

THE BADGER DIGGIN'S

The Badger Lapidary and Geological Society, Inc.

Janesville, Wisconsin

Devoted to the Earth Sciences

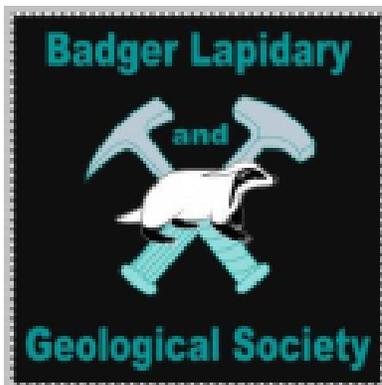
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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!

If a member changes their email address – please email their new address to me at dkaylamb@yahoo.com .

If you have any questions about the club or club events, please contact an officer.

Rock On
Debbie Lamb



APRIL

Saturday, April 12th at 10:30

for our April meeting. We will be meeting in the Conference room at Festival Foods, not the Community Room. When you get there, stop at the service desk and they will direct you to the conference room.

The meeting activity will be making chainmaille keychains with a decoration made out of silver metal clay. You will be able to mold the decoration into whatever you want. After the meeting, we will travel to Mystic Moraine where we will fire them so you can take them home.

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25th – 26th – Shullsburg Trip

Email will be sent to all members detailing the field trip information

2025 Club Schedule

May

10th – Meeting – Rock Game

31st - Janesville

June

8th – Picnic – location TBD

28th – Nebraska Field Trip

July

5th – Monroe Quarry

25th – 31st- Thunder Bay Trip TBD

August

13th -17th Milwaukee Rock, Mineral, and Fossil Show

27th – Potosi MO Field Trip

September

13th – Meeting - Show & Tell

27th – Iowa Field Trip

October

11th – Meeting

25th – Lapidary Days

November

8th – Meeting & Guest Speaker

December

13th – Christmas Party – Location TBD

Meetings will be held at

Festival Foods

**2233 Humes Rd
Janesville, WI**

Email will be sent to all members with Field Trip details prior to trip.

If meetings or field trips must be changed – all members will receive an email with updated information prior to the event.

2025 Membership

Just a reminder that 2025 membership dues are due!

\$15 for Single and \$20 for Family.

**Dues can be sent to
Treasurer – Dan Troke**

or paid at meetings. To participate in Field Trips – dues are required to be paid.

If you have paid your 2024 ~ Thank You

Make sure to check out the Badger Rock Club Facebook Page!!



Hats \$5, T-Shirts \$18



When placing a picture on Facebook members are giving BLGS permission to add pictures to the monthly newsletter.



Calendars \$15

Hey Badgers,

Thanks so much to everyone for helping us to pull off another successful show!!! We had a great crowd on Saturday and a pretty good turnout on Sunday. This show is only successful because of all of you!! There are a couple of shout outs that I'd like to give, but want you to know that everyone's contribution, whether it was posting flyers, sharing the show on social media, donating material for the kids' games or even just coming to the show as a visitor, is greatly appreciated!!

First of all to our Grill Master Herb Bunger!! Herb kept us fed, hydrated and caffeinated all weekend long. He also is keeping the club trailer and the extra tables at his place and brought the tables to the show. Your talent and help is greatly appreciated!!

Second to our very own Rock Wizard, Marv Hanner. Thanks for always being there to answer questions!

Third to everyone that set up a display case: Ken Schweitzer, Rena Holwedal & Tim Wolf, Heather Hammet, Dave Petranek, Marv Hanner, Kevin Ponzio and Dan Trocke (times 2).

Fourth to our fantastic speakers: Steve Busson, Jim Vilaga, William Noguro, John Dean and Dan Trocke. Really appreciate you taking the time to put together a presentation for our guests!

Fifth to Yvonne Sparhawk, Carl and Shannon Holt. These are all new members that stepped up to help out -- Yvonne & Carl volunteered time and donated materials for the rock painting activity and Shannon actually joined at the show prep meeting and jumped right in to help prepare fish pond bags and then helped at the show!!! Really appreciate it.

Also, thanks to all of our volunteers, many that were there the entire weekend!!! The show can not happen without your help! Darsha Olsen, John, Daniel & Moss Norman, Ken Schweitzer, Terry Aitken & Dawn Dennis, Chuck & Laura

Styles, Penny & Dave Petranek, Craig Flaming, Olivia Graves & Lennon, Kim Schneider, Gwyn Padden-Lechten, Connor & Jayden Trocke, Mike Magnuson, Ralph Weinrich, Dave & Sue Cress, Mark & Tim Wolf, Rena Holwedal, Heather Hammett, Ray Baird, Erik & Jena Wood, Kestra Olsen, Tom & Rhonda France, Laura Wesner & Laurie Ross. Thanks to Mark & Laurie stayed late and helped load Dan's display, which was greatly appreciated!!

Finally, a huge thanks to Dan Trocke for not only setting up the fluorescent display, but also two display cases and stepping up as a speaker one of our speakers dropped out at the last minute!!! The show wouldn't be the same without you! Dan wanted me to extend his gratitude to everyone that helped set up and tear down the fluorescent display. It is greatly appreciated.

