



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

August 2023

Volume 56, Edition 8

Facinating Faceting - Is it for You?!

If you have spent any time in our demonstrators corner at the show then you probably met Eric Peterson! We are excited to have him as our guest speaker this month. Eric has been a Tulip City member since 2014. He is one of the earliest members of the White River club and a member of the Midwest Faceters Guild, as well as an alumni of the Gemological Institute of America. Eric has been a welcome demonstrator at our show for several years now and is going to share his passion and knowledge of the art of faceting!

Introducing the audience to faceting Eric will walk through the process from concept to finished glittering gemstone. Members will gain insight to the basics: tools, machines and how to select and purchase rough material. Once a stone is prepped, Eric will explain how to follow an existing design, what actually makes a facet, and share some of the tips and tricks he has learned in his 11 years of experience in this beautiful craft.

We hope you'll join us!

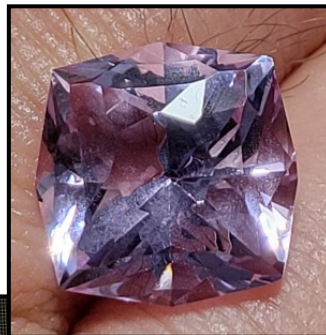
STARFIRE
PC 15,100 Emeralto

© Faceted by Starfire 7 June 2011
Color Based on "Starfire" color for Emeralds. Colorless. Based on photo of the stone cut by James Taylor, www.starfiregems.com

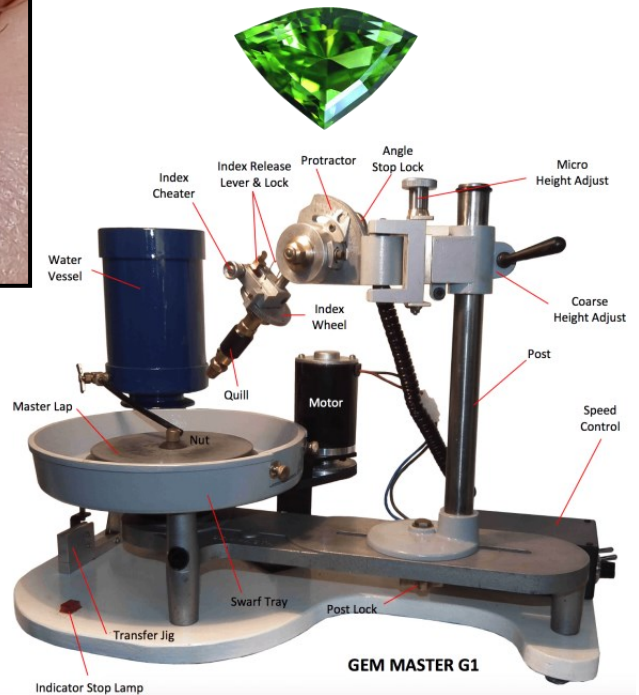
Facet Data	
Faceted Bevels	24
Grille Facets	8
Crown Facets	33
Total Facets	65
Faceted Bevels	3
Grille Facets	1
Crown Facets	7
Total Facets	11

Size Data			
L/W	1.000	P/W	0.488
T/W	0.300	C/W	0.155
L/H	0.300	H/W	0.675
W/H	0.251	P/H	3.150

Design Data	
Angles for R.L.	1.83
Symmetry	4-fold mirror
Index gear	96



Pavilion		
G1	90.00	03-21-27-45-51-69-75-93
P1	48.90	03-21-27-45-51-69-75-93
P2	44.78	04-20-28-44-52-68-76-92
P3	41.87	06-18-30-42-54-66-78-90
Crown		
C1	47.62	03-21-27-45-51-69-75-93
C2	36.30	96-24-48-72
C3	25.28	12-36-60-84
C4	21.94	96-24-48-72
C5	19.46	12-36-60-84
C6	16.48	06-18-30-42-54-66-78-90
T	0.00	Table



