



April 2018 issue

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**\*\*\* Our next meeting will be at the Traverse Area District Library on Tuesday, April 17, at 6:45 pm \*\*\***

**Main Program: To be announced**  
**Snack Hosts: Sarah Vanderkleed, Marianne Pagel, Loretta LaFoille**  
**Door Prizes: Loretta LaFoille**  
**5-Minute Program: Carol Popa**

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## **Please pay your 2018 dues now!**

If you have not done it yet, please pay your dues now for the year. Please see membership chair Kim to pay.

## **From the March Meeting:**

Deb Bull presented the short program on other types of slag type glass from a car windshield factory and an art glass factory. Lauren Vaughn presented the long program on Pegmatite Mining in Maine and Frank Perham, the famous miner from Paris, Maine.

Snack hosts were, Pat Captain, Judy Owen, and Jenny Sharp. Three door prizes were awarded to lucky attendees.

Thanks to all of the March volunteers.

## **Lend a hand this year:**

Please sign up to present a 5 minute or main program or to provide treats or a door prize. See Rene or Kevin.

## Newsletter Items Wanted

It would be great to include some other items of interest and importance for the upcoming newsletter editions. If you know of something you would like to contribute including photos of club activities or areas of interest, please email to Lauren Vaughn at:

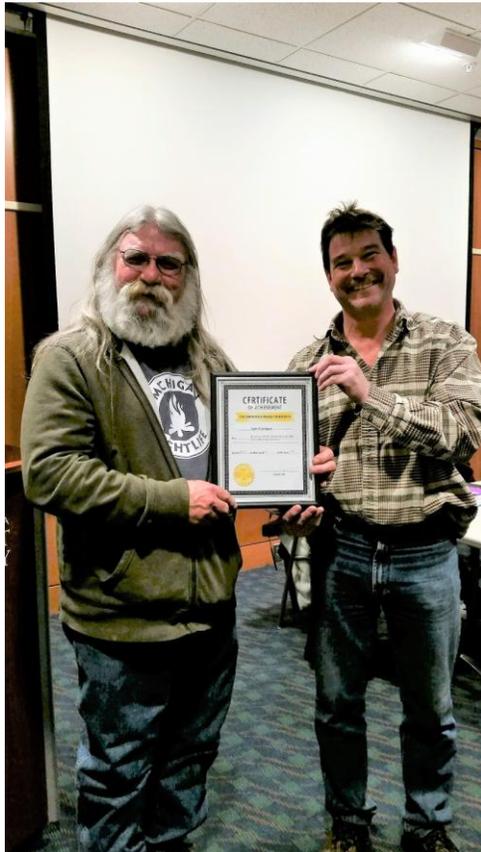
maple2b@aol.com

I will be preparing the monthly newsletter at least until Bonnie and Don get back from the warm south-west.

## Rockhounds of the Month

Recent ROM award winners were:

February – Tom Fordyce  
January – Cindy Wicksall



## Copper and Iron Country Collecting Opportunities

Keweenaw Mineral Days will be held July 17 to 21, the Ishpeming events will be August 3 to 6, and the events through the Copper Country Rock and Mineral Club will be August 5 to 10. The Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Show will be on August 4 and the Copper Country Rock and Mineral Club Show will be on August 10, 11, and 12.

The Keweenaw Minerals Days organized by Michigan Tech University, the Copper Country Rock and Mineral Club, and the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club have all posted the schedules for their respective summer events. The July 17 – 21, Keweenaw Mineral Days through Michigan Tech, registration is open. After you click on the link on our website it will take you to a general page. You will then have to click on the SHOP link at the top to go the registration links

The Ishpeming Club events are more low-key and you can just show up at the Shopko parking lot on US-41 in Ishpeming for the Friday, August 3 trip to the Republic Iron Mine, and sign the waiver and pay the fee. Check the details on their website which is tied to a link on our Sponsors / Links page on our website. A Sunday, August 5 trip to the Lindberg Quarry for Kona Dolomite is also planned. You can sign up for that one at the Club Show on Saturday, August 4.

The Copper Country Rock and Mineral Club rock hunting events in August are all full at this time. You could contact them about getting on a waiting list.

