



November 2021 issue

WE WILL BE HOLDING OUR NOVEMBER MEETING INDOORS ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17 AT 6:45 P.M., AT THE CHERRYLAND VFW POST AT 3400 VETERANS DRIVE, IN TRAVERSE CITY. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING WILL BE ON A WEDNESDAY EVENING.

We will be holding the meeting in the same room where we had our Rock and Mineral Show in September. Since we are meeting indoors, masks are recommended, like we did for the show. There will be no community snacks and drinks provided due to concerns about food sharing.

Steven Veatch will be speaking on “The Ultimate Guide to the Geology of the Pikes Peak Region of Colorado”. Please see further information on Steven later in the newsletter.



October Highlights

The weather held out for the outdoor meeting. Deb Bull gave the main presentation on “How to be salty and still have friends – A Discussion on Sodium Chloride”.

Page 2

Rockhound of the month was presented to Ben and Karen Card.

We are attempting to hold a Christmas dinner this year. Deb Bull and Pierre LaFoilie are working on the details of that.

As we have done for several years, the club is collecting hats, mittens, gloves, and socks for those in need and delivering them to local agencies and schools. You can bring them to the November meeting or to the Christmas Dinner.

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 is the Field Trip Coordinator. Kevin Gauthier planned the trip to the U.P. in September. Planning is beginning for 2022 trips. Ideas or suggestions for field trips? Give Gary a call at 231-590-3397.

Additional Information on our November Program

The following was provided by our November presenter, 2021 new member Steven Veatch.

The Ultimate Guide to the Geology of the Pikes Peak Region

The Pikes Peak region is well known by gem and mineral collectors for its exceptional mineral and fossil treasures. Clusters of blue-green amazonite and smoky quartz crystals, found in cavities within the Precambrian (1 billion year-old) Pikes Peak Granite, are considered the finest in the world. The Pikes Peak Granite also yields excellent crystals of topaz, fluorite, goethite, and other minerals too numerous to mention. The Cripple Creek mining district, in the shadow of Pikes

Page 3

Peak, is one of the most important gold districts in the United States. Gold mining continues there today. Nearby, exquisitely detailed plant and insect fossils occur within the Eocene (34 million year-old) Florissant Formation. These fossils represent a time in Earth's history much warmer than today's climate. Don't miss this program.

Steven Veatch is a member of the Grand Traverse Area Rock and Mineral Club, and a 2015 [National Rockhound & Lapidary Hall of Fame](#) inductee.

In Memory

We have been having to do this far too many times this past year or so. For those of you who had not heard, long time member Mary Collins passed away on September 13th. She and her husband, Marshall (who died several years ago) were wonderful members of the club for many years and had a booth at our club shows for many years. Here is the information from the obituary.

Obituary

Mary W. Collins

Died September 13, 2021

NORTHPORT -Mary Willie Thompson Collins,77, a self-taught Minister of Music, Clergy Spouse of the late Rev. Marshall Collins and local business owner of Nature Gems answered the eternal call of her Lord and Savior on Monday, September 13, 2021, at MediLodge of Grand Traverse County.

The daughter of Morris Thompson Sr. and Elizabeth (Ross) Thompson was born on October 7, 1943, in Dorchester County, Maryland. She was later raised by her father and stepmother, Charlotte Simmons Thompson. She attended Phyllis Wheatley High School.

“May Willie” as she was affectionally called as a child, gave her life to the Lord at an early age and had a love for singing gospel. She had a God-given gift to play the piano by ear. She would go on to sing and play the piano in various churches throughout the United States and Canada. She had a beautiful and resounding voice.

Mary and her husband made Northport, MI, their home after many years of traveling there for their ministry, migrant work, and a business creating beautiful stonework. Mary was a faithful clergy wife and member of the Northport Indian Mission Church-UMC and was

Page 4

recognized as a Valiant Woman.

Mary is survived by her children, Rose Marie Whittaker, Herbert Lee (Shari) Whittaker, Daron Whittaker, Yolanda Maria (Curtis) Fluellen, Crystal Marshalle Collins, Marshall Roosevelt (Tricia) Collins Jr.; a daughter-in-law, Kim Whittaker; four sisters, Pearl Ross-Coleman, Queen Thompson-Brewington, Holy M. Thompson-Ricketts, all of Hurlock MD, and Julia Thompson-Farrow of Cambridge MD; three brothers, Morris Thompson (Kelly) of Federalsburg, MD, Samuel Thompson Sr. (Tina) of Vienna, MD, and Michael Thompson Sr. (Darlene) of Seaford, Delaware; and sister-in-law, Elaine Ross of Baltimore MD; 47 grandchildren and many loving great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, the Rev. Marshall R. Collins Sr.; mother, Elizabeth Ross; father, Morris Thompson Sr.; stepmother, Charlotte Thompson Hurst; brothers, James Ross, Moses Ross, Edward Ross, Louis Thompson; sister, Elizabeth (Sis) Ross- Finney; and children, Felicia Whittaker and Hurbert Whittaker.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, October 3 from 12 noon to the start of the 1 PM funeral service at Northport Indian UMC Campground on Camp Haven Road, Northport. Procession to and burial at Leelanau Township Cemetery will follow the service.

Memorials may be directed to the Collins Family, 5393 Ravenhurst Drive, Traverse City, MI 49685.



A wonderful picture of Mary from a few years ago.

Page 5

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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 at Cherryland VFW on November 17 at **6:45 p.m.**