AUGUST IS PURPLE (VIOLET / LAVENDER) - 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
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Liaison - Mary Johnson
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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

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

9/15 Tulip City ANNUAL SHOW - Fri & Sat 10-7, Sun 11-5

The Soccer Stop Sportsplex - 5 River Hills Dr., Holland, MI 49424

9/23 Kalamazoo GMS - Tailgate - Sat. 9-3

St. Michael Lutheran Church parking lot - 7211 Oakland Drive, Portage, MI

9/23 Brown County RMC - Annual Show - Sat. 10-6, Sun 10-4

Brown County 4H Fairgrounds, 802 Memorial Dr. Nashville, IN

10/7 Midwest MLS - Rock Swap - Sat. 10-5, Sun 10-4

Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Rd. Belleville, MI

10/11 Tulip City Board meeting - Wed, 7pm

Howard Miller Library, Zeeland

10/13 Michigan MS - Annual Show - Fri. 9-6, Sat. 10-7, Sun 11-5

Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Rd. Belleville, MI

10/20 Three Rivers GMS - Annual Show - Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun 10-5

Allen County Fairgrounds, 2726 Carroll Rd. Fort Wayne, IN

10/20 Central MI LMS - Annual Show - Fri. 1-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun 10-4

Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 E Ash St. Mason, MI

10/28 Akron & Summit - Semi-Annual Show - Sat. 10-6, Sun 10-5

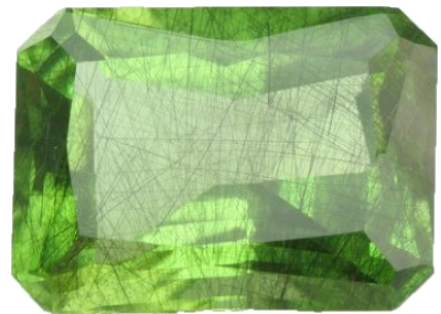
Emidio & Sons Banquet Center, 48 E Bath Rd. Cuyahoga Falls, OH

10/25 Tulip City General meeting - Wed, 7pm

Howard Miller Library, Zeeland

!! SHOW - SEPTEMBER 15, 16, 17 !!

~ Masthead "Mascot" ~
The image this month is a Peridot crystal from Pakistan. The gemstone for August, Peridot is actually the gem quality equivalent of Olivine. It's the "other" green gem!



Large faceted Peridot with inclusions of Ludwigite, similar to the way that Rutile is occasionally seen in Quartz crystals.

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



Field Trips



Bloomington, IN - Sat. Aug. 26

Our club Pres. C.H. will be leading a group to the Bloomington area in Indiana once again for a chance to collect geodes from local creeks, rivers, and farm fields. We are hoping to pick up a few suitable for our club sales table. Come along and join the fun and keep a few for yourself! Contact C.H. if you are interested! cfalstad3@gmail.com or 616-218-2707

Keokuk area Geodes, Iowa - Fri. to Sun. Aug 1-3

A group will be heading to the tri-state area of Iowa, Illinois, and Missouri for geodes as well. We'll arrive late on Thursday night and collect Friday, Saturday, and part of Sunday. Please email Jon Mull solace247@yahoo.com or call 616-510-4139 if you are interested. A sign up will also be at our August general meeting.

LaFarge / Holcim - End of Sept or early Oct.

Gary Katt is organizing a trip to Alpena to collect at the LaFarge / Holcim quarry. Details are being worked out but collecting will likely fall on a Friday, to support work within the quarry schedule. Stay tuned and reach out to Gary if you are interested. kattfiles@gmail.com

It's SHOW season!

***The best time of year to be a Tulip City member, and you gotta start by looking the part!
If you would like a club shirt or hat to wear while volunteering at the show, or out on field trips, or just on your latest trip to the grocery store, here are the details.***

CLUB SHIRTS & CAPS FOR SALE - 2023

Pre-paid orders for Club Shirts will be taken at the General Meeting on August 30, 2023. Please have cash or checks at the meeting. Only one chance to order.

