



# THE JASPILITE

Summer 2012 Issue

## *Our Purpose:*

*To enjoy, to learn, to  
teach and conserve*

*The rocks, the gems, the  
fossils and ores,*

*To collect, to admire, to  
brag and to show*

*The material we've found,  
we'll trade for yours.*

*-Bob & Marian Markert  
(founding members)*

## **Inside:**

Gem & Mineral Show

Volunteers needed

New Mineral

Rocks & Minerals Article

Crackerbarrel

July Field Trip

Rocks 101

Field Trip Rules

Field Trip Schedule

Paperless!

## From the President's Desk...

SUMMER IS HERE!!! And you know what that means - our annual Gem and Mineral Show is almost here! And yes, rock collecting time! This is really the best time of the year!

And once again Ernie is outdoing himself on the 2012 Upper Peninsula Gem and Mineral Show. I know that I say that every year—but really he is doing it again! He has been in touch with more vendors than ever and figuring out how we can add more booths to the show. Come and see it for yourself!

And once again, Bob and Dan really came through for us this year on Field Trips! We had a great time on the first two trips, so please join us on the next few trips. The list of upcoming trips is in this newsletter – keeping reading!

Don't forget to sell and turn in your raffle tickets as soon as you can. Bob Procnier is doing a great job handling the raffle tickets again

this year. If you need more, contact Bob and he will make sure to get some to you.

If you have any donations for the 2012 Gem and Mineral Show's Live Auction, Silent Auctions or Raffle Prizes, please contact Ernie Johnson. We are always happy to accept beautiful specimens to auction at the show.

Keep in mind that we can always use extra hands at the upcoming **2012 Upper Peninsula Gem and Mineral Show** on Saturday, August 4, 2012.

Remember, everything is twice as fun if you get involved. I will see you at the Annual Gem and Mineral Show very soon!

Bev

Don't forget to check the website regularly for current updates.  
[www.ishpemingrockandmineralclub.org](http://www.ishpemingrockandmineralclub.org)

# Gem and Mineral Show 2012

August 3 - 5, 2012

By the time that you read this show update it will be 3 weeks and counting to a great mineral weekend. So if you have not marked your calendar now is the time to do it so you will not miss a great weekend looking at minerals, visiting with fellow rock hounds and maybe even purchasing a few minerals.

A short status update: all inside spaces have been sold as well as 19 outside spaces. There may be additional outside spaces sold just prior to and the day of the show. There will be three new dealers, an Amber dealer from New York, a Fossil dealer from Illinois and a dealer from North Carolina. At this time the only demo scheduled is wire wrapping. I am in need of someone set up and oversee a micro minerals demo. I look at demos as additional enhancements to get people to come and then to stay. They along with the silent auction, kids' area and dealers should provide the attendees with a lot to see and do. If you know of some activity that would help please let me know.

The field trips are all set, with Friday's to the Republic Mine rock dumps and Sunday's to the Lindberg quarry. Don't forget your safety glasses!

As always we need door prizes, silent auction specimens and raffle items. With good silent auction specimens and raffle items the club makes money. If someone has a good specimen that can be used for the live auction we can use it.

Saturday evening is set with a program on "Minerals of Marquette County", a live auction and the raffle. We have some very nice specimens that will be on the auction block but you will have to be there to find out what they are.

Now the last item is workers. If you can help on the field trips **either Friday or Sunday** it would help. Help will be needed in setting up Friday evening,

6:00pm to about 7:30 and Saturday starting about 9:00am to 4:30pm in 2 hour shifts. By keeping the shifts to two hours everyone has the opportunity to enjoy the show. Then at 4:30 the room has to be set up for evening activities.

There is a complete list of activities that need to be covered so pick where you would like to work

Give me a call or e-mail me as to when you can help. If I don't hear from you, you will be called.

If you would like some flyers call me.

If you have any questions on anything concerning the show please contact me.

Remember this is your show - let's make it great one!

Ernie Johnson  
906-228-9422

PS I will be attending the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies show and convention as the club's delegate July 26-29, so please leave a message and I will get back to you.

## Volunteers needed for Gem and Mineral Show

Following are the show activities that need to be covered during the three days of activities. Please let Ernie know where and when you will want to work. If you do not sign up you will be called to help. It takes everyone to make the show a success.

### Friday August 3:

#### Field trip

9am to about 1pm. Need at least 4 people.

#### Friday night set up

6:00pm - 7:30pm Also because we have so many who have prepaid for outside spaces, I want to mark off the spaces.

