



THE KETTLE KRIER

Visit our web site at www.kmgsrocks.com

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The Kettle Moraine Geological Society (**KMGS**) was organized in 1960 for the purpose of gathering and disseminating knowledge of geology and the earth sciences

Our meetings are held at the Pewaukee Public Library on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM. Guests are always welcome. Persons interested in becoming members can obtain an application form from any of the officers.

Visit our website at www.kmgsrocks.com and like us on facebook.

The Kettle Krier is the official publication of **KMGS** and is published each month. Articles for publication must be submitted no later than the second weekend of the month prior to publication.

KMGS is a member of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Society and the American Federation of Geological Societies.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

April is here and our annual show is now in the rear view mirror. I wish to thank the show committee for once again co-ordinating a fantastic event, and a special thanks to all of you who worked to make the exhibits and demonstrations a great experience for the attendees. GREAT JOB PEOPLE!!!!

Now comes the fun part of the year. With the weather starting to warm up and the ground thawing, it's time to look ahead to outdoor adventures involving hunts for specimens of all types. Hopefully some of you will share your favorite spots with the rest of our group and maybe help set up a field trip. A group outing to a geologically interesting spot would be a good way for KMGS members to get together and socialize in a setting other than meetings. I, for one, would Tony Ilecki

AND A HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THESE MEMBERS BORN IN THIS MONTH

Janet Schmitt, April 18

Our next meeting is on April 18, 2018 at 6:30PM at the Pewaukee Public Library

March 21st, 2018 KMGS Monthly Meeting

Meeting Called to Order by President Tony Ilecki at 6:34 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the 35 Members and Guests in attendance.

New Members: Jim Morgan & Mike Hutwagner, were welcomed to the club.

Guests Included Aiden Cook as a quest and Kathy Pabst who was welcomed back after an absence.

Sec. John Rettler read the Minutes of the February Meeting. Winnie Mading made motion to accept as read. Second by Mike Andrysczyk. Motion Carried.

Treasurers Report was read by Treas. Carol Ward. Motion by Toni Schumacher to accept as read. Second by Kathy Pabst. Motion Carried.

Show Committee Report: John Rettler reported that the show was a success, and while attendance was down due to the nice weather, other than door receipts, we were up financially in all revenue areas. Thanks to the entire membership for their assistance was expressed, a few ideas and comments from and about the show were expressed, and the Carol Ward read the financial results from the show.

President Tony Ilecki appointed John Rettler to continue as Show Chairman for the 2019 show.

The Tech Committee Report was presented by Richard Rosenberger. New 2018 Roster will be revised to reflect the new members and will be distributed. He requested any photo's or videos from the show be posted online, or be e-mailed to him for use on the web page and for promotions. We also have a QR Code which was on display at the show, and will be circulated, which allows Smart Phones to directly access our Website. This was put together by Cherri Zahn and Ali Khan and we thank them for their contribution

Sunshine Committee: - Bernice McClosky is ill and we offer our prayers for her quick recovery and hope to have her return soon.. President Tony Ilecki read thank you cards from both the Hanson and Cook Families for both the flowers and the memorial table at the show. Cate Comdohr, Charles Cooksey & Maureen gross have Birthdays in March.

The "Program Committee" report was given by Carol Ward, and while Bernice was absent, the Schumacher's were willing to step up and provide the program for the evening. Bernice will present her program on the founding of the club in 1961 and her involvement with the MWF upon her return. Next Month's program will be Debbie Elftmann with the "Gray Fossil Museum" program

(Old Business)

Debbie Elftman noted she will be ordering name Badges for any members who want them for \$10 each

(New Business)

President Tony Ilecki announced that we received a donation of lapidary equipment from Nick Smith in Sussex for some saws, sanders and misc. equipment. We will decide after a closer inspection as to the disposition, but we appreciate the donation and will keep the club informed of the status.

The Board of Directors is considering the purchase of a trailer to house and store Club materials and equipment to alleviate storage. Issues if nobody is opposed, the Board will look further. There was none.

(Announcements)

March 24 & 25 Janesville – Badger Lapidary show.

March 21 & 22. Eau Claire Show

Goodie Detail – April will be Donna Cook & Tony and Marlene **Ilecki**.

Door prizes were donated by Larry Christopherson.

Motion to adjourn by Dave Elftman. Second by Winnie Mading at 7:53 pm. Motion Carried.

