





Presidential Penderings How Many In A Mile ???

We need to continue selling bricks...but I also have a new idea to help raise money. We need to start trying to collect a mile of each of the lower denomination of coins. A mile adds up as follows:

Pennies	84,840	\$848.40
Nickels	75,093	\$3,754.65
Dimes	92,160	\$9,216.00
Quarters	67,584	\$16,896.00
Totals	319,677	\$30,715.05

Apparently, no one wants to sell bricks, however, this allows for a back-up plan for still getting even a small donation from people in an otherwise money strapped economy. At the last meeting, I suggested that someone might want to head up a committee for fundraising...unfortunately, that suggestion was met with silence and averted eyes. I can continue putting fundraising ideas forth; however it is very difficult to be the voice that people have begun to tune out.

I never thought that raising the money to purchase the depot would be easy, but at the same time I never dreamed that it would be this difficult either. Last May we were allowed to set up outside of Wal-Mart to promote our club and our show. Wal-Mart agreed to match the funds that we raised that day and so we made sure that we had enough people present that day to make it very profitable. Unfortunately they never lived up to their promise and here it is almost a year later and we must decide whether or not we should ask them to allow us to set up outside of their store again. That was a significant amount of money to have been promised only to never receive it.

The raffle, the kitchen, and the silent auction are all potentially very good money makers; however, we need much more participation from the club members to really make them profitable. It would be great to see every club member sell 20 raffle tickets at the very least, which alone would add up to well over \$800. If you're not inclined to sell any raffle tickets...then maybe you could just buy 20 raffle tickets for yourself (or a friend) instead. We have a commitment from various individuals to make and donate at least 20 pies for the show!!! One of our dealers (Shelly Carter) has offered to make lasagna to sell at the show. It would be great to have more donations of food or money so that the money that we make from the kitchen is mostly profit. And lastly, the silent auction. We need to help Eddie sort material for the auction tables after our May meeting. There is a lot of material in the engine house that needs to be sorted, labeled, priced, and bagged.

After our May meeting, in addition to sorting material for the auction, we need to get things around for the show. This will be our last meeting before the show and there is never a shortage of things that need to be done so that the show will run as smoothly as possible.

I hope to see everyone at the next meeting.

Steve

Treasurer's Addition

Treasurer's Report:

Good news for a while anyway. Last month's special fundraiser at the mall brought in some much needed funds so we could pay for the outstanding printer bill. We have funds coming in from the dealers for booth space at our show, but those funds will go towards fairground rental, advertising and kitchen expenses, hopefully with enough profit to pay the interest on the club house until our next funds are generated.

The last two and a half years have been amazing. StateLine Gem and Mineral Club has received a tremendous amount of support from its members, extended family, other rock clubs and our communities. I am truly impressed at what we have accomplished. I am so tired of always preaching about what we need. That's my job. However, I prefer to look at our glass as half full and dream about our goals which realistically could be reached in just a short time.

At the meeting last month, our president asked for volunteers for a committee for fund raising ideas. He didn't get much response. Well, guys, it is my own personal opinion that each and every one of us is on that committee. Everyone, including you and me. Steve had a couple of great ideas that he shared.

#1. Collecting your spare change that is laying around in plates or glass jars.

Thelma to Waycaster stopped by my house last week and dropped off her change.

Thelma Jo Waycaster stopped by my house last week and dropped off her change. Thank you for having it all counted and rolled, Jo. Richard Brzezicki has made some attractive stained glass donation containers- a large crystal and a train. He now has a special coin collecting creation. We will have a variety of eye catching donation receptacles for the show.

2. Steve's second idea was to have items donated for the kitchen - not just by our members, but by family members and friends who like to bake. He even had contacted quite a list of people who were very generous in agreeing to make pies and cookies etc. Donna Murphy, a relative new member, who hasn't even been to our show, agreed to make 5 pies! Way to go. Our co-chairs for the kitchen are Jo Waycaster, Catherine Choske and Dolores Fish. We must obtain a food license from Fulton County Health Department and comply with their guidelines . I thought we better check with them for any specific regulations regarding donated baked goods. They said we need a list of ingredients in the items, and that we didn't have to display it, just to have it available. I do think it would be a good idea to advise Jo of items you intend to donate, just so that if anyone else asks what kind of goodie to bring, she can make suggestions.

