

## *Charlie's Chatter*

by Charlie Baumann

At the May 18th meeting, 49 members were present, and there were 7 guests present: Greg and Mike - both from Mancelona, Marcia and Ann from Old Mission Peninsula, Dave and Diane from Traverse City, and Ann from Rapid City.

The meeting began with Russ Barron's announcement that he will resign because of health reasons. We will entertain volunteers to take over the job of President at the next meeting. Thank you, Russ, for a job well done. We appreciate your service.

Our next meeting on June 15th is the annual Silent Auction. Please bring an item or two for the auction and your money for bidding and buying. Items can be rocks, minerals, fossils, lapidary tools, settings, jewelry, books or even baked goods. The Silent Auction takes the place of both the short and long programs and usually goes for 2 rounds of bidding. It is our second largest fund raiser for the year and is always a good time.

Another thought for the Silent Auction. We have some newer members that are just getting more involved with the hobby. For example, Jen and Thomas Van Wingen are looking for some rock cutting and polishing equipment. If you have some unused or little used equipment, give some thought to donating it for the silent auction so these newer rockhounds can enjoy bidding on and then using them.

The snacks were supplied by Jane Matz and the Perrys. Deb Bull received her door prize from last month - a beautiful planter presented by Judy Owen. This month's door prize was presented by Don and Bonnie Reed. - a beautiful rock and gem poster. Winner of this month's door prize was Herb Merten.

Lauren announced that Lori Puckett of the Heritage Center gave our club \$50 for a scheduling error inconvenience. John Matz suggested that we donate the \$50 back to the Heritage Center. This idea was accepted.

(cont. on reverse)

## Upcoming Events



**June 12<sup>th</sup>**

### *LaFarge Quarry Trip*

Located near Alpena, MI. Meet at quarry at 11 am. Contact hosts Hollis & Karen Thomas at 231-879-4658.

**June 15<sup>th</sup>**

### *"Silent Auction"*

Bring items for the auction and money with which to bid! Proceeds benefit the club (events, tools, materials, etc.)

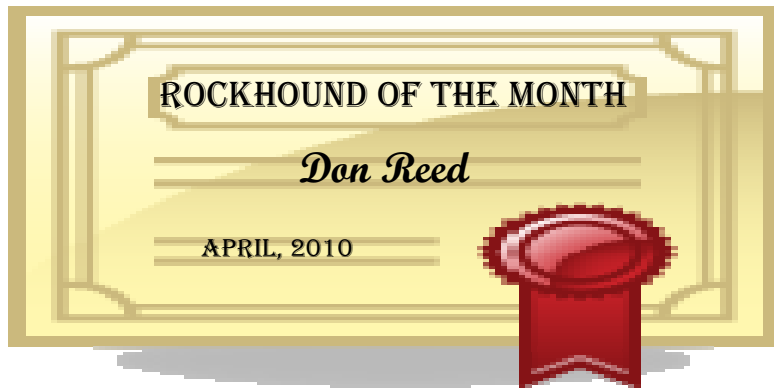
**July 20<sup>th</sup>**

**TBA**

**August 22<sup>th</sup>**

### *Annual Picnic*

4 pm at the home of John & Jane Matz. Look for more information and directions in the next newsletter.



(cont. from pg. 1)

Karen Thomas announced that the La Farge quarry in Alpena will be open to the public on June 12th at 10:30am. Groups will be escorted by quarry personnel. Karen and Hollis will act as GTARMC trip leaders. (see events inset) Long pants a must; supply your own equipment. Picking time - approximately 2 hrs.

Tom Fordyce said the saw blades and polishing wheels we ordered are in. He has not had the time to assemble them and asks if anyone has the time to assemble them to please do so.

Don Reed presented the short and long programs. For the short program, Don had both slides and actual samples on display of rocks with "pictures". Many members also brought in samples for display. Thanks to all.

For the long program, Don had a slide show of the Tucson, AZ Rock and Mineral Show. Don gave a brief history of the show. What started in 1955 as a modest show is now the largest in the world. Vendors from all over the world were there. The show lasts for two weeks and draws 50,000 visitors. This year there were 45 venues throughout the city. Displays ranged in size from tiny to tons! Some displays also had 24 hour guards! Don and Bonnie really took a lot of great pictures that represented the show very well.

The Grand Traverse Area Rock and Mineral Club (GTARMC) is open to the public. Promoting our hobby is our goal.

All regular meetings & classes are held at the Heritage Center (the old library) on Sixth Street in Traverse City on the Third Tuesday of each month, at 7pm, unless posted otherwise in the newsletter.

If you have received a complementary newsletter, we welcome you to attend our next meeting. You do not have to be a member to attend the meetings of the GTARMC.

The Grand Traverse Area Rock and Mineral Club is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies.

### CLUB OFFICERS 2010

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### Annual Membership

Adult \$15.00 / Jr. (8-17) \$5.00  
Couple \$20.00  
(children \$3 ea.)

Dues are payable to:

GTARMC  
c/o Karen Thomas, Treasurer  
2287 Ingersoll Road SW  
Fife Lake, MI 49633