



Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society **December 2017** **ROCK PICKINGS**

P.O. Box 1724 • Richmond, IN 47375 • eiggs.weebly.com • facebook.com/EasternIndianaGemGeologicalSocietyEIGGS

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Memberships:

Annual dues
\$15 Individuals
\$20 Families

Please send dues to:

EIGGS
PO Box 1724
Richmond, IN 47375

4 Next meeting: Thursday, January 4, 6:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hi, Fellow Rock Club Members:

I just wanted to say how privileged I feel to be elected your club president. I've had a great love of this club and its members since I joined in 2008.

It was at the club show in March of 2008, that I found my love of rocks again. When I was a little girl, my mother gave me a card with a shark's tooth, dinosaur bone, a quartz piece and many other little specimens that were available at the time. While walking through that show in 2008, touching a lot of the tumbled rocks (rock people have to touch), and looking at the beauty around me, I felt like I was home. I guess my mom really knew the heart of her child.

When I joined the club in May of 2008, I met a wonderful man that would teach me my craft. His name was Gene, and he was a very good and kind teacher. He showed me how to mark my patterns, trim them out, mark my girdle, and go to town cutting and polishing. He taught me well and I have beautiful cabochons to show for it.

One of my favorite things about the club is its people. All of you have become my second family. I always know whom I can go to for guidance, rock identification (no, I don't know them all), and various other questions about the club, the history and the rocks.

My hope for all of you this coming year is to really get to know the people in our club. They have lots of knowledge and great big hearts. If you don't know how to do something, especially when its rock-related, just ask.

Deb Chagares :)

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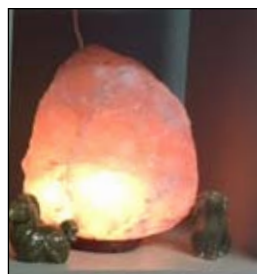
Holiday pitch-in photos



Joe Wirrig, Naomi Jones, Bryant Jones

PAGE 6

Luna's Garden's Gift Shop



Rock shopping in Metamora, IN

PAGE 7

Art Nouveau at DAI



Alphonse Mucha's Ruby gem illustration

PAGE 10

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Seriously, click here now!

Members attending: Libby Adams, Pam Beneker, Dave Bowling, Malessia Bowling, Judy Burton, Deb Chagares, Alma Glisson, Joy Ingerman, Erna Jacob, Bryant Jones, Dakota Jones, Estel Jones, Faithe Jones, Mona Jones, Naomi Jones, Missy Killion, Barbara Kuhlman, Susan Kuhlman, Jim Lucas, Marty Lucas, Nikki Merrill, Tim Merrill, Lisa Morris, John Morse, Mary Ann Morse, Randy Patrick, Jerry Patterson, Harris Precht, Ann Richardson, Matt Rudicil, Angie Shaffer, Bobby Shaffer, Hailee Shaffer, Randy Siefert, Suzanne Siefert, Deanna Smith, Dave Straw, Linda Straw, Teri Wiggins, Joe Wirrig.

Meeting was called to order by Secretary Mary Ann Morse since President Mark Lisota and Vice President John LaMont were absent.

Old business:

Membership renewals: All memberships run January through December, so if you haven't renewed yet, you need to do so.

Langsdon Collection field trip: Field trip Saturday, Dec. 9, to the Langsdon Collection in Celina, OH. The event will last from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. The cost is free, but if you haven't registered, you need to see Lisa tonight so she can contact the library with our number of attendees. (see photos on page 8)

Members' artwork: Reminder that the Barbara Kuhlman, Susan Kuhlman and Joe Wirrig have pieces featured at the Richmond Art Museum's Holiday Art Mart until January 13. (see page 7)

Shop reminders: Reminder that with the cold weather, it is important to remember to turn the furnace back down to 55 degrees and to turn off the water to the saw room when closing up the shop.

New business:

Election of officers: The nomination committee returned a slate of officers for presentation. Nominations were solicited from the floor; none were presented. The following people were elected to the following positions.

Deb Chagares, president
Jim Lucas, vice president
Mona Jones, secretary
Angie Shaffer, treasurer

Treasurer's Report:

Income: \$836, including \$250 from dealers, \$180 shop fees, and \$20 soda.

Expenses: \$285, including \$13 for the newsletter, \$229 utilities, \$37 for 2018 show and \$5 miscellaneous.

Presentation:

Geologist Randy Patrick gave a short presentation on Trinitite, the glass-like material created after the atomic explosion at the Trinity Test Site (just days prior to the World War II bombing of Japan). (see page 5)

Meeting adjourned with gift exchange following.

Congratulations, 2018 Officers



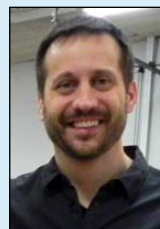
2018 Officers: Secretary Mona Jones, President Deb Chagares, Vice President Jim Lucas, Treasurer Angie Shaffer.

MESSAGE FROM MARK

Hello, Rock Hounds:

Happy New Year! I expect it to be a great one for all of us.

