



April 2024 issue

**The next regular meeting will be on THURSDAY, April 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the VFW Post at 3400 Veterans Drive in Traverse City.**

For the short program, Pierre LaFoille will be presenting a program on “Porcelain”. The main program is a slide show of a recent rockhounding trip by Gwen Drews.

The next regular meeting of the Pebble Pups will be on **Thursday**, April 18 at 5:30 pm at the VFW. This is what is planned for the meeting.

Sedimentary Rocks and How They Reveal Geologic Time and Past Environments. Discussions of erosion, transport and deposition. Concepts of Superposition and Uniformitarianism will be introduced. Discuss use of sedimentary rocks to interpret ancient environments and the time relationships of rocks. Perform sedimentary bedding experiment. Mineral of the month: chalcedony

## March Highlights

56 Members and visitors attended the meeting. During the short program, Jim Elder talked about the goals of the new committee that will look at possible new locations for our club work and classroom. A motion was passed to proceed with looking for a new location for the work and classroom.

The main program was Deb and Gary Bull leading members and guests in a Rock and Mineral Trivia Event.

A motion was passed to renew the club’s CD account at Huntington Bank.

The Rockhound of the Month for March was Pebble Pup, Brody Dymond.

Beginning in April, the club meeting day is changing to the third Thursday of the month. The first new meeting date will be Thursday, April 18 at 6:30 pm.

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## **Letter from President Eric Hallman**

We Have had quite a month at the Rock Club.

We gave the Rockhound of the month to one of our Pebble pups, Brody Dymond. First, for presenting his program “Styemys a fossil Tortoise from the White River Badlands to our club in February. Then for submitting his article to the American Federation of Mineralogical Society’s newsletter. They accepted the article, and it was published on the front page of the AMFS youth newsletter that has a national circulation, “Crack The News”. Congratulations, Brody.

Then in March we had our last meeting on a Wednesday. We were informed that our meeting day would change to the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Just a little history; When I joined the GTARMC way back in 2016 our meetings were on Tuesdays then COVID hit us, we went through the zoom meetings, another venue changed to outdoor meetings at the gazebo in the park. Then we landed at the VFW but because of a conflict on Tuesdays we switched to Wednesday meetings but were double booked with the boy scouts. We worked out an agreement for that one day a month for us to use the room on the 3rd Wednesday, that agreement is now over.

I just want to say that we have gone through some day changes for the club, and we have survived. I realize that the day change is not going to work with everyone but may work better with others. But we can all still meet up at classes or on field trips, picnics, beach walks or the Holiday party.

I hope to see you at our next Meeting on the 3rd Thursday of April, on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Rock on

Eric Hallman

## Trivia Night Correction

Apologies from Deb Bull, who realized that she mistakenly provided an incorrect answer on trivia sheet 3. The semi-precious gem found in meteors is pale green olivine, not peridot. Oops!

## 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>

## Food Pantry Donations

Lorna Coe and Jim and De Elder would like to thank all that have brought items for the food pantry and clothing donations. Due to the success of the program, they are going to continue this at every meeting. Non-perishable food items, personal hygiene products, children's new underwear, cold weather new, or clean, lightly used clothing items and tote bags are welcomed. An additional item of need is toothbrushes and toothpaste. As an added incentive, every time you donate items, put your name in the hat for a drawing, which will take place at our Christmas dinner.

## More Rock & Mineral Specimens Needs for the Pups

The Pebble Pups need specimens for study and for Steven Veatch to give out at the Pup's meetings and for public outreach events that are staged about 4 times a year. People can contact Steven at [steven.veatch@gmail.com](mailto:steven.veatch@gmail.com) or bring them to the meetings for him.

## Upcoming Field Trip Planning

We do have a new Field Trip Coordinator. Her name is Sarah Steel.

Steven Veatch is working on a possible field trip to the Cranbrook Institute of Science in Bloomfield Hills, MI.

## Membership Information

From Cathy Kowaleski, Membership Chair:

You must be a paid member to continue to receive club benefits (participation in classes, outings and receiving club newsletters.) Dues are \$15 Adult or \$20 for a couple, Juniors (8-17) \$5, and those under 8 are free with an adult membership. Make checks out to GTARMC.

Membership dues may be mailed to:

Cathy Kowaleski, Membership Chair  
801 S. Garfield Avenue #241  
Traverse City, MI 49686

Name badges are an additional \$8 per badge. Thank you!

## Club Email Addresses

[To send a request for classes or workroom time, please send an email request to our club scheduler.](#)

[scheduling@tcrockhounds.com](mailto:scheduling@tcrockhounds.com)

[gtarmc@tcrockhounds.com](mailto:gtarmc@tcrockhounds.com) (is our main club email address)

[If you have any photos that you would like to share of club events or members, those can be sent to:](#)

[photos@tcrockhounds.com](mailto:photos@tcrockhounds.com) or [noonanjohntc@gmail.com](mailto:noonanjohntc@gmail.com)

[To view club photos on Flickr, enter the following web address:](#)

[GT Rock & Mineral | Flickr](#)

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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 Member Assignment

To assist the new committee that is looking at potential new locations for our club workroom and classroom, Jim Elder is asking all club members to let him know about possible locations that you may be aware of that may work for the club. The space should be in the greater Traverse City area but doesn't have to be within the city limits.

A good size for the room would be 400 to 600 square feet and must have a restroom for member use. This would give us adequate space for our equipment and enough room to hold classes.

# GTARMC Pebble Pup Info

## **GEOLOGY HIKE SERIES: WATER REFLECTIONS**

Saturday, April 13, 2024

10:00 AM 12:00 PM

Grand Traverse Conservation District

Description: Join us for the first hike in our Family & Children Geology Hike Series featuring the Grand Traverse Area Rock and Mineral Club Pebble Pups - Water Reflections: Discovering Secrets Along the River!

This captivating and immersive walk is designed to explore the enchanting world hidden within the river's gentle currents. Participants embark on a mesmerizing journey to uncover the secrets of water. Through a combination of interactive experiences and expert-led discussions, the program invites you to connect with the natural beauty of rivers, fostering an appreciation for the delicate ecosystems and the intriguing mysteries that lie beneath. Whether through the lens of art, science, or mindfulness, "Water Reflections" offers a unique and enriching perspective on the dynamic and transformative power of rivers, encouraging a deeper understanding of our interconnected relationship with these vital waterways.

We have a device (water sampling and sensing unit) to use along the river. We will be able to take point measurements for temperature, pH, conductivity, salinity, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, and oxidation/reduction potential during the event. It is a very portable unit, so we can take measurements along the hike. This is an exciting enhancement for our hike.

Check out this link about the hike: <https://natureiscalling.org/events/geology-hike-series-water-reflections>

This program is geared towards an audience of children and families.

When: Saturday, April 13th from 10:00am - 12:00pm

Where: Meet at the Oleson Pavilion next to the Boardman River Nature Center 1450 Cass Rd., Traverse City, MI 49685.

**Registration: Free. You must register through the conservation district via this link:** <https://natureiscalling.org/events/geology-hike-series-water-reflections>