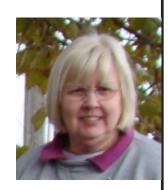
The Morenci City Wide Yard sale is the third weekend in July. StateLine has participated in this event for the past two years. We especially need help at set up and break down. And of course, all those wonderful treasures you no longer want cluttering up your house and garage.

Doris Brzezicki, Treasurer

Show Report:

I think I have said it all before, but again- we need your help. You can volunteer as much as you want, we are grateful for any and all assistance.

Richard Brzezicki is in charge of Displays. There are extra display cases available if you want to put in a display. All rocks are beautiful. Hint- it would be nice to see a display of the geodes we collected last fall.









Pat Husband is in charge of the Raffle. She is collecting items and will keep us updated on prizes as they are received. \$50.00 in cash is just one of great new prizes this year. We have had many wonderful lapidary related items donated in the past, including stones, jewelry and tools So get out there and sell those tickets.

Jo Waycaster is in charge of publicity and I have been helping her. We sent out invitations to all the other rock clubs in Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana. Steve was working on the poster with Sandy Gerhart, and hopefully they will be available at the May meeting. We had our flyers at last month's meeting and take them to other club shows. Richard and I will be putting displays in several local libraries and will leave posters, flyers and bookmarks for their patrons. We will have many of these available for members to take at the next meeting. We all know of places that will post them for us. Ed Jarzembski will be placing our large commercial signs alongside the road in Wauseon the second week of May. These always attract a lot of local attention.

Jo Waycaster, Catherine Choske and Dolores Fish are co-chairs of the Kitchen. They have planned a great menu and have established a wonderful fun working environment in that kitchen. As I mentioned in the treasurer's report, the club encourages donations of baked goods in keeping with our reputation of having wonderful desserts. Please let Jo know what items you plan to bring and a list of ingredients to comply with the Fulton County Health Department regulations.

Dolores Fish has volunteered to be our cashier for the kitchen.

Ed Jarzembski is in charge of the silent auction. Please plan to stay after the May meeting to help prepare items for the silent auction table. Members are also encouraged to donate items here too!

Steve Nichols is chairperson of Door Prizes and greeting people as they enter the show. He is our official attendance record keeper, so we have some idea how well our promotion and advertising has worked.

Dale Fordyce has volunteered to bring his cast iron pipe cutter and cut (break open) geodes for us. The club could use any extra geodes you want to bring.

Rita Yunker is chairperson of the Children's Activities. She is a new member, and I appreciate her willingness to help out in this area. Each year more activities are added-games, the fossil dig, painting a pet rock, and most recently a great activity book. We all want to see more kids at the show.

We will have a club table this year. There will be different gifts for sale - ie: gemstone trees, jewelry gift sets, bracelets, earrings, Miner Al T-shirts, bricks:), belt buckles, bolo ties, and whatever other creations are donated. This will be a consignment arrangement so it will generate funds for the crafter and the club.

I am in charge of Vendors and Demonstrators and Classes. Plus - whatever. As chairperson I try to keep things on schedule. For the past several years, I have requested that someone join me as co-chair. Please consider what area of the show interests you the most. We need new approaches to how we do things to keep the show fresh and interesting.

Doris Brzezicki, Show Chairperson

The Secretary's Words



On Sunday, April 5th, President Nichols called the meeting to order. After the Pledge and Invocation, we observed a moment of silence to remember long-time member, Helen Southworth, who passed away recently. There were 19 members and 2 guests present, the guests being Dale and friend from Mt. Clemens. Dale has led members of our group to hunt for geodes in southern Indiana, and with great success. He is willing to lead another trip there which was greeted enthusiastically.

As the first order of business, Doris made a motion to accept the Secretary's Report as printed in "Rock Trails". Richard seconded. Next Doris gave her Treasurer's Report, saying all bills for April had been paid. She also reimbursed the member who had so graciously loaned the club \$300.00 to purchase a much needed new printer for the Editor back a couple months ago. Motion to accept this report made by Richard and seconded by Bill Sipes.

Doris also reported that the club's display and presence at the Adrian Mall on April 4th had proved worth the effort. Thanks to Doris, Richard, Pat and Charlie for spending 12+ hours to make this a success. They had three tables set up, displaying Charlie's "gem" trees, beaded necklace sets, earrings and bracelets (thanks, Doris) and even "rock candy". Richard seemed to be answering questions about the Indiana geodes (and selling some), while Pat was handing out and explaining the club's fliers & literature, plus selling some raffle tickets too. (I know because I stopped by briefly to see how it was going, as I was escorting family females from upstate to various stores for shopping).

