Miller Library, Zeeland

!! PICNIC - Saturday, JULY 29 !!



~ Masthead "Mascot" ~
The image this month is a specimen of Amethyst collected by our very own Shari Luttikhuizen. It's from one of her favorite spots, Thunder Bay, Ontario. Ask her about the trip they just took!

Event details can be found on the Midwest Federation Site - www.mwfed.org/calendar



Field Trips



Keweenaw, MI - July / August

Details about the Keweenaw Mineral Days can be found at the [Seaman](#) website. The Copper Country Rock & Mineral club will have collecting opportunities from Fri Aug 4 to Thur. Aug 10, with their show happening Fri to Sun Aug. 11 to 13. Here is their site. [Copper Country R&M.](#)

Ishpeming 47th Annual Show - Sat. Aug 5, 9:30 - 4:30

Several members of our club have been known to attend this show. They have many of the same attractions we have at our show including silent auctions and a kids table. They also host a couple of field trips before and after the show. See their website for details.

<http://www.ishpemingrocks.org/show.html>

You may also contact Chuck Parks for info about these two events

parks@CustomElectronicProducts.com

Tulip City Gem and Mineral Club - May 17, 2023 Board meeting

Howard Miller Community Center, Zeeland Mi

Board members in attendance: C.H. F,Julia,Alex,Kurt,Mike,Jon,Gary,Betty,Shari,Mary, Rhonda,Aaron,Tom,Bill

Absent: Teresa,Becky,Michelle

C.H. called order at 7:00pm. Quorum was declared. Agenda, Board minutes, and General minutes from April were approved.

Reports:

President: Rick and Deb Smith + helpers to run Petoskey polish at Ottawa county parks. Date to be determined.

The Donation Committee is Rhonda,John,Bill,Shari,Mary,Bob Sinke. Will take materials. Committee head is tbd

C.H. forgot the exchange box. Will bring it to the general meeting.

V.P.: color contest for general meeting is "fossil"

Treasurer: Library? doesn't sound like change

I.P.P.: White River tailgate 11-4 Saturday

Editor: Geode trip is planned for Memorial Day weekend

Field Trip: Geode trip, Thunder Bay trip, Ishpeming trip, Alpena trip maybe Oct.

Juniors: Very impressed with Eric R presentation. 16 juniors attended. Maybe work on gem / Fossil trees.

Liaison: Tommy Turtle raised \$400 for the Gibson Fund

Show: No June meeting

Web: competition

Business: July 29, 2-9, picnic.

White River picnic is July 15.

Rock tailgate is July 22 at East High school in zeeland.

Strategic Planning Committee to work on strengths,weaknesses,diversity. Need to appoint a committee

Visiting members: Atlas likes rocks!

Meeting ended at 8:30.

Thank you Tom for taking the minutes this month!

~ TIME TO TAILGATE ~

**The Tulip City Gem and Mineral Club will be hosting a tailgate sale!
Saturday, July 22, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, at Zeeland High School East
3333 96th Ave, Zeeland, across from the Family Fare grocery store.**

We would like to invite YOU!

**You are very welcome to join us as either a BUYER or as a SELLER!
Fees for Tulip City members who would like to sell will be \$10 per space
If you belong to another club the cost is \$15 per space.**

The parking lot is large, very visible on a heavily traveled road and we hope to have lots of people stopping to add to their collections at this new location for us. We will have a porta potty on site, and various signs advertising the sale. It is a paved parking lot, but does not have much in the way of shade, so you would want to plan accordingly.

We hope to see you there! Please share this information with interested members and your newsletter editor. For more information and questions, you can contact either

CH Falstad, President of TCGMC, cfalstad3@gmail.com

or me, Mary Johnson, Liaison TCGMC, mary.johnson299@gmail.com.

Thanks & Happy Rocking!!

