



# KETTLE KRIER

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

## A Message From the President

I open this month's issue with a plea for someone to volunteer to head up the Sunshine Committee. This is an important position in the club and really needs to be filled.

May 6 & 7 marks the Midwest Federation annual convention, held this year in Brainerd, MN in conjunction with the Cuyuna Rock, Gem and Mineral Show. It is an event that is well worth going to and I would like to ask if anyone would be interested in attending and representing KMGS. Alas I will not be able to make it due to scheduling conflicts.

## Recap of April Meeting

Meeting Called to Order by President Tony Ilecki at 6:32 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by 26 members in attendance. We had 4 guests in attendance: Charles & Lynn Koosey, Louis Garblelman & Roger Kent.

Sec. John Rettler read the Minutes of the March Meeting. Debbie Elftman made motion to accept as read. Second by Winnie Mading. Motion Carried.

Treasurers Report was read by Treasurer Carol Ward. Motion by Janet Schmitt to accept as read. Second by Second by Gary Schumacher. Motion Carried.

Show Committee Report: John Rettler reported that the show was a successful event, and we already had seven Vendors paid for the 2018 show. The results appear to be close to the 2016 show. More and final details will be presented by the Treasurer. We had much positive feedback from Vendors, Guests and Members alike.

Carol Ward gave the Financial report form the show, and we had about 50 more attendees than 2016, and made \$0.93 more! With a total revenues from the show of \$5,127.52

The Tech Committee Report was presented by Richard Rosenberg. He will be updating the Roster again to correct some errors, and anyone new to be added or corrections to be made should be forwarded to him.

President Tony Ilecki requested a Volunteer for "The Sunshine Committee". Nobody was willing to volunteer. In light of this, Janet reported on Virginia Yelk who no longer pays dues, due to her advanced age, but still is excited to learn of the Clubs events. Janet gave a brief report, and Tony suggested perhaps an "interview" for the Kettle Krier may be forthcoming.

***Announcements:***

April 22-23 Eau Claire Show.

April 29<sup>th</sup>, a field trip by the Rock River Club will be held at the Silha Quarry

May 6 & 7 Marshfield Show.

May 6 & 7 The Midwest Federation show will be held in Brainerd MN.

May 20-21 The Wisconsin Society will be holding their show in Wauwatosa.

June 24<sup>th</sup> and September 9<sup>th</sup>, The Chuck Howland Estate will be auctioning off Rough Rock at the Curry Auction in Belvidere IL.

***Old Business:***

KMGS was asked and responded to attend the 2017 Sustainability Fair on August 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00. Volunteers are requested. Please contact Tony if willing to represent the club.

Dave & Debbie Elftman reported back on the costs associated with mailing out the Postcards of KMGS meetings etc. Based upon 50 members, the cost is about \$6 per address annually. The mailing of cards is funded through the year so further discussions will be held as to how to proceed to change the service if desired. If you prefer to receive the cards, in 2018 we will need to decide upon the funding.

Janet Schmitt reported on holding a Summer Picnic on Saturday first Saturday in August, at Nixon Park in Hartland, and will reserve the date and shelter.

***New Business:***

KMGS was invited by the Rock River Group to attend the outing on April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Silha Quarry.

May 6<sup>th</sup> – Peter Graets will be leading an Arrow Point hunting expedition from his home, a sign-up sheet was circulated. Meet at his home at 10:00 am.

John Rettler gave a brief report of the recent tour to the Miller/Coleman Mine and the Crater of Diamonds State Park in Arkansas, and the Stratica Salt Museum and Mine in Kansas, as a suggestion for destinations while traveling.

The May Goodie Detail is Janet Schmitt & Karen Kulas

Janet gave a terrific report of her attending the Arizona Show with some magnificent photos and tales of the event.

The May program will be the preview to the Power Point presentation by Tony Ilecki, of the now digitized format of the KMGS Kettle Kountry Presentation, made up of a collection of volumes of materials from the KMGS History Collection.

