



September 2024 issue

**The next regular meeting will be on THURSDAY, September 19 at 7:00 p.m. at the VFW Post at 3400 Veterans Drive in Traverse City. Our meeting is starting one half hour later, due to a dinner that was previously scheduled.**

The September 19 meeting will feature a short program by the Pebble Pups and the main program will be "The Green River Fossil Fish Formation in Wyoming" by Jenny Bowen. A special door prize event will take place at the meeting!!

The next regular meeting of Pebble Pups will be at 5:30 pm, September 19 in the room attached to the restaurant portion of the VFW.

## August Highlights

August 18 was our annual club picnic at the home of John Matz. Approximately 30 members were present and enjoyed the food, conversation and perusing the items John offered for sale prior to the picnic.

## 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, it will continue at every meeting. Non-perishable food items (no expired dated items, please), personal hygiene products, children's new underwear, sizes elementary to teens, 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.

## 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 and Special Event Information

### Sept 15      Cranbrook Institute: Behind-the-Scenes Tour

As of September 2, there are still 8 spots available to tour Cranbrook. Contact Dave Regalbuto at 517-256-4716 (mobile) or: [dregs9727@yahoo.com](mailto:dregs9727@yahoo.com) (email) to sign up.

Thanks to GTARMC member Lorna Coe, for putting us in contact with Cranbrook Science Institute curator Mike Stafford, who will lead us on a private 2-hour behind-the-scenes tour of the institute's mineral collection and other exhibits, some of which are not available to the general public.

We are confirmed to meet at 11:00 am on Sunday, September 15. Per Mr. Stafford's request, **our group size is limited to 30 GTARMC members**, including Pebble Pups. For compliance with our club insurance policy, you must be a GTARMC member to join the tour. GTARMC is not being charged an admission fee, and we are welcome to bring our lunch. Meet in the semi-circular parking area in front of the southeast entrance to the museum, at the north end of Institute Way. It's about a 3-hour, 45 minute drive from TVC to Cranbrook, via I-75.

Location and to learn more about Cranbrook:

Cranbrook Institute of Science  
1 Institute Way, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

<https://science.cranbrook.edu>  
[Cranbrook Institute of Science](https://science.cranbrook.edu)

### Sept 28-29      GTARMC Rock and Mineral Show (Sat/Sun)

### Oct 19-20      Rockport/Rogers City, MI Fossil Hunting Trip

The last GTRMC outing of the year will be to northeast Michigan. This can be done as a long there-n-back, or some folks enjoy turning this into an overnight/camping trip. The plan includes:

**Saturday October 19 - Rockport State Recreation Area (RSRA):** on Lake Huron, approximately 10 miles north of Alpena. The RSRA is a 3-hour drive from Traverse City. Rockhounding is available on the pile north of the parking area, in the former 300-acre limestone quarry located inland from the parking area, and along the Lake Huron shore. Bring a lunch, dress for the weather, and bring collecting tools/buckets. The RSRA

Page 3

falls within the Michigan DNR's annual limit of 25 pounds/person. You will need a recreation passport for entry. The designated meet time at the parking lot is 11:00 am.

Here are two useful websites for the RSRA:

[Rockport Recreation Area Detail \(michigandnr.com\)](http://michigandnr.com)

[Go on a Fossil Hunting Expedition at Rockport Recreation Area \(awesomemitten.com\)](http://awesomemitten.com)

### **Sunday October 20 - Optional Visits to Besser Museum and/or Rogers City Fossil Parks:**

The Besser Museum, 491 Johnson Street in Alpena, provides a collecting area that is free and open to the public, behind the museum. The museum itself is open on Saturdays and thus can be visited before reaching Rockport on 10/19, or one can rockhound their pile at your leisure on 10/20. The free fossil park is located on the west side of the building at the back of the museum's parking lot. This fossil park is open to the public from dawn to dusk depending on weather conditions. For more information:

[Fossil Park | bessermuseumnew](http://bessermuseumnew)

Similar to the Besser Museum, there is a new fossil park that is open to the public in Rogers City at South Shore Park:

Downtown Rogers City, Little League Ballfield  
Rogers City, MI 49779  
GPS: 45.41833, -83.80556  
More information:

[Rogers City Fossil Park - US-23 Heritage Route \(us23heritageroute.org\)](http://us23heritageroute.org)

**December 8 Holiday Party (date to be confirmed)**

## **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.

Page 4

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](#)

## 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.

**President**

Eric Hallman  
231-620-6567  
[ehall686@gmail.com](mailto:ehall686@gmail.com)

**Vice President**

Bob White  
231-676-3644  
[bluerockcreative@gmail.com](mailto:bluerockcreative@gmail.com)

**Secretary**

De Elder  
231-360-7111  
[jde123123@yahoo.com](mailto:jde123123@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer**

Sandie Bull  
231-929-3630  
[sandie.bull@yahoo.com](mailto:sandie.bull@yahoo.com)

**Field Trip Coordinator**

Dave Regalbuto  
517-256-4716  
[dregs972@yahoo.com](mailto:dregs972@yahoo.com)

**Education & Training**

Pierre LaFoille  
586-907-3512  
[pals0210@gmail.com](mailto:pals0210@gmail.com)

**Workroom & Classes**

Denise Groesser  
231-714-4559  
[scheduling@tcrockhounds.com](mailto:scheduling@tcrockhounds.com)

**Facebook Page**

Jenny Burcroff  
231-499-4714  
[burcrofj@gmail.com](mailto:burcrofj@gmail.com)

**Newsletter & Website**

Lauren Vaughn  
231-276-6150 H  
231-342-3613 C  
[maple2b@aol.com](mailto:maple2b@aol.com)

**Membership**

Cathy Kowaleski  
231-633-0700  
[ctkowaleski@gmail.com](mailto:ctkowaleski@gmail.com)

**Refreshments**

Pat Captain  
231-946-3026 H  
231-342-6674 C  
[cappat@aol.com](mailto:cappat@aol.com)

**Club Show Chair**

Lauren Vaughn  
231-276-6150 H  
231-342-3613 C  
[maple2b@aol.com](mailto:maple2b@aol.com)

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

## Annual Club Rock and Mineral Show

The annual club show is rapidly approaching and will take place on September 28 and 29 at the VFW hall where our meetings are held.

The show is open on Saturday, September 28 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Sunday, September 29 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm.

We are still in need of volunteers to perform various tasks during the show. Shifts are either 1 ½ hours or 2 hours long depending on the time of day. A separate email will be sent to club members with a list of volunteer positions that need to be filled. Please consider signing up for one or more shifts if you haven't already.

Thank you in advance!

## GTARMC Pebble Pup Info

### September 19 Pebble Pup Class (two programs):

**Brody Dymond will practice his presentation: *Pachyteuthis densus*:** A fossil belemnite from the Upper Sundance Formation, Buffalo, Wyoming. This will be 5 minutes long. Brody will present this again after the pup meeting to the general meeting as the featured short program.

**Fossil Fish.** Fossil fish (*Knightsia eocaena*) from the Eocene-age Green River Formation in Wyoming will be examined. We will work with the fossil fish from Fossil Lake in Wyoming, how these fish fossils are collected, and how they are prepared. Pebble Pups will have the opportunity to do some hands-on-prep work and will get to take home their own fossil fish. This special class is presented by Jennifer Bowen.

**Mineral of the month:** beryl, variety emerald.

### Upcoming Pebble Pup Event

The pebble pups will be joining the Boardman River Nature Center to celebrate Earth Science Week. There will be a big event for the community. There will be more information coming soon!

### 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.

**DISCOVER THE WORLD OF  
ROCKS AND FOSSILS**



**JOIN PEBBLE  
PUPS**