

ROCK TRAILS

VOLUME 49
ISSUE III
MAR 2009



Presidential Ponderings

Hello, I hope this newsletter finds everyone doing well. If we can believe the groundhog, spring is just around the corner. I'm not sure how the rest of you feel, but I am certainly more than ready for spring. I am looking forward to warmer weather and the renewed ambition that is sure to follow.

At last month's meeting, we talked about the possibility of going on a few field trips this spring. It would be nice to be able to collect some Ohio Flint and Indiana geodes before the show. There is also a Petoskey Stone Festival at Barnes Park in Eastport, Mi on the 23rd of May.

We need to set up some dates for working down at the depot. We also need to set up some dates to go out into the local communities to sell bricks. Maybe some of the folks who are unable to participate in the physical labor that is taking place at the depot can sell bricks on work days. We will still need to set up some dates when we can all go out and try and sell some bricks. The only way we're going to pay for the depot is to start making money. The gloomy outlook of the economy is not in our favor, however, people and businesses are still willing to support things that they believe in. I guess that means we have to believe in ourselves if we are going to expect others to believe in us.

I understand that we all have our own lives and sometimes hectic schedules to tend to, but the only way for us to all be able to reap the benefits of having a clubhouse is to actually commit ourselves to the inevitable task of fundraising. I've noticed we have a fairly eager group at times for the physical tasks that need to be performed, but the need to raise money is equally important. Actually, the truth is, raising money is **MORE** important. Quite honestly, there is only so much we can do without the appropriate funds.

If you hadn't guessed it, this is a plea to each and every member to do everything you can to help Stateline. There is a lot of excitement about the fact that our fiftieth year as a society is approaching. I think it would be even more exciting to know that the society will have a clubhouse for the next fifty years. We have some truly great and trying times ahead of us, so let's forge ahead and make the best of it.

Hope to see all of you at the next meeting.

Steve

**Remember to bring items for the silent auction
to the March meeting!**

Treasurer's Addition



Treasurer's Report: Dues are now payable for 2009. There are still a number of members who have not paid their dues yet. The annual dues are \$15.00 per family or \$10.00 per individual. If you aren't able to attend the March meeting, you can send a check or money order to:

State Line Gem and Mineral Society
% Treasurer, Doris Brzezicki,
419 N Broad St, Adrian, MI 49221.
According to the by-laws, this will be the last newsletter you will receive if we don't receive your dues by 03/15/09. After the March meeting, I will send a notice to those members who, according to my records, have not paid their dues.

Finances continue to be tight. Because of various factors, I was not able to get pictures and descriptions of items to Larry to be listed on e-bay Wednesday after the meeting. Several members have submitted some beautiful pieces. They would already be listed and bringing in cash, except Richard and I left for a two week vacation in Florida. We brought a laptop with us, but it won't download the pictures. Plus the condo doesn't have Wi-fi. Arg! It goes on and on, but things will get better when we come back to Adrian. Expenses for March should be covered- though just barely.

Doris Brzezicki, Treasurer

Show Report: Show news is much better. My cell phone works just fine here in Florida, and I was able to follow-up a second time with the dealers who had not responded to the initial contact in November and my follow-up in January. I plan on contacting several dealers who called and said they want to come to our show if we have space available. With that information, I will be able to update the flyer and include it with the letter I send to other clubs in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. We also have flyers available for other Rock Shows that are coming up. The next month is vital to complete promotional information for the Show. My sincere thanks to those members who accepted responsibility for Show

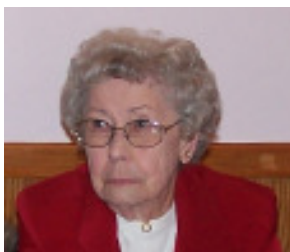
Committees. There is still opportunity for every member to help, especially at set up and during the show.

Richard and I were able to attend The Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club Inc. Show in Merritt Island, FL. It was FUN! They have about the same number of dealers we do, but we are fortunate to have a few more demonstrators, though they did have a wonderful soapstone carver. Yes, Sandy Cline was there. I took the opportunity to gain his assurance that he will come to our show. Whew! That was a big relief.

Just a reminder that we also need to be thinking of our 50th StateLine Gem and Mineral Show in 2011.

