



# Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society **September 2017** **ROCK PICKINGS**

P.O. Box 1724 • Richmond, IN 47375 • [eiggs.weebly.com](http://eiggs.weebly.com) • [facebook.com/EasternIndianaGemGeologicalSocietyEIGGS](https://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

**5** Next meeting: Thursday, October 5, 6:30 p.m.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello, Rockhounds:



Several club members, including Barbara Kuhlman traveled to see the total solar eclipse on Aug. 21. See pages 3 & 5..

Our annual rock & gem show will be here before you know it. It's not too early to start bringing in items for the silent auction. If you do not give the items directly to Jim or Marty Lucas, please mark the items so everyone knows the items are for the silent auction.

How many club members have an interest in holding a holiday bazaar? The bazaar could be open to the public or we can have a club members only bazaar. I will conduct a poll at the next meeting. If

you will not be attending the meeting please

send an e-mail, text or Facebook message to me or Lisa with your thoughts on a holiday bazaar.

Danny Spurgeon will be conducting a Viking weaving workshop on October 8. Deb Chagares will be teaching wire wrapping on October 28. Please register for either or both online at [eiggs.weebly.com](http://eiggs.weebly.com).

We need more members to get involved in volunteering their time. We need new people to learn how to maintain the grinders and saws. If you learn how to fix these things, it does not mean you will be responsible to fix them every time. We just need more people who know how to fix/maintain our equipment. If you have an interest in learning how maintain our equipment, get with me, Dave or the shop foreman on open shop nights.

*Mark*

## ECLIPSE & SPACE ROCKS SHOW & TELL

**When:** at the Oct. 5 club meeting

**Who:** Club members

**Presentation:** Photographer Jim Chagares will talk about his recent trip to photograph the total solar eclipse.

**Bring:** Bring eclipse stories or photos and any "space related" rocks, such as moldavite, tektites, meteorites, olivine, palladot, etc.

Hope to see you there!

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Solar eclipse experiences



Lisa Morris photo

### PAGE 4

Two upcoming workshops



Joy Ingerman masters Viking weaving

### PAGE 6

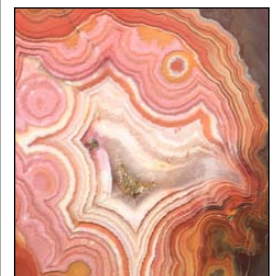
National Fossil Day



Richmond Fossil Park brachiopod.

### PAGES 11-13

Think Pink for October



Dryhead agate can have pink bands.



# MEETING MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 7, 2017

MARY ANN MORSE, SECRETARY

**Members attending:** John Morse, Mary Ann Morse, Angela Shaffer, Hailee Shaffer, Lisa Morris, Dave Straw, Deb Chagares, Mike Ragen, Malessia Bowling, Scott Gibson, Emily Gibson, Estel Jones, Mona Jones, Lisa Nash, Kyle Nash, Bob Vetter, Mark Lisota, Richard Steiner.

Meeting was called to order by Mark Lisota.

**Greenfield Show:** Mark reminded members of the Greenfield show. Many members are planning to go; several shared particular items they were looking for at the show.

**Officer Elections:** Officers will be elected in December. Mark encouraged new people to consider stepping up to fill roles, as many officers have served at least as many terms as allowed by the bylaws. Descriptions of officer duties will be included in the October newsletter, as the nominating committee will be presenting the slate of nominations in November.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dave Straw

\$843 was spent, including newsletter, utilities, fixing the lawn mower, and work on the roof. Income was \$645, including dealer booth fees, shop and soda.

**Equipment:** Dave reported that there are some large heavy tables that we never use still on the trailer. They were offered free to any member who would like one. Angie Shaffer took two, and Nicole Siliven would like two, as well.

**Show:** Dealer fees are coming in. In November we will assemble more grab bags. We will need at least 150.

**Shop Issues:**

- There was concern raised about the lack of clean-up after working in the shop. Folks were reminded to not only clean machines, but the area in general.

- Dop pot – Do not put used wax back in the pot, as it loses its adhesive properties after it is reheated multiple times.

-Water glass (sodium silicate) is expensive – it was suggested that anyone who does a lot of boarding of rocks might consider putting an extra dollar in the box occasionally.

**Meeting Auction:**

Scott Gibson donated a specimen for auction (“frogskin” obsidian) – proceeds to the club. Deb Chagares was the successful bidder.

**October Presentation:** For next meeting Deb will ask her husband to do a program on eclipse photography.

Meeting adjourned.



## TREASURER'S DUTIES

*This month and next month we will run descriptions of each officer's duties. This will give members greater insight into the duties of each of the four officers. Below are the duties of the treasurer, submitted by Dave Straw.*

1. Collect \$ from black box & deposit in bank. 2-3 times/ month
2. Pay bills; keep receipts in envelope for each month. (utilities currently set up for autopay)
3. Collect member club dues, maintain list of members (currently handled by newsletter editor), keep new applications in library (currently handled by newsletter editor).
4. Maintain financial spreadsheet for each month.
5. Maintain records in library.
6. Summarize financial info & store records in library. -- yearly
7. Show - Provide money for change
  - Keep track of receipts (daily) for admissions, wheel, silent auction, etc.
  - Keep track of admission numbers (daily) for children, adults & seniors
  - Deposit cash
  - Provide show report (financial)
  - Pay for Kuhlman Center rental – Jan & March
8. Check PO Box 2-3 times/month
9. Pay for Wayne County Fair trophy. -- January
10. Handle Income Tax; fill out & mail – March – Federal & State (NP 20) . I found out last year that the federal tax can be filed on-line using a simple one-page form. I had this done by Webb for a nominal fee as I could not understand the instructions.
11. Pay for PO Box in April
12. Handle annual state report to maintain 501(3)c status. (Notification received by e-mail only) This is called the Indiana Business Entity Report. \$10 fee -- June
13. Pay dues to Midwest Federation – notification in Federation newsletter. -- Nov/Dec
14. Go to Wayne County Assessor's office in Richmond courthouse annex and fill out forms 103 & 104, indicating the club has less than \$20,000 in equipment assets to avoid paying personal property tax. Must be done before May 15 to avoid late filing penalty.
15. Handle scholarship payment for high school scholarship recipient and for the annual Earlham geology scholarship or trip donation. --yearly
16. Reimburse individuals who purchase items for the club.

Items in red are most of the job. The others are minimal or once per year.



# MEMBERS HIT THE ROAD TO SEE THE ECLIPSE

## Our Eclipse Adventure

by Nikki Merrill and Emily Gibson

The Gibsons and the Merrills wanted to experience a "once in a life time" event. . . . Total Solar Eclipse!

