



THE AGATEER

The Newsletter of the Madison Gem and Mineral Club

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October 2018

Program on October 23

Herkimer Diamonds

Presented by Scot Moss

No, they are not really diamonds, but they are certainly clear and sparkly enough to get your attention. To learn more about these exceptional quartz crystals, come to the meeting to hear Scot Moss talk about his experience gained from many trips to the mines. If you have any favorite “Herks”, treat them to a night out and bring them along.

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

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Scot Moss at 233-7970, or by email at scotmoss@gmail.com.

Fellow Club Members – At this month’s club meeting sign-up sheets for volunteers will be available again. (And thanks to those who signed up in September!). Our show is one of the best in the Midwest, and our club members are essential pieces. In addition to letting friends and family know about the show, there are many ways to participate:

On Friday, the 16th, people can help load rocks, display cases, etc., from several storage sites and transport to the Alliant Energy Center. Help with set up starting Friday afternoon is always welcome! After the show closes on Sunday, the 18th, everything must be packed up, taken down and hauled back to storage. People with trucks, trailers or cargo vans are particularly needed. The more we have, the faster it can be done, with fewer trips.

For lighter work, volunteers are wanted to sell tickets, help in the club sales area, provide security (we just observe and report), help with gold and sapphire panning, or in the Silent Auction. Most are for shifts of 3 to 4 hours. None of the jobs are particularly difficult, all are fun, and training is happily provided. Our member displays are a great feature of the show. Some space is still available – but let Scot know soon if you want a 4 foot or an 8 foot display area. Treats will be provided for signing up (Thanks, Scot!) at the club meeting.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 23 at 7p.m. in AB20 Weeks Hall
UW Dept. of Geoscience**

MGMC is seeking Club Officers plus Program, Publicity, Field Trip and Membership Leaders

A Nominating Committee, led by Jen H. will be convened to solicit names for any of the Club Officers: **President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.** Any member with current dues paid may submit their name for nomination for any leadership position. At the monthly meeting, talk to our current officers to learn about the roles. A vote of members for the slate of nominees will be cast at the November meeting.

Additional opportunities are available to support your gem and mineral club:

Program Chair – This individual will identify program topics and presenters to ensure 10 monthly meetings have a scheduled program. A list of potential contacts will be provided. Presenters may be from outside the club, or current club members. Funds are available for a small stipend for presenters. The first program speaker needed is in January. Anyone with a good idea or contact for a program please feel free to share it with us!

Field Trip Chair – The role will identify opportunities each year for club members to gather for collecting rocks or fossils. Field trips could be to museums or other locations. This individual will contact owners of locations, make arrangements, and ensure the club meets their requirements. Attention to safe, ethical collecting is important.

Publicity Chair – This individual will ensure the club and events are promoted, particularly for our Gem and Mineral Show. Ensuring the show is listed in as many community notices and locations as possible. This includes listing club events in national publications. For someone with social media savvy, this is a great opportunity to keep MGMC top of mind with local rock hounds.

Membership Chair – This role works to increase membership by reaching out to interested individuals and encourage joining the club in order to benefit from club offerings. Welcoming new members, and working with the board to ensure paid memberships are up to date. Identifying additional activities to engage members would be a plus.

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: 1st 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.

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.

September Competition Results: Geodes

1st Place: Geode in Agua Nueva, agate and moss agate (Alan)

2nd Place: Geode with calcite and fluorite

If you have competition ideas for next year, let Carlos Peralta know.

Welcome New Members!

Pam G. - likes to make jewelry

Bernadette Baker

Angela Bellinger

Bonnie T. – has a Koi fish pond made with self-picked rocks

Julie Jagemann

Silent Auction Details

For the first time in several years (10 or 15?), the Annual Show will have a Silent Auction. The purpose of the auction is a) to have another fun activity and b) turn rocks from the club inventory into cash. The 30-minute bidding period is designed to stimulate bidding, and to showcase specialized auction items. The Kids Only auction will be a neat way to introduce our hobby to the next generation. To answer your questions about how the auction will work, here is a preview:

How to Participate in the MGMC Timed Silent Auction

- ◆ Choose an Auction: *Lapidary* *Rocks & Fossils* *Kids Only* *Jewelry & Décor* *Collectors*
- ◆ Obtain a Bidder Number from the Auction Cashier
- ◆ Each Auction has a 30-minute bidding period
- ◆ Listen for the announcement that your selected Auction is open for bidding
- ◆ When the Bidding ends, please exit the auction area until bids are marked final
- ◆ When announced, you may enter to see if your item had the highest bid – the final bid will be highlighted
- ◆ If so, bring your Bidder Number, the Item, and Bidding Sheet to the Cashier
- ◆ We accept cash and personal checks
- ◆ You must be present at the end of the auction to check for your number and see if you have won an item

SATURDAY AUCTION		SUNDAY AUCTION	
10:00 am	Lapidary	10:00 am	Rocks & Fossils
11:00 am	Rocks & Fossils	11:00 am	Kids Only – 25 cent minimum
12 Noon	Kids Only – 25 cent minimum	12 Noon	Jewelry, Gems & Decor
LUNCH BREAK		LUNCH BREAK	
2:00 pm	Jewelry, Gems & Decor	2:00 pm	Lapidary
3:00 pm	Rocks & Fossils	3:00 pm	Kids Only – 25 cent minimum
4:00 pm	Collectors	4:00 pm	Rocks & Fossils
All Winning Items must be picked up by 5:00 pm – Items will not be held for after show pick-up			

Calendar

October 23 Madison Gem & Mineral Club monthly meeting – 7pm. AB20 Weeks Hall.

November 6 MGMC Board Meeting – and Grab Bag Packing for the Show! At the Lapidary Lab

November 17-18 MGMC Annual Show - Alliant Energy Center

NOV 3-4: STURTEVANT, WI Racine Geological Society Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Fountain Hall, 8505 Durand Ave, Sturtevant. Contact: John Lowman, 3223 Spruce St., Racine 53403; (262) 989-9193; lowman.john@sbcglobal.net

NOV 10: QUINCY, IL Gem City Rock Club Annual Show, 10 am - 5 pm. Community Room in Quincy Mall, 32nd & Broadway, Quincy. Contact Jane Huelsmeyer, 1479 North St., Fowler, IL 62338; (217) 434-8655; jhuelsm@gmail.com

NOV 10-11: FREEPORT, IL Northwest Illinois Rock Club Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Highland Community College, 2998 West Pearl City Rd., Freeport. Contact: Brian Green, (815) 745-2228; bgreen57@hotmail.com nwilrockclubfrbt.blogspot.com

NOV 17-18: MADISON, WI Madison Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show. Sat 9:30 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Alliant Energy Center, 1919 Alliant Energy Ctr Way, Madison. Contact: Nevin Franke, (608) 251-2601; shows@madisonrockclub.org

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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Madison Gem and Mineral Club Officers and Board Members:

President	Rick Zweifel	206-4981
Vice-President	Karl Allemeier	309-721-9097
Secretary	Jasmine Waldner	secretary@madisonrockclub.org
Treasurer	Rick Maske	212-4896
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Field Trip Chairperson	OPEN	
Education Chairperson	Carlos Peralta	509-2836
Sales	Bob Thornton	469-5885
Membership Chairperson	OPEN	
Show Chairperson	Nevin Franke	251-2601
Publicity Chairperson	OPEN	
Program Chairman	OPEN	
Web Administrator	Kate Thornton	kate@madisonrockclub.org

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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