Show Chairperson,
Doris Brzezicki

The Secretary's Words



The February 5th meeting was called to order at 2:10 by President Steve Nichols. 17 members were in attendance.

The first order of business was the Secretary's Report. Doris made the motion to accept this report as printed in Rock Trails. Nancy seconded it, and it carried.

Doris presented the Treasurer's Report, saying the club is in good financial shape through the month of February. Thelma Jo made the motion to accept, seconded by Bob Husband, and it was unanimously accepted.

The President called for a report from the June Show Committee. Chairperson Doris reported on the status, verifying that Thelma Jo will be in charge of the kitchen again this year, as will her helpers from the past. Regarding the Raffle, a discussion followed with several members giving input as to what items could be accepted for this purpose; also whether to stick with "rock related" items, or some other nice items. Charlie remembered the year a 10-pound Hershey's candy bar was donated, and he won it! Those of us who were there recalled how Charlie shared with everyone. He also added that the rest of it lasted all the way through Christmas. So, members, you should be thinking about this and voice your suggestions. As far as the hourly drawings, Doris has been furnishing a lot of them, so let's decide what the rest of us could donate for this activity, as it

makes for a fun time for our guests.

"To cut or not to cut" is the question put before the group. This pertains to geodes. It takes about 20 minutes to complete cutting a geode, and some folks don't want to wait. So members, give us your input on the subject ---cutting vs. cracking. If we go with "cracking", another trip to southern Indiana may be practical.

Next on the agenda was the large signs that we put out by the highway at the Fairgrounds. Someone mentioned that it would be a good idea to have another one painted up to put in front of our clubhouse in Morenci. That was unanimously approved, and Steve and Eddie will see to that.

New business --- Doris said she had been approached about the club putting up a one day display at the Adrian Mall. That sounds like a good way to promote the club and what we do. Larry suggested a Prehistoric History theme which sounds good, but we'll discuss it further at the next meeting.

For the March meeting, please be advised to bring things to donate for the Silent Auction (which is stated in our By-laws for the program for March). As you are aware, we are needing some fundraisers to tide us over until the dealers' deposits start coming in.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 so members could partake of the refreshments provided by Nancy. Very good cookies! And they were enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Dahlke , Secretary

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Bloodstone The Martyr's Gem



Bloodstone, green jasper dotted with bright red spots of iron oxide, was treasured in ancient times and served for a long time as the birthstone for March. This attractive chalcedony quartz is also known as heliotrope because in ancient times polished stones were described as reflecting the sun: perhaps the appearance of the gem reminded the ancients of the red setting sun, mirrored in the ocean.

Medieval Christians often used bloodstone to carve scenes of the crucifixion and martyrs, for which reason it was also dubbed the martyr's stone. According to the legend about the origin of bloodstone, it was first formed when drops of Christ's blood fell and stained some jasper at the foot of the cross. A beautiful example of carved bloodstone with the seal of the German Emperor Rudolf II can be seen at the Louvre in Paris.

Though this stone is the birthstone associated with Aries and Pisces Zodiac signs it can be worn by those belonging to all zodiac signs. The powdered gem is used as a medicine in India. Keeping this stone in the business premises is said to be helpful in the development of Business. Pendants and rings made of these gemstones are popular as men's jewelry and bead necklaces and earrings are popular among woman. Bloodstone gemstone jewelry is affordable and can be found in most online shopping sites at vary reasonable prices.

Bloodstone is a hero's stone. It can instill courage in dangerous situations (like everyday life) and protects us from our own dangerous desires. In addition to instilling courage, bloodstone is an intense healing stone.

Bloodstone helps one see the benefit and patterns of change, and to recognize the benefit of turmoil prior to perfection. One must sometimes break down a pattern of behavior before it can be rebuilt in a healthier way.

The primary message of bloodstone is "Be Here Now!" It can revitalize love, relationships, and friendships. It helps to let go of selfish behavior, and renews idealistic outlook on life and also enhances ones natural abilities, talent, and creativity.

Physical Healing Properties of Bloodstone:

Purifies blood and detoxes liver, kidneys and spleen. Regulates blood flow, and benefits all blood rich organs in lower body.

The stone is also used stop bleeding especially bleeding from the nose. Bloodstone is also used to relieve stomach and bowel pain. This stone has a positive influence on a bladder. This stone was also used to heal tumors and cure blood poisons. A dream of this stone signifies distressing news.

