

# ROCK CHATTER

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Club of Macomb, Illinois  
Member of AFMS, MWF, and GESCI

Objective: To promote interest and education in  
Earth Sciences and all related fields.  
Volume 21, Bulletin 3, March 2017

## Show Preparation Monday, March 6, 2017, 6:00 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, Macomb

### ALLUVIUM - March 2017

It is about that time again. Just a short time remains before this year's GESCI show with all the work and fun that goes along with it. The dates this year are March 11-12 with set up on Friday the 10th beginning at 1pm.

We will need as many members during these times as we can get because there is a lot to do during the entire period.

Show advertising flyers were distributed at the last meeting and should be up or going up now. More should be available at the March meeting if you need some.

This year's show theme is Agates and that will be what we put in our club display as well. Any type of agate or thunder egg that you have and would like to display in the club showcase would be welcome and can be brought to set-up day along with the information on the material so labels can be made. If you can send the information on what you are bringing ahead of time to Donna, it would be helpful.

Looking ahead, April will be club auction time so be on the lookout while perusing the show for an item or two to donate for auction if you would like!

Our March meeting will be on the 6th at 6pm and we will be working on any final show details as well as identifying material etc. for silent auction (time to unload some of your extra stuff!!) and/or spin and win (you can donate smaller items here, too).

We will need lots of assistance through this time period and want to see all of our members participate and have a fun time with us.  
See you on the 6th.

*Rob*

### Minutes of the February 6, 2017 Meeting

WCIRMC meeting held on February 8, 2017

The following members were present: J.C. and Donna Moore, George and Deb Coursey, Ron and Dee Sharf, Dr. and Mrs. Hess, Blake Sullivan, Jackie Sullivan, Brad Greenslaugh, Loel Crawford, Liz Burton, and Rob Heath.

President Heath called the meeting to order. January minutes were approved with no corrections. J.C. moved to accept and George 2nd.

The treasurer's report: Beginning balance-January 1, 2017-\$994.46 - Expenses-\$299.00 - Receipts - \$129.09 - Ending balance January 31, 2017 - \$824.55. George moved to accept the treasurer's report. Ron 2nd it. Motion carried.

Minutes continued on page 4.



### News from the American Federation

The AFMS Convention for 2017 is being held June 9-11, 2017, in Ventura, California. We haven't seen anything about organized field trips, but there is a list of self-guided places to visit and collect on the show website.

As always anyone is welcome to go to the show and sit in on the AFMS meetings.



### News from the Midwest Federation

This year's convention is May 6-7, 2017 in Brainerd, Minnesota. The Cuyuna Rock, Gem & Mineral Society is hard at work planning an enjoyable time for those who travel up there. They have warned that the weather could still be quite cold the first weekend of May.

Packets are available at [www.amfed.org/mwf](http://www.amfed.org/mwf). One was mailed to the club. Show flyers are online now.

We need a delegate from our club to attend the council of delegates meeting on Saturday, May 6 at 1:00 p.m. Anyone else can attend the convention and meetings. Only our delegate may vote.



### News from Geodeland Earth Science Clubs, Inc.

The theme for the 2017 GESCI Show on March 11-12, 2017 is The Wonderful World of Agates. So, bring any agates you have for the club display to the meeting so we can get labels prepared.

Plan to help when you can at the show. Set up begins at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, March 10. We need to cover tables with sheets as soon as the layout is confirmed. Then we often help some of the exhibitors and demonstrators get everything up to the ballroom and assist as needed. Several spots need help during the show, then tear down starts at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

You need to take large and small flyers to places that have public bulletin boards or allow flyers in their windows. There are small ones that can be shared with friends or others who might be interested in the show. Be sure to take some from the meeting and get them distributed as early as possible before the show.

## 2017 SHOW CALENDAR

### MARCH

3-5: RICHMOND, IN Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society Annual Show. Fri & Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 11 am - 4 pm. Wayne County Fairgrounds, 861 N. Salisbury Rd., Richmond.

4-5: LIVIONIA, MI The Roamin Club Silent Auction. Sat 11 am - 6 pm; Sun 12 - 6 pm. Schoolcraft Community College, 18600 Haggerty Rd., Livonia.

11-12: WEST BEND, IN Kettle Moraine Geological Society Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Washington County Fair Part & Convention Center, 3000 Hwy PV, West Bend.