This will be my last correspondence with all of you. I want to congratulate Deb Chagares on becoming the new club President. I know she will do wonderful job. Please give her and the other elected officers a pat on the back and let them know your vision/concerns for the club.



Our annual rock & gem show is rapidly approaching. The show is March 2-4. In order to support this club/shop throughout the year, we need everyone to volunteer at the show to have a successful show. As most of you know, we have many renovation/repair projects on the horizon and need all the money we can get to fund these activities.

I look forward to seeing all of you around the shop in the new year!

Mark Lisota, past president



40 CLUB MEMBERS ENJOY HOLIDAY PITCH-IN & GIFT EXCHANGE, DEC. 7



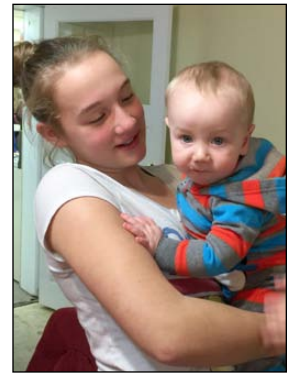
Ann Richardson, Pam Beneker, Teri Wiggans; Nikki and Tim Merrill



Joe Wirrig, Alma Glisson, Missy Killion, John Morse



John & Mary Ann Morse



Dakota & Bryant Jones



Dave & Malessia Bowling



Joy Ingerman and Libby Adams



Dave & Linda Straw

CLUB CHRISTMAS LIST



As far as behavior goes, EIGGS and its members are surely on Santa's "nice" list. With that in mind, here are some items on the EIGGS Christmas list, just in case any elves feel like making a holiday donation to the club.

- paper towels
- toilet paper
- kleenex
- AA batteries
- red shop rags for saw room
- visors
- 1 or 2 plastic/rubber aprons
- safety glasses
- dust masks
- cloth buffing wheels
- 60 watt light bulbs
- small plastic bags
- plastic spray bottles
- dish soap
- hand soap
- assorted cards:

get well, thinking of you, congratulations

■ To see all the party photos, visit the EIGGS website or click here: <http://eiggs.weebly.com/2017-christmas-party.html>

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

EIGGS club memberships are for one calendar year, January through December, so it is time for everyone to renew. The club currently has about 104 adult members and exists for those interested in earth sciences; collecting minerals; crystals; fossils; cutting, grinding, and polishing stones; tumbling stones; etching and carving stones; silver inlay; beadwork; and silversmithing. The club hosts an annual rock & gem show and awards scholarships to high school seniors and Earlham College students.

To print the renewal form from the web site, click here, then download the form: <http://eiggs.weebly.com/membership-form--info.html>

Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society

2018 Annual Membership Renewal

Please check your membership level

Family Membership \$20

Single (age 16 and older) \$15

Name(s) _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

To help with club upkeep & projects, I would like to make an additional donation to the club.

\$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other amount \$ _____

**Please print this form & bring it and your payment to the next club meeting
OR mail the completed form and a check made out to EIGGS to the address below.**

EIGGS Membership • PO Box 1724 • Richmond, IN 47375

CLUB MEMBERS CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS IN CENTERVILLE

Club members Malessia Bowling, Erna Jacob, Mona Jones, Missy Killion, Danny Spurgeon and Dave Straw set up booths in the Dill House for Christmas in Centerville Dec. 1-2.

They offered a variety of handmade goods including jewelry, knitted and crocheted items, stone sculptures, cabochons and more.

(photos by Angie Shaffer)



Mona Jones



Erna Jacob



Danny Spurgeon



Mary Ann Morse



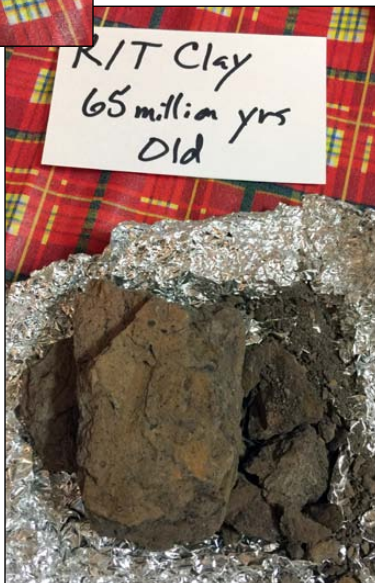
Dave Straw

RARE TRINITITE SHOWN AT DECEMBER MEETING



Randy Patrick shows Dave Straw a sample of boundary clay from the Cretaceous–Tertiary (K–T) extinction, which was a mass extinction of some three-quarters of the plant and animal species on Earth that occurred over a geologically short period of time, approximately 66 million years ago

In addition to bringing a sample of Trinitite, Randy also brought boundary layer clay from the asteroid impact that led to the extinction of the dinosaurs. He also brought several tektites, which are composed of black, green, brown or gray natural glass formed from terrestrial debris ejected during meteorite impacts.



Club member Randy Patrick is a geologist who specializes in extreme blast dynamics. For the December meeting, he brought a piece of Trinitite and discussed its properties and what can be learned from it. Below is info he provided about the material.