<http://www.gemstone.org/gem-by-gem/english/bloodstone.html>

<http://www.gemstonegifts.com/stones/bloodstone.htm>

<http://hubpages.com/hub/Bloodstone-Gemstone-jewelry>



TOOLS EXPLAINED

DRILL PRESS: A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room denting the freshly-painted vertical stabilizer which you had carefully set in the corner where nothing could get to it.

WIRE WHEEL: Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench at the speed of light. Also removes fingerprints and hard-earned calluses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say, 'Oh Drat!!!!'

ELECTRIC HAND DRILL: Normally used for spinning pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age.

SKILL SAW: A portable cutting tool used to make studs too short.

PLIERS: Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters.

BELT SANDER: An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor touch-up jobs into major refinishing jobs.

HACKSAW: One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle. It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

WISE-GRIPS: Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

OXYACETYLENE TORCH: Used almost entirely for lighting various flammable objects in your shop on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub out of which you want to remove a bearing race.

TABLE SAW: A large stationary power tool commonly used to launch wood projectiles for testing wall integrity.

HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK: Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new brake shoes, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

BAND SAW: A large stationary power saw primarily used by most shops to cut good aluminum sheet into smaller pieces that more easily fit into the trash can after you cut on the inside of the line instead of the outside edge.

TWO-TON ENGINE HOIST: A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of everything you forgot to disconnect.

PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER: Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids or for opening old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used, as the name implies, to strip out Phillips screw heads.

*Facts and
Fun*



TOOLS EXPLAINED

continued from page 5



STRAIGHT SCREWDRIVER: A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws.

PRY BAR: A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50-cent part.

HOSE CUTTER: A tool used to make hoses too short

HAMMER: Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive parts adjacent to the object we are trying to hit.

UTILITY KNIFE: Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door; works particularly well on contents such as leather seats, vinyl records, liquids in plastic bottles, collector magazines, refund checks, and rubber or plastic parts. Especially useful for slicing work clothes, but only while in use.

DAMMIT TOOL: Any handy tool that you grab and throw across the garage while yelling 'DAMMIT' at the top of your lungs. It is also, most often, the next tool that you will need.

Editor's Notes



We are starting to get in a few completed Member of the Month questionnaires, which is great! I did forget to request pictures be sent with the questionnaires, though! So if you fill one out, could you please include at least one photo? If you want it returned to you, just let me know and I'll be happy to send it back after I scan it. Thanks!

Sandy



Full Name: Camille Gail (Tripp) Myers

Nickname(s): Camille Don't have any nicknames

How did you find out about the State Line Gem & Mineral Society? Fulton Co., OH Fair at Wauseon, OH

What made you decide to become a member and in what year did you join? Joined in September 2008, and why I became a member was to learn more about how to tumble or polish up stones I find along the way. I am not big on going to shows or working at shows. I am more at give me the dirt and let's get digging!

Other club or society affiliations: None at the present time. I used to be into the local Genealogical Society

Favorite thing about the State Line: Unknown at this time, other than the fellowship.

Least favorite thing about the State Line: This is for sure unknown at this time.

Is your significant other in the hobby or do they humor you? John is a member with only a passing interest, not going to put any serious time in it. He is a truck driver for Sauder's in Archbold, OH and leaves on the weekends, normally.

Current or past occupation: Currently, I am holding the house down and keeping the wood fire burning, but intend to go see what is out in the job force again, soon. Past occupation: This summer I operated my father-in-law's bulldozers on clearing acres of woods to turn the land into farm land. And for six years I delivered travel trailer/5th wheel campers to dealers across the continental USA & Canada. And before that for a little over 2 years I drove semi tractor/trailer across the continental USA. I have worked in dietary at the Fulton County Health Center, and also at Lear Corp in Wauseon, OH as a Shipper and Receiver, along with a variety of other miscellaneous jobs.

What is your dream job? Is there such a thing as a dream job? To be self employed and make a lot of money in the process of working the business, and not have to sell over-priced soap or over-priced items trying to make my profit.

Date of birth: March 10, 1958

Where were you born? Wyandotte, Wayne Co., MI

What languages can you speak? English, only. I understand just a few words in Spanish.

How many states have you visited? I have visited forty-nine states.