Shirts will be available for you to pick up on Thursday, September 14th at the Soccer Stop. You can wear yours at this year's Show.

Wearing a Club shirt during the Show distinguishes Members for easier visitor identification and can be spotted across the room to identify one another.

Sizes and Prices:

Tee Shirt: SM to XL=\$10, 2X=\$12, 3X to 5X=\$13

Polo Shirt: SM to XL=\$16.25, 2X=\$18.25,
3XL to 5XL=\$19.25

Caps have adjustable closure. \$14.00 each



Make sure to contact Julia Sherwood at our August meeting if you are interested. Won't be at the meeting? Reach her at bobandjulia@accn.org and make other arrangements.



~ **More from the President** ~

This summer Gary Katt and others organized and led many field collecting opportunities across the US and Canada. What fun!

The excitement, camaraderie, and fun continue with our famous annual show. If you haven't already signed up for some of the programs, this month's general meeting is a fantastic time. It takes a lot of people to plan, pull together and run. We'll have numerous other collecting opportunities, but our Show only comes once a year. Don't miss out.

I would also like to thank all those on the Show Committee, especially the two co-chairs, Becky Siegel and Shari Luttkhuizen. When you see all of these people, help me thank them.

Our club is really rockin'. We received a huge donation of rocks and specimens from Debbie Lobert. Thanks. This reminds me. Julia Sherwood, Bon Sinke, Shari and Becky, and others helping with the show are in need of some materials for the show. All sizes are appreciated and have a special spot. Contact one or all of these individuals to see how you can help.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the Show if not before.

C.H. Falstad

Click the LINK ➡ ~ [Show Sign-Ups](#) ~ ⬅ **Click the LINK**

This is going to be a little different but just answer the questions and our Show-Chairs will place you in the schedule to make the best use of your time. If you prefer the old method, come to the meeting in August and you will find paper sign up sheets.

SHOW DISPLAY CASES

Sign up for a case at the August meeting so you can display some of the specimens you have collected. The theme is totally up to you! Below are the case sizes we have available...

Pony case - 48" wide x 24" deep x 24" high (the most common case we have)

Flat case - 24" wide x 30" deep x 5" – 8" tapered height and a glass lid

There are 52 cases available, so all members are invited to sign up for a display. That includes you, junior members! It's your chance to let all young visitors know that kids enjoy the hobby of collecting too! Can't be at the August meeting? Reach out to Patty Brinks, Displays chair.

715-305-6135 or by email: pattybrink@gmail.com

~ **Important tips for a great display** ~

- 1 - Clearly label your specimens, what, and where from. Also identify yourself and your theme.
- 2 - Use a liner in your case, lay it out in advance, and take a picture to make it easier to recreate on site.
- 3 - Once it's "installed" clean your case front, bring cleaner and paper towels.
- 4 - Protect your collection. Bring a small padlock, keyed or combination.

One of our clubs primary goals is to educate ourselves and others about our wonderful hobby. Your case will be a great part of that process.

Show Corner - August 2023

The Show is barely a month away!! We need all hands on deck. The Committee are busy with getting their areas ready, but we could use your help.

Sign-ups: The sign-up sheets (for volunteering at the show) will be at the General meeting on August 30. Also check out the link on the previous page to sign up online!

Club sales is always looking for rocks/material to sell. It must be clean and identified. Bring it to Bob Sinke at the next meeting.

IF you want to sell at the Marketplace, Patty DeGroot will have a sheet available with rules and tips. If you can't make it to the August General Meeting the details are available below.

We need some snacks for the show. If you can bring in home-made cookies/brownies, or pre-packaged snacks that would really help. We will have a food truck available for meals Friday and Saturday, and Shari is working on donations for sandwich stuff from our neighbors at D&W. If you would like to bring in condiments, pickles, etc, or have questions, contact Michelle Lanting.

