



THE KETTLE KRIER



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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

Happy September,

Have you ever had a casual friend ask you to explain why you enjoy the hobby? What is it about “rocks” that draws some people to hunt for certain types and learn about how they were made? Trying to answer that question can be anything from difficult to frustrating. I think I have a universal answer that will both impart the passion for the hobby and possibly turn the questioner into a rockhound. Show the skeptical person some of your specimens. Let them know that the amethyst crystals with their color were dug up from the ground. Tell them that the cubed pyrite crystals were formed in the rock matrix. Nothing beats actually seeing these things to help incite an interest in the hobby, and maybe bring a new member into KMGS.

Tony Ilecki, President KMGS

AND A HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THESE MEMBERS BORN IN THIS MONTH
Megan McDonald, Sep 2 Larry Christopherson and Gene Clark, Sep 13
Mike Andrysczyk, Sep 16 Marian Wienke, Sep 20 Mary Rettler, Sep 24

Our next meeting is on September 19, 2018 at 6:30PM at the Pewaukee Public Library

NOTICE OF MEETING NIGHT CHANGES

Due to conflicts with Pewaukee Library scheduling, the meeting dates for October and November have been changed to the fourth Wednesday of those months.

October 2018 meeting will be held on October 24th at 6:30 PM
November 2018 meeting will be held on November 28th at 6:30 PM

Please make a note of these changes.

KMGS PICNIC REVIEW

Saturday, August 4th was the day of the annual KMGS picnic. About 20 members came together at the shelter in Hartland's Nixon Park at Noon, anxious to grill their brats and burghers, sample the various dishes brought by others and talk rocks and other stuff. The weather co-operated by being sunny and not too hot. But wait, no one brought charcoal for the grill, and the small gas grill that was brought as a standby would barely get warm enough to heat hot dogs. Surely a disaster in the making. Fortunately, Mike Andrysczyk took off and brought back the black diamonds to get a nice hot grill going for us all.

THANK YOU MIKE FOR RESCUING THE PICNIC.

After the cooking was done and the plates filled, the group started telling tales of past adventures, and in general enjoying the company of fellow rockhounds. A few rocks were passed around for viewing and/or identification and a few local brews were sampled thanks to the beer garden that was set up near by. It seemed that a good time was had by all who attended and too soon it was time to pack up and leave. Is it too soon to start planning for next year's picnic?

A special thanks to Janet Schmitt for setting up the time and place for the shindig.

AUGUST PROGRAM WRAP UP

Those who missed the August meeting also missed a fascinating presentation on dinosaur and fossil digs presented by Joe Woger. Joe has spent some time in the field on fossil digs and the tale of his adventures with a great video presentation kept the group glued to their seats. Afterwards, there was a hands on activity for those who wanted to see if they could identify small fossils of bones and other parts. The tables were surrounded by members who wished to test their knowledge, but it is unknown how many actually were able to correctly identify what was in their bags.

Thank you Joe for a great evening program.

August 15th, 2018 KMGS Monthly Meeting

Meeting Called to Order by President Tony Ilecki 6:40 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the 26 Members in attendance.

There were no new Guests in attendance.

Sec. John Rettler read the Minutes of the July Meeting. Milt Wilson made a motion to accept as read. Second by Mary Nettesheim . Motion Carried.

Treasurers Report was read by President Tony Ilecki . Motion by Toni Schumacher to accept as read. Second by Jeanne Lyons. Motion Carried.

Show Committee Report: John Rettler reported that the show is about 45% of goal, 3000 Flyers are out, and are available to all members.

The Tech Committee Report was presented by Richard Rosenberger. The New Roster was sent out, and copies are available. A reminder of adjustments of Meeting Dates at the Pewaukee Library have been posted in the Kettle Krier.

As a reminder the schedule is as follows:
(October 24th, – The Fourth Wednesday)
(November 28th, - The Fourth Wednesday)
(December 19th, – The third Wednesday)
(January 16th, 2019 – The third Wednesday)

The Sunshine Committee - Birthdays will be posted in the Kettle Krier

As Carol was absent; there was no “Program Committee” report; but the September Meeting will have no program as it is the annual “KMGS Pot Luck” and there will be a social after the meeting.