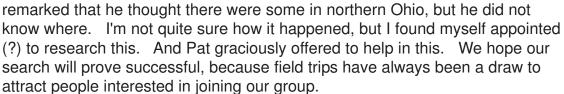
Next order of business was again "fund raising", to get ideas of ways to raise money needed to keep progress going on remodeling the depot to suit our needs. Again, Doris came to the rescue. She suggested we try the Farmers' Market in Adrian which runs on Wednesdays and Saturdays through the warmer months, Set-up is only \$10.00 and it is a well attended function. Again the need for cooperation is important so that just a handful don't get stuck with all the responsibilities. Steve asked for a Committee for Fundraising, but I apologize if that detail materialized, because I didn't catch it.

Raffle Chairman for the Show, Pat Husband, said more donations will be needed for the raffle. She suggested giving \$50.00 in cash as one of the prizes. She also presented another good idea, that at future fundraisers we display a few of the raffle prizes to draw attention, which hopefully would lead to selling more tickets. (Sounds like a good idea, doesn't it?)

Steve tendered another fundraising idea that he had seen work. It was called a "Mile of Coins". He explained that the collected coins would be laid end-to-end and measured at the completion of the collection. He said large plastic jugs could be placed in stores and other places of business, stating the purpose, and hopefully folks would be interested enough to drop in the loose change in their pockets or purses. Think the above ideas over and give us your input at the next meeting.

Then Dale (from Mt. Clemens) told us the importance of field trips to rock clubs. I asked if anyone in the membership knew of any quarries within a 50-mile or so radius, who still would allow rock club groups in to collect. Dale





Mark your calendars ----July 18th is the City Wide Garage Sales in Morenci, and as in the past, our club will hold their annual yard sale on that same day. We do pretty well with it, so let's be generous in donations of "things" and time for this event.

Another suggestion was that the StateLine name tags be worn at all events so that people will know who to address their inquiries to. The "StateLine" tee shirts and other identification would be good also. Let's be proud of what we belong to. And just maybe that will open the conversation so that we can acquaint others with what we are all about.

Pat remarked that if we plan to show and sell geodes at displays in the future, we should also have some tools to open them, as that would probably increase those sales. Steve said he could provide a long-handled geode cracker for such.

The Morenci Garden Club contacted Doris regarding our purchasing hanging plants for the posts in front of our building. It was only \$10.00 and we can afford to help the city in its efforts to beautify "Main Street." Doris made the motion and Steve seconded it to be a part of this project.

Back to our upcoming Gem Show in early June, Steve suggested that in order to make more profit from the kitchen, we should more seriously consider "donations". He reported that he already had offers of furnishing lasagna and baked pies for this purpose, and it would be nice if the rest of us could line up family or friends who could contribute some of the prepared food we will be needing. And of course donations of money to purchase needed supplies, or donations of such products, would be well appreciated.

Someone mentioned that Bon Duritsky isn't doing very well, so to you both, Bon and Joan, we miss you both very much and look forward to having you back among us.

And thus ends a rather lengthy, but necessary, business meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Dahlke, Secretary



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Agate -Banded Beauty

No gemstone is more creatively striped by Nature than agate, chalcedony quartz that forms in concentric layers in a wide variety of colors and textures. Each individual agate forms by filling a cavity in host rock. As a result, agate is often found as a round nodule, with concentric bands like the rings of a tree trunk. The bands sometimes look like eyes, fanciful scallops, or even a landscape with trees.

Most agates occur in cavities of eruptive rocks or ancient lavas. These agates have a banded structure, successive layers being approximately parallel to the sides of the cavity. During crystallization, the colored bands are not disturbed. Varieties of agate are characterized by peculiarities in the shape and color of the bands, which are seen in sections cut at right angles to the layers.

Agate forms when gas bubbles trapped in solidifying lava become filled with alkali and silica-bearing waters, which coagulate into a gel. The alkali attacks the iron in the surrounding lava, and bands of the resulting iron hydroxide are created in the gel, which loses water and crystallizes, leaving the bands intact. Many agates, when cut in cross-section, reveal striking forms.

