



September 2023 issue

The next regular meeting will be September 20 and will start at 6:30 p.m. at the VFW Post at 3400 Veterans Drive in Traverse City

August Highlights

The annual club picnic celebration was held at the home of our gracious host, John Matz. Good food and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Food Pantry Donations

Lorna Coe and Jim and De Elder would like to thank all that have brought items for the food pantry donations. Due to the success of the program, they are going to continue this at every meeting. Non-perishable food items, personal hygiene products (including hotel soaps and shampoos), and tote bags are welcomed. All items that are donated will be given to various food pantries and other assistance organizations.

As an added incentive, every time you donate items, your name will be placed in a drawing, which will take place at our Christmas dinner.

Pebble Pups and Earth Science Scholars

The next regular meeting for Pebble Pups will be on September 20 at 5:30 pm at the VFW. The Pups went on some field trips this summer including one on August 5. They will be contacted by email about the trips, and they will be listed on the Club's Facebook page. See more Pups information later in the newsletter.

Upcoming Field Trip Planning

Here is the update on trips for 2023 from Gary Bull, Field Trip Coordinator and Deb Bull, who presented the following information.

Page 2

GTARMC (members only) Field Trips

Suggestions for trips? Contact Gary at 231-590-3397.

September: 6-9th Keweenaw Peninsula collecting. 7+ hour drive to Hancock, MI. This is a multiple day event, requiring a campground reservation or a hotel reservation. See Kevin Gauthier for details.

October, November suggestions??

December *Date to be determined.* Annual Club Holiday Dinner at the VFW.

Membership Information

From Deb Bull, Membership Chair:

You must be a paid member in order to continue to receive club benefits (participation in classes, outings and receiving club newsletters.)

Membership dues may be mailed to:

Deb Bull, Membership, GTARMC
6091 Creighton Rd SW
South Boardman, MI 49680

Name badges are an additional \$8 per badge. Thank you!

Next is Pebble Pup art by Brody Dymond



Paleozoic fossil coral by Brody Dymond, 4th grade Pebble Pup

Club Show Information and Volunteer Request

As you know, the club's annual rock and mineral show is coming on September 23 and 24. Volunteers are needed for several positions to make the event run smoothly! Here are the positions we need help with:

The following positions are for two or one and a half hour shifts. The days and number of people needed are listed below along with a brief description of what the position involves.

Entrance Table – Collect entry donations and tally visitors
Saturday, September 23
3:30 to 5:00 pm - one person

Door Prize Table – Sell tickets for Door Prize drawing
Saturday, September 23
12:00 noon to 2:00 pm - one person
2:00 to 3:30 pm - one person
3:30 to 5:00 pm - one person

Floating Helpers – Help monitor show, give breaks to vendors, etc.
Saturday, September 23
3:30 to 5:00 pm - one person

Kid's Table Helpers – Help young rockhounds with their purchases, crafts and activities (3 people needed at table during all shifts)

Saturday, September 23
Noon to 2:00 pm – one person
2:00 to 3:30 pm - one person
3:30 to 5:00 pm - one person

Sunday, September 24
11:00 am to 1:00 pm - one person
1:00 to 2:30 pm - one person

If you are able to help with one or more of these positions, please email Lauren Vaughn at: maple2b@aol.com

Club Email Addresses

gtarmc@tcrockhounds.com (main club email address)

If you have any photos that you would like to share of club events or members, those can be sent to:

photos@tcrockhounds.com or noonanjohntc@gmail.com

To view club photos on Flickr, enter the following web address:

[GT Rock & Mineral | Flickr](#)

For scheduling requests for classes or workroom time, please send email request to:

scheduling@tcrockhounds.com

President

Eric Hallman
231-620-6567
ehall686@gmail.com

Vice President

Janet Ryan
262-939-6315
janetannryan@att.net

Secretary

De Elder
231-360-7111
jde123123@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Sandie Bull
231-929-3630
sandie.bull@yahoo.com