I truly appreciate all of you!!! Hope you can join us again next year on March 28 & 29 for our 55th Annual Show! We even have Friday afternoon booked for 2026, so won't have to worry about set up running quite so late!

Laurie
BLGS Show Chair



Club Meeting – 3/08/2025 Rock Club (BLGS) Bus. Mtg Notes

Call to order (1. Darsha)

19 folks attended the meeting at Herb's house: program was prepping bags for show

Minutes accepted from last Biz meeting (1. Kim 2. Shannon)

Treasurer's Report: Given by Dan.

Announcements / Reminders:

*April 12 Meeting will be at Festival but in the conference room at the front of the building, next to the customer service desk (1 st floor).

*Next year's show will be March 28 & 29, 2026.

*If you wanted the recipe for the Oatmeal Bars (from the prep-day potluck at Herb's house), please email
Laura.Petranka@hotmail.com
.petranka@hotmail.com

Old Business:

*T-shirt Order (Laurie): changed the requirements to quote per design, then per color~ now quoted \$25 = too expensive. Penny will check out prices at a company in Janesville.

*Holiday Party on 12/13/25 (Herb):
Richmond Town Hall is booked & Herb (club) will provide the meat.

Want everyone to bring their specialty~ really show off your kitchen skills!! Address: W9046 Cty Rd A, Delavan, WI.

*Summer Picnic on 6/14/25 (Herb): Park is booked. Address: 4907 S. Carvers Rock Rd, Clinton, WI.

*NE/SD Field Trip update (Laurie): Make your reservations NOW!! 6/26 Wall, SD and 6/27-6/30 Hot

Springs, SD. Ray will go out in April to scout & find the best places to go.

*April Meeting (Dan teaching chain mail) will be at the Festival Foods and then going to Mystic Moraine

Minerals (Janesville) to fire the silver clay and finish the keychains. Bring a stone to press into the clay pendant attached to the chain mail keychain. You can purchase the silver clay from Dan...not cheap, so bring a small item to be used as decoration. (look up silver clay website to see what we are talking about)

New Business: nothing

Show Business:

*Volunteers should come Friday at 2pm, or later, to help set up. Even if you can't come till evening

there will still be plenty to do.

Nebraska Trip Update

After reviewing all the club rock hounding interests indicated on the location list we passed around at February's meeting, Laura, Gary and I have hammered out a pretty solid strategy for our adventure.

Because our trip is planned immediately before the extremely busy Fourth of July **we will all need to book our overnight accommodations as soon as possible.**

We chose **Wall, South Dakota** as our first **one night** stop over because of the distance we'll be driving the on the first leg of our adventure, its proximity to the Badlands National Park, and of course the rock hounding sites nearby.

Hot Springs, South Dakota was chosen for the **remaining three overnights** of our quest because of the nearness to dig sites in both Nebraska and South Dakota. The research Laura did on hotel and camping prices found that area most affordable.

Questions text:

Ray 815 219 0244

Laura 815 690 3407

Gary 630 808 7792

Further itinerary updates will be forthcoming as the trip draws near. For now we want everyone to be on the same page in order to book timely reservations. **Accommodations will go quickly!!!**

Thanks,
Ray

Trip Tentative Itinerary

Thursday 26 June

Travel to Wall South Dakota. 10½ hours from Janesville Wisconsin, (750 miles)
8PM meet up at a downtown Wall restaurant (to be announced; all eating establishments are walking distance from hotels and in town camping.) Hopefully everyone will be checked into overnight accommodations before 8.

Beautiful free camping is available south of the city of Wall on public land a couple miles before the entrance of Badlands National Park.
No electric, no water and no toilet...just gorgeous views plus acres and acres of rocks

Friday 27 June

9 or 10 AM meeting and convoy to local rock hounding. Dig locations and directions will be provided to members in case of unavoidable delays.

Badlands Overlook, Big Foot Pass and Old Wasta Bridge will be our tentative hounding targets for that morning.

Friday afternoon drive to Hot Springs, South Dakota. It is 1 hour 45 minutes west of Wall Drug. If time permits we might try a possible rock hounding stop at Redshirt S.D. along the way.

Check in at hotel or campground for the duration of our adventure. We can discuss an evening gathering before separating Friday afternoon.

Hot Springs is centrally located to at least 35 free rock hounding sites including the Nebraska Oglala National Grasslands.

Sightseeing near Hot Springs includes Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse Monument and an abundance of Black Hills Rock Shops. Devil's Tower is a 2½ hour drive to the Northwest.

Wall South Dakota Hotels

Best Western
Econo Lodge
American Best
Days Inn by Wyndham

Campground

Arrow Campground

Hot Springs South Dakota Hotels

Baymont by Wyndham
Super 8 by Wyndham
USA Hotel & Suites
Hills Inn

Campgrounds

Hot Springs KOA Sites and Camping Cabins
Hidden Lake Campground and Resort
Sunrise Ridge Campground (Laura and Gary already booked here)

2025 Officers Roster

President

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Vice-President

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1rockpile@gmail.com

Secretary

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*If you have any questions, please contact a
Club officer.*