



May 2025 issue

The next regular meeting will be on THURSDAY, May 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the VFW Post at 3400 Veterans Drive in Traverse City. See below for more information.

The next regular meeting of Pebble Pups will be at 5:30 pm, May 15, in the big room where the regular club meetings are held.

## April Highlights

Approximately 47 members and guests attended and enjoyed the 10 or more door prize drawings. The main program was Vice President Bob White presenting a photo show from his collecting trip out west last summer to Wyoming. Jim Elder reported that \$303.00 was collected at the February Bake Sale. The money went to purchasing clothes for area students in need. Rockhound of the Month was Sandy Bull.

## 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, ***(Please check to make sure that there are no expired dates on the food items, they can't be accepted by the food banks if they are expired.)***, 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

Please forward ideas for field trips to Dave Regalbuto. His contact information is listed below.

### **Sunday April 27, 2025 Field Trip: Onomonee Road Beach/Spit**

Lake Michigan is down, so we have a great opportunity to visit this exposed spit offshore from Onomonee Road Beach:



**Location:** 8 miles NE of Leland; 3.75 miles SW of Northport, via either Gills Pier or Carlson Road to Onomonee Road. Meet at the turnaround at the lakeshore. If you end up in the big lake, you've gone too far!

**Time:** Let's meet at 1:30 at the turnaround.

**Bring:** Dress for the weather; we'll hunt rain or shine, unless severe weather is imminent. Waterproof footwear/knee-high waders suggested, along with buckets, scoops.

**Please note:** Onomonee Beach is unimproved - there are no bathroom facilities.

For those tireless rockhounds who want to explore yet more Leelanau shoreline, check out Peterson Park, about 3 miles (as the crow flies) to the north. It's a quite a few stairs from the

## Page 3

park down to the lake. And if you are passing through Leland on the way to/from Onomonee, you can try Van's Beach in Leland for some possible Leland Blue stones.

You are welcome to contact me with questions and/or suggestions.

Dave Regalbuto  
GTARMC Field Trip Coordinator  
517-256-4716  
[dregs9727@yahoo.com](mailto:dregs9727@yahoo.com)

Some other possible trips in the coming months include a trip to the South Haven - Benton Harbor area to hunt for lightning stones in late May; a trip with the Pebble Pups to the Sleeping Bear area in late June, and a trip to a local gravel pit. More details later on these trips!

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

Make checks out to GTARMC.

Membership dues may be mailed to:

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

## Club Email Addresses

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

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)

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](#)

**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  
231-463-3793  
[jde123123@yahoo.com](mailto:jde123123@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer**

Callee Newhouse  
[Callee.newhouse@gmail.com](mailto:Callee.newhouse@gmail.com)

**Field Trip Coordinator**

Dave Regalbuto  
517-256-4716  
[dregs9727@yahoo.com](mailto:dregs9727@yahoo.com)

**Education & Training**

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

**Workroom & Classes**

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

**Facebook Page**

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

## **MSG's May Meetup**

### **Crooked Tree Arts Center, Traverse City**

**Sunday, May 18, 2025**

**1:00-3:00PM**

Our May 2025 meetup will be a collaboration of efforts between MSG and the GTARMC (Grand Traverse Area Rock and Mineral Club); it will be held at the **Crooked Tree Arts Center, 322 Sixth Street, Traverse City, MI on Sunday, May 18, from 1:00-3:00**, where GTARMC shares space. This is our first meetup in the Traverse City area, and we're really excited to have this opportunity to collaborate and share our experiences and knowledge. As per our usual agenda, the meetup will cover brief introductions, a short tour of GTARMC's rock room, and time for networking and sharing:

- Show off new creations; tell us how it was made
- Share what we're working on - successes/challenges/frustrations
- Get feedback from fellow metalsmiths
- Discuss new techniques, resources and upcoming events

**This is a great opportunity to meet some of the folks who fashion those beautiful items that we so like encasing in metal, to explore GTARMC's rock room, to see some familiar faces and to meet new friends. Grab a friend or two and come on up. Maybe even spend a day or two in one of the most beautiful areas of the state. And maybe - you'll find that perfect specimen for an idea that's been brewing in your head.**

Light snacks will be provided, and you are also welcome to bring your own snacks.

Note: The Crooked Tree Arts Center is closed on Sundays, and we will enter via the back door.

*Plans are in the works to have our July meetup in Ann Arbor, MI; look forward to more information on that meeting in June. Also, we are always looking for venues throughout the state, and we welcome your suggestions. Please let us know if you have any ideas.*

**Contact:** Charlotte Allen: [charlotteallenjeweler@gmail.com](mailto:charlotteallenjeweler@gmail.com) (734) 417-0069 or  
Eric Hallman: [ehall686@gmail.com](mailto:ehall686@gmail.com) (GTARMC)

#### **Directions to Crooked Tree Arts Center**

Search on Maps: **Crooked Tree Arts Center, 322 Sixth Street, Traverse City, MI**

Page 6

Note that there is a limit of 20 club members that can attend the above Michigan Silversmithing Guild meetup. Contact Eric Hallman to see if there is room on the list.

## **Pebble Pups News**

**For more information about the Pebble Pups, check out their website.**

**<https://traversepebblepups.blogspot.com/>**

The following Pebble Pup field trip is announced for your consideration. Mark your calendars. Please register through Steven Veatch. He needs the pebble pup name, and which parent/guardian will be coming. Collecting is allowed on the May 3<sup>rd</sup> trip. Last year several pebble pups hit a lagerstatten (jackpot).

-----

### **Ancient Echoes Expedition: Journey into the World of Fossils**

**Location: Sabin Loop- Fossil Beach**

**Theme: Fossil Discovery Hike**

**Date: May 3, 2025**

**Time: 10 am to 12 pm**

Description: Embark on an extraordinary adventure with the "Ancient Echoes Expedition: Journey into the World of Fossils," a thrilling hike that invites you to step back in time and explore the geological wonders of our planet. This immersive program guides hikers through a captivating landscape rich in ancient echoes, where fossilized remnants tell the tales of prehistoric life. Led by seasoned experts in paleontology, the expedition combines the excitement of a scenic hike with hands-on fossil discovery, offering participants the chance to learn about ancient creatures. As the trail winds through breathtaking vistas, participants gain a deep appreciation for the geological history that shaped the world we know today. This hike is not just a physical journey but a profound exploration into the mysteries of Earth's past, fostering a connection between pebble pups and the awe-inspiring narratives concealed within the rocks and fossils of the landscape.

Next is an article written by Pebble Pup, Brody Dymond.



# Coquina

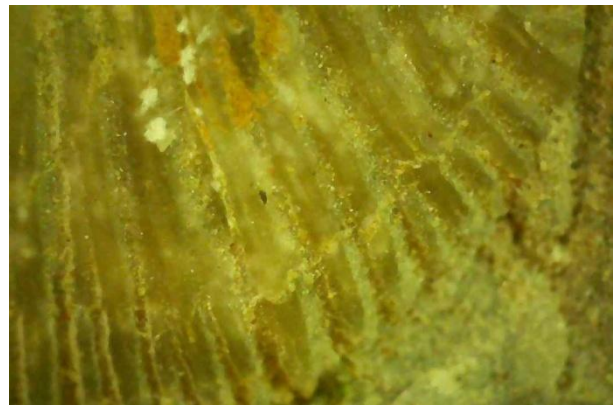
Brody Dymond

Coquina is a type of sedimentary rock composed mostly of shells and fossils. They can vary in hardness, ranging from crumbly to more hard like cement. The word Coquina comes from the Spanish word for “cockle” and “shellfish.”

Coquina can be found all over the world. It forms when shells accumulate in shallow water areas where waves break such as beaches, bars, and raised banks. They are usually formed from saltwater organisms, though Coquina that contain freshwater organisms can also be found. Some of the organisms that form Coquinas include mollusks, brachiopods, trilobites, and other invertebrates. The shells in Coquinas are usually 2mm or larger.

The specimen I studied was an Ordovician period coquina limestone from the Cincinnati Arch near Liberty, Indiana. This specimen was totally packed with fossils and fossil fragments, and is very hard. Fossils included bryozoans, brachiopods, horn corals, and other organisms.

The photos below were taken by Brody with a digital microscope.





## Sources

<https://legacy.igws.indiana.edu/compendium/harrodsburg-limestone>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coquina>

<https://www.sandatlas.org/coquina/>



<https://www.volusia.org/residents/history/volusia-stories/plantation-ruins/coquina-floridas-native-stone.stml>

**Brody Dymond** is a 5th grade science lover with a sketchbook full of Earth facts and creepy creatures.