The “Education Committee” report by Mike Andrysczyk reported that no progress yet on assembling “Teacher Display Boxes”, as this may likely be a winter project for spring distribution.

Mike gave a KMGS presentation to the children at the West Bend Public Library on July 20th. It was noted by both John Rettler & Mary Nettesheim who also provides extended education to children at schools that others are encouraged to attend the presentations to learn how and duplicate the programs of bringing the education of geology and minerology to others outside the club.

(Old Business)

The KMGS Picnic at Nixon Park on the 4th, was well attended with 18 -20 members, the weather was great, and those in attendance enjoyed the afternoon.

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(New Business)

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Mary Netteshiem displayed and recommended two books available from Costco or Bookstores: Wisconsin Rockhounding & The Geology of Wisconsin State Parks.

(Announcements)

August 25th, Racine Geological Society Show – 10-5 at the Bartlett Youth Foundation.

September 7 & 8th, The Earthhaven Museum Sale in Gillett WI.

September 19th, the KMGS Potluck will be held after the meeting.

September 29 & 30th, The Oshkosh Earth Science Club Show, will be held at the Sunny View Expo Center. Sat 10-5 and Sun 10-4.

Door prizes were donated by Larry Christopherson, Donna Cook & Tony Ilecki.

Joe Woger gave a terrific presentation on his Dinosaur bones, the “digs” he has been on and the topic.

Motion to adjourn by Mary Nettesheim. Second by Milt Wilson. Motion Carried at 7:14 pm.

John M Rettler - Secretary

SEPTEMBER MEETING PREVIEW

The September 19, 2018 meeting will be our annual POT-LUCK. Bring a dish of your favorite comfort food to pass around to the other members. Due to the fact that some will be bringing hot stuff to the meeting, the pot luck will be held before the meeting.

(Note from the president: Any one who dozes during the meeting will find themselves on a committee of the president's choice.)

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The Board of Directors advised and accepted the revised language for the Community Resource Policy, for the disposition of collections and displays from the public, and it will be posted in the Kettle Krier, and be posted on the Website.

The Board also established a policy for members who will be acting as Club Delegates for the Mid-West Federation Convention. Whereas all members are allowed to attend as non-voting guests and attendees, the Club is limited to two (2) Voting Delegates, and to encourage Club Members to attend as Delegates, the Club will pay expenses to a limited amount for scheduled events and housing. All other expenses are the responsibility of the Delegates.

Goodie Detail for August was unavailable, and Debbie will need to remind us as to who will provide the August Goodies.

(Announcements)

July 20 & 21, The Lakeland Gem & Mineral Club annual show is in Minocqua at the High School

Door prizes were donated by Larry Christopherson.

The KMGS Summer Picnic will be on Saturday August 4th at Nixon Park in Hartland from Noon until 4 p.m. The event will be announced the Kettle Krier.

Motion to adjourn by Milt Wilson. Second by Garrett Schumacher. Motion Carried at 7:17 pm.
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John M Rettler - Secretary

HOW I GOT STARTED

This month's "HOW I GOT STARTED" comes from Doug Liepens who rejoined KMGS after an absence of several years. Welcome back Doug

The mystery of rocks, minerals and fossils has captured my imagination at an early age. It began with a sparkling piece of mica schist found in a gutter near my home on the south side of Milwaukee in 1965. With the help of my mother, the rock was washed and the sparkle came to life. My first rock! I was captivated by the sparkle and mystery of what it was. Later that year my parents gave me about 20 minutes to look for rocks at Bradford Beach. The water worn crinoid stems in limestone, some glass and a piece of old brick was added to the mica schist and formed the beginning of a rock collection. After placing them in an egg carton, the task of identifying them started. I checked out every book on rocks that I could find in the library and compared my finds with the pictures. A trip to the Milwaukee Public Museum at age 8 to see the collection of mineral specimens really set the hook. I remember the fluorescent display, a giant piece of rose quartz, some fish fossils, and a huge crocoite specimen with hundreds of red/orange needles. (Crocoite is still one of my favorite minerals.) Alas, the exhibit is gone, but the memories remain.