Trinitite is a solid form glass created during the nuclear detonation of July 16, 1945 at the Trinity test site. The test was conducted in the Jornada del Muerto desert about 35 miles (56 km) southeast of Socorro, New Mexico, on what was then the USAAF Alamogordo Bombing and Gunnery Range (now part of White Sands Missile Range).

This was the first nuclear detonation on the planet earth and when the bombs were used the next month against Japan, World War II ended.

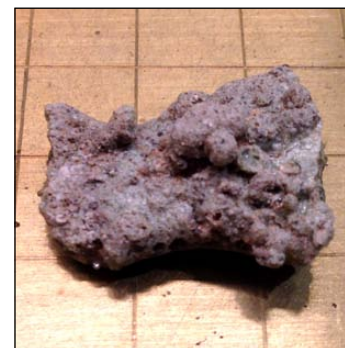
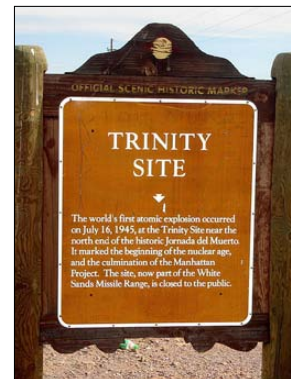
Trinitite, also called Atomsite and Alamogordo Glass, was formed from the sand, tower structure, and bomb parts that vaporized because of the intense temperature from the atomic detonation.

The material condensed and rained out as liquid and possibly solid pieces that fused together on the ground. The material is slightly radioactive but quite safe to handle. The main color is a green glass but it can also be tans and browns.

During the 1940s and early 1950s collectors were allowed to use the atomic glass for jewelry and collector items. There are currently pieces on the market many of which are fake. The easiest way to tell is to use a Geiger counter. The fake atomic glass will not be radioactive. Very few pieces of the original material remain on the market.

This sample will be cut, thin-sectioned to look at how the quartz sand grains have changed along with zircon crystals. Some of the sample will be crushed and formed into a thin section that will be used to look at internal structures within all of the mineral grains that are present.

Trinitite is not considered a true mineral because you cannot find it at any location on the earth's surface other than atomic bomb test sites. It is only made during atomic detonation.



To further explore extreme blast dynamics, Randy Patrick will conduct tests on this piece of Trinitite, glass material formed by the 1945 Trinity nuclear test in New Mexico. photos courtesy of Randy Patrick



ON THE ROAD: METAMORA, INDIANA

Luna's Garden Gift Shop/Gem Mine & Snack Bar

by Angie Shaffer

Located across the canal from the Grist Mill, beside the park and gazebo, Luna's Garden Gift Shop, Gem Mine & Snack Bar is a unique gift shop which offers something for everyone. An impressive display of salt lamps abound with the best prices I have ever seen.

There is a wide variety of crystals, minerals, fossils and rough and polished stones, sure to please anyone. The ladies who run the shop are very knowledgeable about their stones and crystals and are excited to help you pick just the right piece you desire. They have a large variety of jewelry for sale by a local artist, all nicely finished out.



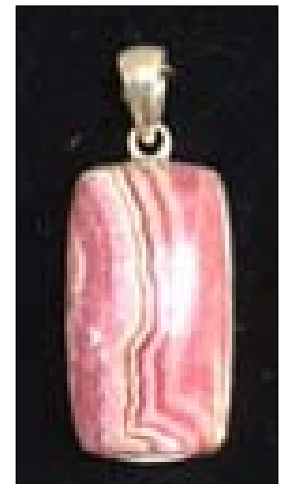
Some of the most notable stones I saw were K2, Chrysocolla, Charoite, Snowflake Obsidian, Fluorite, Astrophyllite, Red Tiger Iron, Labradorite,

Rhodochrosite, Bumble Bee & Imperial Jaspers, and MUCH more.

After you are done looking over the beautiful stones inside, it is time to grab a gem mining bucket and head out back to the sluicing area, which currently is "winterized" with plastic coverings around the building and a heater to keep you from freezing. Prices on buckets range from \$10-\$35. The selections of gems & minerals in the buckets are some of the best we have found, and we do this activity about everywhere we go! They also offer "carry-out", if you would rather take the bucket contents home (for Christmas gifts) or to sluice at home with the kids or grandkids.

The Christmas Walk is currently going on in Metamora; Fridays and Saturdays 10 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sundays 10 a.m.-6 p.m., until Dec. 24. After that, all shops close for the season, but Luna's Garden/Gem Mine opens up again in March.

This shop is well worth the trip to scenic Metamora, along with many other shops & activities and is highly recommended by Hailee and me.



all photos
by Angie Shaffer



ON THE ROAD: DAYTON ART INSTITUTE

FINAL WEEKS - CLOSING DEC. 31; ONLY MIDWEST STOP!