Please be available September 13 (Wednesday night before the show) for show set up. Many hands make light work, and we need people from 3-7pm to unload the trucks, set up the showcases, erect the fluorescent tent, etc. I heard a rumor that there might be pizza and homemade cookies for those who help!

We also need lots of people on Sunday, September 17 at 5:00 to help us load the trucks back up. Some of the committee members are at the show all weekend, and by Sunday we are tired! We really need lots of hands!

Thank you,
Becky and Shari

Members Marketplace Sellers Guide

You must be a member of Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club to sell at the marketplace

Sellers must have a paid membership for 2023. Anyone joining the club at the show is considered a 2024 member and are not permitted to sell at the 2023 show.

The club will receive 10% from the gross sales of each seller at the Marketplace. The seller will receive the remainder of their money after the treasurer has finished the show finances.

Sellers must provide sales slips for the items they wish to sell. PRINT CLEARLY !! Remember to fill out the top and bottom of the sales slips with your price and name so you will be paid. Be sure all items have complete slips before arriving at the show.

[Slips can be found on the club's website.](#)

Due to limited space only Marketplace workers are allowed behind the tables.

Price your items carefully. The price that the item is marked will remain until the last hour of the last day of the show. There will be no haggling or negotiating prices with buyers.

The Marketplace will provide a "Close out Sale" during the last hour of the show. You can change your prices at this time using red ink (club will provide pens).

Your Show Committee 2023

*These are the folks that will be the backbone of this show! If you would like to help them in their areas in any way, or have questions, reach out to them. **Most of all say THANKS!***

Show Co-Chair: Becky Siegel (616-510-4153) swordfly247@yahoo.com
Show Co-Chair: Shari Luttikhuizen (616-669-4664) sluttikh@oaisd.org
Club Sales: Bob Sinke (616-455-7567) bobsinke@comcast.net
Dealers: Sue Goedert (616-337-1162) sonbeams2000@yahoo.com
Demonstrators: Eric Peterson (231-780-7101) marinebumble@gmail.com
Geode Cracking: Jon Mull (616-510-4139) solace247@yahoo.com
Displays: Patty Brink (616-994-8563) pattybrink@gmail.com
DoorPrizes: Christine Silich (616-212-8180) csds77@icloud.com
Education Station: Brooke Ludema (616-834-7014) brookeludema@gmail.com
Fluorescent Display: C.H. Falstad (616-218-2707) cfalstad3@gmail.com
Hospitality: Michelle Lanting (616-490-3888) michlyngal@gmail.com
Kids Games: Angie Mull (616- 510-5574) geodesaremybestfriend@gmail.com
Co-Kids Games: Helen Mantooth (616-797-2123) helen@mantooth.net
Lobby: Theresa DeMol (616-836-2608) t.demol@yahoo.com
Co-Market Place: Patty DeGroot (616-546-1041) crystalsea618@hotmail.com
Co-Market Place: Brenda Nienhuis (616-283-0789) brendanienhuis@gmail.com
Membership/Information: Rhonda Gehringer (616-990-6461)
rgehringer@homeoftheshamrocks.org
Co-Memorials: Betty Hoekstra (616-667-2294) kbhoek@att.net
Co-Memorial: Brenda Nienhuis (616-283-0789) brendanienhuis@gmail.com
Co-Publicity: Becky Siegel
Co-Publicity: Alex Vanderski (231-218-8332) alexandria.vandervest1029@gmail.com
Schools: Patsy Williamson (616-796-8192) patsywi61206@gmail.com
Security: Rudy Silich (616-212-8167) csds77@icloud.com
Sluice: Dianne Graf (616-610-5807) johngraf@hotmail.com
Special Exhibit: Julia Sherwood (269-227-3202) bobandjulia@accn.org
Tickets: Sue McMains (616-990-1364) scmcmains@sbcglobal.net
Touch Rocks: Linda Winkelmann: (616-834-6651) lindawinkelmann@att.net
Trailer Manager: Tom DeMol (616-312-5918) t.demol@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Kurt Brinks (616-422-3594) kdbrinks1@gmail.com

**Did you
Know?**

Dealer List

Here is a quick list of the dealers that will be selling at our show.

