

# THE WHITE RIVER SLUICE

**A PUBLICATION OF THE WHITE RIVER ROCK GEM AND MINERAL CLUB**

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## pudding Stone

Many folks use the name pudding stone to describe conglomerate rocks of various kinds. A conglomerate is any stone that has a matrix with other small stones visible in it. A pudding stone for folks from Michigan is a stone made up of Quartz with smaller red tan white and purple or black stone inclusions. According to the *Lake Michigan Rock Picker's Guide*, written by Bruce Mueller and Kevin Gauthier, the pebbles in Pudding Stone are glacial debris that comes from the area around Lake Elliot in Ontario, Canada, and although it can be collected along the Northeastern shore of Lake Michigan it is more commonly found around Lake Huron. It can also be collected from many farm fields around the middle of the state. Pudding stone can be found in our area although finds are relatively rare and tend to be smaller. Lake Huron Pudding Stone can be any size including huge boulders.

Lake Michigan Rock Picker's Guide is published by The University of Michigan Press of Ann Arbor and Petoskey Publishing Company of Traverse City, copyright 2006.

## GENERAL MEETING

**Monday, October 1st at 7:00 P.M.**

at the White Lake Community Education Center, Room 103.  
Address: 541 East Slocum Street, Whitehall, MI 49461.

**General Meeting Program: Kurt Koella, owner and president of Lakeshore Environmental will give a program on Native Copper at our meeting October 1.**

## Future Programs:

*November 5: Suzanne Ritchie's Fabulous "Tour of Lake Superior Beaches and Beach Stones"*

*December 3: We will have our 1st Annual Banquet and Stan Luben, former president of Grand Haven Rock Club, will give a presentation on "Collecting Rocks"*

*If you have a program you'd like to present for the club please contact Kay Le Mieux.*

*The Silent Auction scheduled for December will occur sometime in 2019.*

## *White River Rock Gem & Mineral Club October Raffle*

*1. A Group of Lake Superior Agates*

*2. A Lapidary Journal about Fairburn Agates from South Dakota, and*

*3. A whole geode and a half geode from Keokuk, IA  
(Sorry, no pictures available this month. You'll have to come to the meeting to see what's there.)*

## **Board of Directors**

President: Vicki Hartung  
Mike Rakovits (231) 766-3422  
Vice President: Kay Le Mieux  
[kaylemieux@outlook.com](mailto:kaylemieux@outlook.com)  
Secretary: Suzanne Ritchie  
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Treasurer: Glenn Gustafson  
(231) 788-3266  
Bert Wilson  
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Immediate Past President: Vondie Knoll  
(231) 894-1510  
Event Director:  
Field Trip Coordinator:  
Social Coordinator: Jeffrey Beekman  
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Show Coordinator:  
IT Director: Eric Peterson  
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Membership Coordinator: Kay Le Mieux  
[kaylemieux@outlook.com](mailto:kaylemieux@outlook.com)  
Grant Writing Director:

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Submissions to The White River Sluice  
should be sent on a memory stick via snail  
mail to: Vondie Knoll, Editor  
600 East Fruitvale Rd.  
Montague, MI 49437

Or to hand deliver:

Call Vondie @ (231) 894-1510.  
Deadline for Submissions is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday  
after the General Meeting.

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## **UPCOMING ROCK SHOWS, ETC.**

### **OCTOBER 2018**

**12-14: WARREN, MI** Michigan Mineralogical Society Annual Show. Fri 9 am - 6 pm; Sat 10 am - 7 pm; Sun 11 am - 5 pm. Macomb Sports & Expo Center, 14500 E. 12 Mile Rd., Warren. Contact: John Peters, (313) 255-7774; [joopett13@hotmail.com](mailto:joopett13@hotmail.com)

**19-21: MASON, MI** Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society Annual Show. Fri 6 - 9 pm; Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 11 am - 5 pm. Main Arena Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 Ash St., Mason. Contact: Roger Laylin; (517) 349-2349; [l.r.laylin@gmail.com](mailto:l.r.laylin@gmail.com)

### **NOVEMBER 2018**

**3-4: MIDLAND, MI** Mid-Michigan Rock Club Annual Show. 9 am - 4 pm each day. Chippewa Nature Center, 400 S. Badour Rd., Midland. Contact: Debra Young, 212 Auburn St., Midland 48640; (989) 245-0343; [debiyoung50@yahoo.com](mailto:debiyoung50@yahoo.com)

## **FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:**

September 10	5:30PM WLACE
October 1	5:30PM WLACE
November 5	5:30PM WLACE
December	To Be Determined

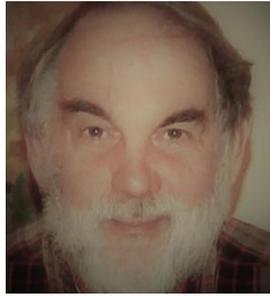
We welcome all members to attend board meetings. If there is something in particular you wish to discuss or propose, talk to Mike Rakovits, to get your item of business on the agenda.



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS: NEED POSITIONS FILLED**

**Open Positions:** Director @ Large #2, Grant Writing Director, Show Coordinator, Youth Program Director, Field Trip Coordinator, Event Director.

# The Rock Shop That Thinks It Is A Jewelry Shop



By William (Bill) Burt

I had not been to the JP Gems and Jewelry/West Michigan Lapidary for a long time. It is located where 16<sup>th</sup> street 'Y's into 17<sup>th</sup> Street at 545 West 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Holland, Michigan.

The first thing that I noticed is that the crocodile skull fossil was not in the middle of the front window. It was toward the bottom. There were some amethyst cathedral geodes in that window. Also missing in the store were the two (or was it three) 2'+ long trilobite fossils. There was a 1.5' long trilobite fossil though.

Upon wandering around the store, I noticed the wall with Michigan rocks was there. There were many more fossils than I remembered. This included another crocodile skull and bones, orthodont teeth, hardosaurus bone, monosaurus jaw, fern fossils, fish, etc. There were lots of new things marked as new. Labradorite in various sizes, tektites, weird rocks from Indiana, rough and emeralds in matrix. were some of the new items.

After wandering around the store, I told Sheryl Silva one of the reasons I was there was to get information to write an article for rock club newsletters. She said that Jon Silva had just left for Asia to get high quality gems and roughs. She stressed that the store is a jewelry store with rocks on the side (but we know she is wrong). She said that they have 50,000 (yes 50,000) colored faceted gems stones on site. John does work in silver, gold, and platinum. John is a certified Diamond Cutter and is a GHA Colored Stone Specialist.

They did not have a bin with slabs as before but had some flat pieces of pink opal and larimar in bags in the bottom of the jewelry case. There were lesser quality emeralds in matrix on a shelf and many bags of various

rough gem stones for faceting. In the bottom of the display case, I did notice they still had the Muzo emerald in matrix. Sheryl pointed me to the end of the same jewelry case where there was a large half breed and a rare mineral combination, Benitoite and Neptunite, from a mine shutdown 40 years ago. A Walmart sits over the site of the mine so no more mineral will be mined.

In my opinion both John and Sheryl are very knowledgeable and personable.

It is definitely worth the trip to see this place if not for anything else than to see the crystalline malachite next to the amber.



Article & Photos by William Burt,  
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# OPEN BOARD POSITIONS

Technically all positions on the board are open, which means if you're coveting a particular position on the board, all you have to do is let the nominating committee know you would like to serve, and we will present your nomination to the club.

However, we seriously need the following positions filled. And frankly serving on the board is fun. It's challenging and it's a way for you to show your commitment to our club.

## Open Positions:

Event Director

Field Trip Coordinator

Director @ Large #2

Youth Program Director

Show Coordinator

Grant Writing Director

## According to the Bylaws

**the Event Director** "shall book venues for all events sponsored by the club, shall plan coordinate and organize those events and shall act as chairperson supervising special events of the club."

This means to me that an event director would manage and organize community events at libraries and museums and in the community at parks or in conjunction with community festivals and events, and would organize displays of rocks gems and minerals for educational purposes and to promote the club. This could include the organization of rock related "flea markets" or tailgates, as well as setting up display cases in the building where we meet or in other locations.

The **Field Trip Coordinator** "shall plan, direct, and organize field trips for the organization and shall present plans and information to the Board for approval and presentation to the membership."

There is a great deal of freedom in the planning of field trips. Sometimes folks get hung up on the idea that you can have or cannot have certain types of trips or that the times for these trips need to be within certain parameters. The truth of the matter is that you can arrange family trips for school children during vacations times, but if there is a significant part of the membership who are retirees you can arrange trips for as long or short a time as you wish in order to accommodate that population.

Also short trips to museums or local rock collecting sites are well liked. In the winter some clubs have "Basement Field Trips." In this case, you would ask members of the club or others from other clubs who have rock collections, to show off their collection. These hosts and hostesses might put out a small lunch for attendees or the club might prefer to go as a group to a nearby eatery for lunch and socializing.

The **Director @ Large #2** position "shall include Public Relations and as such shall include writing or accepting for publication such news releases as directed by the Board, and submitting those, and notice of all other events brought to his/her attention by the Liaison Director and as directed by the Board to the press in Muskegon Newaygo and Oceana Counties." **In order to grow our club we need this position filled.** Our club meetings should be posted monthly in the "What's Up" column in *The White Lake Beacon*, and in similar columns at the *Fremont Times Indicator* and *The Oceana Herald* as well as in *The Muskegon Tribune*. If this job gets done our club will grow consistently and steadily, because the public will know about our existence.

**The Youth Director Position** can be whatever you make it. It might be as simple as a short class for junior members while adult members attend the General Business part of our meeting. Or if you have a commitment to youth and the geosciences, you could develop a bigger program including scouts and other youth groups. Ideally, you would work with public schools and home-schooled kids to advance the earth sciences. The Bylaws description for this position is quite long and you should ask to see a copy, if you are inspired to take this position.

**The Show Coordinator Position** is needed to be filled even though there will not be a show in 2019. It takes more than a year to plan and get ready, even for a very small show. Please consider serving the club in this position.

For 2019 the **Grant Writing Director** needs to help us get 501c3 status either as an action by our club or under the auspices of another organization.

According to Kay LeMieux, who researched this for us, we cannot apply for grant money without having a 501c3 designation.