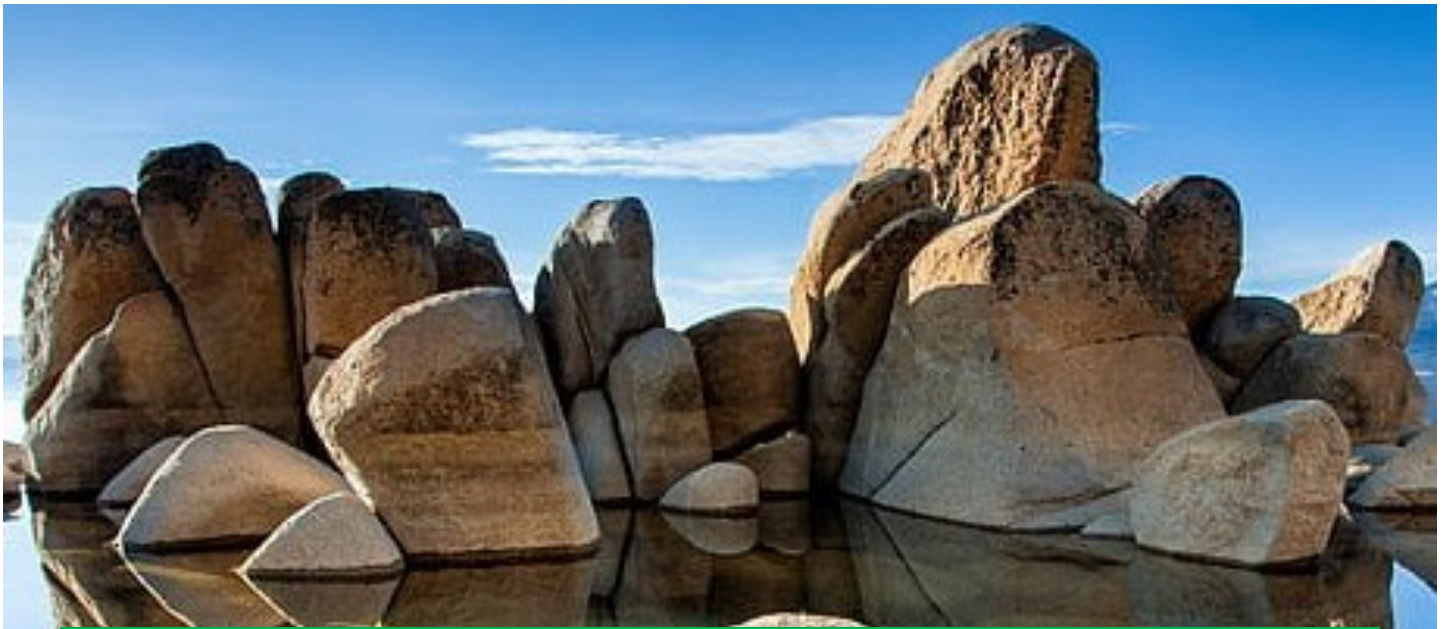
Mary Johnson, Liaison, TCGMC

Partially reprinted from the June 2023 Midwest Federation Newsletter

Bob and Julia Sherwood of South Haven, Michigan have been named the MWF Scholarship Honorees for 2023. This honor means that they, in consultation with faculty, will be able to select two earth-sciences majors as AFMS Scholarship Foundation recipients, from a college or university of the Sherwoods' choosing. The students receive a grant of \$4,000 each. Names of the students will be announced at the MWF Convention in September...



This is a wonderful honor for two of our long-standing members. We may hear very soon which university they will select the students from! Congratulations!
The full article can be found on pg. 4 & 5 of the June newsletter on the [MWF website](#).



~ From the Presidents Rock Bench ~

Hi, TCGMC members!

I like our common hobby for several reasons. Sure, like other hobbies, it gives me some release from the day-to-day grind. (Sorry about that one. It wasn't intentional.) But there's so much more.