## Rocks in the new by Eric Hallman

I have been seeing rocks in the news lately so I thought I would put all the links in one place with a short paragraph on what is so newsworthy about the rocks. you can click on the link or copy and paste if the link does not work.

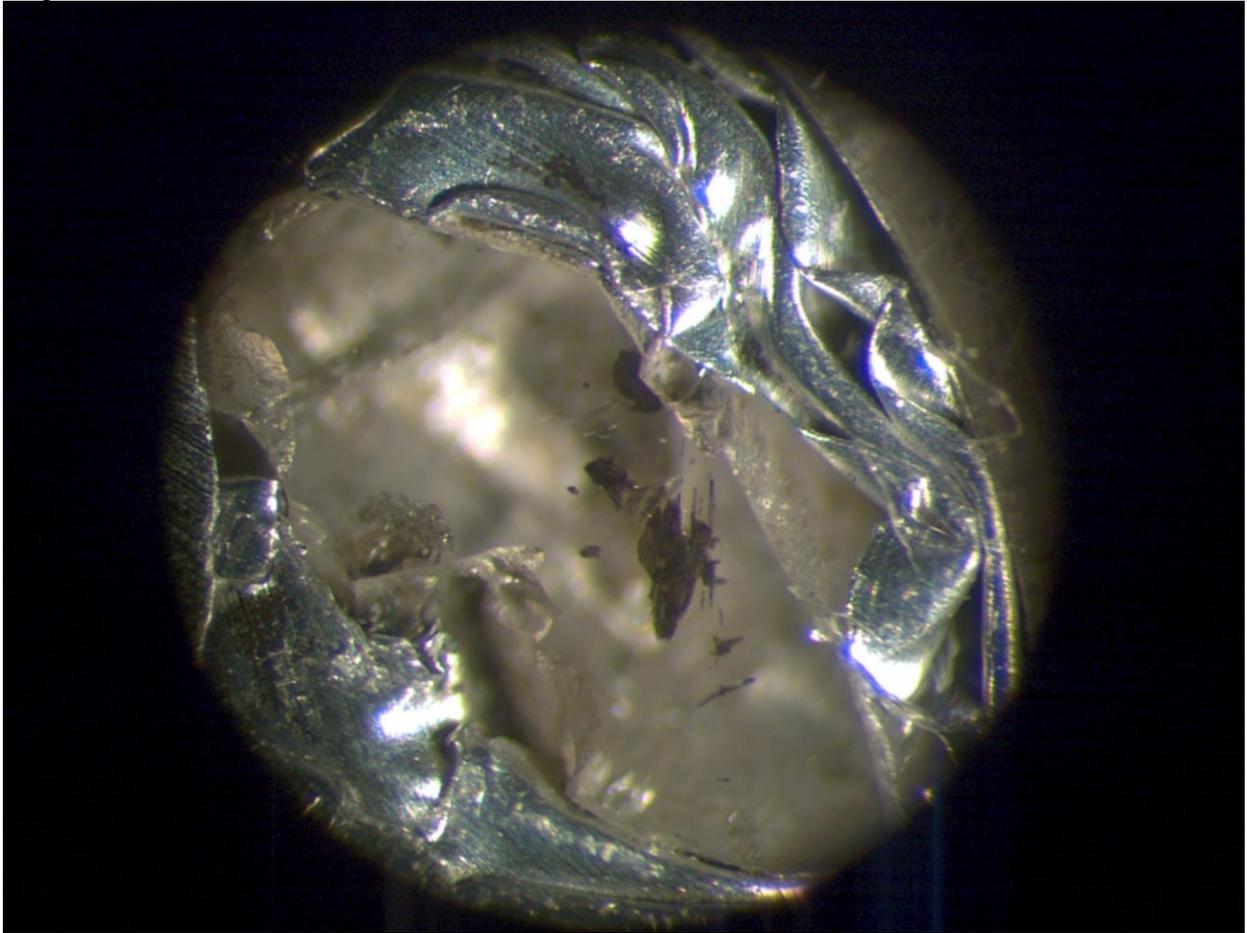
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[Farmington Hills, MI man charged with larceny after taking rocks from Livonia street](#)

A Farmington Hills man said he feels like the victim of a public stoning after he helped himself to some rocks that had tumbled into the street from the median.