John M Rettler - Secretary

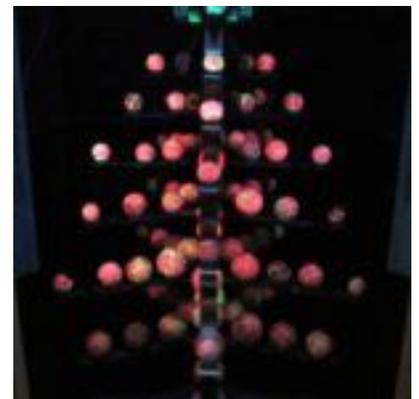
Photos from the show



Milt Wilson demos cabbing



A view of the crowds



The florescent tree



Charter Member Bernice McCloskey Discusses our history



The sifter is a busy attraction



The Chairman of the show
John Rettler

As can be seen from the above photos, the March show was a great success. Many positive comments were made about the displays, demonstrations and activities. Many thanks to all who worked to put this show together and made it a memorable event for attendees and participants.

HOW I GOT STARTED AS A ROCKHOUND

This month features John and Mary Rettler. John is the Secretary and Show Chairman of KMGS and Mary is a member of the Sunshine Committee.

“How We Got Started”

How we got started in the hobby of Rock Hounding and our affiliation with the KMGS is twofold. We both love the outdoors, nature, and prefer natural settings for vacations and relaxing, over resorts, tourist attractions and the congestion of people and activity we are attempting to escape. But for both Mary and myself, our first interests into the hobby starts as we were children.

Both of us growing up in or near the country, and choosing to spend most of our childhoods in the fields and woods over the playgrounds, as grew accustomed to finding marvel and beauty in the simple things the earth produced. I as a farmer, and Mary always helping her Dad in his enjoyment of tilling the soil in his later years, we both found or discovered the treasures of geology in the spring rituals of picking stones off the crop land to protect the equipment.

While it was an important and time consuming task, the arduous hard work was despised by all, as it revealed little immediate gratification, and is seen as a chore more so than anything compared to an adventure. However, it was on one such outing that Mary found a remarkable artifact, when she unearthed a Fossilized Mastodon Molar, which she ferried away into her closet for safe keeping, until her

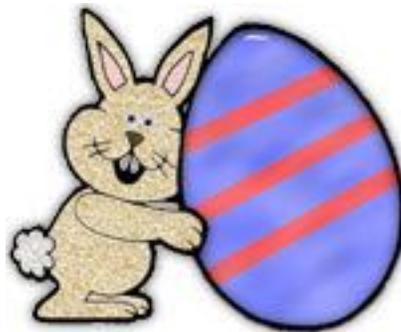
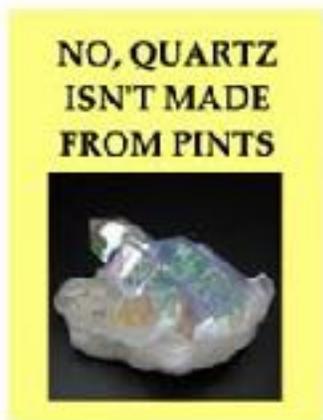
eventual husband identified it. Which ignited both of our interests in geology and fossils.

For my part, the combination of history and geology was always a part of the attraction of any road trip or excursion into the wild. The marvels of natural beauty and the close relationship I had with the earth as a farmer, opened doors and spurred intrigue within me for as long as I can remember. But it was on our honeymoon while traveling up the west coast of Lake Superior, when we stumbled across the Amethyst mines near Thunder Bay Ontario, which opened the doors to the mystical and geological bounty the earth had to offer when it took hold.

A few years later a chance encounter with a club member, who invited me to the KMGS Show at the Sussex Armory, which deepened the admiration for the hobby, and I was introduced and bitten by the Rock Hound Bug that I began to reflect upon the missed opportunities from the years of stone picking as a farmer. My love for geology and history took over and soon we were both driven to a Club Meeting and our entry into the KMGS.

That was around 2008 or 2009 and while the years have flown by, the memories are fresh. Recent years have brought several trips and excursions to some remote areas in search of mineral specimens, trinkets and exposed some geological wonders. Always one's to want to learn and discover, the KMGS and the fellow members have become a cherished resource for so much education to pass on and share with others.

John and Mary Rettler



THE LAST WORD

May I wish a happy Easter to all of you.

As editor of the Krier, I once again ask for submissions to place in the newsletter. I'm still looking for the "How I Got Started" pieces such as the one that John Rettler gave us this month. These articles are not only interesting, but give incite into what really makes a rockhound a rockhound. They also will help us get to know each other a little better. Other ideas would be to tell the story of a particularly interesting piece in your collection, or maybe a tip or two on how to cut or polish rocks. Please help, I'm dying here.

April has arrived and with it the beginning of the rock hunting season. The ground is finally thawing and the frost heave has hopefully brought new rock specimens to the surface. No doubt a good time to traverse fields and streams looking for additions to our collections, if the weather will only co-operate. Should you get out and about, let me know about your experience.

And finally, a thought for the month: **A true rockhound never takes a gneiss rock for granite.**

Happy rockhounding!!!

Tony Ilecki
Editor