## Georgerobinsonite

A new mineral discovered in the Mammoth-St. Anthony mine in Arizona has been named georgerobinsonite. The mineral is named after George W. Robinson, professor of mineralogy and curator of Michigan Tech's A. E. Seaman Mineral Museum and a long-time friend of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club. It is a lead chromate—a salt of chromic acid—that occurs as minute, transparent, orange-red crystals on cerussite, another lead carbonate and secondary lead mineral. The formula of georgerobinsonite is  $Pb_4(CrO_4)_2(OH)_2FCl$ , it has a pale orange streak, an adamantine luster, a hardness of 2-3, and its crystals are orthorhombic.

The publication *Mineral News* reported on the newly named mineral in its February 2012 issue.

A team of Canadian scientists discovered the new mineral and reported on it in the October 2011 issue of the journal *The Canadian Mineralogist*. They decided to name it for Robinson because "George is a prominent curator who has contributed a lot to the mineral community," said Frank Hawthorne, corresponding author on the journal article and a professor at the University of Manitoba. Hawthorne and the journal article's other authors got to know Robinson during his 14 years as curator of the Canadian Museum of Nature, where he worked before coming to Michigan Tech.

It is a convention in the profession not to name new minerals for their discoverers, Hawthorne explained. A description of the new mineral and its proposed name is submitted to a committee of the International Mineralogical Association, which must validate the description of the find as a unique mineral and approve the recommended name. The IMA has approved naming the new mineral georgerobinsonite.

"It's a real honor," said Robinson, who also said the naming came as a complete surprise to him. "It's like a chemist having a new element named after him. I guess it's in recognition of my long career as a mineralogist and a curator."

-MTU News

## IRMC Honoree Travis Olds published in *Rocks & Minerals*

A past recipient of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club scholarship, Travis Olds of Ishpeming, has had an article published in the prestigious magazine *Rocks & Minerals*. Travis's article, "Mercury Minerals of the Huron River Uranium Prospect, Baraga County, Michigan" appears in the March / April issue of the prestigious magazine.

The Huron River Uranium prospect was discovered in 1949 by Eiler Henrickson, a University of Minnesota graduate student in the summer employ of the J & L Steel Company, who was exploring for uranium under a contract with the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. In addition to the uranium strike, Henrickson also found a wife, marrying Anita Swanson of Ishpeming the same year. The main interest of the AEC was uranium, and the only mineral mentioned in their reports on the Huron River showing was uraninite or pitchblende.

In the years following the discovery, some forty minerals were documented from the prospect, particularly in a 2007 *Rocks & Minerals* article by Shawn Carlson, another friend of the club. Travis's collecting and research have brought the total number of minerals found to 51, as well as five unidentified or unverified species.

The *Rocks & Minerals* article focuses on the five mercury minerals found at the Huron River prospect: cinnabar, metacinnabar, hypercinnabar (three mercury sulfides), eugenite (a compound of mercury and silver), and native mercury. Travis identified the minerals using several analytical techniques, including XRD (X-ray diffraction), EDS (energy dispersive spectrometry), WDS (wavelength dispersive spectrometry), and Raman spectrometry.

A 2012 graduate of Michigan Technological University majoring in chemistry and earth science, Travis Olds has been accepted into the PhD program in inorganic chemistry at the University of Notre Dame.

Volunteers needed for Gem and Mineral Show  
(continued from p.2)

Saturday August 4:

Assigning spaces to outside dealers

7:00am - 9:30am - Need someone who can be at the Elks Club by 6:30 am as we always get some dealers who show up early. They would then help those who will be assigning outside spaces from 7:00am to 9:30am.

Put up signs

Morning of show around 8am - Highway

Registration Table - need at least two people at all times

9am - 11am

11am- 1pm

1pm- 3pm

3pm - 4:30pm

Silent auction - we need at least three people for each shift. If you can work four hours, great!

9am - 11 am

11am - 1pm

1pm - 3pm

3pm - 4:30pm

Identify Minerals - I have one individual but need someone to spell them during the day.

Kids table - have the volunteers to cover the times

9am - 11am

11am - 1pm

1pm - 3pm

3pm - 4:30pm

Take down signs at highway

Around 4pm

Clean up and set up for Saturday evening - if we have 4 to 5 people it will go fast.

4:30pm - 5:30pm

Clean up after Saturday evening activities evening - if we have 4 to 5 people it will go fast.

9:30pm - ?

Sunday August 5:

Field Trip - from about Noon to 3:30. We will be out of the pit by 3:30

**37<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
UPPER PENINSULA  
Gem & Mineral  
Show**

**Saturday, August 4, 2012 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
(All times eastern Daylight savings Time)**

**Ishpeming Elks Club Hall  
597 Lakeshore Drive, Ishpeming, Michigan**

*Dealers*

*Silent Auction*

*Crackerbarrel*

*Displays*

*Kids Area*

Working Demonstrations throughout the day

• **FREE Admission • Door Prizes •**

Field trips Friday and Sunday

Space available for all who sell or swap:  
outside \$20, inside \$40 per 8 lineal feet.