[https://www.clickondetroit.com/news/farmington-hills-man-charged-with-larceny-after-taking-rocks-from-livonia-street?\\_vfz=medium%3Dsharebar](https://www.clickondetroit.com/news/farmington-hills-man-charged-with-larceny-after-taking-rocks-from-livonia-street?_vfz=medium%3Dsharebar)

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[This Tiny Diamond Contains a Mineral That's Never Been Seen Before](#)

The discovered mineral — called calcium silicate perovskite ( $\text{CaSiO}_3$ )— was found trapped inside a diamond 3mm across excavated from South Africa's Cullinan mine. According to the Page 4

story, calcium silicate perovskite is the 4th most abundant mineral on (or in) earth but has never been seen before until it was found in this tiny diamond.

<https://www.livescience.com/61959-diamond-calcium-silicate-perovskite.html>

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[Bizarre piles of rock have formed on Mars and NASA isn't quite sure what caused them](#)

NASA has theorized that it may be a sign of the phenomenon known as "frost heave," but did not specifically say that is what is causing the occurrence. In the Arctic back on Earth, rocks can be organized by a process called "frost heave why not on Mars too. <https://www.nasa.gov/image-feature/jpl/pia22334/the-case-of-the-martian-boulder-piles>

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<https://www.livescience.com/61490-chunk-of-north-america-in-australia.html>

Geologists matching rocks from opposite sides of the globe have found that part of Australia was

once attached to North America 1.7 billion years ago. That is one big puzzle piece to put together I can't even find a missing puzzle piece when it is under the table.

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[Rock shop was broken into](#)

13-year-old Judah and his sister Avi opened Sesula Mineral and Gem Museum and Rock Shop in 2016 in the small town of Radisson, about 60 kilometers northwest of Saskatoon, thieves broke in and stole between \$6,000 to \$8,000 worth of goods.

<http://www.cbc.ca/beta/news/canada/saskatchewan/radisson-museum-rock-shop-theft-1.4571852>

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[Hottest gift idea for christmas](#)

Old story but a goodie, Nordstrom was offering an \$85 dollar handmade stone before it sold out on its online store. More frugal shoppers also wiped out the stock of the smaller, \$65 option.

I think that it gives a new meaning to the Charlie Brown saying "I got a Rock for Christmas"

<https://nypost.com/2016/12/07/this-years-hottest-holiday-gift-85-pet-rock-sells-out/>

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## Also from Eric Hallman

The weekend after the meeting in February Diane and I took a weekend trip to Alpena to go to see our niece; she was looking for something to do so we suggested going to Rockport State Recreation area which we just heard about at our last GTRAMC meeting from Jenny Barcroft. Our niece has lived in Alpena for 3 years but has never gone to the park but has heard all about it and knew just where it was she was more than happy to drive the 12 miles up the road to go the park. So we piled the dog in the car, some rock-in equipment and hit the road to Rockport.



The beach had just a little bit too much snow to comb for rocks not wanting to dig down 2 feet to find the beach we decided to move on to a new place. It had been raining for a few days before we got there and the trails were solid ice I guess I should have brought some crampons and an ice ax to make things just a little easier getting around.

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Look at the pile of rocks, all of that was only good for road gravel nothing bigger than a nickel. Everything was crushed long ago probably for aggregate to go into a concrete mix.



We checked out the sights an old boat in the harbor, look a hill behind the boat I think that maybe a good place to poke around so we headed over there for a look.



Old boat but still used for something lines look new and you could see a radio in the wheel house.

Well here is what we found around the boat and in the hill;



My deck boards are about 6 inches across, some nice big Petoskey's and a branch coral grouping. I have been working on the Branch coral group cleaning and scrubbing it with vinegar everything is popping out nicely.

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Not a big haul but a great winter day to get out of the house and look for some rocks. We can't wait to go back in the summer when we can get to more places without having to wear snow shoes.

Eric Hallman

Thanks Eric, for the contributions to the newsletter!

***See you all at the meeting Tuesday, April 17!***