So. . . we went to Hopkinsville, KY, where totality was 2 minutes and 40 seconds (deemed by NASA the longest point of totality viewing).

What was normally a quiet town, turned into an overnight tourist attraction, packed with visitors from all around the world. We were greeted with southern hospitality no matter where we went.

### ECLIPSE PRESENTATION

**When:** at Oct. 5 meeting

**Who:** Club members

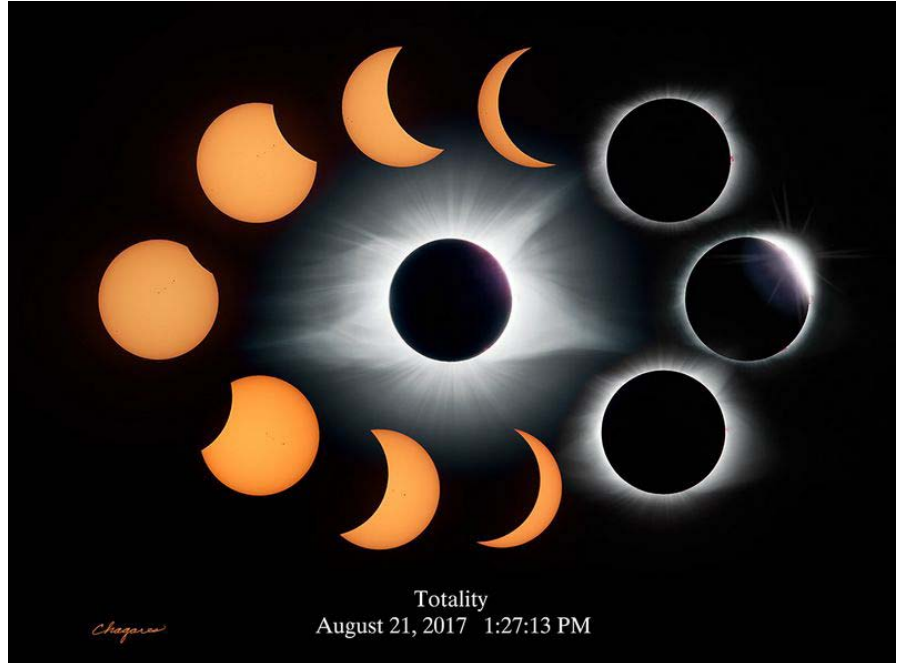
**What:** Photographer Jim Chagares will share some photos and discuss his eclipse experience and how he captured this historic event on film.

Afterwards, we can all share our eclipse memories. See you there!

We joined in the festivities, by going to the Hopkinsville

Eclipse Festival. We also went to the Jefferson Davis Monument Festival, where Scott and Tim went to the top of the monument for a spectacular view while Emily and Nikki hung out with the puppies.

We also went to the "Little Green Man" Festival in



Photographers Jim and Deb Chagares traveled to the path of totality to capture the eclipse images featured above. They will discuss their trip, the eclipse and eclipse photography at the October club meeting. You can view this image on their web site [www.chagaresphotography.com](http://www.chagaresphotography.com) or you can see it featured in their studio window on West Main Street. *Chagares Photography, photo used with permission*

Kelly, KY. This is an annual festival they hold, which is supposedly based on actual events from August 21, 1955. This event is what inspired Steven Spielberg's movies *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and *ET*.

We viewed the eclipse from a farm field with people from all around the world. As we patiently

waited, and the anticipation built as the total eclipse came upon us. The temperature decreased, and as it became dark, we got to experience a beautiful 360° horizon.

It was a wonderful experience; unfortunately the drive home was not.



Clouds moved out before totality.



Barbara Kuhlman chose an unobstructed view.



Susan Kuhlman.

Barbara and Susan Kuhlman traveled to Franklin, North Carolina, to view the total eclipse with family members. However, once they were there, they weren't sure the weather would cooperate.

"It was a nail biter," Susan said. "Clouds coming in just before totality. Could see everything through the gaps in the clouds. Fortunately the clouds parted, and we got to see the corona and the finishing diamond ring unobstructed. Beyond description. Soooo amazing."



# VIKING WEAVE WORKSHOP OFFERED OCTOBER 8

**T**richinopoly chain, also known as Viking weave chain, or Viking knit chain, is luckily much easier to create than to pronounce.

To help members learn, Danny Spurgeon is offering a three-hour Viking knitting workshop at the club house on Sunday, October 8, from 1-4 p.m. The workshop cost will be \$10 per person. To register for the workshop, visit [eiggs.weebly.com](http://eiggs.weebly.com) or e-mail Danny at [joseph\\_6841@yahoo.com](mailto:joseph_6841@yahoo.com)

Each participant will create a Viking weave bracelet to take home. Enough copper wire to complete the project will be provided, and dowel rods and draw plates will be available for use in the workshop.

Club members who want to learn how to integrate additional colors into the weave or how to create a flat woven bracelet, may also attend.

Participants may buy extra wire (copper, gold, silver, red, blue or black) from Danny for \$8-9 per spool. He has wire in a variety of gauges. He has dowels for sale for \$1 and Corian draw plates for \$10. If you want to bring your own wire, he suggests 24 or 26 gauge round wire.

According to sources online, Viking weaving was used by the Anglo-Saxon Norse mainly from the 8th-10th Century.



■ Club members Jeanette Lunsford, Libby Adams and Malessia Bowling show off Viking weave bracelets completed in Danny Spurgeon's workshop last year. <http://www.jewelrylessons.com/tutorial/viking-knit-chain>

This type of wire weaving has been found in ancient graves and treasure hoards. It was used for necklaces, bracelets, edging for clothing and artistic trim.

Wire weaving has also been found in Roman, Greek and Byzantine archaeological digs from the 1st century B.C. to 4th century A.D.



**Viking Weave Workshop**  
Sunday, October 8  
1-4 p.m. at the clubhouse  
Cost: \$10  
Register at [eiggs.weebly.com](http://eiggs.weebly.com)

## WIRE WRAPPING WORKSHOP, OCTOBER 28

**What:** Wire-wrapping class  
**When:** Saturday, Oct. 28, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
**Who:** Club Members  
**Cost:** \$30, plus supplies  
**Supply List:** *Participants must bring their own supplies*

- Cabochon to wrap
- Square & half-round wire (see story for details)
- Flat nose pliers (no gator-teeth)
- Round nose pliers (no gator-teeth)
- Cutters
- Ruler
- Fine tip Sharpie marker
- Painters tape (blue is good)

The following would be useful, (but not necessary)

- Small file (a nail file)
- Polishing cloth
- Mouse pad
- Small knife or pick to lift wires
- Small dowel to flatten wires
- Bail gauge
- Nylon jawed pliers

**Register for this class online**  
[eiggs.weebly.com](http://eiggs.weebly.com)

**W**ire-wrapping can turn your cabochons into wearable art. Learn the techniques to make pendants, earrings or other ornaments at a wire-wrapping workshop offered Saturday, October 28 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the EIGGS club house. (You may bring snacks or lunch.)

