



April 2021 issue

**WE WILL HAVE OUR NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING ON APRIL 20 AT 6:45 P.M. WATCH FOR YOUR EMAIL INVITATION AND JOIN US!**

**John Jaszcvak from the Seaman Mineral Museum at Michigan Tech will be our speaker.**

**The virtual meeting on March 16 went well with approximately 30 people in attendance.**

**Invitations for the virtual meetings will come in an email a couple of days before the meeting and will have instructions on how to connect.**

## **March Highlights**

University of Michigan's Collection Manager from the U of M Paleontology Department, Jennifer Bauer, presented a program on U of M's collection of over two million specimens and several on-line resources for fossil and other geologic information.

We hope to switch to outdoor meetings beginning in May. More information will be coming.

A motion was made to approve \$200.00 to be a Silver Level Sponsor for the Petoskey Stone Festival to be held May 29 at Barnes Park in Eastport. The club will have a table at the festival and volunteers to be at the booth to answer questions and pass out information are needed from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Janet and Pierre will be teaching a beginning silver-smithing class this year. Dates will be available soon.

Page 2

Topics are needed for upcoming meetings. Contact Janet Ryan if you are able to help.

## Facebook Page

Visit the club's Facebook page that Jenny Burcroff created. To take a look use this web address. There is also a link on our club website.

<https://www.facebook.com/TCRockhounds>

## HAPPY GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY GTARMC !!

November was the 50th anniversary of the founding of the club. There have been a lot of changes over the years from its beginning with just a few members to the large club we have now. It has met in several different locations over the years and our annual rock and mineral shows have been held at NMC, the Carnegie Building, GT County's Civic Center and most recently at the Cherryland VFW post. There have been countless field trips, both formal and informal.

We look forward to the next 50 years and all of the shows, trips, meetings and other special events that will take place. We hope to have a more hands-on celebration event sometime this year after COVID-19 allows us to resume normal in-person events.

## In Memory

Long time member and friend Beth Harlan died on February 2 from complications of COVID – 19. She and husband John were some of the early members of the club and were very active until recently. Beth had been club recorder and volunteered for many other projects over the years. She will be dearly missed. See Bonnie Reed's memories of Beth on the club's Facebook page.

## Upcoming Field Trip Planning

Gary Bull volunteered to take over the Field Trip Coordinator position from Kevin Gauthier. Kevin will still plan the trip to the U.P. in early September. Here is information from Gary for the upcoming April 24 field trip to the Rockport Quarry near Alpena.

"Please call or text 231-590-3397 if you are interested in going to Rockport. It is an abandoned quarry, mostly limestone with great fossils, located about ten minutes north of Alpena (about 2 hours east of Kalkaska County.) We would meet on Saturday the 24th of April, at 10:00a.m., in the quarry parking lot, weather permitting. (Cool weather is ok, but torrential rains aren't.)

Sturdy boots, water, snacks/lunch, safety glasses and rock hammers are recommended. Reminder: 25lbs annually is the State limit. Questions? Call Gary at 231-590-3397."

Gary is also working on another possible trip to Wisconsin. Here is that information.

"Field trip idea: Gary is working on organizing a fieldtrip to Wisconsin to include The Gem Shop in Cedarburg, Wisconsin and a Native American Copper Culture State Park in Oconto, Wisconsin. Check out [www.thegemshop.com](http://www.thegemshop.com) and <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/parks/copperculture>

This trip via the U.P. would also take in Lake Michigan sight-seeing via US 2. The drive-time is approximately 7.5 hours. The owner of The Gem Shop owns many mining rights worldwide, a lot of them in Mexico, and is the trademark holder to Madagascar's obicular jasper, aka: "Ocean Jasper". Gene is a warm and interesting character and his generous and helpful staff is willing to open its massive storefront collection to the Club (with discounted pricing) when it would otherwise be closed to the public (Sunday mornings, 9am-1pm). It is one of the finest and largest retail mineral collections East of Tucson. Club members may recall the gorgeous annual calendars

Page 4

that his business publishes. We hope to nail down a date soon. Interested in going? Please let us know at 231-590-3397.”

Deb and Gary Bull still have some large sturdy buckets at their house that Jared procured. A small donation to the club is required per bucket.

## INTERESTING MICHIGAN GEOLOGIC INFO

Below is a link to an article from the Michigan State University Geology Department on the Geology of the Great Lakes Region. Thanks to Deb Bull for sending this information to be included in the newsletter.

<http://www.geo.msu.edu/extra/geogmich/geology.html?fbclid=IwAR1P1p8RCzowpsvVX3yIEP8em-kxpU9MdJwHWSJStuwSAyrXNki8R-WkPi4>

Jared provided a great web resource from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. It is the Geo Web Face web tool that can help your rockhounding in finding locations, geologic information, mine locations and many other interesting facts. Here is the link:

<https://www.deq.state.mi.us/GeoWebFace/>

Jared also found an interesting article about a huge meteorite that crashed in Cass County about 450 million years ago. Here is the link to the article.

<http://wsbt.com/news/local/evidence-of-massive-meteor-crater-still-exists-in-cass-county-michigan>

Anyone that paid their 2020 membership dues will not have to pay any 2021 dues. This decision was made by the board since we were not able to have many events or meetings last year.

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The above contact list will be included in each newsletter so that you know who to contact for various items.

## Club Email Address

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Join us on-line on April 20 at 6:45 p.m. I think Jared and Jenny may have some news to share.