Motion to adjourn by Dave Elftman. Second by Russ Fuhrer. Motion Carried at 7:32 pm.

*John M Rettler - Secretary*

**The next meeting will be on May 17, 2017, 6:30PM at the Pewaukee Library.**

## Janet Schmitt's Musings on Tucson

Member Janet Schmitt gave an informative talk about the Tucson show. She spent a week there working with a dealer and wandering around the different venues of the Gem Show there. She showed many photos of the specimens that were on display and for sale, many of which were priced well beyond the means of all but the most serious of collectors. However, she kept repeating that "looking is free". Many thanks to Janet for the interesting talk and show.

## A WIRLWIND TOUR

John Rettler gave a short description of the trip he and his wife Mary took last month to the southwest. Included in his trip was a stop at the Stratica Salt Museum and Mine in Kansas, the Miller/Coleman Mine and Crater of Diamonds Star Park in Arkansas. He recommends the Stratica Salt Museum, as the tour includes areas where decades old equipment, tools and half eaten lunches are perfectly preserved in the mine where the temperature is a constant 68 degrees and the humidity is 40%. John has promised a more detailed article, with pictures at a later date. I look forward to publishing it in a future issue.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Peter Graetz has invited interested members to attend an arrowhead hunt on May 6th, 2017. Any one interested should meet at Peter's house, N677 Hoover Rd., Oconomowoc WI 53066 at 10 AM on Saturday, May 6. For further information you can contact Peter at (920) 342-0371.

**MAY 6-7: BRAINERD, MN** Cuyuna Rock, Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Crow Wing County Fairgrounds, 2000 SE 13th Street, Brainerd. Contact Sharon Smith, (218) 343-7037; [sharon@agatesrock.com](mailto:sharon@agatesrock.com)

**MAY 6-7: MARSHFIELD, WI** Heart of Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Marshfield High School Fieldhouse, 1401 Becker Rd., Marshfield. Contact Cynthia Kelman, (715) 387-8782; [kelman@tznet.com](mailto:kelman@tznet.com)

**MAY 20-21: WAUWATOSA, WI** Wisconsin Geological Society Annual Show. Sat & Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Hart Park - Muellner Building, 7300 Chestnut St., Wauwatosa. Contact Paul Schmidt, (414) 771-8668; [pvs@wi.rr.com](mailto:pvs@wi.rr.com)

**MAY 27-28: ST. CHARLES, IL** Chicagoland Gems & Mineral Association Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Kane County Fairgrounds, 525 S. Randall Road, St. Charles. Contact Debby Ballot, (630) 272-8275; [demarrex1@att.net](mailto:demarrex1@att.net)

**JUNE 3-4: VIROQUA, WI** Coulee Rock Club Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Viroqua Middle School, 100 Blackhawk Dr., Viroqua. Contact Allison Conrad, (507) 895-8109; [rockinbabe@acegroup.com](mailto:rockinbabe@acegroup.com)

**JUNE 10: SKOKIE, IL** Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society Annual Rock Swap. Sat 11 am - 5 pm. St. Peter's United Church of Christ gymnasium, 8013 Laramie (at Oakton). Contact Betty Novak, (708) 795-7539; [novakagate@hotmail.com](mailto:novakagate@hotmail.com)

For those who like to plan ahead, the KMGS picnic will be held at Nixon Park in Hartland on Saturday, August 5, 2017. It starts at noon, (be there a little earlier for set-up) and runs till 4:00PM. Bring your own food and a dish to pass around if want. A grill will be set up for cooking.

## THE LAST WORD

May is here. The April showers are gone and the May flowers are now beginning to bloom. Mother's Day will soon be here, and what better way to show your Mom how much she means to you than to give her a gorgeous rock from your collection. Or better yet, take her out on a rock hunt at your favorite collecting site

Until next time, happy rockhounding!!

TONY ILECKI

Editor