In riband agate, the bands appear as straight lines in cross section. Such agate, with white bands alternating with bands of black, brown, or red, is called onyx. A ring or eye agate has concentric circular bands of different colors. A variety having included matter of a green color, embedded in the agate and disposed in filaments and other forms suggestive of vegetable growth, is known as moss agate.

Agate was highly valued as a talisman or amulet in ancient times. It was said to quench thirst and protect against fever. Persian magicians used agate to divert storms. A famous collection of two to four thousand agate bowls which was accumulated by Mithridates, king of Pontus, shows the enthusiasm with which agate was regarded. Agate bowls were also popular in the Byzantine Empire. Collecting agate bowls became common among European royalty during the Renaissance and many museums in Europe, including the Louvre, have spectacular examples.

According to ancient superstition, wearing agate made one agreeable, persuasive, prudent yet bold. It brought God's favor and bestowed the power to vanquish enemies and acquire riches. White

agate supposedly cured insomnia.

Arizona is well known for its petrified wood agate because of the Petrified Forest National Park, and petrified wood ranks third in value of commercially produced gemstones. It is generally accepted that the Park contains the most colorful examples of silicified logs in the world.

Petrified wood occurs in every county in the State, but the commercial production is essentially from privately owned lands in Navajo and Apache Counties near the Petrified Forest.

Arizona petrified wood has the broadest range of applications of any gem material produced in the State. The material is suitable for tumble polishing for use in baroque jewelry or for cutting into cabochons for jewelry and display. Freeform and calibrated slabs are polished for pen and pencil set bases and bases of other items, and polished slabs are used for clock faces. Additionally, large blocks, limb sections, and geometric shapes are used as bookends and decorator pieces. Objects of art, principally carvings, are produced, and furniture such as coffee and end tables are made from the petrified wood.

Arizona is the only State currently to have commercial production of fire agate. Fire agate is a form of chalcedony which contains inclusion of iron oxides that result in a play of colors much like that of precious opal. Eleven operations in Arizona report either commercial production of fire agate or dig-for-fee production. The material is produced in Graham, Greenlee, Maricopa, Mohave, and Yuma Counties.

Fire agate is cut into freeform and calibrated cabochons for use in the manufacture of silver and gold jewelry. The material is popular in the southwest and with hobbyist lapidaries throughout the United States. Fire agate also has been used and is currently used in Indian style jewelry.

California's "Mojave Blue" agate has gained a great deal of attention in the past several years. This pastel blue or blue-gray agate cuts into attractive cabochons for jewelry and, in the hands of an expert carver, makes outstanding carvings.

Colorado and Utah have deposits of fine quality jasper, agate, petrified wood, and agatized dinosaur bone. These deposits are found over a large area of both States and on both sides of the continental divide in Colorado.





Turritella Agate

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http://www.gemstone.org/gem-by-gem/english/agate.html http://www.desertusa.com/mag98/april/papr/geo_agate.html





(via Golden Spike News-7/98, and Lapidary Journal)

- Remove algae and lichen from rocks by soaking them in ammonia water followed by the use of a stiff brush.
- To remove cutting oil from slabs, first place them in kitty litter to absorb the oil, then put them in warm water with a dishwashing detergent.
- Wash fluorite specimens only in cold water.
- Remove the sludge from saw coolant by filtering the coolant through large brown paper bags.
 Because there will be a loss of volume you must add new oil.

Advice on Opals

(via Golden Spike News-7/98, and Lapidary Journal)

The newest advice on opal is that you should not store rough opal in water or glycerine. Most opal is found in desert environment and does not have to be kept moist. A well-polished opal will hold up well without the frequent baths that are sometimes recommended. NEVER put opal in an ultrasonic cleaner.



(From Rocket City Rocks & Gems-6/99, Stone Age News-9/00)
One way to remove carbonates such as calcite from quartz and amethyst is to cover the specimen with fresh vinegar and allow to stand overnight. Repeat if necessary. Wash and then place crystals in washing type ammonia for 8-1/2 hours. Remove, rinse thoroughly, wipe and air dry.

For the gloss finish on tiger-eye, polish once, dry the stone, then put a drop of vinegar on it. Let stand for a few minutes, then give it a second polish.

Mother-of-pearl for inlay work can be softened by soaking in white vinegar. It then can be easily cut.

If you have sore hands from hard rock mining, soak your hands in warm vinegar water and the swelling and soreness will disappear.