How many countries have you visited? (Name them) Canada (Ontario, Quebec & New Brunswick Provinces), Ecuador, S.A.

How many times have you moved? Well, after I was born, I lived on Co Rd. U, Lyons, OH until 2nd grade, then my family moved into Adrian, and we lived at 502 French St., where the house was torn down to widen the road after the Center St. bridge burned. Then my family moved onto Hoch Ave, and then onto the corner of Maumee St. & Parr St., where that beautiful old house was torn down and a factory purchased the land to make a larger parking lot! And, from there I got married and moved to Co Rd 14-2, Wauseon, OH and we lived at Ft. Meade, FL for 6 months (1979-1980), then moved back home to Co Rd 14-2. So, what does that make it, 5-6 times counting moving back home from Florida?

What is the farthest you have traveled from home? Actually, I don't know which is farther away: Wasilla, AK or Guayaquil, Ecuador, S.A.

If you could go anywhere, where would it be and why? I am sure there are a lot of beautiful places to adventure off to in this world we live in, but I personally would like to take more time and explore the last frontier ALASKA in the months of July and August. The breathtaking beautiful vast wilderness, the glaciers, the rivers, just unbelievable beauty.

Interests / Hobbies: Genealogy & picking up stones or rocks & photography... I love to snap a lot of pictures with my camera.

Do you have any kids / grandkids? Yes, I have 4 grown adult children all married and eleven grandchildren, so far.

Do you have any pets? Yes, I have a Lab/Border Collie pup who will be 1 year old in Feb. 2009, named Lola, the outside terror, and a Jack Russell pup born this past Sept. 2008, named Gizmo. A female cockatiel named Zeke, a parakeet named Bobby, and a huge (almost 2' long) algae eater Plecostomus called "Fish"

Magazines you like to read: I don't like to read, not even a little bit, so I don't read books or magazines.

Favorite TV shows: Well, what little TV shows I watch normally include: Deranged, I.D. Or FBI Files, or Victoria Stilwell's 'It's Me or the Dog!'

Favorite movies: I don't spend a lot of time watching movies or the TV. I like 'Fiddler on the Roof' and 'Gone With the Wind'.

Favorite songs: 'Cats in the Cradle' by Harry Chapin. There are several others from the 60's era.

Favorite color: I guess green, or the blue/green turquoise.

Favorite food / drink: Fayette's Pizza Place special with sauerkraut and anchovies added with a Mountain Dew.

Favorite holiday: Well, I guess the 4th of July, because the 11 grandchildren don't all have to be cooped up in the house and we can picnic outside or go to a park, or go to the beach, or go out on the boat and watch beautiful fireworks at night.

Favorite animal: A well trained one!

Favorite Rock / Gem / Mineral: Geez, I have always been partial to the March birthstone the turquoise.

Favorite Tool: It is according to what the project is that I am working on. If I'm pulling a transmission out of a vehicle, the tranny jack is nice. If I'm changing the oil in a vehicle, an oil filter wrench comes in real handy! If I'm drywalling, I have a variety of favorite tools. If I am splitting wood, I love the wood splitter. If I'm taking photographs, my camera is my favorite tool then. If I am bulldozing, well, it is obvious the bulldozer is my tool and means of mass destruction!

Do you have a workshop? Don't have workshop per se to work on anything special. There is a garage on the house (plus a shop) down the road 2 tenths of a mile to work on cars or trucks or boats or bulldozers.

Weirdest thing in your home: I don't have a clue. What one person may consider weird may be considered normal by another person, so I really don't know if I have anything weird here or not.

Things you like to collect: I like to pick up stones every once in awhile. I like to collect information on ancestors and old photos and I like to collect information on the living relatives.

Biggest collection in your home: The biggest collection in my home has to be my pictures/my photo albums!

One thing you still have from your childhood: One thing I still have from my childhood is an antique baby doll bed, which my father's sister had as a little girl and is believed to have been made by my great grandfather. I am not sure if it would have been a paternal or maternal great grandfather.

How many cars have you had and what was your first one? The first car I had was a 1968 Mercury Monterey with a 390 CID engine/automatic transmission. And I loved to drive it like I had stolen it. Other than that, in my married life we have had 9 vehicles and 6 motorcycles.

Have you met any famous people? (Name them) It is all according to what you call famous. My nephew is a stunt actor and has worked on a lot of Hollywood sets doubling for many famous actors. I saw John Starnes in concert. Herb & Herbie Shreve.

