

THE MIDWEST FACETER



May 1995
Volume 15 Issue 2

The Midwest Faceter

Co-Editor
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Birch Run, MI 48415

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♦ The Midwest Faceter ♦

Volume 15 Number 2

May 1995

MIDWEST FACETERS GUILD

** Membership
Information*

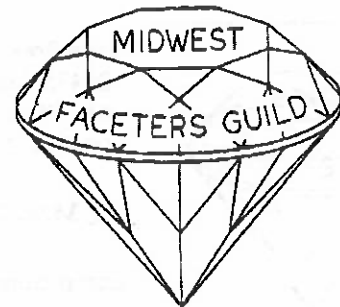
** Newsletter
Deadlines*

A Publication of the Midwest Faceters Guild

E ditors: **Kathleen Myers
Bill Horton**

Send all Articles to:
THE MIDWEST FACETER
11630 S. Gera Road
Birch Run, MI 48415

Deadline:
The 10th of the month
proceeding publication.



THE MIDWEST FACETER is not not forwardable. For membership application or change of address contact: **Membership Chairman: Thomas Gibbs 622 Eighth Street Wyandotte, MI 48192 Phone (313) 282-3745**

THE MIDWEST FACETER is the the official publication of the **MIDWEST FACETERS GUILD** and is published five times each year available to members only as a portion of their annual membership dues. Statements appearing in **THE MIDWEST FACETER** are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the **THE MIDWEST FACETERS GUILD**, **MWFG Board of Directors**, or **THE MIDWEST FACETER** editors. The editors reserve the right to edit all material submitted for publication. Permission to reprint any material published in **THE MIDWEST FACETER** is granted provided full credit is given to **THE MIDWEST FACETER** and to the author.

THE MIDWEST FACETERS GUILD

*** ORGANIZED JULY 14, 1979**

PURPOSES

- * TO PROMOTE EDUCATION AND RECREATION**
- * TO DEVELOP THE ART OF FACETING**
- * TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION RELATED TO FACETING**
- * TO PROVIDE MEETING FOR THOSE OF LIKE INTERESTS**
- * TO PROMOTE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF INDIVIDUALS**

MEMBER OF:

THE MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES
THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

MIDWEST FACETERS GUILD

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THE MIDWEST FACETER

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GUILD MEETING June 17, 1995

K

ensington Metro Park
2240 West Buno Road
Milford, MI 48380 Phone 685-1561



PICNIC!! PICNIC!! PICNIC!! PICNIC!!

Join Fellow Guild Members and Friends for a day in the beautiful Kensington Metro Park.

Eat, Relax, Visit, Games, Enjoy!

Rain or Shine - Pavillion Available.

Bring your lawn chairs, drinks, smiles, and munchies to share.

