



# KETTLE KRIER

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

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**Our next meeting will be on August 16th, 2017 at 6:30PM at the Pewaukee Library Goodie Detail is Jeanne Lyons & Toni Schumacher**

## A Message From the President

This last month I traveled to Minocqua, WI to take part in the Lakeland Gem Club annual show, and had the opportunity to talk to many of the members and officers of the club. I was not surprised to learn that this club is experiencing some of the same problems as ours and, I suspect, many others. Mainly there is an aging membership and not enough “active” members to get much of the work done. The existing members do a yeoman’s job of keeping the club alive and for this I give many thanks, but for the club to thrive and/or grow we need to get younger people interested in what the KMGS has to offer. I bring this up as food for thought in the hopes that a solution can be found.

As a possible solution KMGS members Tim and Gail Perrin have begun a liaison with the 4H groups in the area in the hopes of getting some of them interested in putting together a project involving earth sciences/geology that can be used as an exhibit at our show and maybe get them to join our group. Another resource may be to contact the Boy Scouts and work with them on program for the geology merit badge. There are probably many more ways to approach the problem, but it will require discussion by the members and an effort to implement the ideas.

## Recap of July Meeting

- (1) Meeting Called to Order by Vice President Richard Hamann at 6:40 PM.
- (2) Pledge of Allegiance recited by 20 members in attendance.
- (3) Guest Mitchell Durben was in attendance.
- (4) Sec. John Rettler read the Minutes of the June Meeting. Milt Wilson made motion to accept as read. Second by Monica Daly. Motion Carried.
- (5) Treasurers Report was read by Treasurer Carol Ward. Motion by Jeannie Lyons to accept as read. Second by Winnie Mading. Motion Carried.
- (6) Show Committee Report: John Rettler reported that about 60% of the Vendors have responded and committed to the 2018 show. Flyers are available and being sent to Paid Vendors.

(7) The Tech Committee Report was presented by Richard Rosenberg. He reported the posting of some member stories, and put them in the events section, and reminded members to use the blog.

***There was no old business:***

***New Business:***

(8) A reminder that the KMGS Summer Picnic on first Saturday in August, the 5<sup>th</sup>, at Nixon Park in Hartland. It will begin at Noon, but some will be there early to start setting up.

(9) Larry Christopherson announced that he will be holding a Rock Rummage Sale in September, and details will follow at the next meeting as dates are finalized.

(10) Larry Christopherson also announced that while the Chuck Howland Estate will be at the Curry Auction held on September 9<sup>th</sup>, and next April of 2018, that will be the last sale for the Curry Auction Service.

(11) Vice President Richard Hamann noted that the Board had met to discuss budgetary and Bylaw concerns. It was decided that a few adjustments and changes need to be made to the bylaws, and they must be presented to the membership at two consecutive meetings, before being voted upon. The changes were noted, and Debbie Elftman suggested we table this until the September meeting, as it is a "Regularly Scheduled Meeting."

***Announcements:***

(12) The Rock River Club is hosting another Field Trip outing to the Silha Quarry on July 29<sup>th</sup>.

(13) John Rettler brought up the idea of posting KMGS on "Amazon Smile" as a potential revenue source. Carol noted that if we do, it should be a separate checking account.

(14) The August Goodie Detail is Jeanne Lyons and Garret and Toni Schumacher.

(15) The August Program will be presented by Winnie Mading on the Geology of the National Parks.

(16) Larry Christopherson announced that the 2019 World Agate Show will be held in Austin Texas.

(17) There was brief discussion on expanding events like the Germantown 4<sup>th</sup> of July event to other communities. KMGS made \$180.50 at the event, and anyone who wants to promote KMGS is welcome to do so.

Motion to adjourn by Mike Andrysczyk. Second by Garret Schumacher. Motion Carried at 7:31 pm.

*John M Rettler - Secretary*

**The next meeting will be on August 16, 2017, 6:30PM at the Pewaukee Library.**

## 4th of JULY



There is something special about a 4th of July celebration in the park. For the third year, KMGS was invited to put up a display about our club and geological sciences in general at Fireman's Park in Germantown. The day started early (8:00AM) with erecting the shelter for the displays. Shortly after the tent was up, the sifter area was set up, KMGS displays were assembled, Mike Andrysczyk put out his rocks for discussion, Winnie Mading displayed the surprises that can be found in any rock and the "Name That Rock" game was put on the table.



Then the fun began. After the parade through Germantown ended at Fireman's Park, a steady stream of visitors came through the tent. The children all had to get a chance at the sifter, the adults were captivated by Mike Adrysczyk's explanation of the origins of many types of rocks. Winnie's display amazed young and old

alike, while quite a few young and older visitors tried to match the rock with it's name. In all quite a few people visited and expressed interest in geology and KMGS.



Many thanks to members John and Mary Rettler, Mike and Suzanne Andrysczyk, Winnie Mading and Tony and Marlene Ilecki for making this all possible.

