



July 2021 issue

**WE WILL HOLD OUR THIRD OUTDOOR MEETING OF THE YEAR ON TUESDAY, JULY 27 AT 6:45P.M., AT THE CHERRY BEND COMMUNITY PARK PAVILLION.**

Please bring a lawn chair as we will be socially distancing in and around the pavilion. There are 10 picnic tables where some people can spread out facing the front of the pavilion. Others can sit just outside the pavilion in lawn chairs. If you wish to feel more comfortable, please also plan on bringing your face mask so you can feel safer when near others. There will be no community snacks and drinks provided due to concerns about food sharing.

If you are not comfortable in attending the meeting, everyone will understand. These are unusual times requiring understanding and cooperation.

To get to the park, take M-22 north as if you were heading toward Suttons Bay. Continue on M-22 past the M-72 turnoff (Tom's West Bay) to the next light, which is Cherry Bend Road. Turn left and then go straight until the road makes a 90 degree turn to the right. Shortly after the turn you will begin to see the park on your left. Go to the end of the park and turn left on Lincoln Rd. The entrance will be about ¼ mile on your left and you will see the pavilion. If you want to put the address in your GPS or mapping app, use 10090 E Lincoln Rd, which is the township hall just across the parking lot from the pavilion.

Our July 27 meeting is being held one week later than usual due to the availability of our speaker Nathalie Brandes. She will present, "There Once Was a Goat Named Kåre: Over a Millenium of Mining at Falu Gruve, Sweden". This is an area with mineral resources similar to our U.P. Copper Country.

## June Highlights

**The outdoor meeting on June 15 went great with approximately 45 people in attendance. It was great to see everyone.**

We held our annual Silent Auction with two rounds of spirited bidding with some great merchandise available.

Rockhound of the Month for May 2021 was Lisa Knudsen for her great work while Secretary of the club.

A motion was approved for Jim and De Elder to become Club Secretaries. We now need someone to take over the Membership Chair position.

A motion was approved to add two users to the G-Suite account at a cost of an additional \$10.00 per month.

## Facebook Page

Visit the club's Facebook page at this web address. There is also a link on our club website.

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

## Upcoming Field Trip Planning

Gary Bull became the Field Trip Coordinator in 2021. Kevin Gauthier will still plan the trip to the U.P. in early September. Here is a report regarding upcoming trips and possible trips.

1. I have been trying to get us into the LaFarge Quarry in Alpena. It may happen in September.
2. I checked for possible field trip to the Detroit salt mines, but it is currently restricted to only the MSU Geology Department.
3. Randy has indicated that the Wexford County gravel pit will probably not be available this year for collecting.

The Gem Shop: Some club members will be headed to The Gem Shop in Cedarburg, Wisconsin, at 1:00pm on Sunday, July 18th. If you are interested in going and have not let Gary know, call him ASAP at 231-590-3397. Book your hotel or campground arrangements early. Drive time is 6.5 hours clockwise, through Chicago, or 7.5 hours through the U.P. and south via Green Bay. It is hoped that if there are enough participants in the outing that the Gem Shop staff will justify opening the shop early for the club. There is a Copper Culture State Park and Museum in nearby Oconto, Wisconsin that looks interesting, as well. Check out [www.thegemshop.com](http://www.thegemshop.com) and <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/parks/copperculture>.

Gary and Deb hosted a lapidary saw class at their shop on July 26.

Ideas or suggestions for field trips? Give Gary a call 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.

### In Memory (In case you missed this last month)

With sadness we report the death of long time member John Harlan on May 22. You will remember that his wife Beth died during the winter. Here are some fond remembrances of John and Beth from Don and Bonnie Reed.

John Harlan Tribute  
And a bit of Club History  
By Bonnie Reed

“We recently received word that a former club president and leader died. Here are some of my thoughts and a bit of club history as I know it.

In 2000, when my husband Don got interested in the club, membership was down to about 20 or less. The club was meeting at the TC Senior Center and had meetings with occasional programs. It seemed that

people had the misconception that the rock club was a senior group. John and Beth Harlan appear to have joined the club about this time. They attended meetings together faithfully for many years. The club soon moved to a new meeting place in the old library, renamed the Grand Traverse Heritage Center. There the club had both a meeting place and an area for a workshop.

John was an experienced businessman, and owned Harlan Electric in the Detroit area. It was one of the largest electrical contractors in the country. When he retired from his business in the Detroit area, they moved to be in the Traverse City area near his daughter Sandy McAndrews (a former club member) and her family. John and Beth went to an annual state conference for geology and rock collecting and made a report to the club a couple times about what they learned. (Beth passed away this winter.) They were world travelers and collected rocks along the way.

John perked up the club newsletter with a photo collage from each meeting. This photo page really made the newsletter more interesting starting in 2002. In January 2004, John became the club president and served for two years, following John Matz.

John was keenly interested in computers; he built his first one. He used this interest to help the club in several ways. Even while he was president, he continued as the Club photographer. He also created the nickname TC Rockhounds which we still use today as our website name. And he created Rocky, the happy little rock hound in our club logo. He brought his leadership experience with him to the club.

With a big smile John presented a certificate, with Rocky featured on it, at each meeting to a Rockhound of the Month. Kevin Gauthier was the first to receive this honor back in February 2004. This is another of John's innovations that we still enjoy today.

A combination of good leadership, member participation, the new location, the workshop, and interesting programs helped the club to really grow under John's leadership. Don and I had many Friday night

dinner with John and Beth and she sometimes commented on how proud she was of him for the club growth. He insured the progression by telling Don he had to become the next club president. Let this be a reminder to us all that our participation and contributing our skills is necessary for the health of our club.

John gently pestered Don to teach him wire wrapping. It was an interesting match. Don is so artsy, he just grabs his tools and starts in. John was the engineer. He carefully watched everything that Don did, took pictures of every stage, and tried to replicate it on his own project. He had an engineer's jewelry notebook where he carefully drew out each of his plans, measurements, and a photo of the finished product. Don the artist and John the engineer both brought their latest jewelry to dinner and admired each other's work.

When we started our website John requested the honor of being our first customer. Even after John had learned wire wrapping he still wanted Don to make pendants for Beth. They had an Isle Royale Greenstone which was prize winning, but had been poorly worked by a lapidary. Don asked him numerous times if he really wanted to have it cut and made into jewelry. It turned out to be a memorable pendant and earring set, a great family heirloom, and a landmark piece for Don.

Hope you enjoyed this trip back. We miss the Harlans."

The following photo is John presenting a wire wrapping demonstration at our 2010 club show. Beth is seated in the green sweater at the table behind him.



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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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## Club Picnic

The club picnic is scheduled at the Matz home on Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. More information and a sign-up sheet will be available at the July meeting.

Join us at Cherry Bend Community Park on **July 27** at 6:45 p.m.