11-12: MACOMB, IL Geodeland Earth Science Clubs, Inc. 37th Annual Show, "The Wonderful World of Agates". Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Western Illinois University Student Union Ballroom, Murray Street, Macomb.

24-26: BRIDGETON, MO Rock Hobby Club Annual Show. Fri 4 - 8 pm; Sat 10 am - 7 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Machinists Hall Auditorium, 12365 St. Charles Rock Rd., Bridgeton.

25: TAYLOR, MI Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society Rock Swap. Sat 10 am - 5 pm. St. John's Lutheran Church, 13115 Telegraph Rd., Taylor.

25-26: JANESVILLE, WI Badger Lapidary & Geological Society Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 9 am - 4 pm. Rock County Fairgrounds - Craig Center Bldg., 1301 Craig Ave, Janesville.

25-26: CEDAR RAPIDS, IA Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society Annual Show. Sat 8:30 am - 6:30 pm; Sun 9:30 am - 5 pm. Hawkeye Downs Expo Center, 4400 - 6th St., SW, Cedar Rapids. \

25-26: WHEATON, IL Earth Science Club of Northern Illinois Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. DuPage County Fairground, 2015 Manchester Rd., Wheaton.

### APRIL

1: LOVES PARK, IL Rock River Valley Gem & Mineral Society Open House. 10 am - 3 pm. North Suburban Library, 6340 N. 2nd St., Loves Park.

1-2: DES PLAINES, IL Des Plaines Valley Geological Society Annual Show. Sat 9:30 am - 5 pm; Sun. 10 am - 4 pm. Des Plaines Park District Leisure Center, 2222 Birch St., Des Plaines.

1-2: LINCOLN, NE Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club

Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Lancaster Event Center, 84th & Haylock, Lincoln.

6-8: WYOMING, MI Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show. Thurs & Fri 9:30 am - 9 pm; Sat 9:30 am - 8 pm. Roger's Plaza Town Center, 28th St. at Clyde Park

8: WOODBURY, WI St. Croix Rockhounds Annual Show. 9 am - 2 pm. Valley Creek Mall, Weir Dr. at Valley Creek Rd.,

8-9: MARION, IL Southern Illinois Earth Science Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Pavilion of the City of Marion, 1602 Sioux Dr., Marion.

8-9: COLUMBUS, OH Columbus Rock & Mineral Society Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 11 am - 5 pm. Northland Performing Arts Center, 4411 Tamarack Blvd., Columbus.

**8-9: CANTON, IL Fulton County Rockhunters Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Donnelson Center @ Wallace Park, 250 South Avenue D, Canton.**

22-23: EAU CLAIRE, WI Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Eau Claire Expo Center, 5530 Fairview Dr., Eau Claire.

22-23: TROY, OH Brukner Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. Miami County Fairgrounds, Duke Ludgard Building, North County Rd. 25A, Troy.

22-23: CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH Summit Lapidary Club Semi Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Emidio and Sons Expo Center, 48 East Bata Rd., Cuyahoga Falls. Contact Bob Powers, (440) 237-6170; gemboree@outlook.com

22-23: CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH Akron Mineral Society Semi Annual Show. Sat 10 am - 6 pm; Sun 10 am - 5 pm. Emidio and Sons Expo Center, 48 East Bata Rd., Cuyahoga Falls. Contact Sandy Shorter, (440) 479-0069; gemboree@outlook.com

**22-23: DECATUR, IL Central Illinois Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show. Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Sun 10 am - 4 pm. The Lester Building, Progress City, One College Park, Decatur.**

### AFMS and MWF Conventions

**May 6-7, 2017** MWF Council of Delegates Meeting at the MWF Convention in Brainerd, MN This is hosted by the Cuyuna Agate and Mineral Club. We will need a club representative.

**June 9-11, 2017** Ventura (California) Gem & Mineral Society, 70th Anniversary of the founding of the AFMS. Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura, California 93001. More information is at 2017CMS-AFMSShow.com



## Memories of John and Judy Washburn

by Some of their Rockhound Friends

Photo by Regina Kapta

Anyone who has had anything to do with rocks and minerals in Central Illinois for the last twenty years have heard the names John and Judy Washburn. As a couple, they were the “go to” people for information and ideas for collecting and shows in this area. Although they lived in Rochester, Illinois, they loved to travel throughout Illinois, the Midwest, and the United States collecting specimens and visiting shows. Both were quite knowledgeable about various aspects of our hobby.