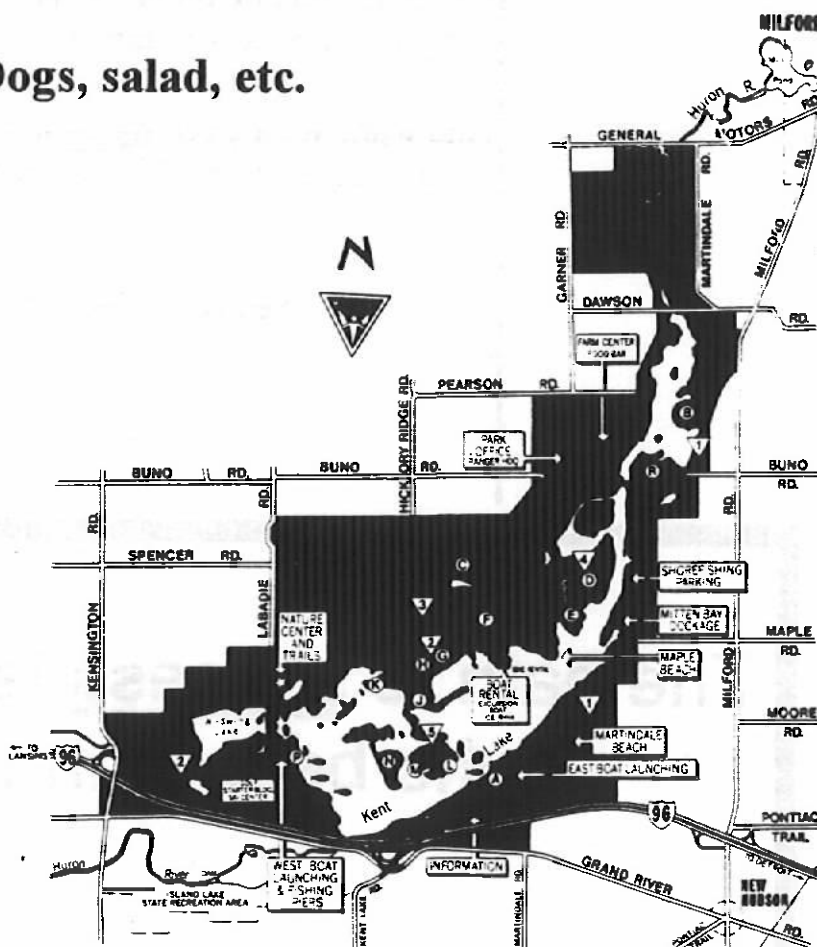
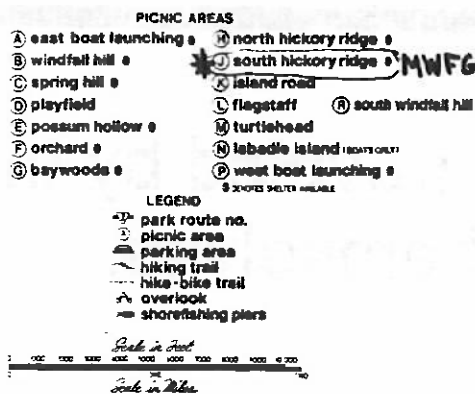
\$2.00 at the gate per car...

The Guild will provide Hot Dogs, salad, etc.

*Bring
Lawn
Chairs!!*

KENSINGTON METROPARK

2240 WEST BUNO RD., MILFORD, MICHIGAN 48380 TELEPHONE: 685-1561
OUTSIDE LOCAL DIALING AREA: 1-800-47-PARKS



F

riends and Family Welcome!!!

From the President...

Bill Gardiner

Attendance at our Faceters Guild seems to have picked up. Thanks to all who have made it a point to attend.

Coming up on June 17th is a new type of meeting— an “Old Fashioned Summer Picnic.” Bill Horton has extended himself once again, and has secured space at Kensington Metro Park. All we’re asking members to do is bring their smiles and appetite! Oh, you might want to throw in a lawn chair. Fran Bush is in charge of the fun a games. So there will be more than just resting!

*Set aside
some time...*

Whatever, it should be a good time for everyone, so mark June 17th on your calendar today. You might tie a string around your finger in case you forget to check the calendar! Besides your smile and your appetite, bring along also the small faceting problems you’ve been having and maybe a braggin’ stone or two. There will be time to discuss cutting with fellow faceters.

And while we are setting aside time - the annual Summer Seminar is close at hand — August 18 - 20 - so set that time aside and plan to attend!

See ya at Kensington! See ya at Hartland!

The Prez..

**The path to success is traveled by those
who believe in themselves.**

Seminar Notes...*Kathleen Myers & Bill Horton**MWFG Seminar Co-Coordiators*

The 1995 Midwest Faceters Guild Annual Weekend Seminar is ready to roll!
Will you join in the fun, facts, and faceting with your friends? We certainly hope to see you there.

The line-up of classes this year gives something for everyone, beginners to advanced.