Deb Chagares will teach this members-only class. The class will cost \$30 per participant. Enrollment is limited to 15 people, so please register in advance. Register for this class online at [eiggs.weebly.com](http://eiggs.weebly.com)

You may pay on the day of the class. You will need to bring your own supplies (see list). Deb will also have some extra tools available for participants to use.

Deb suggests purchasing craft wire from [www.ParaWire.com](http://www.ParaWire.com). They have low prices and a variety of colors to choose from. They do have a minimum order, so you might order with a friend. They ship very quickly, too.

Go to [www.ParaWire.com](http://www.ParaWire.com), then navigate to the Craft Wire/ Shaped Wire section. You should purchase:

- 21-gauge **SQUARE** wire for framing your piece &
- 18-gauge **HALF-ROUND** wire for binding it.



pendants by Deb Chagares  
photos by Jim Chagares



## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

A warm welcome goes out to Joe and Debbie Mueller, Eastern Indiana Gem and Geological Society's newest members

### Joe Mueller

**Occupation:** retired high school science teacher

**Location:** Harrison, Ohio

**How did your interest in rocks, gems or minerals develop?** I've always been interested in nature, and have been collecting for as long as I can remember.

**What do you hope to learn?** I want to learn lapidary skills.

**What areas interest you most?** Rock polishing and collecting.

**Do you have any favorite stones or fossils?** Agates because of their amazing colors. Trilobites are my favorite fossil because they are hard to find.

**What have you learned so far?** I've learned to use the flat lap & the saws.

**Other hobbies or interests?** Wood carving and piano. Also, sports, travel, weight-lifting, and playing bridge.

**Anything else you want to share?** We have three children, three grandchildren and two cats. We love to travel and have been on five continents and in 46 states.



### Debbie Mueller

**Occupation:** retired school nurse

**Location:** Harrison, Ohio

**How did your interest in rocks, gems or minerals develop?** I became interested in rocks and minerals through Joe.

**What do you hope to learn?** I want to learn to identify rocks and minerals.

**What areas interest you most?** collecting "trips."

**Do you have any favorite stones or fossils?** Quartz -- they beg me to pick them up. Brachiopods are my favorite fossil because they are beautiful.

**What have you learned so far?** That it takes an hour to drive to the club house.

**Other hobbies or interests?** photography, as well as sports, travel, weight lifting and playing bridge.

**Anything else you want to share?** We have three children, three grandchildren and two cats. We love to travel and have been on five continents and in 46 states.



## EVENT ECLIPSES EXPECTATIONS

by Lisa Morris

Being a "space nerd," I wanted to experience the Aug. 21 solar eclipse from the path of totality and headed to Hendersonville, TN, where totality would last 2 minutes 31 seconds. Sightseeing wasn't on my list, but since I was there really early, I had time to pay my respects at the graves of Johnny Cash and June Carter Cash. After exploring several local parks, and I decided Sanders Ferry Park would offer the best views and a smaller crowd.

For a while, a college student, an amateur astronomer and I were the only ones there. We chatted about the astronomer's telescope and camera set-up. He showed me how the system worked, how the telescope rotated with the earth on a motorized mount, and how he could take still or video images. The live images were projected onto his computer screen, which he had in a small "black out tent" to shield it from the sun and to increase the screen's visibility.

As it turned out, I wound up with the "best seat in the house," complete with a running scientific commentary. Mike, the astronomer, told me what to look for at each stage and showed me features of the sun that were only visible through the telescope, like sun-spots and flares. It was truly the best of both worlds -- being able to see it and shoot photos of it through #14 welders glass AND being able to watch it on the screen in a close-up view.

We both took special note of the surroundings when the eclipse reached 90% totality, as that was what we each would have experienced had we stayed in our respective states of Indiana and Kentucky. It was still very light at that point.

It is hard to describe "totality" besides to say it was truly awe-inspiring. As the time drew near, the quality of light began to change. The scene took on a golden glow as colors shifted and became more vibrant. The air cooled, the birds quieted down, and the cicadas buzzed as darkness fell. At the horizon it looked like a 360 degree sunset as the sky darkened. We saw the diamond ring effect and the beads.

Totality hit, people cheered, and it struck me as funny that we were applauding a natural phenomenon that has been going on since the beginning of time on earth.

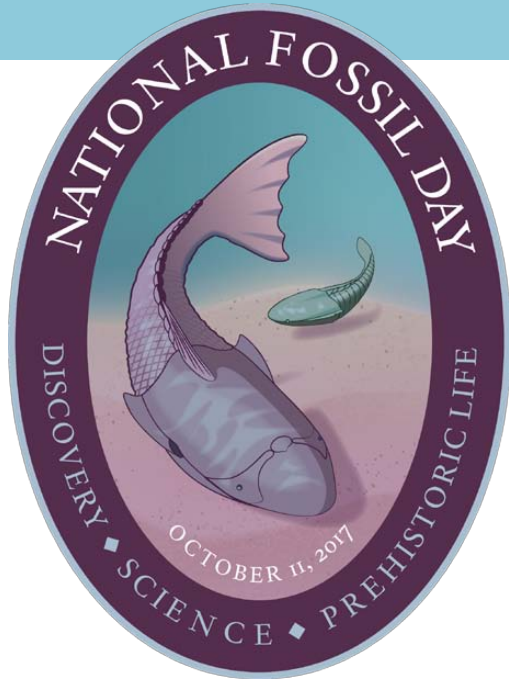
Everyone was still. The two minutes 31 seconds stretched out... It seemed to last forever and for no time at all. It was a moment of wonder, which moved many to tears.

When the sun re-emerged, again there was a collective cheer. It was as if we had all made it through a trying time and emerged on the other side -- from darkness into light. It reminded me of stories about the ancient Chinese who, during an eclipse, feared that their sun had been eaten by a dragon. Imagine their relief, when the sun reappeared... Even with all our scientific knowledge, we shared that age-old sense of relief.



Lisa Morris & Mike Hislope photos





■ The 2017 National Fossil Day artwork depicts fish known as heterostracans ("different shields"). These early jawless fish existed between the Early Silurian and the Late Devonian when they became extinct (approximately 358 million years ago).