Earth Prospecting	Daves Rocks & Carvings	Paleo Joe
Mannings Rock Shop	Unique Russian Minerals	Friends in Stone
Wrap N Rock Gems	Russell's Trees & Treasures	Millstone Minerals
Dreaming Down Under	Beauties of Creation	Peacock Rocks

Petoskey Polish - Hemlock Crossing Park

On a recent Saturday afternoon (Aug. 19) seven Tulip City Gem & Member Club members partnered with Ottawa County Parks to provide a program on Petoskey stones and Petoskey stone polishing. Ottawa County Parks naturalist George Jaeger (who is also a Tulip City member) opened the program with a presentation including information about the name Petoskey, the geology underlying the formation of these fossils, the choice of the Petoskey stone as Michigan's official state stone, and some places where Petoskey stones can be collected. Then Deb and Rick Smith, Bill and Tanya McDonald and their son John, and Mike Graebner helped the 22 program attendees polish their own Petoskey stones by hand. All of us working there had a great time, and to judge by the level of engagement, the questions the participants asked, and the interactions between them - and the smiles! - all the program participants had a great time too!



~ JUNIOR SECTION ~

Not the usual place - but with a familiar face

The juniors are in for a treat this month as we welcome back Rick Smith to offer tips about setting up a case for the show. Shari will be back in October, after the show! ;)

Setting Up Your Display Case -- "Wow, People Like My Stuff!"

Hey, juniors, here's a good way to have some fun and be part of the Club's Show coming up in September: set up a display case. The Club will provide you with a display case you can use at the Show, so all you have to do is decide what to put in the case...and how to show things off.

But what are some ideas and tips you can use to make your display case special, to make it something that's especially yours? At our August meeting we'll work together to set up an actual display case and together try out some different things you can do with your own display. We'll have some rocks and minerals on hand to try out our ideas, but bring a rock of your own too to see how you might be able to use it in a display. Come on out to our August 30 club meeting for our display case activity night!



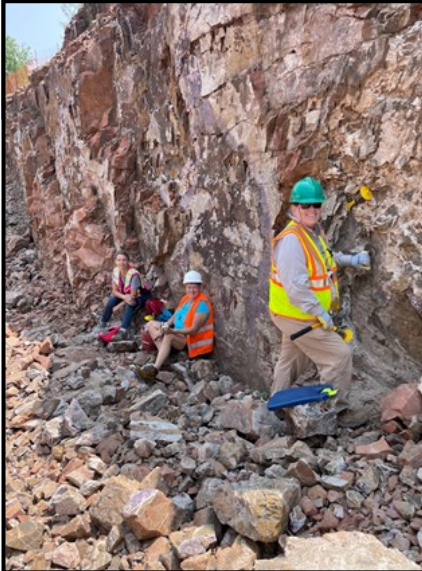
~ Thunder Bay Amethyst Field Trip ~

The Thunder Bay Amethyst field trip occurred the week of June 19th-23rd. Field trip attendees traveled up to Thunder Bay at various times prior to the start of the event with several stopping to collect along the way.

Monday morning the group met at the Blue Point Amethyst mine where we were graciously hosted by the mine owner Jordan Vivian. This is the first year with Jordan as owner and he was a wonderful host. As this was a rock club event we were allowed access to the mine pit itself and not just the tailing piles. He reserved the whole week for us in the pit with no other people or groups allowed into the mine but us and we were the first group into the mine pit this year.



Much adventure was had in the mine as sounds of clanging hammers, chisels, and drills rang out along with sounds of joy and happiness as discoveries were made!