Field Trip Coordinator

Gary Bull
231-590-3397
debannbull@gmail.com

Education & Training

Pierre LaFoilie
586-907-3512
pals0210@gmail.com

Workroom & Classes

Denise Watzel
231-714-4559
scheduling@tcrockhounds.com

Facebook Page

Jenny Burcroff
231-499-4714
burcroffj@gmail.com

Newsletter & Website

Lauren Vaughn
231-276-6150 H
231-342-3613 C
maple2b@aol.com

Membership

Deb Bull
231-590-2316
debannbull@gmail.com

Refreshments

Pat Captain
231-946-3026 H
231-342-6674 C
cappat@aol.com

Club Show Chair

Lauren Vaughn
231-276-6150 H
231-342-3613 C
maple2b@aol.com

The above contact list will be included in each newsletter so that you know who to contact for various items.

Facebook Page

Visit the club's Facebook page at this web address. There is also a link on our club website. <https://www.facebook.com/TCRockhounds>

New Member Class

Steven Veatch will be teaching a new member class on Saturday, October 28th. Reservations are required. See details below.

New Member Class: Grand Traverse Area Rock and Mineral Club

Saturday, October 28, 2023

Time: 10:00 am to 12:30 pm

Traverse Area District Library

610 Woodmere Ave, Traverse City, MI 49686

Thirlby room (take elevator to second floor, turn left)

This class is limited to 15 people. By reservation only. Email steven.veatch@gmail.com to reserve your spot today. This class is for members only, and dues must be paid prior to attending.



Class description: This class will provide you with the basic knowledge you need to get started with "rockhounding" or "recreational geology" with the Grand Traverse Area Rock and Mineral Club. You will learn about how the club works and receive information you need to prepare for your first rockhounding trip. The information in this class will cover all the bases, including a review of rocks, minerals, and fossils, how to make a collection, equipment you need, and on down to the safety rules you need to observe on a field trip. Michigan rockhounding resources will be handed out in the class. You will leave the class with a better understanding of the club and this hobby.

Following is a Pebble Pup flyer that is available to hand out at the show and other events and meetings.

**JOIN TODAY:
PEBBLE PUPS AND EARTH SCIENCE SCHOLARS
YOUTH EARTH SCIENCE PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES, AND
FIELD TRIPS**

We explore the wonders of rock, mineral, and fossil collecting in Michigan. Our program participates with the Future Rockhounds of America under the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Our purpose is to train Pebble Pups (grade school) and Earth Science Scholars (teens) to become skilled rockhounds while learning about Earth science.

The **Traverse City Pebble Pups and Earth Science Scholars** meet the third Wednesday of each month during the academic school year (September through May). The Pebble Pups conduct research that is published in newspapers and magazines, work with lab equipment, and go on field trips. There are monthly lessons on Earth science during the school year and several workshops on making a collection, field collecting, paleontology, lab methods, and science writing. The Traverse City Pebble Pups are part of the **Grand Traverse Area Rock and Mineral Club**.

[<http://tcrockhounds.com/>] Join the club in order to go on field trips and use lapidary equipment.

Meeting place: Traverse City VFW Meeting Room. 3400 Veterans Dr, Traverse City, MI 49684. **Time:** 5:30 p.m. to 6:10 p.m.

Pebble Pup program of events

A detailed program of classes and events can be obtained by emailing Steven Veatch at this email address:

steven.veatch@gmail.com

Merit badge program

Students can work on the merit badge program sponsored by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

Think about

- Going on Pebble Pup field trips
- Participating in outdoor adventures
- Doing real science
- Entering a science fair/symposium
- Writing a short article on a rock, mineral or fossil
- Writing a poem about a rock, mineral, or fossil
- Doing artwork about a rock, mineral, or fossil



And to put a nice ending to this newsletter, is a poem by Steven Veatch.

Mammoth

By Steven Wade Veatch

I found a rock at the mammoth's grave.
Inside only hidden fossils remain—
pollen grains and mossy spores
that once floated on an Ice Age breeze.

Now these tiny remnants yield
the deepest glimpse
of a world before we came
and warn of a future we must face
as the forests change, species die,
and life recedes.



An Ice Age mammoth. The author created this AI image with the assistance of DALL·E and MS Bing.