## ➔ NATIONAL FOSSIL DAY, CELEBRATED OCT. 11

from <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/fossilday/index.htm>

The National Park Service and the American Geosciences Institute are partnering to host the eighth annual National Fossil Day on October 11, 2017, during Earth Science Week. National Fossil Day is a celebration organized to promote public awareness and stewardship of fossils, as well as to foster a greater appreciation of their scientific and educational value.

Fossils discovered on the nation's public lands preserve ancient life from all major eras of Earth's history, and from every major group of animal or plant. Fossils in the national parks range from primitive algae found high in the mountains of Glacier National Park, MT, to the remains of ice-age animals found in caves at Grand Canyon National Park, AZ. Public lands provide visitors with opportunities to interpret a fossil's ecological context by observing fossils in the same place those animals and plants lived millions of years ago.

National Fossil Day activities will also highlight natural processes that shape our planet over time to correlate with this year's Earth Science Week theme, "Earth and Human Activity." This year's event, the 20th annual Earth Science Week celebration, promotes awareness of what geoscience tells us about human interaction with the planet's natural systems and processes. <http://www.earthsciweek.org>.

National Fossil Day is being promoted through partnerships with professional organizations, government agencies and other groups. Representatives from National Earth Science Teachers Association and Paleontological Research Institution are assisting with planning for National Fossil Day.



## DEATH VALLEY FISH

From <https://www.nps.gov/articles/fossils-of-the-2017-national-fossil-day-artwork.htm> Click to read the entire article.

The 2017 National Fossil Day artwork depicts a primitive group of fish known as heterostracans ("different shields"). The heterostracans represent an order of early jawless fish which existed between the Early Silurian and the Late Devonian when they became extinct (approximately 358 million years ago).

The heterostracans were characterized by an external covering of bony armor plates and by having only one common gill opening on each side of the head region. These early fish lacked any paired or mid-line fins and in many cases developed extensions of the armor plates that were not flexible but helped provide control in the water.

Heterostracans lived in shallow marine environments around an ancient continent known as the Old Red Sandstone (ORS) Continent, which was composed of present day North America, the Canadian Arctic, and Western Europe.



■ Paleontologist David Elliott at his microscope with some fossil heterostracans. *NPS.org press release photo*

The primitive fish depicted in the artwork are based upon fossil specimens discovered and collected in Death Valley National Park. Paleontologist David Elliott, from Northern Arizona University, discovered these rare fossil fish in a remote locality in the park. The rocks in which the fish were preserved consist of sediments deposited in a channel, which may have been part of an estuary based on the associated marine fossils.



## AREA EVENTS

No Fossil Day events are listed for Indiana yet, but keep checking <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/fossilday/events.htm>

### The Ohio State University Orton Geological Museum

Orton Hall, 155 South Oval Mall, Columbus OH, 43210

October 11, 12:30 – 4:30 p.m.

<https://ortongeologicalmuseum.osu.edu/>

*The event will include a fossil match game (winners qualify to win a Devonian trilobite), an opportunity to have any fossils identified free of charge, a free guided tour of the geology museum fossil displays (every half hour; self-guided tours possible during entire event), and a free Devonian brachiopod for joining in the celebration of National Fossil Day. Contact information: Professor Mark Kleffner is hosting the event. Contact info is [kleffner.1@osu.edu](mailto:kleffner.1@osu.edu), 419-995-8208*

# BREAKOUT

PLAN.SOLVE.ESCAPE.

## at the Joseph Moore Museum

The Joseph Moore Museum at Earlham College is again hosting Giant Beaver Breakout sessions October 5, 6, 7, with sessions at 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. each night. Information below is from the Joseph Moore Museum staff.

**D**ennis Hall is Burning! Save the Giant Beaver!\* You and your team have to save the Giant Beaver skeleton before it's too late. You will have 60 minutes to crack codes, find clues, solve puzzles, and save the world's most complete giant beaver skeleton before it becomes toast! This isn't an average weekend activity, this is a 60-minute challenge for people who like to solve mysteries and puzzles! Successful players earn a commemorative "I Saved the Giant Beaver" button, and your group's photo will be posted on the JMM Facebook page.

Sign up individually: \$8 per person  
 Sign up with 3 friends: \$7 per person  
 Games run in groups of 8.

*\*No need to panic, we're not actually on fire.  
 \*\*While this is designed for adults, families with children ages 11 and up have enjoyed the experience and have been successful in saving the Giant Beaver.*

**Registration:** You must register at least one day before your breakout. If you are registering the day of, please call the museum at 765-983-1303 to ensure we can staff your session.

**Payment:** You must pay within 48 hours of your reservation or it will be canceled. You may pay online or in person at the Joseph Moore Museum (Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun, 1-5 p.m.)

**Other:** Please arrive a minimum of ten minutes in advance. All breakouts are located in the lobby of the Joseph Moore Museum (directions). While this is designed for adults, families with children ages 11 and up have enjoyed the experience. Parents must accompany children.

**Click to Register**  
[https://earlham.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3Eubov3Q9SuZorP](https://earlham.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3Eubov3Q9SuZorP)



■ This is NOT the skeleton of a giant beaver; instead it is a giant ground sloth. To see the giant beaver skeleton, you will need to make a visit to the Joseph Moore Museum.

## MOORE MUSEUM HISTORY

from <https://earlham.edu/joseph-moore-museum/history/>

Joseph Moore was a teacher at the Friends Boarding School, which later would become Earlham College. He collected natural history objects to supplement his teaching. At first, he housed his collection in a cabinet in Earlham Hall and later moved it to a small room. The collection continued to grow and when Lindley Hall was built in 1887, the lower floor of one wing was designated for the museum.



In 1889, the fossil Giant Beaver and Ta'an, the mummy, were acquired. Also during this time, the museum received the skeleton of "Tippo Sahib", a local circus elephant that had gone mad and had to be shot. Its skeleton was mounted next to that of the mastodon.

Attempts to catalog items were made, but like other museums of this time period, the total collection was on display as a jumble of objects.

Shortly after midnight on October 23, 1924, a night watchman noticed that Lindley Hall was on fire. Students helped remove specimens including the mummy after realizing the building was doomed.

The giant beaver was carried out by Gordon Bowles, Class of '25. The mastodon was saved from falling debris by a steel beam, and some of the mounted bird specimens survived because they were under a balcony. Amazingly, only about a quarter of the collection was destroyed, although among the losses was the skeleton of Tippo Sahib.





# ON THE ROAD: HOGG MINE, GEORGIA

*Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society* in Fort Wayne, IN, goes on monthly field trips and plans one "Big Trip" annually. This year they traveled to Georgia to visit the Hogg Mine and Graves Mountain. Their itinerary is to the right. Below and on page 6 are stories from their newsletter, *The Strata Data*. If you would be interested in a group field trip for our club, please let an officer know.