*August
18, 19 & 20*

Count yourself among those present for that August weekend.

Do you have a friend or neighbor who wants to give faceting a try?? Invite them to join you in attending - who knows you may change their life forever by introducing them to our wonderful hobby!!

The Special Seminar Edition is nearly ready to roll so watch your mailbox!

From The Rolls...*Tom Gibbs**Membership Chairman***MIDWEST FACETERS GUILD MEMBERSHIP**

Dues \$5.00 - includes subscription to The Midwest Faceter

Fiscal year is January 1st through December 31st. Dues are \$ 5.00 per fiscal year or portion of a year.

Name _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____ Phone (____) _____ Country _____

Do you teach faceting ? _____ What type of machine do you have ? _____

Make all checks payable to Midwest Faceters Guild and send to:



THOMAS GIBBS, MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

622 EIGHTH STREET, WYANDOTTE, MI 48192-2637

Phone (313) 282-3745

Pay Your Dues Pay Your Dues..... Pay Your Dues.... Pay Your Dues....

Secretary's Minutes...

Fran Bush

The Board of Directors of the Midwest Faceters Guild was called to order by President, William Gardiner on April 22, 1995 at 10:20 A.M. in H J's Prime Cut Restaurant in Toledo, Ohio. Those in attendance were: President Gardiner, Don Sahr, William Horton, Frances Bush, Thomas Gibbs, Bernard Bush, Richard Fairless, Doris Medlen, Edward Myers, Kathleen Myers, and Virginia Steele. Absent were: Jane Holt, June Ramshaw and Debra Stutts.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved as published in the The Midwest Faceter through a motion made by Tom Gibbs and seconded by Kathleen Myers.

The Treasurers report was accepted as read by William Horton and filed for audit, through a motion made by Donald Sahr and seconded by Richard Fairless.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education Chairman, Bernard Bush reported that Kent Cales will speak on Faceting at today's meeting and Bill Schell is conducting the morning session. The June 17th meeting will be at Kensington Metropolitan Park, just west of Brighton, Michigan. The Guild will furnish the food, with Bill Horton and Doris Medlin making arrangements. Bernard Bush will be in charge of the games. A good time is planned for all.

Membership Chairman, Thomas Gibbs reported 265 paid members and 71 are still unpaid from 1994.

Parliamentarian, Virginia Steele stated we have a quorum and are able to conduct the business of the Guild.

Rules Chairman, Richard Fairless stated that the rules and regulations for the show competition are almost ready for publication and will be mailed soon.

Seminar Co-Coordinator, Kathleen Myers reported the Seminar Bulletin is about complete. The Seminar will be August 18, 19 and 20th at Building 21 in Hartland, Michigan. A Guild meeting and luncheon will be arranged for Saturday at noon. Friday will be classes and an evening program. The banquet dinner will be an option on Saturday evening with a program and door prizes. A new class, "Lost Wax Steam Casting" will feature Gail and Don Sahr as instructors. The class fee will cover waxes and casting material and those attending can purchase gold or silver at the going rate or bring their own.

A request for a class on faceting soft stones was made, but the usual instructor, Art Grant, is unavailable due to previous commitments. Any suggestions for a qualified instructor would be appreciated by Kathleen.

Ideas are needed, please contact Kathleen Myers or Bill Horton with your input for a better than ever Seminar. Your help is greatly appreciated. A motion, to accept the proposed budget of \$6200.00 as presented by Kathleen Myers" was made by Bill Horton and seconded by Richard Fairless. Motion carried unanimously.

Thomas Gibbs related correspondence from Art Grant to let one person in South Africa become a member so they would have our bulletin information to copy. After discussion, Tom Gibbs made a motion, "that the Guild to accept the South African Club as an Exchange Bulletin". William Horton seconded the motion and it carried.

Show Chairman, Don Sahr stated we need raffle prize commitments to get the tickets printed and apply for the raffle permit. First Prize will be 100.00 cash. Second Prize will be a 14K Gold Amethyst Pendant donated by

Secretary's Minutes

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Bill Horton. Don and Gail Sahr will donate a 14K Gold Topaz pendant as Third Prize. Many other prizes are needed. Let's see some new names on the list of donors.

Doris and Lester presented a break down of attendance according to day and time-slots, showing an increase of 30% in attendance.

Committee Chairmen will be the same as last year, unless they notify Don otherwise.

The flyers will resemble a large postcard and 6,000 have been printed so far.

New sources of advertisement are necessary. Internet was suggested as a possibility. Quotes for professional advertisement were way beyond our budget. A discussion on what to do to attract a better attendance prompted a motion by Bill Horton, "to include a coupon on the flyer for \$1.00 off admission". Motion was seconded by Bernard Bush and carried.

The 1996 contract with Dearborn Civic Center requires a daily Vendor's fee of \$250.00. The Hospitality Room is in question as we do not sell food and cannot afford the daily fee.

A new floor layout for the dealers has been made and hopefully someone can suggest or obtain a special exhibit for a center attraction.

Happy and Tom Gibbs have agreed to recruit and arrange for demonstrators. Glenn Swain will arrange for Speakers and Programs. Three each say was suggested with a possibility of one on Friday night. There are a total of 20 dealers.

There will be a display booth to promote the Seminar. A motion was made by Thomas Gibbs, "To grant six scholarships to the Seminar". Doris Medlen seconded the motion and it carried. The recipients will be persons that have little or no faceting experience, but are genuinely interested in learning. The method and guidelines for choosing the recipients will be worked out by the committee.

New Business:

Tom Gibbs has new directories printed and they will be mailed as the dues are paid.

Old Business: None.

Meeting adjourned at 12:47 through a motion made by Bernard Bush and seconded by Virginia Steele.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frances Bush, Secretary

Membership Meeting

The Membership meeting of the Midwest Faceters Guilds was called to order by President, William Gardiner on April 22, 1995 at 1:40 P.M. in H J's Prime Cut Restaurant in Toledo, Ohio. There were 34 members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published in The Midwest Faceter through a motion made by Carmen Eiche and seconded by Doris Medlen.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as read by Bill Horton and filed for audit, through a motion made by Bill Schell and seconded by Lester Medlen.

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Bill Horton pointed out that the printing of our six bulletins and the membership directory far exceeds the amount of dues collected. If printing and postage continue to increase it may be necessary to raise the dues in the future.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Special Competition Chairman, Ed Myers reported that we will have competition at our 1995 Faceters Fair and invited everyone to participate and get their stones critiqued.

Education Chairman, Bernard Bush reported our Speaker Kent Cales was unable to make the meeting. A round table discussion will be led by a panel consisting of Bill Gardiner, Bill Horton, Dick Fairless, Ed Myers and Bill Schell. Topics of discussion will come from the membership. The next meeting will be at Kensington Metro Park on June 17th.

Hospitality Chairman, Doris Medlen and Picnic Host Bill Horton will plan the menu that will be furnished by the Guild for the June 17th picnic. Games will be under the direction of Bernard Bush. The only charge will be a \$2.00 entrance fee per car at the park.

Membership Chairman, Tom Gibbs reported we have 265 paid members for the 1995 year and 71 are still not renewed. Tom has the new Member Directories and passed them out to those members present. Others will be mailed as dues are paid.

Parliamentarian, Virginia Steele - no report.

Rules Chairman, Dick Fairless has almost completed the rules and regulations for the 1995 Faceters Fair and they will be published in the next *Midwest Faceter*.

Seminar Co-Coordinator, Kathleen Myers reported the plans for the Seminar to be held August 18, 19 & 20th are coming together. Friday will be for registration and an evening program, Saturday will consist of classes, a break for luncheon and a Guild meeting with an optional catered dinner Saturday night. A new class on lost wax steam casting will be added this year. A Countable Arizona member, Kenyon Painter will be present on Saturday and Sunday to help align machines and have a short session on problem solving with Facetron, Prismatic and Ultra-Tec machines. The registration fee for the Seminar is \$55.00 per person.

