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# THE KETTLE KRIER



Official Publication of **Kettle Moraine Geological Society**  
Visit our web site at [www.kmgsrocks.com](http://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](http://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.

## IMPORTANT MEETING NOTICE

**We have found a place to hold our October meeting. The location will be at the Clarke House Museum, 206 E Wisconsin Ave - Pewaukee, WI 53072. This is about one block north of our regular meeting place at the Pewaukee Library.**

**The date and time of the meeting is Saturday, October 17 at 10:00 AM. Further information and directions from the library to Clarke House is located on page 2.**

## From the Presidents Corner

Hello KMGS members,

We have made some progress in finding a place to hold our meetings. I want to keep us in Pewaukee, I think it s a good central location for most of our members. The board will be meeting to discuss the new location and hopefully approve it. So be sure to read on in the newsletter to find out where and when.

What you all need to be thinking about is nominations for new officers for next year. I will not be running for president again and we will always take candidates for any of the positions. So please give it some thought and don't be afraid to nominate yourself or someone else. Elections will be in November.

That's all for now, hope to see you soon.

Be safe and keep on rockin'.

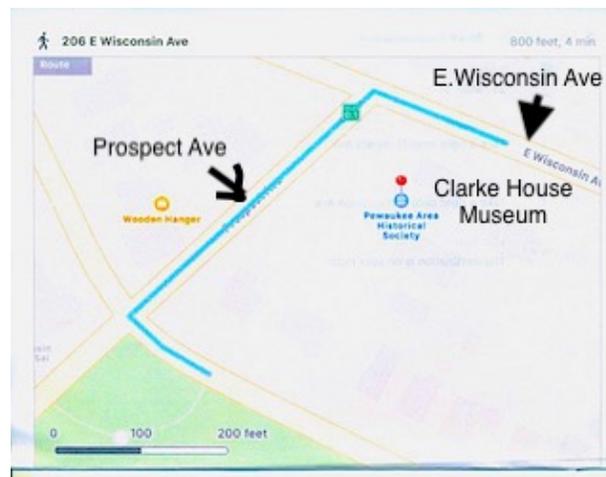
Mary

## MEETING UPDATE

Finally KMGS will get to meet as a group!!

Our October meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, October 17 at 10:00AM at the Clarke House Museum, 206 E. Wisconsin Ave in Pewaukee. This about one block north of our regular meeting place at the library. There will be street parking on Wisconsin and on Prospect (no lot is available at the museum), or you can park at the library and walk from there. Below is map with the route from the library to Clarke House.

“Social distancing” will be observed as well as possible and because it is indoors, **face covering will be required.** Hope to see you there.



## NOTICE OF UPCOMING ELECTIONS

KMGS election of officers is scheduled for the November meeting. This means that nominations for the positions should be done during the October meeting. The offices that will be elected in November are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board Member. Anyone interested filling these positions should contact the nominating committee. The committee chair and members will be announced by the president at the October meeting.

KMGS depends on the participation of its members to exist. New ideas of how the club is run and club programs and field trips are needed. In these uncertain times maybe on-line participation is an option we can examine. As one of the officers and a member of the board you can help to bring about more on-line activities including possible meetings. So give it some thought and run for office if you feel you can contribute.

Part 3 of John Rettler's "confessions of a rockhound" continues below.

### *My Relationship With Rocks. By John M. Rettler*

#### *Part 3 of 6. Collecting*

I think every child has a natural fascination with rocks at one time or another. I can remember many of my childhood friends discussing an interesting stone or rock at "show and tell", or prominently displaying a stone or photo amidst the clutter of their bedroom when visiting.

But I never had a collection as such, other than an arrow point I was given as a child by my grandfather, and a few large or unique boulders serving as landmarks around the farm. That changed years later when on our Honeymoon we decided to drive around Lake Superior.

We had travelled north of Thunder Bay, Ontario when we passed a sign advertising "The Panoramic Amethyst Mine", as an open tourist destination. Not knowing what amethyst was, other than the purple jewel like the picture on the billboard along the road to tempt us in, where for a nominal fee you could collect your own sample and search for the gem of your dreams. It was too enticing to pass by.

Upon entering the small rock-strewn parking lot, we were surprised at the humble rustic sheds and trailer which made up the office and abode of the caretaker. Expecting a deep shaft style mine where we would go spelunking deep into the bowels of the earth in search of jewels and such, we were less than impressed in the mine itself. It was an open pit mine similar to the gravel pits I was accustomed to when I bought and retrieved a load of gravel for the driveway.

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But as long as we were there, we were convinced we would enjoy the experience, and after a short tutorial on the mine, history, safety and such, we were each given a hard hat, a five gallon bucket, and our choice of a shovel or hammer, and unceremoniously directed towards a series of large tailings piles to collect our jewels and samples.

It did not take long to change our minds on the cosmetics of the situation, as we quickly started finding and gathering samples of amethyst and filled our buckets.

I was enthralled by the fact that these gem shaped crystals and gemstones were harvested directly from the earth in the stereotypical jewel shaped form I thought were the “after product” of a jewelry maker and faceting process. I couldn’t understand how geologists and rockhounds could even recognize a rough uncut gemstone, nor could I imagine the cutting, machining, and grinding to perfection required to facet a rough rock into a gemstone or jewel.

The idea that these were emerging from the ground as they were, absent the cutting or polishing by a jeweler or lapidarist, was a lesson on nature’s perfection and the bounty the earth supplied over the millions of years since man started collecting the shiny objects as they became the first rockhounds.