Name one thing that you have never done, but would like to do: Be a train engineer. I would like also to drive a race car, though going around in circles just wouldn't be quite my cup of tea. I would love to race across the country.

One thing that almost no one knows about you: One thing no one knows about me? Hmm, where would the secret be if everybody found out?

Personal motto: fast, faster, fastest..... go, go go, ... etc.

Favorite rock collecting story: I moved a 2-3 ton rock to my friend's house. On the way there I called her and made it sound like I had a serious problem on my hands. She told me that she would start praying and I could give her the details when I got to her house. I rang her doorbell and rushed into the house and sounded like I was in distress. She asked me what was the problem and I told her that I needed her to come to the door and look. I needed her to see the problem. As she looked out the door and cried, "YOU BROUGHT ME THAT HUGE ROCK! HOW DID YOU EVER LOAD IT? HOW ARE YOU GOING TO GET IT OFF THAT TRAILER?" All my reply was, "Glad you've been PRAYING!"

Are there any other interesting facts you would like to tell us about yourself? No, you will figure them out for yourself, and I am sure it won't be a very hard thing to do.



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Upcoming Events



Mar 1, 2009

State Line Gem & Mineral Society
monthly meeting
2:00 p.m.
Morenci Train Depot
325 W. Main St.
Morenci, MI 49256.

Feb 28, Mar 1, 2009

37TH ANNUAL SPECIAL
AUCTION
Roamin Club
Schoolcraft College
Visatech Center Bldg
18600 Haggerty Rd
Livonia, MI

Hourly oral and silent auctions
Hourly and daily door prizes
Free parking and admission
Saturday 11 AM – 6 PM,
Sunday 12 (noon) to 6 PM

Mar 7-8, 2009

International Gem & Jewelry Show
Southfield Municipal Complex
Pavilion
Southfield, MI
Saturday 10am-7pm,
Sunday 11am-5pm

March 13, 14, 15, 2009

Michigan Gem & Mineral Society
47th Annual Gem & Rock Show
Jackson County Fair Grounds
Fair Event Center
200 W. Ganson St.
Jackson, MI

March 14-15, 2009

Macomb, IL.
Geodeland Earth Science Clubs, Inc.
29th Annual Show.
Student Union Building at
Western Illinois University,
Murray St.,
Macomb, IL.
Free admission.
Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-5.

April 17, 18, 19, 2009

Mt. Clemens Gem & Lapidary Society
Annual Show
Roseville Recreation Center
18185 Sycamore
Roseville, MI

May 16, 17, 2009

Annual Midwest Federation
of Mineralogical Societies Convention
in conjunction with
The Parma Lapidary Club
Convention Headquarters at
Holiday Inn Select
15471 Royalton Rd.
Strongsville, Ohio

May 23, 2009

Antrim County Petoskey Stone Festival
Antrim County's Barnes Park in
Eastport, Michigan
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This newsletter is the official publication of the State Line Gem and Mineral Society. It is published and mailed about the 20th of each month. Submissions *must* be in by the 15th. The State Line Gem and Mineral Society is a non-profit group. Its purpose is to promote interest and increase knowledge in the fields of mineralogy, geology and the lapidary arts. Meetings are held the first Sunday of each month at 2:00 PM at the Morenci Train Depot, 325 W. Main St., Morenci, MI 49256. The June meeting takes place during the annual show/sale. If the first Sunday is a holiday, the meeting will be held one week later.

OFFICERS

President	Steve Nichols	10480 Wesch Rd	Brooklyn MI 49230	517 403-6722
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Secretary	Donna Dahlke	2411 Occidental Hwy	Adrian MI 49221	517 263-0561

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Second Year	Kay Dickerson	7515 W. Yankee Rd.	Morenci MI 49256	517 231-0915
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Library	Bon Duritsky	4206 Gilhouse Rd.	Toledo OH 43623	419 535-7342	
Hospitality	Joan Duritsky	4206 Gilhouse Rd.	Toledo OH 43623	419 535-7342	
Sunshine	Catherine Choske	707 Wenonah St.	Tecumseh MI 49286	517 423-3572	
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Rock Trails

Sandy Gerhart, Editor
210 Chestnut St.
Adrian, MI 49221

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