The collecting and working with rocks, gems and minerals has tremendously diverse opportunities. These could be concentrated, specialized, wide-focused, or as different as the people in our club. Some like fossils. Others center on agates, semi-precious, or precious gems. Some like their pieces in the raw or left in host material, and others work them into fascinating pieces to display or wear.

We have members in our club that like many different aspects of the hobby. Thankfully, our club, and specifically, our new Field Trip Chair, Gary Katt, has arranged many places to collect or expand our knowledge of the field already with even more coming up this summer. There's Thunder Bay, Ontario and Keweenaw, and some people just got back from Utah and Indiana. I hope you're able to take advantage of at least a few of these trips.

If you want more ideas of ways to enjoy the hobby, at our Annual Picnic on July 29th, we'll have chances to sign up and get involved in our Annual Show at the Soccer Stop.

I think the aspects I like the best about our hobby are the endless facets (there goes another unintentional pun) to learn, and the many different people that I we to meet. We recently met (long distance, several members from the Maplewood Rock & Gem Club centered in Edmonds, WA. We exchanged boxes of rocks from our local regions, and their box was SO different from the specimens we sent from our locale.

Have fun with me! Get involved with the show. Bring a pink or red rock to show at our June meeting on the 28th at the library. Let's ROCK!

C.H. Falstad

~ Memorial Day Geode Field Trip ~

Memorial Day weekend is a great time to get out and collect rocks nearby. It is just getting warm enough and the final disappearance of wintery blahs also tends to reveal new material on the surface. This year we headed down to Indiana for some geodes. It was nice to get submissions from some of our juniors about the trip. Here's a few words from John McDonald and Jack Mull.

From John McDonald

This was my very first trip to hunt for geodes. My dad and I stumbled onto an unexpected geode find while wandering along the Golf Course. Then we found lots on the Griffy Creek trail on Friday. Saturday was planned for three different areas to stop and hunt for geodes. We headed out, buckets in hand off to find some geodes in the river and on land! We found many different sizes of geodes, some were already split open, while others were solid. The buckets got heavy REALLY fast. I got to open some right there with the hammer. We learned that some were silent when shook and others sounded like they had rice inside rattling around. Plus we found a bunch of fossils along the river beds too. My favorite part was smashing them open with the hammer to see what was inside. A big thanks to Mr. Jon for organizing a fun weekend of hunting!!!

John McDonald - TCGM Jr Member

From Jack Mull

Over Memorial Day weekend we went hunting for Geodes. I had a great time looking for rocks and found some pretty good geodes. They had really nice crystals. When I got tired I just played in the river too! We got to play in the pool at the hotel a couple times and we stopped at Uranus Fudge Factory in Uranus, Indiana. Yay CANDY!

Thank you gentlemen, I'm glad you enjoyed the trip! We had the pleasure of welcoming a couple of new members on this trip as well. Alan and Deb Meyers, friends of Bill, joined the club just a couple weeks before the trip. We spent some time at two different locations on Little Salt Creek, which our club has visited on past trips. We also checked out a site on Knob Creek which was shared with us by Mike and Vicki from the White River club. I had not been to this site before and found it very productive. I was also surprised by how many "rattlers" we found. Not the snakes, but rather geodes that have a clearly audible rattle to them. I was pretty sure I even heard a little "sloshing" inside a couple of them. The water levels were generally low and made the stream collecting quite easy. We were able to collect enough to provide a bucket that will be donated to club sales. It should make our geode cracking booth at the show very enjoyable. There still may be a later field trip to the Indiana or Ohio area for fossils as well and I have heard that some members might be willing to head back down to Indiana for another shot at geodes, just for a day trip. If you are interested in such opportunities, reach out to our field trip coordinator, Gary Katt, or our president, C.H. Falstad. Peace! *Jon Mull*



ANNUAL MIDWEST FEDERATION SHOW AND CONVENTION COMPETITIVE EXHIBIT!

By Mary Johnson, Liaison

This year's Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies Annual Show and Convention will be held this year in Howell, Michigan! That is the good news.