The Seminar Edition will be mailed in May so you can get your reservations in early to make sure you get the class of your choice. Classes will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

Co-Editor, Kathleen Myers reminded Members that articles, diagrams and helpful hints are needed for every bulletin. Kathleen will edit articles so you don't have to have a fancy set-up for your articles, just supply the information.

Show- Chairman, Don Sahr asked for commitments for Raffle Prizes. Many exhibits are needed and Don asked for volunteers to Chair or Co-Chair the club display. Gail Sahr offered to help any volunteers with the display. A Feature Exhibit is still needed for the show and plenty of volunteer workers.

Bill Horton reminded everyone about the picnic at Kensington Metropolitan Park on June 17th. Board Meeting at 10:00 A.M. Lunch and a good time will be furnished by the Guild. The cost to members is \$2.00 per car to get into the park. Bring a good appetite and if possible lawn chairs. Hope to see everyone there!

Don Yoxthimer is setting up a Guild booth at the Cincinnati Show May 6th and 7th at the Cincinnati Gardens. If you are able to attend, please bring our faceter and let Don know you can demonstrate.

No New Business

No New Business

A motion to adjourn was made by Dick Fairless and seconded by Carmen Eiche. Meeting adjourned at 2:47 P.M.

Many thanks to the members who formed the Panel of Experts for the meeting!

Respectfully submitted,
Frances Bush, Secretary

The "Glint" Point, Etc.

by William J. Horton
Howell, Michigan

While judging gemstones at our annual show, it brought to mind articles about judging that I have read in the last few months. One recently by Col. Walter Carss, about meetpoints in the past Australian-American Challenge.

We, of the Midwest Faceters Guild, have been trying to merge our judging techniques with those of the Australians and have been trying to completely eliminate any "SUBJECTIVE" sections in the judging sheets. We have used two different score sheets, depending on whether there is or is not a size specification in the contest. We may need to expand this issue since it may not be fair to use the same scoring for instance when judging calcite and sapphire. At our annual faceting seminar, we approach these kinds of issues, trying to gain as much input from cutters as possible. Judging, I am convinced, will always be a problem, and judging will always have some degree of subjective observations.

In the case of meetpoints, we need to cut with 10X and look with 20X and 30X to see the differences, and then reverse the process. Things do not stay constant as we cut one way and look another (perhaps reason enough for internationally accepted standards). We also need to evaluate the power of light sources, 100 Watts versus 40 Watts - again for both cutting and judging.

Most errors in cutting, from a judging standpoint are shop worn gems, wipe in ghost or double facets, mismets, pits from incomplete pre-polish, chips, and polish. The width of the girdle is subjective, unless specified. If width is specified, then you should be able to measure accurately. On and on, if you demand a specification of any kind, then you must be able to justify your judging in that specification.

One error that continues to happen, was also mentioned by Walt Carss. The Australians refer to this as the "Glint". This is like looking at a bright speck at a meet point. I believe this is caused by incomplete polish of one facet at the meetpoint. The meetpoint may still be completed by the prepolish. The last facet or first to a meetpoint may be the culprit, or any of the four. To eliminate the "glint" or bright spec, carefully "wipe" the facet polish, by hand, one stroke at a time until the speck is gone, without overcutting the facet.

Ghost facets, or double facets are usually caused by trying to eliminate a cat hair scratch or minor infraction. These appear to be developed by "wiping" out the infraction, or by using the cheater. The best way to see the double facets is to use the first light. The first light is like looking into a mirror at the sun. The first light at your machine is much the same. Get the light directly onto the facet and into your eye. A 100 watt bulb will be very uncomfortable until you get used to it, but a lower wattage bulb will work the same. As you rotate the handpiece either up or down, or left or right from this position, those double facets will jump out and be detected. Eliminate them by wiping from the intersection of both facets until you have a single facet.

The second light is found by rotating the handpiece, again up or down, or left or right, from the first light. The facet will appear white but not as uncomfortable to look at as the first light. The second light is also the one used for detecting pointmets. Rotating the handpiece into the second light will produce two facets of the point meet to be in the second light, and the other two will appear to be black. When white touches white, and black touches black, the point meet will be complete. I call the black the fourth light.

The third light is almost gray. If you continue rotating the handpiece from the second light, the facet will appear almost gray. Continue to rotate the handpiece and it will then appear black. The benefit of the third light is to see the minute scratches, or cat-hair scratches. *continued on page 10*

The "Glint" Point, Etc. continued...

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Sometimes when viewing one facet, you will pick up the cat-hair scratches from neighboring facets.

Pits are usually caused by incomplete pre-polish. You will never achieve a good final polish until you have removed all the pits from preforming with pre-polish. Whatever grit is used in the preforming and shaping abrades the surface to that micron size. A 100 grit is a monster to the surface area versus a 1200 grit. You may prefer a course lap on hard stones and a finer grit for the softer stones. Whatever, you still have to "heal" the surface from the pre-forming by pre-polishing to that depth or beyond, of that abrasion. After the pre-polish is complete, the final polish will be easier and much better.

Girdle width is subjective. New cutters usually tend to leave wide girdles. There is a good chance of chipping a gemstone when mounting them if the girdle is either too thick or too thin. A good rule of thumb is to think of a worn dime, and make your girdle about that thick. I can hear the repercussions of this statement already!!! Some will say to cut the girdle to 2% of the width of the stone. I have no fault with that logic. Just don't cut a knife edge girdle. That increases the chances for a chip.

The correct size for the table of most gemstones is 55 - 60 % of the width of the stone. Some diagrams will call for a smaller or larger table, depending on the design requirements. It's better to have a slightly larger table than a smaller one. First, it gets more light into the gem. Secondly, in my opinion, it sets up a more pleasing symmetry on the crown.

A final thought about an even girdle. This is controlled by the transfer. This is a and will always be a problem area. The only cure is a good transfer block, and experience in transferring. I used a dial indicator when I first started faceting. It was cumbersome to set up and use. Try this little tidbit as a substitute method. Every machine has an arbor for your laps. Use the arbor as a reference. Buy some "feeler" stock at the local auto parts store. The feeler stock is used to measure rods, bearings, etc. by mechanics. Buy the feeler stock in .001, .002, .003, and .004 inches. Before removing the dop from your machine to transfer, mark your original dop with ink or fingernail polish. I mark the dop just beneath the stone and on the highest index of the gear. I also measure from the stone to the collet. These measurements and marks would allow me to return the dop to its original position. Once you have marked and measured, remove the dop and complete your transfer. With both the original and the new dop attached return the original dop to its position in the handpiece. Place the handpiece in freewheeling and at 90 degrees. Lower the head and rotate the handpiece until the transfer (new) just touches the arbor. Observe the position of the index gear. For example, if the index gear is at 96 when touching, rotate it to an index of 48, and using the feeler stock, record the amount of run-out of the transfer assembly. (The assembly is the the original dop, stone and new dop). If you can achieve a run-out of .003 or less, you will have a fairly even girdle. If you have a greater amount - remove the new transfer dop and try the transfer again. It is a good policy to make sure that both dops are the same diameter. This will require a caliper or micrometer. If the run-out is .003 or less, remove the assembly; turn it around and install the assembly with the new dop into the collet with the paint mark at the 96 index position. Repeat the procedure with the feeler stock to find the run-out. Compile a chart, recording the run-out with the paint mark at 96, 48, 72, 24, indices. Where the least amount of run-out occurs, tighten the collet, wrap the gemstone and transfer dop with wet tissue, and remove the original dop with heat (on the original dop). This procedure will reduce the run-out and improve your chances of an even girdle. This gives you eight chances for a round type stone to reduce the run-out. In the case of ovals or marquise, or emerald type designs, you have only two chances to position the transfer assembly. Still, two chances are better than one.

Soak the glue or wax of the original dop. Don't scrape the dops with a knife or etc. Keep your dops free of any damage that will add to the potential run-out problems. If possible keep dops in pairs by diameter measurements. Plan ahead before you ever start to cut to have a matching transfer dop.

A final last word - Don't be thin skinned about being judged!!!! Enter and join with your peer groups. It's a positive learning process!!!! Make sure the guy that wins really has to work hard to win!!!! Put those judges to work, but be nice to them for their efforts. The end result...you will be a winner!!!!!!

Editor's Gems...

*Kathleen Myers
Bill Horton*

- * Spring is here FINALLY!! Oh how we waited so long for it to come.
- * Special thank-you to Dick Fairless for his hard work getting the competition rules up dated and diagrams ready for the Faceters Fair.
- * Now is the time to dust off that machine and get cutting October will be here before you know it!
- * It was great to see lots of folks at the last meeting - plan to join us everytime!
- * Contact Tom Gibbs, Membership Chairman, for Guild Membership forms to pass out at local shows - the \$5.00 dues is still a GREAT bargain! Let's all make a commitment to recruit some new members and spread the word about faceting.
- * You can help the Guild even if you live far away...how about a news article, a diagram, a hint or two to help others, a raffle prize, a case display, recruit a new member, or teach someone to facet.
- * We are still looking for a new idea for a club display to replace the "Birthstone Cases" - do you have a idea you could suggest?? Contact any Board member.
- * Have you saved the Seminar Dates & will you be there??? It is sure to be lots of *Faceting, Friends, Facts and Fun* one more time!!!
- * Have gemstones will travel? Lend a hand to make your local show even better - demonstrate faceting, display your gems, brag a little!!!



Dates To Remember

June 17

Midwest Faceters Guild Picnic
Kensington Metro Park
Milford, Michigan

July 13 - 16

AFMS/Northwest Federation Show
Boise, Idaho

August 7 - 11

Red Medal Retreat
Michigan Tech. University

August 12 - 13

MGAGS Seminar
Michigan Tech. University
Houghton, Michigan

August 18 - 20

Midwest Faceters Guild Seminar
Hartland "21" Building
Hartland, Michigan

September 8 - 10

Toledo Gem & Mineral Show
Toledo, Ohio

October 13 - 15

MWF Convention & Show
Detroit, Michigan

October 28

Midwest Faceters Guild Meeting
Dearborn, Michigan

November 10 - 12

**Midwest Faceters Fair Gem &
Jewelry**
Dearborn Civic Center
Dearborn, Michigan

**Enjoy Life,
Make BIG Plans...
Live Every Day,
Learn Every Day.**

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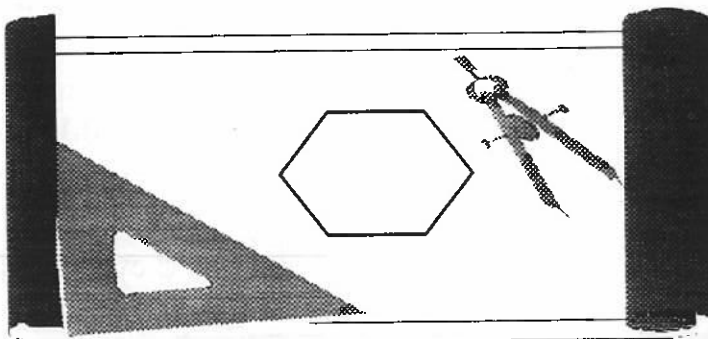
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