**What is a "Crackerbarrel"?**

To returning visitors to the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club's annual Gem & Mineral Show, it's an eagerly-awaited event that takes place the evening of the show. Newcomers may wonder if a popular family restaurant has been transplanted to Ishpeming from "down south", but no, the IRMC Crackerbarrel is an informal evening gathering of rock and mineral enthusiasts. It's a chance to meet fellow rockhounds, exchange ideas, ask questions, and enjoy some camaraderie. Light refreshments are served (including crackers, though not in a barrel), and an interesting presentation on "Minerals of Marquette County" has been scheduled. The program will be followed by a live auction of donated items, including one-of-a-kind mineral specimens, and the evening concludes with the drawing for the raffle prizes. The Crackerbarrel will be held at 7 pm Saturday, August 4, 2012 at the Ishpeming Elks Club. Don't miss it!

## Ohio & Spurr Mines Field Trip – July 21, 2012

The July 21, 2012 field trip of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club will visit the Ohio Mine and the Spurr Mine, both in Baraga County just west of Michigamme.

The Ohio Mine was one of a number of iron ore mines opened in the late 1800s and early 1900s in the Bijiki iron formation at the far west end of the Marquette iron range. Originally opened in 1907 as an underground mine, the Ohio produced nearly a half a million tons of ore before closing in 1920. The Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company reopened the Ohio property as well as the adjacent Webster, Beaufort and Norwood mines as open pit operations in 1951, and processed the ore in one of the first concentrating plants on the Marquette range.

Ore from the pits was crushed to about two inches in size, then run through a bath of high-density ferrosilicon slurry. The richer, heavier ore would sink to the bottom and be recovered, while the lighter waste rock would float to the top and be discarded. The concentrated ore was shipped to blast furnaces on the lower Great Lakes, while the rejected waste rock went up a conveyor and was dumped on a huge pile, the red-orange hill we can see today.

Mineral collecting at the Ohio Mine reject pile is relatively easy, as there are no big rocks to move or to break up; everything is already crushed to a convenient size. While this site is famous for microminerals, most of the specimens can be appreciated with the naked eye. Minerals found here include: quartz (sometimes in the purple variety amethyst), apatite, calcite, dolomite, the iron ore minerals hematite, limonite, magnetite and goethite (sometimes found as tiny tufts of needle-like crystals on quartz), the sulfide minerals pyrite, marcasite, chalcopyrite and sphalerite, a relatively rare fibrous mineral originally identified as palygorskite but recently proven to be sepiolite, as well as garnet, analcime, grunerite, actinolite, graphite, gypsum and mica.

The Spurr Mine was one of the oldest mines on the west end of the Marquette range, opening in 1872 and producing until 1886. Although it is only a mile east of the Ohio Mine, the Spurr was opened in the Negaunee iron formation and thus has somewhat different mineralogy.

Of greatest interest to collectors at the Spurr Mine are the garnet pseudomorphs found in the chlorite schist.

These were a very popular target for collectors at the Michigamme mine farther east on the same formation, but the prime collecting area there was covered over with poor rock during a recent highway construction project. Originally a type of iron-rich garnet called almandine, these large crystals were altered by metamorphic forces and replaced by a variety of chlorite called chamosite. The resulting crystal has the shape and crystal structure of almandine but with the chemical makeup of chamosite, a phenomenon known as a pseudomorph. Some broken crystals show relict areas of unaltered red-orange garnet. Also of interest to collectors are the fine crystals of magnetite in the chlorite schist. These crystals are mostly sub-millimeter size, but some larger ones can be found, all showing the classic octahedral magnetite crystal form. Other minerals found at the Spurr include hematite, siderite, cummingtonite, grunerite, actinolite, mica and quartz.

The Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club  
Presents

### **ROCKS 101**

**Sunday, July 29, 2012**

1:30 - 3:30

Cliffs Shaft Mine Museum  
Ishpeming, MI

**FREE ADMISSION!**

**A great family activity!**

- \*Introduction to rockhounding
- \* Learn how and where to collect specimens
- \* Learn how to identify minerals
- \* Hands on experience with actual specimens
- \* Receive a collection that you identify

**Beginning rockhounds ages 8 and up are  
welcome.**

**Children *must* be accompanied by an adult.**

**Space is limited.**

**Participants must register before Friday,  
July 27th,  
by calling 906-225-0408.**

# Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club

## Rules, Regulations & Policies for Field Trip Outings 2012

To ensure that we all have a fun and prosperous day of collecting, we need to follow a few rules. Land Owners have graciously opened their sites to us so we can collect beautiful and rare specimens. Please respect their property.