## Part One by the Russell Family

... We left for Georgia on Saturday morning – nice easy drive until Atlanta. Everyone talks about horrible Atlanta. I've always taken it with a grain of salt, since we moved here from Los Angeles... So Atlanta – how bad could it be? Turns out, way worse than L.A. Want to see what "failing infrastructure" looks like?

We stayed in LaGrange, at a lovely hotel with a beautiful pool, but we got in so late, and left the next morning, so the bathing suits stayed dry. Breakfast was great the next morning, and then it was time to...meet the others.

The couple who showed us around the first mine (Hogg mine) were both delightful, knowledgeable, and recovering from hosting a wedding and reception at their home for some friends.

Bit disconcerting, though, how both of them would say something like, "There's a piece of beryl next to your foot there," and there would be. I would find it eventually. Never right away, but with a couple more clues ("Your right foot..."; "Near the toe..."; "Okay, you're touching it...") I would find it.

By the time lunchtime arrived, I had an epiphany: I would never collect the interesting, important rocks and minerals unless there was bling involved. I want them bedazzled. I want bright color. I want to look for "pretty" rocks. I don't really care if they are man-made, as long as they are fit for a princess from the Jersey Shore.

The problem with this is that lots of rocks are shiny-sparkly-pretty in strong sunlight, and then you bring them home, and you wonder why on heaven's earth you bothered to pick this thing up.

The nice thing is if you drive through Atlanta, the gods reward you by sending you shiny-sparkly-pretty things that still look good on your kitchen counter!

There were lots of them at the Hogg Mine.

## GEORGIA BIG TRIP JULY 15-18, 2017

July 15 – Travel (about 12 hours)

July 16 – **Hogg Mine**

- Beryl, Tourmaline, Star rose quartz
- Meet at 8:30 am at the McDonalds next to the Pilot Truck Stop (1960 Whitesville Rd., LaGrange, GA
- No age limit
- Cost: Adults: \$35; 16 and under, free. We are having a private dig. This will cost an extra \$100 for up to 10 people (\$100 divided by how many go). If more than 10 people come on this private dig, the extra charge may increase to cover a second guide.

July 17 – **Graves Mountain**

- Rutile, kyanite, pyrite, sulphur
- Meet at 10 am, 3333 C E Norman Rd, Lincolnton, GA
- Age limit: 12 yrs and older
- Cost: donation of \$20/person to caretaker

July 18 –Travel (about 12 hours)

**Meet for orientation: Super 8, 10130 Alcovy Road, Covington, GA 30014, 7 pm (my room)**

Deadline to sign up: July 6. I have to give final counts.

**Required:** Sturdy shoes, safety glasses, hard hat, long pants.

**Recommended:** reflective safety vest, rock hammer, pick, shovel, potato rake, chisel, pry bar, gloves, 5 gal bucket, sledge hammer, packing material to wrap specimens, water to drink, tick and bug repellent, sunscreen, kneeling pad, collecting bag



Aquamarine crystal photo from hoggmine.com

### Motels

Our 2 collecting sites are 3 hours apart. I have chosen to stay at the Super 8 in Covington because it is in the middle of them, 1.5 hrs away. Below are 2 possible motels in LaGrange (including at the exit of the truck stop mentioned above), the Super 8 in Covington, and 2 in Lincolnton. You will need to decide how much you want to travel.

LaGrange:

- La Quinta (off I-85). \$88 1-706-812-8000
- Sunrise Inn (I-85 & ex.13) \$50. 1-866-599-6674

Covington

Super 8: 10130 Alcovy Road (I-20 & ex. 92). Averages \$64/night. 1-770-786-5800

Lincolnton (not much information on the Internet for these motels. No prices given.

- Lincoln Motel. 688 S Washington St. 706-359-4315
- The Cullers Inn. 140 Elm St. 706-359-6161

### OTHER THINGS TO DO NEAR ATLANTA

- Stone Mountain – nighttime laser show
- Georgia Aquarium
- Legoland Discovery Center
- World of Coca-Cola
- Inside CNN Studio tour
- Fernbank Museum of Natural History (dinosaurs too)
- Archibald Smith Plantation Home
- Atlanta Botanical Garden

There was a boulder of rose quartz as big as a one-car garage, and if you wanted to whale on it for a fair while, you could get a chunk. There was mica – always a fan favorite because it sparkles and is so easily identifiable! There was black tourmaline...

And quartz – smoky, rose, white, orange, banded... all Jersey Shore pretty. And we parked at the mine... conveniently close to the car that would carry all the heavy rocks back through Atlanta.

George picked up a couple yard rocks, one of which was quartz of that deeply shimmering white – think John Travolta's suit in *Saturday Night Fever*.

After becoming thoroughly disgusting (oh, yeah, it rained the night before and drizzled the

whole morning – dirt is orange there, by the way, and so is the mud,) we all drove down to Columbus, GA on the advice of the wedding hosts. Beautiful college town, right on the Chattahoochee River, which is fun to say...

As lovely as Columbus was, it was still 211 miles to our hotel that night, and we had to go through the bottom of Atlanta... But after the long drive... we finally arrived at our hotel...

[The next day], we broke our fast and met up with the others to go to Graves Mountain.

■ **End of part one. Part 2 is on page 9**





# ON THE ROAD: GRAVES MOUNTAIN, GEORGIA

Part Two by Marilyn Russell

I am not a natural rockhound (see Part One). I don't know about the Mecca places of rockhounding. When I say that we went to Georgia for a rock field trip, and they say, "Oh, did you go to Graves Mountain?" I reply affirmatively and look at them suspiciously. How did they know that? Were they following me, or is this place actually famous?

Turns out it is the last one. It has been a mine for so long – Tiffany's had their golden claws into it in the 1920s, chasing rutile. There's lots of lazulite, kyanite, hematite, fuchsite, sulfur, blue quartz – the list goes on. And pretty easy pickings, too – just whack away and chunks of gorgeous mixes of colors reveal themselves. The background minerals were all fairly consistent, but each different part of the mountain we looked at had a different star performer – fuchsite over here, hematite over there...

The main problem was contained in the title... Graves Mountain. It was just that. And the guy who unlocked the padlock, and let us in, was next to useless. Vague waving of arms, "go left at the split here," "pit one," "the old pit," "don't fall in," "the loop road," - and then HE LEFT! And we parked at the bottom of the mountain, and started to climb...

I've always heard about people that climb Mount Everest -- that you climb past the corpses of climbers who didn't make it; it was impossible to carry them out. Was Graves Mountain called GRAVES Mountain in honor of all the miners and rockhounds who perished after climbing, climbing, climbing, looking for the right split on the loop road going to the far entrance of pit one? Or maybe they were able to actually follow all these directions, but gave up the ghost on the way back to the car – because, remember, if you found anything good, YOU HAD TO CARRY IT OUT!