Experience the gorgeous Art Nouveau designs of Alphonse Mucha (1860-1939), in the acclaimed special exhibition Alphonse Mucha: Master of Art Nouveau at the Dayton Art Institute until Dec. 31. <http://www.daytonartinstitute.org/event/art/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/alphonse-mucha-master-art-nouveau>

Drawn from one of the finest private collections of Mucha's work in the U.S., this exhibition features 75 works by the celebrated Czech master, whose varied, expressive, and seductive imagery helped form and later shape the aesthetics of French Art Nouveau at the turn of the 20th century. Taking inspiration from the unruly aspects of the natural world, Art Nouveau influenced art and architecture, especially in graphic work and illustration, with its sinuous lines and whiplash curves. Through rare, original lithographs, proofs and drawings, as well as books, illustrations, portfolios and ephemera, this exhibition examines the broad range of Mucha's work, largely created during the 1890s.



Ruby Amethyst Emerald Topaz

■ In this series by Art Nouveau illustrator Alphonse Mucha, women personify four precious stones: Ruby, Amethyst, Emerald and Topaz. In each panel, the upper part of the composition is dominated by the female figure wearing the highlighted gemstone, while the lower part features a realistically drawn flower whose color echoes that of the particular stone. The color scheme of each panel - including the flowing robes, the hair decorations, the mosaic halos and even the color of the woman's eyes - recalls the color of the stone. The Ruby panel and the rough sketch of the panel are on display at the Dayton Art Institute until Dec. 31.

RAM HOLIDAY ART MART

Four club members featured in annual Art Mart

Holiday Art Mart
Richmond Art Museum
now until January 13

Admission: free

915 E. Main Street.
Richmond, IN 47374

Phone: (765) 966-0256

Hours: Tuesday-Friday
11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
<http://richmondartmuseum.org/>

Since the Richmond Art Museum is undergoing renovation, the annual Holiday Art Mart is taking place at their temporary location at 915 East Main Street.

Three ELGGS club members have work featured in the Art Mart. Barbara Kuhlman has a ceramics and a painting in the show. Susan Kuhlman and Joe Wirrig have a selection of pendants and bracelets in the exhibition.

This annual juried event allows area artists to showcase original works that are no larger than 5"x7", as well as sculpture, ceramics and jewelry.

This annual exhibit is designed to inspire unique gift giving and art collection. All the works on display are \$250 or less. Sales support both the artists and RAM.



Bracelet and pendant
by Susan Kuhlman



Three pendants by Joe Wirrig



Ceramic nest by Barbara Kuhlman



Painting by Barbara Kuhlman



ON THE ROAD: LANGSDON MINERAL COLLECTION

■ At the Langsdon Mineral Collection, club member Nicole Siliven and Tony Rotondo test the conductivity of various minerals.



In November and December the [Langsdon Mineral Collection](#) hosted two Night in the Museum events for members of the Troy, Fort Wayne and Richmond gem and mineral clubs.

The two events drew 45 rock enthusiasts from the three clubs and would have dawned more if it hadn't snowed on Dec. 9. Visiting the collection after hours, allowed participants to explore the collections using not only incandescent lighting, but also both long and short wave UV. Both club members and collection curators were amazed at the wide variety of fluorescent specimens scattered among the 27 display cases.

The groups also viewed items in storage, which are not currently displayed, including a stunning piece of Stilbite with Apophyllite clusters from India.

After the success of the two events, the collection staff hopes to offer similar events monthly to showcase different aspects of the collection and to help visitors see the collection from various viewpoints.

Many of the specimens are newly discovered minerals from recently-opened mines in India, China and Pakistan. Other specimens are from historic mining areas, which are now closed to collectors. The collection contains pyrite, galena, quartz, tourmaline, apophyllite, stibnite and rhodochrosite, among many others. Each sample is labeled with the mineral type and place of origin.



■ Night in the Museum participants from EIGGS, the Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society, and the Miami County Gem and Mineral Club: **Front row:** Jan McCann, Tony Rotondo, Rayni Rister, Jodie Rister, Brenda Eversole. **Row 2:** Marilyn Shatzer, Mary Manning, Walter Wattenbarger, Alicia Rubin, Joe Pond. **Back row:** Nicole Siliven, Mike Manning, Michele Yamanaka, Jennifer Rademachir, Don McCann, Chandra Havert, Marissa Dunkin.



■ Tony Rotondo checks the room as his Night in the Museum participants including Ft. Wayne club members Michele Yamanaka, Jodie Rister and Rayni Rister examine the minerals in their panning trays while visiting the Langsdon Mineral Collection.



Now It's Your Turn

Remember: Rock Pickings is YOUR newsletter, and it needs YOUR articles. Please consider writing about your favorite rocks or minerals, trips you have been on, shows you've attended and other geological topics of interest.

Let me know in advance what you plan to submit, and submit it by the 15th of any month. E-mail articles and photos to EIGGSnews@gmail.com or mail them to EIGGS Newsletter, PO Box 1724, Richmond, IN 47375. Thanks!



Photo: John Rakovan et. al.

Cherry blossom stones unique to Japan

One of the most famous and visually intriguing geologic materials collected in Japan is the cherry blossom stone. When you crack them open, their internal cross-sections look like tiny golden-pink flowers. Cherry blossom stones (*sakura ishi* in Japanese) get their beautiful patterns from mica, which is a commonly found silicate mineral known for its shiny, light-reflecting surface.

Read more at <http://www.geologyin.com/2017/01/cherry-blossom-stones-is-natural-wonder.html>



Credit: © www.geologyin.com

Synthetic red diamonds to replace GPS

Lab-grown red diamonds with an atomic defect could one day replace GPS systems thanks to their remarkable sensitivity to magnetic waves, scientists have suggested.

A team at Element Six, a tech company based in Oxfordshire, are exploring the remarkable properties of crystals with a so-called 'nitrogen vacancy defect' - a gap in the atomic lattice at the heart of the diamond. They are currently able to detect the passing of a car 300 metres away.

Read more at <http://www.geologyin.com/2017/01/synthetic-red-diamonds-to-replace-gps.html>



Credit: © www.geologyin.com

Bacteria eats poison, "poops" out gold

The gold you see in the photo above was not found in a river or a mine. It was produced by a bacteria that, according to researchers at Michigan State University, can survive in extreme toxic environments and create 24-karat gold nuggets.

This scenario may sound like a biochemist's version of a fairy tale, but it's real and scientists at McMaster University have just described how the process works in an article published online in the journal *Nature Chemical Biology*.

Read more at <http://www.geologyin.com/2016/03/researchers-discover-bacteria-that.html>



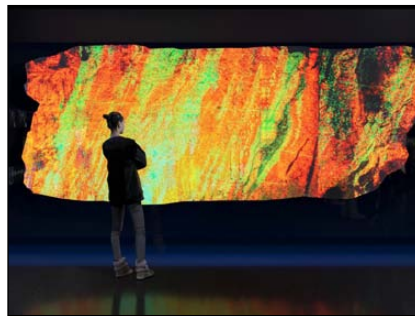
Credit: © www.geologyin.com

Seraphinite offers angelic appearance

Seraphinite is a trade name for a particular form of clinocllore, a member of the chlorite group. The dark green color of seraphinite is enhanced by a silvery and feathery shimmer caused by mica inclusions.

The name, 'seraphinite' comes from a Greek word, seraphim, meaning a winged heavenly being, because of the feather-like appearance of the chatoyant fibers in the stone.

Read more at <http://www.geologyin.com/2017/07/the-feathery-gemstone-seraphinite.html>

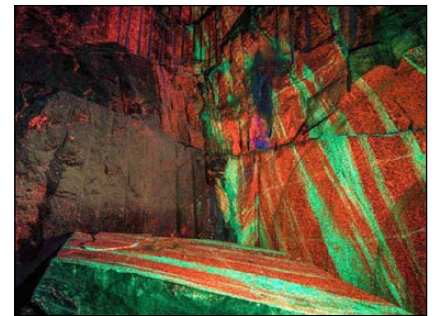


Credit: © Ralph Appelbaum Associates

Renovation at Museum of Natural History

Outcroppings of rocks hundreds of millions of years old occur naturally in Central Park, but even more exotic gems and minerals will be vividly on display across the street when the American Museum of Natural History's newly renovated \$300 million Allison and Roberto Mignone Halls of Gems and Minerals open in 2019 in conjunction with the museum's 150th anniversary.

Read more at <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/16/arts/design/american-museum-of-natural-history-gem-mineral-halls.html>



Credit: © New Jersey Herald

Fluorescent zinc added to Natural History Museum

Soon, the American Museum of Natural History in New York City will feature a slice -- or, more accurately, a slab -- of Sussex County, New Jersey, in one of its exhibits.

Workers at the Sterling Hill Mining Museum spent three days at the end of last month cutting out a 44,000-pound piece of fluorescent zinc ore from the property, part of which will eventually be housed in the museum's Halls of Gems and Minerals. Read more at <http://www.njherald.com/20171212/a-slice-of-ogdensburg-will-light-up-ny/#/>



If you follow social media, then please remember that there are a variety of ways to interact with your friends from EIGGS.

Facebook: Please find, like and follow the Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society's page. [facebook.com/EasternIndianaGemGeologicalSocietyEIGGS](https://www.facebook.com/EasternIndianaGemGeologicalSocietyEIGGS) Once you like and follow the page, be sure to recommend it to all of your friends. It is a great way to promote our club and our upcoming show and events.

Facebook Closed Group: If you are a club member and haven't joined the closed EIGGS Facebook group, please do so now. It is for club members only. News about club events and classes is usually posted there first. Club members also post great tutorials, online deals, equipment sales, tips and life events. Look up the EIGGS group.

Pinterest: EIGGS has a Pinterest account. If you are a Pinterest fan, you know how addictive it can be. There are a wide variety of boards to post to. <https://www.pinterest.com/EIGGSRichmond/>

Web site: Ummm... Have I mentioned [eiggs.weebly.com](http://www.eiggs.weebly.com) lately? You can hit the "like us on Facebook" link there, too!

EIGGS Events

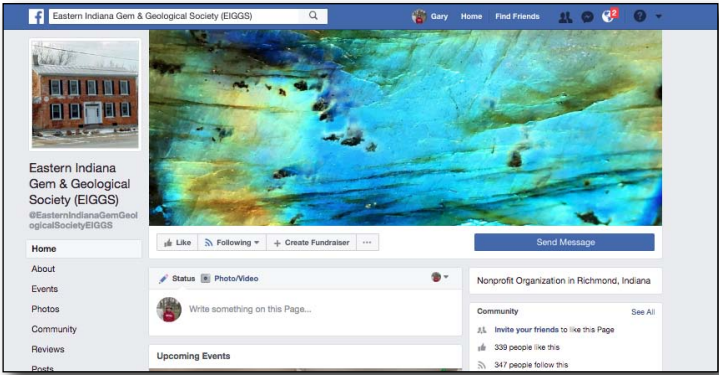


EIGGS Closed Group (ask to join)



Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society (EIGGS) official page

Follow it and refer your friends to it for news about the show, raffle prizes, silent auction items, public classes, and other items of interest.



SEEKING LAPIDARY OF THE MONTH ARTICLES



LAPIDARY OF THE MONTH

OCTOBER 2017



I found a scrap piece of Crazy Lace agate in the discard bits of our club lapidary shop a few months ago. It was about 5 inches long and 1/2 inch wide. Someone had traced the outline of a rectangular piece on it, and then apparently discarded it since the rough edges intruded into the planned shape. I salvaged the stone, traced three 1-inch ovals into the slab, and thought I would see what came from it. Using equipment available in the Valjejo Gem & Mineral Club shop, I cut the ovals free using a trim saw, and then shaped them on an 80 grit stone grinding wheel. After initial shaping, I curved the tops of all three stones before mounting them on dop sticks. The next phase was to complete the shaping of the cabs using a progressive series of stone grinding wheels with grit sizes of 100, 220 and 400 successively. Then came the initial polishing. For

this, I used belt polishing wheels, again in a progression of grit sizes. I started with another 400 grit wheel, then moved on through 600, 1200 and 3000.

To complete the stones, I used buffing wheels, starting with a 3000 grit diamond wheel. This was followed with 1400, 8000 and 50000 diamond grit wheels. The cabs were finished with a tin oxide polishing wheel.

In the process of working the stones, I found that what I thought was a void in one stone was actually intergrown quartz crystals surrounded by gray-white banding. The colors are very clear in both stones. It goes to show that one person's trash is another person's treasure.

—Glen Mitchell
American Canyon, CA

by Jim Brace-Thompson
AFMS Newsletter-October 2017

Rock & Gem magazine is the officially endorsed hobby magazine of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. In other words, it's our magazine!

Not only does it contain articles of immediate interest each and every month, it welcomes contributions by each and every one of us to better inform our fellow practitioners in our fun hobby. R&G Managing Editor Lynn Varon notes that one especially popular feature is the "Lapidary of the Month" article submitted by people to highlight some new technique or novel lapidary art that they've mastered and would like to share with their fellow rock hounds. However, the supply of entries for this monthly feature has been drying up in recent months, and Lynn welcomes new articles to keep this feature lively and relevant.

The guidelines for submission are simple:

- 1) Write a 500-word step-by-step description of how you crafted a particular lapidary project and save it as a document file.
- 2) Take at least one sharp, close-up, color digital photo of the finished project. (Use high resolution: 300 dpi at 4 x 5 inches, minimum.)
- 3) Attach your document file and digital photo (.tif or .jpg) to an e-mail and send it to editor@rockngem.com with the subject line "Lapidary of the Month."
- 4) E-mail the R&G editor or call 972-448-4626 with any questions. Lynn is happy to provide guidance!

For an example, the September Lapidary-of-the-Month article describes how to make drawer pulls and knobs for kitchen cabinets decorated with agate cabs.

Let's all help keep our own hobby magazine lively and relevant with projects and techniques that should prove of interest to all of us.

TIME TO GATHER YOUR SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

It's never too soon to start gathering your donations for the 2018 Silent Auction. The Silent Auction is a primary fund-raiser for the club.

Please consider donating any cord, wire, beads, chains, jewelry findings, finished jewelry pieces, rough rocks, stones, slabs, cabs, tools, kits, equipment -- or anything else that you think people would like to see in the silent auction. If you teach classes for the club, please consider donating a gift certificate for a class. If you leave items at the club for Jim and Marty, please clearly mark them for the Silent Auction. If you know of businesses who might like to donate, please contact:

Marty or Jim Lucas

at 317-607-2102 or

e-mail m.j.88994168@gmail.com



■ Jim and Marty Lucas coordinate the silent auction for the annual gem & mineral show.

'EXHIBITIONISTS' NEEDED TO DESIGN SHOWCASES

Feeling artistic? Now that the show display cases have been repaired, painted and updated, they are a great place to show off the educational aspects of the club, as well as club members' interests, hobbies, talents and collections.