By signing up to attend this Field Trip you are agreeing to the following rules and regulations. Please read these carefully and in their entirety **before** signing the Field Trip release form and/or attending this event.

1. All Field Trip attendees must sign the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club's Field Trip Release form.
2. All Field Trip attendees must stay with the Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Group in the designated collecting area. Attendees are not permitted to collect or wander in any areas away from the Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club Field Trip Coordinator(s).
3. When the field trip leader announces that it is time to pack up and leave, we need to finish up and be out in 10 minutes. You must leave with the group or with the Field Trip Coordinator. If you do not leave on time and get locked into an area, site or grounds, you will be charged a fee (\$250.00) for someone to go back out and rescue you.
4. Only hand tools are allowed at the Field Trip collecting sites. Absolutely no climbing on walls, gates, machinery or entering any buildings that may be in the field trip area. Stay with the group!
5. All Field Trip Participants must wear safety glasses. Be aware of your surroundings—if someone near you (or not so near you) is trying to break rock, chips can fly up and land anywhere.
6. Respect the Land Owners and their Land. Do not bring or consume alcoholic beverages on these trips and clean up after yourself (no littering or dumping of garbage).
7. If a specimen or rock cannot be lifted by one or two people safely – without the help of a tool, then we cannot collect it or take it from the site.
8. Children must be 7 years old (or older) and all children under 15 years of age must be accompanied one on one by an adult.
9. Appropriate clothing must be worn—closed toed shoes or boots, long pants and shirts must be worn at all times.

Plan ahead – bring your own supplies, tools, bug dope, sunscreen and refreshments. Pick up all trash and take it with you out of the site.

Happy Rock Hunting!

*Attend and Discover, Find and Collect!*

## ISHPEMING ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB

### Summer 2012 Field Trips

#### Still to Come

The following Field Trips are planned and scheduled for the rest of the Summer of 2012. The IRMC is asking for a \$5.00 per person donation for the May, June, July and September Field Trips and a \$10.00 per person donation for the August Field Trips.

Unless otherwise specified (see August 5), the group will meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Ace Hardware / ShopKo Hometown parking lot (in the Country Village on US-41 in Ishpeming) and depart promptly at 9:30 a.m.

To assure the safety of all members, we have included the IRMC Field Trip rules. Please review these rules ahead of time and follow these rules at all times on the field trip. Some rules have changed for 2012

Children must be accompanied by an adult – one on one. Children under seven years old are not permitted (per land owners' requests).

- \* Saturday, July 21, 2012 – Ohio Mine and Spurr Mine  
(near Michigamme, MI)
- \* Saturday, September 8, 2012 – Silver Creek Gold Prospect  
(north of Ishpeming, MI)

### 2012 Gem & Mineral Show Field Trips

- \* Friday, August 3, 2012 -- The Republic Mine in Republic, MI
- \* Sunday, August 5, 2012 -- Lindberg's Quarry in Sands Township

Leave at 12:30 p.m. from the Negaunee Township Hall  
Hwy M-35 ¼ mile south of US-41

## The Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club

[www.ishpemingrockandmineralclub.org](http://www.ishpemingrockandmineralclub.org)

President	Beverly Trynoski
Vice President	Ernest Johnson
Secretary	Dawn Hoffman
Treasurer	David McGowan
Program Chairman	Ernest Johnson
Jaspilite Editor	Dan Fountain
Trustees	Bob Clark
	John Crady
	Charlie Richardson

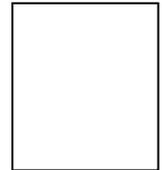
The club meets at the Cliffs Shaft Mine Museum in Ishpeming at 1:30 p.m. on the third Sunday of the month, September through November and January through May. During the summer business meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the third Monday of the month.

## JASPILITE Goes has Gone Paperless!

This issue of the Jaspilite, Summer 2012, is the first issue delivered electronically to our membership. To save time, money and resources, we will be distributing all future issues of the Jaspilite via email. Only current members, with dues paid for 2012 will receive the Jaspilite. In order to receive the Jaspilite, we must have a valid email address for every member. The newsletter is distributed in .PDF format - the same format our government uses to distribute tax forms, geological reports, etc. To read or print it out, you will need a copy of Adobe reader - a free download [Here!](#)

During the transition to paperless we will send paper copies of the Jaspilite to those members for whom we do not have an email address. We ask that you make sure we get your email address as soon as possible. If you are not able to receive email, we ask that you contact a member who can and see if they can print you a copy. If you must have a paper copy, we will be asking you for a donation to cover printing and postage costs. A limited number of hard copies will be available at club meetings.

Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club  
P.O. Box 102  
Ishpeming MI 49849



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED