



# THE AGATEER

The Newsletter of the Madison Gem and Mineral Club

Volume 16, Issue 8

August 2018

*No Meeting in August*

## Summer Picnic Summary

*A good time was had by all!*

Dozens of MGMC members, family and friends gathered at Lake Farm Park for the club's Annual Summer Picnic on Sunday, August 12. Thanks to the "grill master" Rick Zweifel and friends, we had quite the spread of grilled meats. Members supplied an array of salads, beans, and other delicious dishes, plus a plethora of desserts. Three tables full of donated and new material, jewelry and specimens for sale drew a steady crowd. "Banker" Bob Thornton was kept busy with a constant stream of purchasers. A nice selection of free rocks and specimens was available for the taking. Carlos Peralta ran a competition which was held to gather things kids would like to have – for giveaways at educational events. Many thanks to a number of members who arrived early to help set up and stayed late for the pack up/clean up fun.

### Save the Date!

## The Madison Gem and Mineral Club Annual Show - November 17-18

Club members are reminded to mark your calendars for the club's annual show. This is our major fund raiser for the year which is used to pay rent and maintain the lapidary lab, purchase materials and services needed, pay for printing and postage and provide funds for educational programs. With over 1000 visitors each year, there is plenty to do. Scot Moss will be sharing more details about volunteer opportunities in the Agateer newsletter and at club meetings in September and October.

### **No August Meeting**

**Next Meeting: September 24**

**7p.m.**

**AB20 Weeks Hall**

**UW Dept. of Geoscience**

### **Dues are Due**

Club dues renewable at each new year. You may give your dues to treasurer Rick Maske at the meetings, or send them to the club address: Madison Gem & Mineral Club, P.O. Box 8882, Madison, WI 53708. The new dues structure is \$15 for an individual; \$20 for a family; plus, a surcharge of \$6 for a printed, mailed copy of the Agateer. Thank you for your continued support!

## Upcoming Presentations

September - "The Care and Management of the UW Geology Museum Collection" by Museum Curator Carrie Eaton. October or November – Dan Lynch (tentative).

## Nominating Committee Convening

A Nominating Committee will be convened by president Rick Zweifel. Any member with current dues paid may submit their name for nomination for the following positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Program Chair and Membership Chair. The Board prefers club members with at least 3 years' continuous enrollment may submit their name for Treasurer. A vote of members for the slate of nominees will be cast at the November meeting. Interested members should contact president Rick Zweifel for more information about the positions.

## Notes from the Board Meeting

In addition to convening a nominating committee, the board will be convening the Annual Show Planning committee by September. Early preparations are underway. Nevin Franke will chair. The results of the test silent auction were shared. A total of \$88 was received, with only one item receiving no bids. The UW Geology Museum will be receiving a check for 20% of the proceeds.

## Ideas Welcome

Club members who have ideas for programs or field trips are always welcome to offer suggestions. Contact the chairperson or a board member. Contact information is found on the last page of this newsletter.

## American Federation of Mineralogical Societies "Code of Ethics"

- ◆ I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.
- ◆ I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- ◆ I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- ◆ I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- ◆ I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- ◆ I will leave all gates as found.
- ◆ I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
- ◆ I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- ◆ I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
- ◆ I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- ◆ I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- ◆ I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- ◆ I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- ◆ I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of others.
- ◆ I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- ◆ I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and public image of Rockhounds everywhere.

## Competition Schedule 2018

All members are urged to bring specimens for the monthly competition. Questions may be directed to Carlos Peralta, at 509-2836. Cash awards: 1<sup>st</sup> place \$10; 2nd place \$5. Unless specifically instructed, the specimens for the Competitions described below can be self-collected, or purchased, or given to you by somebody else. Please make sure to write a short description (including the name of the specimen) on a 3 X 5 card or similar.

**September 2018. Geodes** These hollow favorites are covered inside with crystals. Most of the time, the crystals are quartz. But, there are many other minerals that can form geodes. A common example is celestite.

**October 2018. Precious opals.** Any opal, rough or cut or set in jewelry. The stone must show play of color (“Fire”).

**November 2018. Museum eligible** Have something in your collection that you think could be in a museum? If you think Rich might look at it longingly, bring it along and let's see our best stuff.

**December 2018. Most recent acquired treasure.** We would like to see the latest specimen that is now in your collection. It could be one that you found, or purchased, or was given to you, or you borrowed without permission from another collector (preferably an out-of-state collector).

**July Competition:** Found While Walking Around

1st: Baraboo Chert (Kevin)

2nd: Fulgurite (Rebecca)

## Calendar

**August** No Club Meeting due to Annual Picnic  
**September 4** Board meeting MG&MC  
**September 24** Madison Gem & Mineral Club monthly meeting – 7pm. AB20 Weeks Hall.  
**November 17-18** MGMC Annual Show - Alliant Energy Center

**August 25: EAU CLAIRE, WI** Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society Rock Swap. 8 am - 4 pm. Eau Claire Center Grounds, Lorch Ave, Eau Claire. Contact: Paul Tubbs, 619 Van Buren St., Eau Claire 54703; [bizpam1@gmail.com](mailto:bizpam1@gmail.com)

**August 25: MT PLEASANT, WI** Racine Geological Society Annual Show. 10 am - 5 pm. Bartlett Youth Foundation, 1120 N. Stuart Rd., Mt. Pleasant. Contact: John Lowman, 3223 Spruce St., Racine 53403; (262) 989-9193; [lowman.john@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lowman.john@sbcglobal.net)

**September 8: STODDARD, WI** Coulee Rock Club Swap 10 am - 3 pm. Stoddard Village Park, 500 Division St., Stoddard.

**September 15: ROCKFORD, IL** Rock River Valley Gem & Mineral Society Rock Swap. 9:30 am - 4 pm. Odd Fellows Lodge, 6219 Forest Hills Rd., Rockford. Contact: Duane Cushing, 11717 Waidi Ave, Machesney Park 61115; (815) 218-5011; [tcdc78@comcast.net](mailto:tcdc78@comcast.net)

**29-30: OSHKOSH, WI** Oshkosh Earth Science Club Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Sunnyview Expo Center, 500 E. County Rd. Y, Oshkosh. Contact: Ann Voges, 615 Monroe St., Neenah 54956; (920) 725-1640; [hankemps@milwpc.com](mailto:hankemps@milwpc.com)

The Agateer is the official publication of the Madison Gem and Mineral Club. It is published monthly, and mailed as a benefit of membership to all Madison Gem and Mineral Club members.

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Membership is open to all individuals, and applications for membership will be accepted upon payment of annual dues, which are \$15.00 for adults (18 and older), \$5.00 for junior members (ages 6-17), and \$20.00 for families. There is a \$6 surcharge for printed and mailed copies of the Agateer.

**Visit the official website of the Madison Gem and Mineral Club at <http://madisonrockclub.org>**

Madison Gem and Mineral Club  
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