And our lunches were back at the cars. (Ominous background music)

The only one who had actually looked up anything about the place was Michele, and she seemed to understand (at least, better than the rest of us) the padlock guy. She decided that the best thing to do was to go to a certain place on the mountain where we would have to hammer and chisel things – while we were still "fresh."

We all nodded and climbed some more, carry-



■ On their trip to Georgia, Fort Wayne club members Dawn, Marilyn, Mia, Michele, George and Dakota pause for a snack. The Fort Wayne group goes on monthly field trips and each year plans one "Big Trip." This year they went to Georgia to visit the Hogg Mine and Graves Mountain. *photo courtesy of The Strata Data*



■ While in Georgia, the club members found that mica was plentiful. *photo courtesy of The Strata Data*

ing our buckets and tools and water, each of us all silently wondering if a heartbeat can pound hard enough to break ribs. Finally, we decided that this was the place – at least, it was to the right of the loop and there was green in the rocks, and maybe some blue... (though I thought he said "left" so I was utterly confused, and I can't remember what the blue was supposed to be. Let's call it altitude sickness.)

George seemed happy to whang apart big chunks of a boulder, and we all collected our chunks of pretty crystals. We went back to the cars to sweat some more and to eat lunch. Did I mention it was a million degrees Fahrenheit? And that there were no pit toilets – just woods?

After reviving some, a new plan was formed – this time we were going "the other way" and would look for rainbow hematite, if I remember correctly.



■ The also were able to collect tourmaline, rose quartz and beryl while on their trip. *photo courtesy of The Strata Data*

So off we climbed – going left instead of right to the old pit, or pit one or some pit – this time, we were looking for the tools of someone else who had permanent rights to mine there. It's entirely possible that we found it too!

And we did find rocks with rainbows in them, and several caves with lots of bats and a couple neat owl pellets with bat skeletons in them...

We had gotten to that place where you could see something spectacular next to your foot, and you would nudge it and think, "how pretty" but actually bending over and picking it up seemed insurmountable. This time, no one had brought buckets and tools... just some bags and somebody had a hammer....

■ *Continued on page 10*



jewelry by Angie Shaffer

# WARM GLOW FESTIVAL

Full festival season is in full swing and holiday bazaar season is just around the corner. It would be great to be able to feature all of our club member's upcoming fairs and shows. If you have an upcoming event, please let me know via e-mail [ELGGNews@gmail.com](mailto:ELGGNews@gmail.com) or Facebook. I need all information for the next issue by October 15. The newsletter will come out around October 21.

**Warm Glow Fall Festival**, Sept 30, Oct. 1  
*Mona Jones, Angie Schaffer, Hailee Schaffer*  
**Autumn Artisans Bazaar**, Nov. 3-4  
*Dave Straw, former member Amy Hughes*  
**YMCA Christmas Village**, Nov. 10-11  
*Angie Schaffer, Hailee Schaffer, Jamie Terhaar*  
**Richmond Farmers Market** (Saturdays)  
*Naomi Jones*



■ 90 vendors will be selling arts and crafts at the Warm Glow Fall Festival. Check out jewelry and other crafts by club members Mona Jones and Angie Schaffer. See Hailee Schaffer for all your painted Halloween rock needs.



**WARM GLOW CANDLE COMPANY**  
**Fall Festival**

**Saturday, Sept., 30th & Sunday, Oct. 1st**

**Pumpkins, Mums & Gourds**

**Vendors: Craft, Artisan, Antique, Primitive, Vintage**

**Wine Tasting ♦ In Store Sales**

**4 Bounce Houses & Train Rides**

**Food ♦ Live Music & More!**

**CHECK BACK FOR UPDATES**

## GRAVES MOUNTAIN, GA (CONTINUED)

■ *Continued from page 9*

Soon it was time to throw in the towel, except for Dawn, who had lost hers. I know, because I later found it and then lost it as well.

After we had each collected far more weight than anyone could possibly carry, we decided to go further in, where we found some drainage ponds. Others claimed that they knew all about that part and we were on the right track. We found an interesting puddly area with some more of the blue crystals, and Dakota and Mia found a cliff to climb up and perch on the edge in order to worry the rest of us. Maybe it was just me... there were far too many sheer cliffs to fall off from, and apparently that's magnet to my kid (a wannabe goat.)

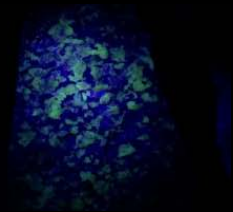
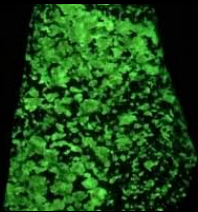
It was at this point that we found the far entrance to the pit, or pit one, or.... It could have been the old pit. A map would have been nice.

It must have been frustrating for Michele to be saddled with all of us, when

her big goal was to find some rutile. Graves Mountain had been famous for their rutile – there were pictures of giant rutile crystals, bigger than a person. So, while the rest climbed back down to the cars, Michele and I went back to the base of pit one, or maybe the old pit. When Tiffany quarried, they weren't pretty about it – they just lopped off the whole top of the mountain and went straight down from there (and took all those people-sized rutile crystals.) So, the bottom of the pit was flat, sun-scorched concrete-hard ground. We looked around for a few minutes when Michele found a piece of rutile! It was about the size of an infant's fingernail, but she succeeded in her quest! And at that point, that was all that mattered! It was time to drive for several hours to play in Atlanta traffic again.

Part of the fun, of course, are the side trips... Dawn and Dakota reported that they saw an elk on the way home, and we stopped in Chattanooga to tour the Lookout Mountain battlefield – an excellent national park, by the way. We learned a lot and were properly impressed by what had to have been a truly grotesque climb and battle. All in all, it was an educational trip home from a fun collecting field trip.

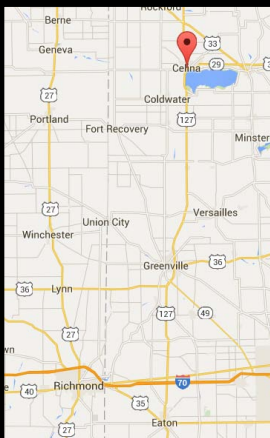




# NIGHT IN THE MUSEUM TRIP PLANNING IS UNDERWAY

Who's up for a little adventure, the chance to explore, and the opportunity to meet fun, interesting people who share your love of rocks, gems and minerals?