The bad news is that it is the same weekend as our annual show, September 16-17. Any member is welcome to attend, and the Livingston Gem and Mineral Society will be hosting and also holding their show in conjunction. I will be attending as Liaison and our voting delegate at the annual meeting, but you may also want to take part by entering the Competitive Exhibit contest.

Do you have an exhibit (such as the ones we have on display at our show) that you are particularly proud of? You may want to consider entering it! Rules and more information can be found on the MWF form. If Jon did not have room for it in this month's newsletter, please contact me and I will be happy to forward you more information.

Have a rocking, happy summer! **Mary**

I will be reaching out to Aaron, our Webmaster, to post the form on our website - Jon

! Meeting SNACKS !

It's time to replenish the snacks again! Any type of pre-packaged snack is appreciated. Crackers, chips, cookies, bars, nuts, or any fresh snacks like little oranges, grapes or cheese sticks.

Just remember to check those expiration dates!



CENTRAL MICHIGAN BANQUET REPORT

By Mary Johnson, Liaison

On Thursday, May 18, Jon Mull and I braved the I-96 construction to attend the Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society Annual Spring Banquet at the Okemos Masonic Center in Okemos. A traditional chicken dinner was cooked and served by the local Masons, with the pie for dessert being a true highlight!

Scholarships were announced, there were several door prizes, and a very detailed program on the Mineral and Energy Resources of Michigan was presented by Dr Peter Voice from the Michigan Geological Repository for Research and Education at WMU. This center has a wealth of information. You can explore their website at:

<https://wmich.edu/michigangeologicalrepository>

As always, one of the best parts of attending meetings, banquets and events at other clubs is meeting and talking with rockhounds from other clubs. We sat across from a couple who live very near and are very knowledgeable about the famous "Grand Ledge" of Grand Ledge fame, who have invited us to come over for in-depth tours. Always great to meet other people! And who else would be at our table representing Indian Mounds? That multiple rock club joiner, Chuck Parks!

It was an enjoyable banquet and nice to see how other clubs celebrate their hobby. To top it off our classy Liaison sent a thank you note to the Central Michigan club. Thanks for inviting me Mary and providing a nice write up for the newsletter ;) Jon

- Junior Page -



It will be hard to top last month's meeting, when Kurt Brinks taught us all about Mammoths, Mastodons, and (what was the other one again?), Oh yeah, *Gomphothere!* We are going to try though!



Come to the June meeting and try your hand at sluicing for fossils, minerals and gems. If you have been to one of our shows, you may have seen the sluicing booth right by where you buy your tickets. The Junior club was able to acquire some of the bags of sluicing material and we will do it together.



What happens if you can't identify some of the rocks, minerals and gems in the bags? How do you go about identifying rocks/minerals/fossils. Is there a cheat sheet? Come to the Junior club and we will also discuss ways to figure out and identify what you find. See you there!



Meetings are held monthly on the last Wednesday of the month at the Howard Miller Community Center 14 S. Church Street, Zeeland, MI at 7pm, unless otherwise noted in the **TULIP CITY CONGLOMERATE**.

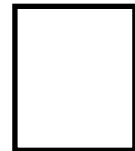
Our Junior Club welcomes and encourages young rockhounds and meets separately during the meeting. To become a member, complete the form at www.tulipcity.org

Advertising rates for club members are: \$5 for business card size, \$10 for 1/4 page, \$15 for 1/2 page, \$30 for full page. non-member rates are double. Make check payable To: TCG&M with ad copy to Editor.

Our club is a non-profit organization sponsored by the Holland Recreation Department. it is a member of the Midwest Federation and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. The general purpose of this club is to develop interest in and increase knowledge of minerals, rocks, gems, fossils, and the lapidary arts. The objectives of this club shall be promoted whenever possible, through family participation.

Tulip City Conglomerate

Jon Mull, Editor
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Holland, MI 49424



Background photo is from Viva Mas Mexican restaurant in Bloomington