Now we were doing the same thing, searching for the glimmer or “flash” of purple, or even a color or texture in contrast to its surroundings to indicate a potential “find” in the mud and dirt clumps which we were traversing. One such “find” was an Amethyst “point” larger than my fist which had a mesmerizing deep purple translucent color and had a naturally perfect point to the two-pound crystal. It was beautiful, and while it has since been damaged and relegated to a memory, it inspired further study and an awakening to the world of crystals.

This all being “PI” (Pre-Internet) where study and research required reading, sorting through pages of pictures, even some cartography with stacks of books, libraries, verbal discussion, and hands on comparisons to glean the desired knowledge.

A new threshold had been crossed to the interlinking of earth science subject matter between geology, crystals, and the advent of my collecting days commenced. Few new locations of travel ensued without a discussion or quick scouring of the area for a geological or mineral find to be collected and studied.

(editor’s note: This series will continue next month (November) with part 4)

### Sunshine Committee Corner

Here to share information about members for members. Please let us know what you wish to share.  
Contact Marlene Ilecki, email: [ileckimar@gmail.com](mailto:ileckimar@gmail.com), Phone:(414) 430-5788

## Welcome to National Popcorn Popping Month

### THIS MONTH'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

**Oct 1, Dave Derrick: Oct 6, Nancy Shervey: Oct 7, Sarah Henry: Oct 21, Kathy Pabst:  
Oct 24, Dave Eftman; Oct 30, James Morgan and Russ Fuher**

### OTHER DAYS OF NOTE IN OCTOBER

**Oct 1**, National homemade cookie day; Disney World opened (1971): **Oct 3**, National Techie Day: **Oct 4**, National Vodka Day: **Oct 6**, National Noodle Day; T. Edison shows first motion picture (1889): **Oct 7**, National Chocolate Covered Pretzel Day: **Oct 8**, National Pierogi Day: **Oct 11**, National Sausage Pizza Day: **Oct 12**, Columbus Day; First Oktoberfest in Munich, Bavaria, Germany (1810): **Oct 13**, National No Bra Day; U.S. Navy started (1775): **Oct 15**, National Grouch Day: **Oct 16**, Global Cat Day: **Oct 17**, National Pasta Day: **Oct 19**, Clean Your Virtual Desktop Day; Revolutionary Ends (1781): **Oct 21**, National Pumpkin Cheesecake Day: **Oct 23**, National Boston Cream Pie Day: **Oct 24**, United Nations begun in 1945: **Oct 26**, Erie Canal Opened (1825); National Mule Day: **Oct 28**, National Chocolate Day; Statue of Liberty presented to U.S. by France (1886): **Oct 29**, "Black Friday" (Stock Market collapse) (1929): **Oct 30**, National Candy Corn Day: **Oct 31, HALLOWEEN**; National Magic Day; Knock-Knock Joke Day

# HAPPY HALLOWEEN



**The next scheduled meeting of KMGS will be on October 17, 2020 at the Clarke House Museum, 206 E. Wisconsin, Pewaukee, WI**

## KMGS RECENT HAPPENINGS

John Rettler has secured a temporary space to house Milt Wilson's collection. John will be contacting members to help sort and price the various items like slabs, finished cabs, unfinished cabs, spheres, polished agates and other miscellaneous items. After the rocks are sorted and priced they will be available for inspection and purchase by members. Proceeds from the sale will be split as club sales between Karen Wilson (75%) and KMGS (25%). Dates and times will be announced as soon as they are firm up. Meanwhile, if you want to assist in the identification, sorting and pricing of the pieces, please call John Rettler and offer your services.

Also, the last of the Ed Fyrnys donation is there in one room, ready to be identified and sorted and will be available to members to pore over and take what they wish. Most of this is rough, agates, jasper, some ore from a played out copper mine and miscellaneous unidentified rocks.

Below are a few pics of what is available



The Fyrnys Collection  
Free to members



Milt Wilson's Jewelry



Milt Wilson's cabs



Milt's cabs



Milt's slabs and agates



Needs to opened and ID'd

# THE LAST WORD

Here we are in the month of October and still under the influence of COVID19. Summer has come and gone and the leaf raking season is upon us. So many summer plans have had to be modified or cancelled. Vacations were turned into staycations. Group plans and meetings had to be adjusted to include fewer people, **IF** a location could be found to accept the group. And don't forget the "social distancing" and face masks.

Which brings up the question of how our members have spent this unusual summer. Have you finally got around to doing some of those "deferred maintenance" projects that were put aside because rockhounding got in the way, or maybe sorted and cataloged the many rocks that were put aside for later? Did you actually get out to add to your collection? As editor I am still looking for submissions of articles to put in the Krier and your experiences could make for interesting reading by other members. Reviews of books, DVDs or TV shows are welcome as well. Share the knowledge with fellow rockhounds and see your name as a byline.

## Thought for the month

**Life is what happens while you are making other plans.  
Happy rockhounding!!!**

**See you all at the Clarke House Museum on October 17, 2020 at 10:00AM**

**Please send all comments, submissions and ideas for articles to me at [tilecki@gmail.com](mailto:tilecki@gmail.com).**

Tony Ilecki  
Editor

**HAVE A HAPPY  
OCTOBER  
HALLOWEEN**

**AND DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR  
CLOCKS BACK ON HALLOWEEN NIGHT  
STAY HEALTHY AND SAFE,**

## **AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES CODE OF ETHICS FOR ROCK COLLECTING**

**I will respect both public and private property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.**

**I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.**

**I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of the property on which I plan to collect.**

**I will use no firearms or blasting materials in collecting areas.**

**I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.**

**I will leave all gates as found.**

**I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.**

**I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.**

**I will fill all excavation holes that may be dangerous to livestock.**

**I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.**

**I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.**

**I will practice conservation and undertake to use fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.**

**I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.**

**I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.**

**I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will, at all times, conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of rockhounds everywhere.**