If you are interested in putting together a display case, please let Judy Burton know, by phone (937) 339-1966 or e-mail jleeburton@woh.rr.com



■ Xavier Jones displayed his 4-H geology projects at last year's show.



■ Scott and Emily Gibson used their showcase to highlight a wide variety of petrified wood.



■ Harris Precht displayed a variety of Midwest minerals in his display case in 2016.

Indiana's Ancient Elephants



Mammoths and mastodons, relatives of modern elephants, lived in Indiana most of the last million years. Scientists believe that both of these giant mammals lived throughout the harrowing years of the Great Ice Age and mysteriously became extinct worldwide about 8,000 to 10,000 years ago—just when the climate began to improve. A few complete skeletons have been unearthed

in the state, but teeth, tusks, and bones have been found in dozens of widely separated places in Indiana. Almost all the skeletal remains were discovered by workmen draining swamps, by operators of sand and gravel, marl, and peat deposits, and by construction workers.

Skeletons are identified more easily if a tooth is present. The molar of a mammoth contains a series of closely spaced flat-crowned ridges alternating with dentine and cement. The mastodon tooth has two, three, or four large enamel-covered crests. Although bones of both animals are found in Indiana, most of the identifiable remains have been the mastodon.

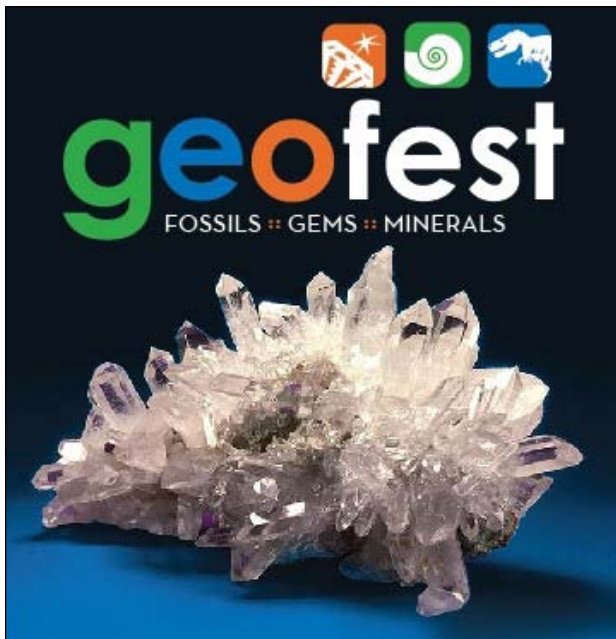
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Mastodon tooth



Mammoth tooth



GET READY FOR GEOFEST

16th Annual Indiana State Museum Fossil, Gem & Mineral Show

When: February 16, 17, 18, 2018

Where: Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis

Times: Friday & Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Admission: Included with museum admission. Adults \$13; seniors (60+) \$12; children (age 3-17) \$8.50; children under 3, free.

Web site: www.indianamuseum.org

GeoFest "rocks" the Indiana State Museum as experts and vendors from all over the country come to the museum with fossils, rocks, minerals, jewelry and more!

Shop for your own unique geo-treasure and meet experts from throughout Indiana. Explore the museum's natural history galleries, enjoy hands-on geology activities and win geo-prizes.

UPCOMING SHOWS

State & Regional <http://eiggs.weebly.com/other-upcoming-shows.html>

National <http://www.rockngem.com/ShowDatesFiles/ShowDatesDisplayAll.php?ShowState=ALL>

Feb. 16-18—INDIANAPOLIS, IN: GeoFest, the 16th Annual Indiana State Museum Fossil, Gem and Mineral Show. Annual show; Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites, Indiana State Museum ; 650 West Washington Street; Fri. 10-5; Adults \$14.95, Seniors \$13.95, Students \$12.95, Children \$9.95; Retail show will include dealers, regional clubs, and adult and kid's activities in a beautiful museum building. ; contact Peggy Fisherkeller, 650 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204, (317)-232-7172; e-mail: pfisherkeller@indianamuseum.org

♥ **March 3-5—Richmond, IN:** Annual show; Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society, Wayne County Fairgrounds; 861 N. Salisbury Rd.; Fri. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Adults \$5; Seniors \$3; Children \$1, under 7 free; Jewelry, Fossils, Minerals; Silent Auction, Displays, Demonstrators, Children's Activities. Food Available. Over 29 Dealers & Demonstrators. Scouts in uniform -free! Contact Judy Burton, 912 Kent Lane, Troy, OH 45373, (937) 339-1966; e-mail: jleeburton@woh.rr.com

April 6-8—INDIANAPOLIS, IN: Annual show; Treasures of the Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows, Indiana State Fairgrounds - Agriculture/Horticulture Building; 1202 East 38th Street; Fri. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 11a.m.-5 p.m.; Adults \$5 (Good all 3 days), Children under age 16 Free; Jewelry makers, goldsmiths and silversmiths, who can reconstruct, repair, design or make original jewelry from customer-selected gems, stones, opals and crystals. Wire wrap, wire sculpture, stone beads, pearls, stone setting, amber, opal, mineral and fossil dealers. Hourly door prizes. Contact Van Wimmer - Show Director, 5273 Bradshaw Road, Salem, VA 24153, (650) 384-6047; e-mail: vawimmer@verizon.net; Web site: www.toteshows.com



DD Rocks 15% DISCOUNT COUPON

In addition to donating about 20 pounds of rocks for our junior rock-hounds and to our silent auction, Ken & Terry Diede of DDRocks.com are offering a 15% discount to the first 20 club members who order from their online shop. Use the discount code **EIGGS** when checking out.