Dark household vinegar will dissolve epoxy glue by soaking overnight.

Heard around the faceting table: spray vinegar on your lap while polishing with water - or mix 50/50 water & vinegar in your water cup. This lowers the ph, giving a faster and better shine.

Polishing Cabachons

(From Jasper Jargon 1/00, Polished Slab 5/00, Golden Spike News 6/00, Clackamette Gem 10/00) It is better to polish the stones at a slower speed. If you don't have a speed control on your polisher, just work the stone on the center of the disc. What you are concerned about is the surface speed. Remember that your disc surface is one complete revolution at two inches from the center will travel 1.26 inches and at eight inches from the center, it will travel 25.12 inches. You should use the area near the center for polishing stones slower and the outer edge for polishing stones faster.

Polishing Curved Surfaces

Submitted by Rudy Appleby, WAMS To polish small curved surfaces in carving with your flexible shaft tool, visit your auto supply store and purchase a real leather chamois (or use any reasonably thin, clean, uncontaminated leather you have around).



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Fon

continued from page 7

Select a felt, rubber or resin tip on a mandrel and lay the tip on the leather and cut enough leather to cover the tip up to the shank of the mandrel plus about 1/2". Wrap the tip tightly, gathering the overlap uniformly at the shank. Secure the leather with a tie. I use a rubber band, pulling and looping it over the tip, pull it out and loop over the tip repeatedly until tight. Trim off the excess leather above the secured point on the shank as desired.

You now have a leather "micro" polisher. Dip the tip in water to get it wet, then dip in optical grade cerium oxide (or whatever you prefer). Set the tool on low speed and polish as you would on the "big buff" (keep it damp and loaded).

For safety purposes: safety glasses always; make sure the leather is securely fastened at the shank by checking to see if you can pull it off in between charges of polish; and check to make sure you aren't "burning" through the leather (this won't help the polish)

Helpful Hint From NWF 8/00 Newsletter

(via Owyhee Gem&Yakima Gem & Mineral News, 2/00)

Rubber should not come in contact with silver. Never put a rubber band around any silver or you will get a permanent stain.

Polishing

(via Owyhee Gem 8/99, The Rockie News)

When polishing – do not use a saucer, dish or pan and messy brush to apply the polishing agent. Such methods invite contamination. Instead, use a plastic bottle with a long tip. Put the polishing agent in the bottle, add water and a small stone, or buckshot (the purpose is to agitate and stir up the polishing powder when you shake the bottle). Shake well and squirt solution on the felt, leather or canvas. No contamination, no waste of polishing agent.



48th ANNUAL

JEWELRY, ROCK, GEM & MINERAL SHOW

"Rocks: Their Myths and Legends"

June 5, 6, & 7, 2009

Friday

12 p.m.-7 p.m.

Saturday

10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Sunday

11 a.m.-4 p.m.

QUALITY DEALERS

Amber America

Bary Gems

BJ's

Choices Unlimited

Clif's Rock and Gem

Fowler's Wire Wrapping

In The Rough Minerals

Jack's Jewelry

Marren Designs

Rock Isle Studio

Sharon's One of a Kind Jewelry

Shelden Studios

Shively's Fossils

The Dinosaur Den

Wonders of the Earth

DYNAMIC DISPLAYS

Rock, Mineral, Fossil & Crystal Collections

3rd ANNUAL BEAD RALLY

Fun for the whole family

Air Conditioned Comfort

Food, Snacks, and Wonderful Desserts



FULTON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

Junior Fair Building 8514 SR 108, North of Ohio Turnpike, Exit 34 Wauseon, OH

EDUCATIONAL DEMONSTRATIONS

Richard Brzezicki, Cabochon Cutting

Rick Chownyck, Silver Casting

Sandy Cline, Soapstone Carving

Dan Hovater, Flint Knapping

Kelsey Keyes, Beading

Mary Minney, Beading

MI Gem & Mineral Society, Beading Babes

Linda Sharkey, Micro Mounts & Sand,

Fluorescent Minerals

Alice Turner, Wire Wrapping

Irwin "Grit Turner", Spool Knitting

John Zaborowski, Faceting

Sue Zaborowski, Glass Fusing

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES FOSSIL HUNTING SILENT AUCTION

CLASSES MSHA Mine Safety Class (Sat. ONLY)

