



# THE AGATEER

The Newsletter of the Madison Gem and Mineral Club

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September 2018

*Program on September 25*

## **UW Geology Museum - Collection Care and Management**

Geology Museum Curator Carrie Eaton will be sharing what happens behind the glass cases. And answer the question “What makes a specimen museum worthy?” The curators job is to ensure the collection is well maintained, displayed and stored. She will share how the UW Geology collection is managed and give us a peek behind the scenes. We will hear how the collection came to be and what plans are for the future. She may have some good tips for the home collector too!

### **It's Show Time!**

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

Hi fellow club members. It is hard to believe that it is time to start thinking about this year's show. These things have a habit of sneaking up on us. That means I am looking for volunteers to help. You, our outstanding volunteers, are a prime reason our show is one of the best in the Midwest. Let me quickly summarize the jobs we have. First, starting on Friday the 16th, we need people to help haul rocks, display cases, etc., from several storage sites to the show location and to help set up. Then, when the show closes on Sunday, the reverse has to happen. People with trucks, trailers or cargo vans are particularly welcome, and the more we have, the quicker we can get home. Carts are also needed to haul everything to and from the loading dock. Saturday and Sunday, we need people to sell

**Next Meeting:  
Tuesday, September 25  
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!

### **It's Show Time (continued)**

tickets, help in club sales, provide security, and help with gold and sapphire panning. Training is available. Finally, a great thing about our show is the topnotch exhibits we have. If you would like to put together a display from your collection, we have 4 and 8 foot display cases available. It is nice to show the public what we can do with rocks and minerals. There are a several ways to contact me.

First, you can come to the September and October club meetings where signup sheets will be available. This would be the best option because I could explain the jobs a lot better, and we could figure out what you would be most suited for.

Second, you can call me at **233-7970**. Third, you can email me at [scotmoss@gmail.com](mailto:scotmoss@gmail.com).

There is one more thing I would like to note. Some of you may remember that last year I resorted to bribery to get people to sign up by bringing treats to the meetings, and it seemed to work. I had the easiest time ever with the job. So, I don't know what yet, but there will be treats again. Start thinking about how you would like to help this year or what you can show in an exhibit. I'll see you at the next meeting.

**Scot Moss**

#### **Program, Publicity, and Membership Chairpersons Needed**

Since our previous chairperson, Alan Hills, has moved to the north woods, he had set up some of the fall programs in advance. There is a real need for a new program chairperson to coordinate speakers for the monthly club meetings. Programs through November are scheduled, so the first program needed will be in January. Also, a publicity chairperson is needed to assist with the promoting the club and its activities such as the Annual Show.

#### **Club Officer Openings**

Voting for Club Officers will be held at the November meeting. 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**

The following business was discussed at this month's board meeting:

The Annual Show budget was approved by the Board as requested by Nevin Franke.

Bob Thornton reported \$971 was taken in from club sales at the Annual Picnic. The club issued a check for \$20 to the UW Geology Museum, a 20% share of the Silent Auction test in July. Grab bag specimens are ready for this years' show. Stuffing grab bags will take place at the November Board Meeting.

### 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.

**August Summer Picnic Competition:** Rocks for Kids – anything entered in the competition will be give-aways at the annual show in November.

First place: Paul Nonn (Assortment)

Second place: Nathan Kuenzi (Green Selenite)

## Calendar

**September 25** Madison Gem & Mineral Club monthly meeting – 7pm. AB20 Weeks Hall.

**October 2** MGMC Board Meeting

**November 17-18** MGMC Annual Show - Alliant Energy Center

### SEPTEMBER

**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)

### OCTOBER

**20-21: DES MOINES, IA** Des Moines Lapidary Society Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Elwell Family Food Center, IA State Fairgrounds, 3000 E. Grand Ave, Des Moines. Contact: KIaren Leibold, (515) 205-8875; [kcleibold@aol.com](mailto:kcleibold@aol.com)

**20-21: COTTAGE GROVE, MN** Minnesota Mineral Club Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Cottage Grove National Guard Training & Community Center, 8180 Belden Blvd, Cottage Grove. Contact: Maureen Scaglia, 6410 Washburg Ave, Richfield 55423; (612) 798-0485; [mascaglia@comcast.net](mailto:mascaglia@comcast.net)

**20-21: CHICAGO HEIGHTS, IL** South Suburban Earth Science Club Annual Show. 10 am - 5 pm both days. Prairie State College, 202 South Halsted St., Chicago Heights. Contact: Jan Podbielski, P O Box 911, Peotone 60468; (708) 625-5876; [jan@janskidesigns.com](mailto:jan@janskidesigns.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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**Madison Gem and Mineral Club Officers and Board Members:**

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Show Chairperson	Nevin Franke	251-2601
Publicity Chairperson	OPEN	
Program Chairman	OPEN	
Web Administrator	Kate Thornton	<a href="mailto:kate@madisonrockclub.org">kate@madisonrockclub.org</a>

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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