Apr. 28-29—Troy, OH: Annual show; Miami County Gem and Mineral Club (Formerly Brukner Gem and Mineral Club), Miami County Fairgrounds, Duke Lundgard Building; 650 North County Road 25-A ; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$2, Seniors \$2, Students/Children free admission; Mineral identification, dealers, specimens, fossils, jewelry, gems, silent auctions, demonstrations, gold panning, sluicing, geode cracking, children's activities, door prizes.; contact Dewey Buck, 100 Windmere Drive, Troy, OH 45373, (937)-335-4375; e-mail: manningsrockshop@gmail.com; Web site: <https://mcgamc.org/>



**ON THE ROAD: INDIANA STATE MUSEUM
EXPERIENCE THE VENOM-ENON**

**THE POWER OF
POISON**

The Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis explores the historical fascination with toxins in *The Power of Poison*. This prestigious national traveling exhibition, on loan from the American Museum of Natural History in New York, will be on exhibit until February 11, 2017.

From the promise of immortality to tales of healing powers and mysterious deaths, poison is a popular theme in legends and fairy tales. *The Power of Poison* examines the mystery and intrigue that surround nature's most powerful defense mechanism and how it can be used for both good and evil. Look on as Shakespeare's *Macbeth* witches brew up a poisonous potion to summon the future and find out what may be behind the Mad Hatter's madness in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

Did a snakebite really kill Cleopatra? And was it arsenic that ended the reign of Napoleon? Visitors can check out the *Detecting Poison Theater* to explore a real-world poisoning case that highlights the dramatic advances in toxicology and forensics since the 19th century. An interactive game invites visitors to examine evidence and see if they have what it takes to solve the mysteries behind three puzzling poisoning cases. Next, step into a fairytale scene to get up close to a giant "enchanted" book to learn more about poisonous plants and how they were once used.

History also shows a long record of plant and animal toxins being used as medical treatments. Studying how poisons affect human cells helps scientists figure out how to protect, repair, and heal them. *The Power of Poison* looks at the ways toxins are being studied as potentially lifesaving treatments. Visitors can check out live golden poison dart frogs and learn the deadly secret they use to keep from becoming dinner. And learn how some of your favorite tastes and smells are derived from chemicals intended to fend off predators.

"The Power of Poison is a great fit for the museum because it blends both science and culture, exploring poison's role in nature, myth and history as well as its impact on medicine," said Damon Lowe, senior curator of science and technology.

The *Power of Poison* is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York (www.amnh.org) and is supported by Barnes & Thornburg LLP and Uncle Bill's Pet Centers. The exhibition runs from October 21, 2017 to February 11, 2018. More information at: www.indianamuseum.org/poison

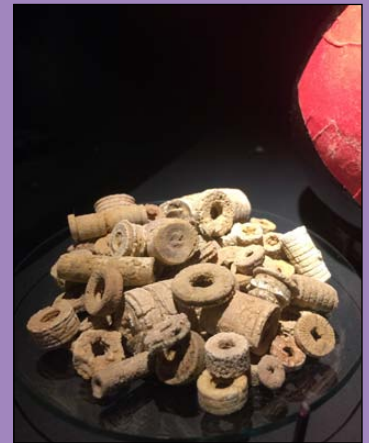
Indiana State Museum press release

POISON EXHIBIT: A GEM WORTH SEEING

It is amazing how gems, minerals and fossils figure into our history as charms, talismans, poisons and antidotes, and there are certainly things for rockhounds to learn through this exhibit. Below is just a sampling of items of interest. Also, remember, there is a full floor of rocks and fossils at the museum, too! (Captions are from the exhibit.)

Fossil Crinoids ▶

Hundreds of years ago in England, bits of fossilized sea animals called crinoids were strung as beads called "Saint Cuthbert's beads" or "fairy money." In some parts of Europe there were considered antidotes to poison and embedded in special anti-poison cups.



◀ **Red glass**

In Northern Europe during the 1700s, goblets like these were colored deep red by adding gold to the glass. The gold was also thought to detoxify poisons.



◀ **Agate cup**

Stone cups made from striped agate, colorful rock crystal or jade were prized in Europe because they were said to free wine from poisons.

Ammonite fossils ▶

This spiral fossil comes from the shell of an ammonite, an extinct animal related to a modern nautilus. Such fossils were known as "snakestones" because of their coiled shape, and were thought to have curative powers. Some artisans even carved snake heads for them to enhance the resemblance.