Over the past few months we've realized that members of the Richmond, Troy and Fort Wayne gem and mineral societies share an interest in fluorescent minerals. --So does Tony Rotondo, an educator at the Langsdon Mineral Collection in Celina, Ohio.



The collection consists of more than 900 minerals from all over the world in 21 display cases. They have many more minerals in storage.

We were joking about how neat it would be to check out the collection with UV lights after hours, and Tony said, "Let's do it!"

Right now we are only in the planning stages, but if you would be interested in an after-hours tour of the museum and the chance to check for fluorescent minerals, please e-mail Lisa at [ELIGGSnews@gmail.com](mailto:ELIGGSnews@gmail.com)

**What:** After Hours at the Langsdon Mineral Collection

**Who:** Richmond, Troy & Fort Wayne gem & mineral societies

**Date:** To be announced

**Where:** Mercer County District Library, 303 N. Main St.; Celina, OH 45822

**Why:** The chance to view over 900 mineral specimens in 21 cases with many more in storage. We will use incandescent light as well as long wave, short wave and mid wave UV to find fluorescent minerals.

**Online:** [LangsdonMinerals.org](http://LangsdonMinerals.org) [facebook.com/LangsdonMinerals](https://facebook.com/LangsdonMinerals)



## THINK PINK How to Identify Red and Pink Minerals

from <https://www.thoughtco.com/red-and-pink-minerals-1440941>

Please click link for the rest of the story.

by Andrew Alden

Red and pink minerals are eye-catching because the human eye is especially sensitive to those colors. This list includes primarily minerals that form crystals, or at least solid grains, for which red or pink is the default color in natural occurrences.

Here are some rules of thumb about red minerals: 99 times out of 100 a deep red transparent mineral is garnet, and 99 times out of 100 a red or orange sedimentary rock owes its color

to microscopic grains of the iron oxide minerals hematite and goethite. And a transparent mineral that's pale red is a clear mineral that owes its color to impurities. The same is true of all clear red gemstones like ruby.

Consider the color of a reddish mineral carefully, in good light. Red grades into yellow, gold, and brown, and while a mineral may show a red highlight, that should not determine the overall color. Also, ascertain the mineral's luster on a fresh surface as well as its hardness. And figure out the rock type—igneous, sedimentary or metamorphic—to the best of your ability (start with "[How to Look at a Rock](#)").



■ Rhodonite is far more common in rock shops than it is in the wild. You'll find this manganese pyroxenoid mineral only in metamorphic rocks rich in manganese. It's usually massive in habit rather than crystalline and has a slightly purplish-pink color. Luster glassy; hardness 5.5 to 6.



# THINK PINK

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, so we are featuring pink stones



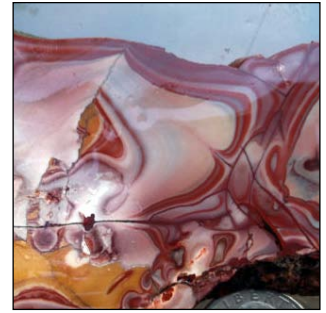
Feather Ridge Plume Agate



Pink Peruvian Opal



Brecciated Bertrandite



Mescalero Jasper



Cobalto Calcite Druzy



Cobalto Calcite



Mozarkite



Indonesian Fossil Coral



Dinosaur Bone / Gem Bone



Dryhead Agate



Ocean Jasper



Star Sapphire



Norwegian Thulite



Crinoids



Kunzite



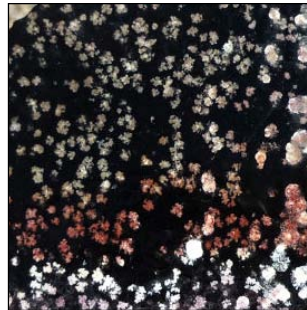
Kona Dolomite



Morganite



Pink Pony Magnesite



Fireworks Obsidian



Guava Quartz





# THINK PINK

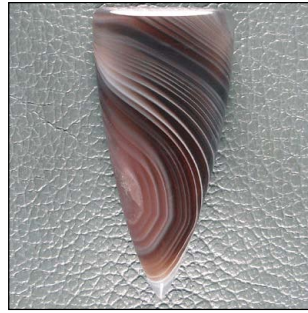
October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, so we are featuring pink stones



Agua Nuevo Agate



Strawberry Quartz



Botswana Agate



Stinking Water Plume over Thulite



Turkish Pink Floral Plume Agate



Zebra Print Stone



Rubellite (dark pink tourmaline) in Lepidolite



Royal Imperial Jasper



Raspberry Aventurine



Sonoran Dendritic Jasper



Watermelon Tourmaline



Spinel in Matrix



Pink Sapphire, rough



Rhodochrosite



Rhodochrosite



Rhodonite



Rose Quartz



Ruby in Zoisite



Ruby in Fuschite



Poppy Jasper



# UPCOMING SHOWS

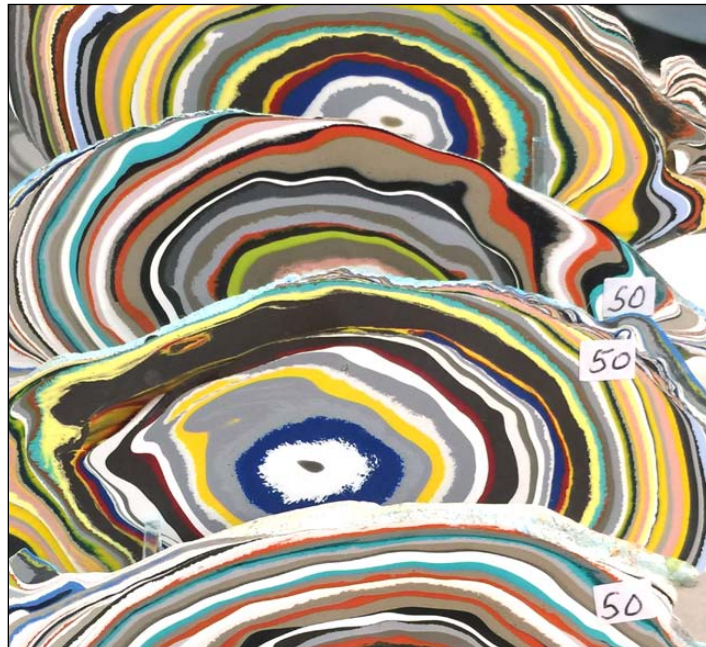
State & Regional <http://eiggs.weebly.com/other-upcoming-shows.html>