My parents encouraged my interest in rocks, and as the years passed introduced me to a place called a "Rock Shop", where I was amazed to find crystals, fossils, polished and unpolished slabs and other rough rocks for sale. Indeed, people were there to buy and talk about rocks. Plus there was a rock tumbler in operation, and the place was filled with smell of lapidary cutting oil. On our first visit my parents bought me a quartz crystal cluster from Zacatecas, Mexico, a small wulfenite crystal from the Red Cloud Mine, and small pieces of malachite, cinnabar, and reaclar. I still have those pieces in my collection.

Time passed, with more trips to rock shops, trips to local gravel pits and road cuts, and the purchase of my first lapidary equipment, a tumbler from Martin's Rock Shop, and after a year of saving, my first 10" saw (\$150 new). Other used and home built equipment followed, and soon I assembled a nice little lapidary shop. By now I was living in East Troy and became acquainted with the Hammets, a retired couple who did lapidary work. They were charter members of KMGS and once a month I traveled with them to the KMGS meetings. Those early club meetings were wonderful, and I met many really talented and generous people. Bill Brown, Harry Brown, and the Howlands to name a few.

One year I was exhibiting a fluorescent mineral collection with Bill Brown. During the show, a woman approached and told me that her late husband had left a fluorescent mineral collection and that she would like to sell it. The lady was Madeline Bode, and her husband, Bill was a big fossil collection. A trip to her house with my summer work savings bought me a \$300 fluorescent mineral collection, which included a lamp, geiger counter and some radioactive specimens. Later, with the help of my parents, I purchased the rest of his collection. Now I had rocks everywhere!

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Years slipped away and some of my rocks and equipment were sold as other things gained in importance. Time spent learning to be a goldsmith and becoming a graduate gemologist had me working in that field for a few years.

I have recently rekindled my rock interest and have once brought out the collection that has been stored in the dark for all these years. I have purchased lapidary equipment again and have set up a home lapidary/goldsmith shop. I going on collecting trips to increase the quantity and quality of my collection. I have become a member of KMGS to meet with people who enjoy the hobby as much as I do. I look forward to the monthly meetings and a chance to "talk rocks".

By the way I am still fascinated by the mystery of a sparkly piece of mica schist and the wonder of how it was formed.

Doug Liepins

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 29-30: OSHKOSH, WI Oshkosh Earth Science Club Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Sunnyview Expo Center, 500 E. County Rd. Y, Oshkosh. Contact: Ann Voges, 615 Monroe St., Neenah 54956; (920) 725-1640; hankemps@milwpc.com

October 6-7: SPRINGFIELD, IL Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Orr Building, Illinois State Fairgrounds, 801 Sangamon Ave, Springfield. Contact: Ed Wagner, 9872 E. 1950 North Rd., Bloomington 61705; (309) 838-7782; loesseditor@gmail.com

October 20-21: CHICAGO HEIGHTS, IL South Suburban Earth Science Club Annual Show. 10 am - 5 pm both days. Prairie State College, 202 South Halsted St., Chicago Heights. Contact: Jan Podbielski, P O Box 911, Peotone 60468; (708) 625-5876; jan@janskidesigns.com

THE LAST WORD

The kids are all back in school, the weather is starting to cool, the leaves are starting to turn and fall. This must be September. Vacations are over, and now the work of classifying all those rocks and fossils that have been collected over the summer begins. If you are anything like me, most of the summer's finds are sitting in one big pile waiting to be sorted. When sorting time comes, the hope is that any labels containing names, dates and locations have remained with the rock instead of drifting to the bottom of the bag in one big stack of papers. On the other hand, if you are organized and know exactly what you have, you must now figure out a place to put it among the already monstrous collection you have. Either way the next month or so will be an interesting way to relive the summer's adventures one rock at a time. Indeed, the joy is in the process.

And now for something completely different

As always, as editor I extend the invitation for you to comment the layout, content and other aspects of the Kettle Krier. I also ask for submissions for publication from members. If you have any tips on where to find good rocks, how to display what you do have, or any other thing that may interest the group, please contact me so that I can put them in the Krier. Right now I am looking for a few more stories for the "How I Got Started" column. I am also looking for photos from events like the picnic to add to any stories.

Happy rockhounding!!!

Tony Ilecki
Editor
email: tilecki@ymail.com