

Chicago Shell Club—Field Trip Nov. 8, 2009

Jochen Gerber

This year's field trip will bring us to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Early November is a bit late for a field trip to the North, but I think we will have an interesting trip even if the weather is inclement. We will start with the outdoors part of the trip in a park on the Milwaukee River. This part will only be canceled if there is a considerable amount of snow on the ground. We will then proceed to the Milwaukee Public Museum to see the exhibits. Finally we will experience a bit of "Old World Milwaukee" when we have dinner in one of the city's historic restaurants. Here is the schedule:

11 am -- **Kletsch Park**

6560 N. Milwaukee River Parkway
Milwaukee, WI 53209

<http://www.villageprofile.com/wisconsin/glendale/glendale.html>

The outdoorsy-inclined members meet at Kletsch Park (43°08'22"N 87°55'28"W) on the Milwaukee River in Glendale, a northern suburb of Milwaukee. Kletsch Park has long been known for its colony of *Helix pomatia*, the European escargot. The species is believed to have been introduced intentionally on an island upstream from the park "as a source of food by an epicure." The introduction of *Helix* occurred more than 100 years ago and it has recently been confirmed that the colony still persists. We will meet at the parking lot.

1:30 pm -- **Milwaukee Public Museum**

800 West Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53233

<http://www.mpm.edu/>

We will explore the exhibits of the museum on the natural and cultural history of Milwaukee and the world, including, I am told, a shell display. We will probably be joined by MPM's Curator of Mollusks, Joan Jass.

4:30 pm -- Dinner—and maybe a Milwaukee-brewed beer or two—at the Milwaukee Ale House:

Milwaukee Ale House

233 N. Water Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Phone: 414/226-BEER (2337)

<http://www.ale-house.com>

We will get a group rate of \$10 per person at the museum. This is not extremely advantageous for many of us, as the rate for seniors (60 and up) is \$10 anyway. However, it saves the non-seniors \$2 per head.

For arranging the group rate and reservation at the Ale House I would like to have an approximate head count of participants by Nov. 4, 5 pm. You can contact me at the museum at 312-665-7577 or jgerber@fieldmuseum.org. We will try to arrange car pools, if possible. When you RSVP, give us your phone number and your willingness to take someone or your need of a ride. If you prefer, you can make your own arrangements.

Hope to see you on Nov. 8!