~ Thunder Bay Continued ~



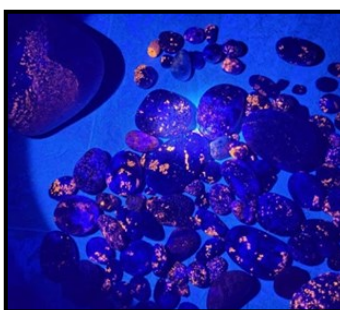
The next day, we were off to the Diamond Willow Amethyst mine. Interestingly enough, the Diamond Willow shares part of the same mine pit with the Blue Point Amethyst mine. We could only hunt in the tailing piles at Diamond Willow, but still some good discoveries were made.



On Wednesday, we visited the Panorama Mine. This mine, again only allowed hunting in the tailing piles. One of the items the Panorama is known for is their giant amethyst points of which several were found



After collecting at both the Diamond Willow and Panorama mines, several people once again went back to the Blue Point Amethyst mine since we had access to the pit for the full week. The group spread out for the rest of the week with some heading home, collecting along the way. The trip was a



great success with many attendees looking forward to returning in the future! Gary Katt 2023

~ Ishpeming Rock Show & Field Trip ~

Several Tulip City and White River Rock Club rock hounds once again crossed the Mighty Mac the first week of August to collect at various mine sites and attend the Ishpeming Club show! Some also went on to Keweenaw for more adventures, but that is their story to tell.

Having never been to the Republic Mine and learning too late last year that the Ishpeming Club's once a year field trip was the ONLY time the public can collect there, I made a special effort to attend. For \$10, we were allowed to collect as much as we (and our vehicles!) could carry from 2 different locations in the huge mine site. What did we find? Banded iron formation with hematite and Jasper, specular hematite, taconite, magnetite, and even small garnets!! Lovely material, much of it glittering and shining in the sun on our bright, sunny day and very HEAVY. Footing can also be challenging, as the rock piles shift and slip.

After a quick picnic lunch at the nearby campground, 7 of us went on to the Champion Mine site known especially for specular hematite. I had not realized there are several piles of material throughout the site, and was interested to discover some new locations. Thankfully, it was not quite as sunny as earlier, as the road and piles can be quite blinding with the glitter from the hematite! Mama Mia's, a long established local Italian restaurant, did not disappoint for dinner.

Saturday brought the Ishpeming Show, with its vendors, silent auction, evening cracker barrel and live auction of many remarkable, exceptional specimens. The silent auction presented many local pieces which could often be won with very reasonable bids. Vendors, including an agate guy with an amazing amount of agates at varying prices, offered different material than we always see here downstate, although there were also many familiar faces.

Between the show and the cracker barrel, 6 of us went to the Ropes Gold Mine site to collect the green antique verde. (And any gold we might have found! ☐). The gate was unlocked, so we drove in which was nice because it is about a half mile walk to the site, and the material becomes heavier and heavier on the way back. However, when we came back, the lock was on and we about panicked! Fortunately, it was not on securely and we were able to escape. We did find lots of the pretty green antique verde, and other material in a nearby field and rock pile. It is worth the hike, even if I would not trust driving in again.

The speaker at the Cracker Barrel spoke very technically on rifts and tectonic plates, and has a new book published on the topic. Peter was able to obtain several stunning pieces in the live auction, including a fascinating piece of fossilized coral—ask him about it when you see him....

Sunday for me included breakfast with Deb and Rick Smith at the famous "Sherrie's," a local diner with good food, but focused on the long drive home, with rock stops in Marquette and Petoskey for a little variety and breaks. All in all, it was a great time, made all the better by being able to share the experience with great rockhounding pals! Thanks Deb, Rick, Peter, Pam, Bambi, Chuck, Vern, Brenda, Mike and Robin! Hope you all had as good a time as I did!

Mary Johnson - Aug 2023





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**.

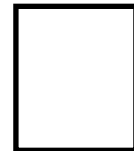
Our Junior Club welcomes and encourages young rockhounds and meets separately during the meeting. To become a member, complete the form at www.tulipcity.org

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
14325 Essenburg Dr
Holland, MI 49424



Background photo is from the Two Hearted shoreline Lake Superior