



KETTLE KRIER

President: Tony Ilecki Vice President: Richard Hamman
Secretary: John Rettler Treasurer: Carol Ward

A Message From the President

Hey, it's February!! Chances are that by the time you read this, the ground hog will have been out and about, or having seen his shadow, scurried back into his hole.

Either way the people of the KMGS are excited and working hard to put the finishing touches on our annual rock and mineral show on March 11 & 12 2017. This year's show promises to be better than ever. The committee has put together a show with exhibits and demonstrations that will let people see almost every aspect of our "obsession" from gathering raw rocks and minerals to finished products made from them. See our poster elsewhere in this newsletter and/or visit us at www.kmgsrocks.com for more information. I hope to see you there.

Recap of January Meeting

The meeting was called to order by president Tony Ilecki at 6:45PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by 26 members and guests in attendance.

The minutes of the December meeting and the treasurers report were read and accepted.

Tech committee chair, Richard Rosenberger, requested that all members make sure that their e-mail addresses are up to date. Show committee chair, John Rettler gave an update on the show and circulated a volunteer sign-up sheet, stating that more volunteers are needed to man areas like the entrance table and kids tables. Budget committee chair, Mike Andryczyk, will present a proposal to the board by next meeting.

Tim and Gail Perrin reported on the "Seed Project" event to take place on 1/28/17 in West Bend with the Washington County 4H group.

Debbie Elftman noted that anyone wanting a KMGS name tag in time for our annual show should see her after the meeting. Pin tags are \$8, while magnetic tags are \$10.

A letter by the Southern California Paleontological Society regarding proposed prohibitions to the "Casual Collecting" of "Fossils" language to include all federal lands (National Parks, BLM areas). It was decided that the membership would have 12 days to read this letter and

inform president Tony Ilecki of any objections. If no objections, KMGS will endorse the actions proposed in the letter.

A “goodie detail” sign-up sheet was passed around by Debbie Elftman for the rest of the year.

A request by Tony Ilecki for any old photos or articles about KMGS, including programs from prior shows and membership rosters, for scanning into our digital archives

After adjournment, the group got into the months “program” of identifying club owned specimens, and readying them for sale at the club table at our show.

The program for the February meeting will be the continuation of the National Parks series provided by Winnie Mading. Goodie detail for February will be Carol Ward and Winnie Mading.

The next meeting will be on February 15, 2017, 6:30PM at the Pewaukee Library.

MEET OUR MEMBERS

This month’s member is Bernice McCloskey, the only charter member still active in the Kettle Moraine Geological society. Her interest in rocks started in her youth when she used to gather rocks that looked interesting along the road at her uncle’s farm. She kept many of these rocks at home until her mother asked her to get the rocks out of the house. She sat in on a few classes in lapidary and attended a few meetings of the Wisconsin Geological Society. Then an article in the Waukesha Freeman about a group asking for people interested in starting a rock club caught her eye.



Bernice and her late husband Joe (1998 photo)

Bernice and her late husband Joe were among the 47 people with an interest in rocks that formed the Kettle Moraine Geological Society in 1960. She and Joe both became charter members and stayed active in the club ever since. Bernice was a long time editor of this newsletter, and held just about every post available in the group at one time or another. She also was active in the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies at one time being president of the organization.

Sadly, her husband Joe died in 2011 but Bernice, at age 94, has remained active in both the KMGS and Wisconsin Geological Society. Our organization is both proud and lucky to have a resource like Bernice to show us youguns how things need to be done.

THE KMGS TRAVELING EDUCATION SHOW

On January 28, 2017, KMGS, led by Tim and Gail Perrin, set up an educational “show” in West Bend, WI at the Public Agency Building for the 4H groups in Washington for the purpose of introducing the earth sciences and the rock collecting hobby to the 4H participants. Eight of the 4H clubs in Washington County were represented. The presentations and demonstrations were attended by 13 youths and 8 parents, who were able to get information about “rockhounding” from how to get started and where to collect all the way to what to do with the specimens collected. The participants were divided into groups that made the rounds of all the demos.

The KMGS members that helped to put on this presentation did a wonderful job and it seemed that the attendees were interested in the presentations. Winnie Mading put on a presentation of how to get started collecting with information about equipment needed and safety rules that need to be followed. Mary Nettesheim exhibited specimens that could be found and where to find them. Mike Andrysczyk put on his usual fascinating talk about how the rock types were formed in the earth and how to identify them. John Rettler focused on mining of metals and minerals in the Wisconsin area, past and present. Richard Rosenberger displayed and explained minerals that glowed under UV light (fluorescent minerals). Milt Wilson showed how a rock could be cut, formed and polished to create a cabochon. Marlene Ilecki and Carol Ward put on a “make and take” of simple wire wrapping to make pendant out of polished stones. Finally, Tim Perrin spoke about how the earth sciences and other parts of the hobby could be used as a 4H project.

All in all everyone had fun time, hopefully learned something, and maybe found interest in the earth sciences. Thank you Tim and Gail for spearheading this venture.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 4 & 5: Appleton, Wi. “FOX ROCKS” at Grand Meridian 2621 N. Oneida St., Appleton, WI. Saturday, March 4, 10AM-5PM Sunday, March 5, 10AM-4PM. Admission \$2, under 12 free.

March 11 & 12: West Bend, WI 55th annual Kettle Moraine Geological Society rock, Mineral, Gem and Earth Sciences Show Saturday March 11 10AM-5PM, Sunday March 12 10AM-4PM, Admission: Adults \$3.00, under 12, scouts and 4H members in uniform free



25-26: JANESVILLE, WI Badger Lapidary & Geological Society Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 9 am - 4 pm. Rock County Fairgrounds -Craig Center Bldg., 1301 Craig Ave, Janesville. Contact (608) 897-2608; jdrules3@gmail.com

THE LAST WORD

As groundhog day approaches, we should all remember that the little rodent is just reminding us that Valentine's Day is just around the corner. It's the time of year to do something special for that special person in your life. What better way to say "Be my Valentine" than to give him or her a rock.

TONY ILECKI

Editor