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

**Sept. 29-Oct. 1—INDIANAPOLIS, IN:** Annual show; Treasures Of The Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows, Indiana State Fairgrounds - Agriculture/Horticulture Building; 1202 East 38th Street; Fri. 10-6:00 pm, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Adults \$5 (Good all 3 days), Children Free under age 16; Jewelry makers, goldsmiths and silversmiths from all over the U.S. 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 including a Ring with a precious stone that will be given as a Grand Prize. Demonstrations and classes.; contact Van Wimmer - Show Director, 5273 Bradshaw Road, Salem, VA 24153, (540) 384-6047; e-mail: [van@toteshows.com](mailto:van@toteshows.com); Web site: [www.toteshows.com](http://www.toteshows.com)

**Sept. 30-Oct. 1—NASHVILLE, IN:** Annual show; Brown County Rock & Mineral Club, Brown County History Center; 90 E. Gould Street; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6; Free Admission; The 2nd Annual Brown County Rock & Mineral Show presented by the Brown County Rock & Mineral Club. There will be demonstrations of wire-wrapping, gold-panning, flint-knapping, etc. There will be vendors from all over the Midwest with everything from gems to geodes to fossils to healing stones. ; contact Rhonda Dunn, P. O. Box 2023, Nashville, IN 47448-2023, (812)-320-6237; e-mail: [radunn1972@aol.com](mailto:radunn1972@aol.com); Web site: <http://browncountyrocks.webs.com/>

**October 20-22—FORT WAYNE, IN:** Annual show; Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society, Allen County Fairgrounds; 2726 Carroll Rd; Fri. 10-6; Adults \$5, Seniors \$3, Students \$1, Children under 12 free; Theme: "Crinoids:



■ Fordite; 2016 Agate Expo; Cedarburg, WI

Indiana's Most Famous Fossil" Attractions: gem, fossil, mineral and jewelry dealers, lapidary arts demonstrations, Viking Knit classes, exhibits, geode cracker, gem sluice, kid's games, dinosaur models, door prizes, silent auction, fluorescent room, touch 'n feel table. ; contact Russell Greim, 7619 CR 68, Spencerville, IN 46788, (260)-403-0450; e-mail: [3riversshow@gmail.com](mailto:3riversshow@gmail.com); Web site: [http://3riversgem\\_mineral.tripod.com/annualshow/](http://3riversgem_mineral.tripod.com/annualshow/)

**October 21-22—CLIO, MI:** Annual show; Flint Rock & Gem Club, Carter Middle School; 300 Upland Drive; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$3, Students \$1.50, Children \$1.50 ages 6 to 12; 50th Anniversary of the Flint Rock & Gem Club Show. Minerals, jewelry, displays, lapidary skills, & demonstrations.; contact Diana Dady, 2120 Christner Street, Burton, MI 48519-1004, (810)-744-0852; e-mail: [ddady@comcast.net](mailto:ddady@comcast.net); Web site: [www.flintrockandgem.org](http://www.flintrockandgem.org)

## Auction Donations Requested

It's not too soon to start donating 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.

• to donate contact Marty or Jim Lucas at

317-607-2102 or e-mail [m.j.88994168@gmail.com](mailto:m.j.88994168@gmail.com)

(Thanks to Bob Vetter, Angie Shaffer and Deb Chagares for many recent donations!)



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



# The Mineralogical Event OF 2017

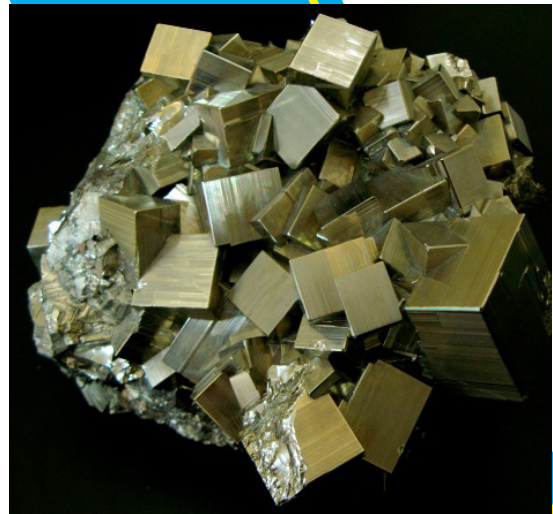
Presented by:

MICHIGAN MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

Sponsored by: CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF  
**SCIENCE**  
Michigan's Museum of Natural History

October 13, 14, 15

MACOMB COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
SOUTH CAMPUS / EXPO CENTER  
14500 E. 12 MILE ROAD / WARREN, MI 48088



*Featuring:* HANDS-ON PARTICIPATION IN CURRENT FOSSIL RESEARCH  
RENOWNED UNIVERSITY & MUSEUM DISPLAYS / OVER 50 VENDORS / SPEAKERS  
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FRIDAY 9AM-6PM / SATURDAY 10AM-7PM / SUNDAY 11AM-5PM  
ADULTS \$8 / SENIORS 62+ \$5 / YOUTH 5-12 \$4 / UNIFORMED SCOUTS \$3 / 3-DAY PASS \$12

FURTHER DETAILS & UPDATES VISIT: [WWW.MICHMIN.ORG](http://WWW.MICHMIN.ORG)  
SCHOOL TRIP INFO- JOHN PETERS: [JOODIDDY13@YAHOO.COM](mailto:JOODIDDY13@YAHOO.COM) / DEALER INFO- WILBUR PFROMM: [WPD0G-MMS@YAHOO.COM](mailto:WPD0G-MMS@YAHOO.COM)

FRIDAY, OCT. 20 - 10 AM TO 6 PM;  
SATURDAY, OCT. 21 - 10 AM TO 6 PM;  
SUNDAY, OCT. 22 - 10 AM TO 5 PM.

# Gem, Mineral, Fossil, Lapidary and Jewelry Show

at the Allen County Fairgrounds (2726 Carroll Rd, Fort Wayne, IN)



## Crinoids: Indiana's Most Famous Fossil

### Admission:

\* Adults: \$5.00 \* 55+ : \$3.00 \* Students: \$1.00

For more information, check out our  
website at:

### WHAT TO DO?

- \* Find Unique Jewelry
- \* Buy loose gems
- \* Have gems wire-wrapped
- \* Watch lapidary demonstrations
- \* Learn to make Viking Knit chains
- \* Enjoy Club displays
- \* Walk through the Fluorescence Room
- \* Visit the Touch & Feel Table
- \* Add fossils or minerals to your own collection
- \* Find materials for your own creations
- \* Bid on favorites at the Silent Auction table
- \* Buy grab bags
- \* Take the children to the Kids Games
- \* Enjoy special lectures
- \* Pan the gem sluice on Saturday
- \* Bring minerals to be identified
- \* Have a chance to win door prizes
- \* Visit all the dealers

*Crinoids. Ancient sea lilies – 63 species of them have been found in Indiana... should it be our state fossil?*