John was a geologist who worked for the Illinois Department of Transportation in Springfield. Judy was an English teacher who was teaching at the University of Illinois in Springfield, then she worked at the Illinois State Museum in the children’s education area.

John served the mineralogical and geological societies at the local, Midwest and American levels. He worked in the local clubs as a contact for many people who came to the club meetings to give educational and informative programs. He served as field trip leader, making contacts with quarry owners and managers to set up field trips for the club members to get into facilities to collect rocks, minerals and fossils. He also was prolific in writing articles for the club and federation newsletters sharing his knowledge and experience with other members.

Judy was the detail person who did the computer work and a lot of writing for printing of flyers, pamphlets, etc. She also loved working with the children’s activities. She served as newsletter editor of the LOESS Bulletin for their club and also served newsletter editor for the MWF Newsletter for several years.

John was a past president of Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society in Springfield, Illinois. He was on the board of that club, serving as field trip, program and show chairman for many years.

As a long time member of the Geodeland Earth Science Clubs, Inc. board of directors, John arranged for speakers for programs during the show, as well as providing displays, and serving as an identification resource person during the shows held in Macomb, Illinois, each March. He was past president of this organization.

Judy was also a past president of LOESS, GESCI and the Midwest Federation. She served as Geology Chairperson for the MWF as well as being a former editor of their newsletter.

John served as Archaeology Chairman and Geology Chairman for the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies. He also served as President of the federation in 2005. After his term as president was over, he took over the Illinois State Director’s position. He and his wife Judy traveled up and down Illinois attending shows and meeting with the members of the various Illinois clubs.

John was the Midwest Federation representative for the American Federation of Geological Societies Endowment Fund the last several years. He sold raffle tickets for the drawing for many years. John also served as the AFMS All American Club Awards Chairman and wrote articles for the AFMS Newsletter about the best way to preserve the history of the local clubs for posterity.

A sampling of John and Judy’s extensive collection was included in the Mineralogical Record “Mineral Collections of the Midwest” that was published in 2015.

Taking young rockhounds under his wing and mentoring them was something John did many times. He would encourage the juniors in the hobby and help them as he could. John was very knowledgeable about the rock, mineral and fossil collecting hobby. He shared that knowledge with those he came in contact with.

John passed away during the LOESS Show on October 1, 2016, and Judy passed away on February 26, 2016. John and Judy added much to our hobby, and they will be greatly missed.

Old business: The web site domain fee was discussed. The fee is \$11.45. J.C. Moved to renew the web site. George 2nd it. Motion carried. Jackie will take care of this matter.

Discussion on the store front window display was next. It was decided to use Jackie's window. Setting up the display will take place on Feb. 20th at 10:00 am. Bring specimens at that time.

J.C. has two calendars left to sell.

New business: Rob talked about the Midwest Federation Convention at Brainerd, MN to be held May 6-7, 2017. The club needs a representative. There is no field trip set up yet. This show has been well attended in the past.

A discussion was held about needing Agates for the club display at the March 11 & 12 show at WIU. Several dealers will have show cases also. Donna moved to have a club display and J.C. 2nd it. Motion carried. The flyers are ready to be handed out to the schools. Members are needed to help set up at the show. Plan to come on Friday March 10th at 1:00 at the Grand Ball Room at WIU.

J.C. moved to close the meeting.

George and Brad brought specimens to be shared and talked about. George had samples for everyone.

Donna and Liz brought refreshments.

### WCIR&MC Officers

|                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| President            | Rob Heath 772-2729       |
| Vice-President       | Robert Woodruff          |
| Secretary            | Jackie Sullivan 313-2826 |
| Assistant Secretary  | Dee Sharf                |
| Treasurer            | J.C. Moore 789-6501      |
| Newsletter Editor    | Donna Moore 789-6501     |
| GESCI Representative | J.C. Moore 789-6501      |
|                      | Dee Sharf 253-7300       |
|                      | Donna Moore 789-6501     |

All numbers are in 309 area code.

#### Meetings

The first Monday of each month (except September, which is the second Monday) at the Trinity Lutheran Church, 123 S. Campbell St., Macomb at 6:00 p.m. (Oct. - March). April through September meetings at 7:00 p.m. May meeting is usually held at Western Illinois University. Call Rob or Donna if you are concerned about weather related cancellations or have other questions about meetings.

#### Dues (per year)

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Individual                              | \$10.00 |
| Family or individual sponsoring juniors | \$15.00 |

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