Soapstone Carving

Beaded Jewelry

RAFFLE HELD SUNDAY

(Need not be present to win)











May 3, 2009

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

May 1-3, 2009

Kalamazoo, MI, Annual Show, Kalamazoo Geological & Mineral Society Kalamazoo Co Expo Ctr, 2900 Lake St FRI 4:00 – 9:00. SAT 10:00 – 6:00, SUN 10:00 – 5:00

May 16 - 17, 2009

Annual Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies Convention

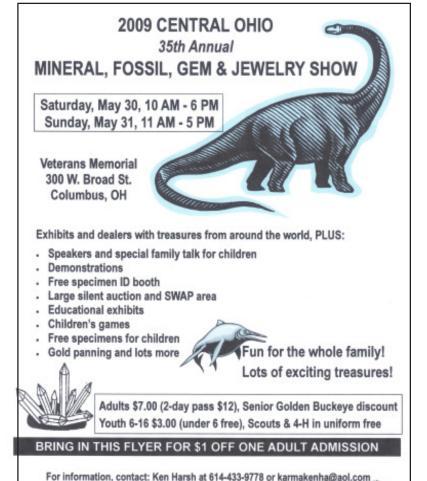
in conjunction with
The Parma
Lapidary Club
Convention
Headquarters at
Holiday Inn Select
15471 Royalton
Rd.
Strongville, Ohio

May 23, 2009

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

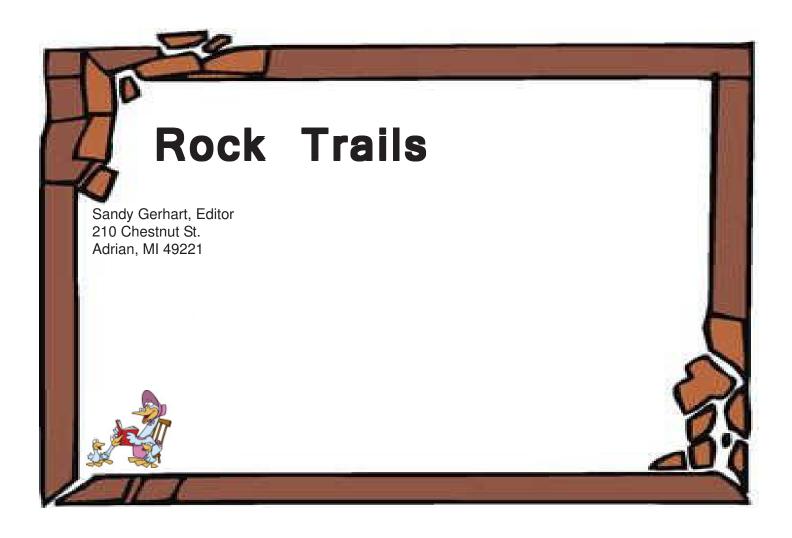
May 30 - 31, 2009

Columbus Rock & Mineral Society
35th Annual Show
Sat. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m
Sun. 11 a.m to 5 p.m
Veterans Memorial
300 W. Broad St.
Columbus, OH
(See flyer below for \$1 off admission)



Sponsored by the Columbus Rock & Mineral Society with the help of the Licking County Rock & Mineral Society 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	
Vice President	Richard Brzezicki	419 N. Broad St.	Adrian MI 49221	517 263-1669	
Treasurer	Doris Brzezicki	419 N. Broad St.	Adrian MI 49221	517 263-1669	
Secretary	Donna Dahlke	2411 Occidental Hwy	Adrian MI 49221	517 263-0561	
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Second Year	Nancy Lewis	5400 S. M 52	Adrian MI 49221	517 263-3651	
Third Year	Charles Swanson	3121 W. Weston Rd.	Sand Creek MI 4927	79 517 436-9299	
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Exhibits Show	Richard Brzezicki	419 N. Broad St.	Adrian MI 49221	517 263-1669	
Building	Steve Nichols	10480 Wesch Rd	Brooklyn MI 49230	517 403-6722	
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	
Field Trips	Steve Nichols	10480 Wesch Rd	Brooklyn MI 49230	517 403-6722	
Historian	Donna Dahlke	2411 Occidental Hwy	Adrian MI 49221	517 263-0561	
Education & Lapidary	{ Edmund Jarzembski Richard Brzezicki		Fayette OH 43521 Adrian MI 49221	419 237-2000 517 263-1669	



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