## Thoughts From a Member

What do you do with a mineral, fossil or rock collection that has been passed down to you? How do you dispose of a collection or lapidary equipment when you must downsize? Where can you go to for information about who would want these things? All questions that never occur to anyone until the answers are required.

The first two questions can be easily answered. 1.) Donate your collection to a museum or other organization, such as a local rock club for display or other educational use. 2.) Sell or consign your collection to a dealer. 3.) Donate to a group for use specified by donor. 4.) If you are a member of a rock club, sale to other members.

The last question; where to get this information; is more difficult to answer. Which brings me to the proposition of putting together an article to be published on the KMGS website with ideas and possibly contact information for the general public to read. This is an offshoot of our purpose, which is to disseminate knowledge. The content should be discussed and agreed upon by the membership. Perhaps a committee could be formed to start the process and see it through to publication. Should any of you have any thoughts on this subject, please bring them up at any one of our meetings.

Richard Hamann

## Vacation Suggestion

For those of you who have the opportunity visit the area of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, I suggest a trip to Houghton, home of the A. E. Mineral Museum. The museum itself is worth the trip, with its many displays and exhibits. Minerals and rock specimens from Michigan and the Great Lakes region abound, with descriptive captions that explain the formation and type. One can also learn the natural processes that formed these minerals, as well as the uses of many of these minerals in the products we use every day. Indeed a fascinating and educational experience for anyone. Just prepare to spend the better part of a day to take it all in.

That being said, the area contains much more than the museum. Nearby Greenland, MI offers various tours of an underground copper mine, while just north across the Portage Canal lies the Keweenaw National Historical Park. There are many other museums and historical sites of the “Copper Country” area as well. With the short time available to us before heading for home we did not even begin to explore the many interesting parts of the area, including Keweenaw Week field trips that will occur from Aug 8th thru the 11th (missed that by two weeks). This is one area that is on our list of “must take a week to visit” places.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Aug 5: NIXON PARK, HARTLAND, WI** KMGS annual picnic from NOON to 4PM. BYOF and a dish to pass if you desire. A hot grill will be available.

**Aug 8-11: KEWEENAW PENINSULA** Keweenaw Week Field Trips 10 am - 4 pm daily. Contact Norm Gruber, (906) 228-6764; [show@ccrhc.info](mailto:show@ccrhc.info)

**Aug 11-13: HOUGHTON, MI** Copper Country Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show. Fri 1 - 8 pm; Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 11 am - 3 pm. Houghton Elementary School, 302 W Jacker Ave, Houghton. Contact Norm Gruber, (906) 228-6764; [show@ccrhc.info](mailto:show@ccrhc.info)

**Aug 12-13: RICE LAKE, WI** Northwest Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Youth Expo Building, Barron County Fairgrounds, Hwy 48 North, Rice Lake. Contact Roy Wickman, (715) 357-3223; [rktswick@chibardun.net](mailto:rktswick@chibardun.net); Dave Skrupky, (715) 986-2547; [dskrupky@centurytel.net](mailto:dskrupky@centurytel.net)

**Aug 19: STEVENS POINT, WI** Heart of Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society Rock Swap. 10 am - 5 pm. Parking lot behind Applebees, 5609 Hwy 10, Steven Point. Contact Sandy Brandl, (715) 326-1609; [stonez@tds.com](mailto:stonez@tds.com)

**Aug 26: EAU CLAIRE, WI** Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society Rock Swap. 8 am - 5 pm. Eau Claire Expo Center, 5530 Fairview Dr., Eau Claire. Contact Paul Tubbs, (715) 834-5747.

**Aug 26: MT. PLEASANT, WI** Racine Geological Society Rock Swap. 10 am - 5 pm. Bartlett Youth Foundation, 1120 N. Stuart Rd., Mt. Pleasant. Contact John Lowman, (262) 989-9193; [lowman.john@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lowman.john@sbcglobal.net)

## THE LAST WORD

Pity the poor month of August. Not only is it saddled with the monicker “Dog Days of Summer”, but it is the only month that has not one nationally acclaimed day in it. Not even Hallmark found it interesting enough to give it a “Hallmark Holliday”. We can change this! We can pick a day, any day in August, and proclaim it to be “ROCKHOUND DAY”. A day when we celebrate the hobby and art of rockhounding by giving our friends and loved ones cherished rock and mineral specimens. We can write poetry such as “An Ode to Obsidian”, or “Poetry in Pyrite”. We can sing songs like “The Basalt Boogie”, and dance to the “Hematite Hop”. Let us rise up and help August take its place proudly among the other months who scoff at its lowly position.

As to the date, may I recommend August 3, the birth date of the most wonderful and important person I know (after my wife of course), ME!

Finally, don't forget the picnic on Saturday August 5th from noon until 4:00PM and the next meeting on Wednesday August 16th at 6:30PM.

Until next time, happy rockhounding!!

TONY ILECKI

Editor