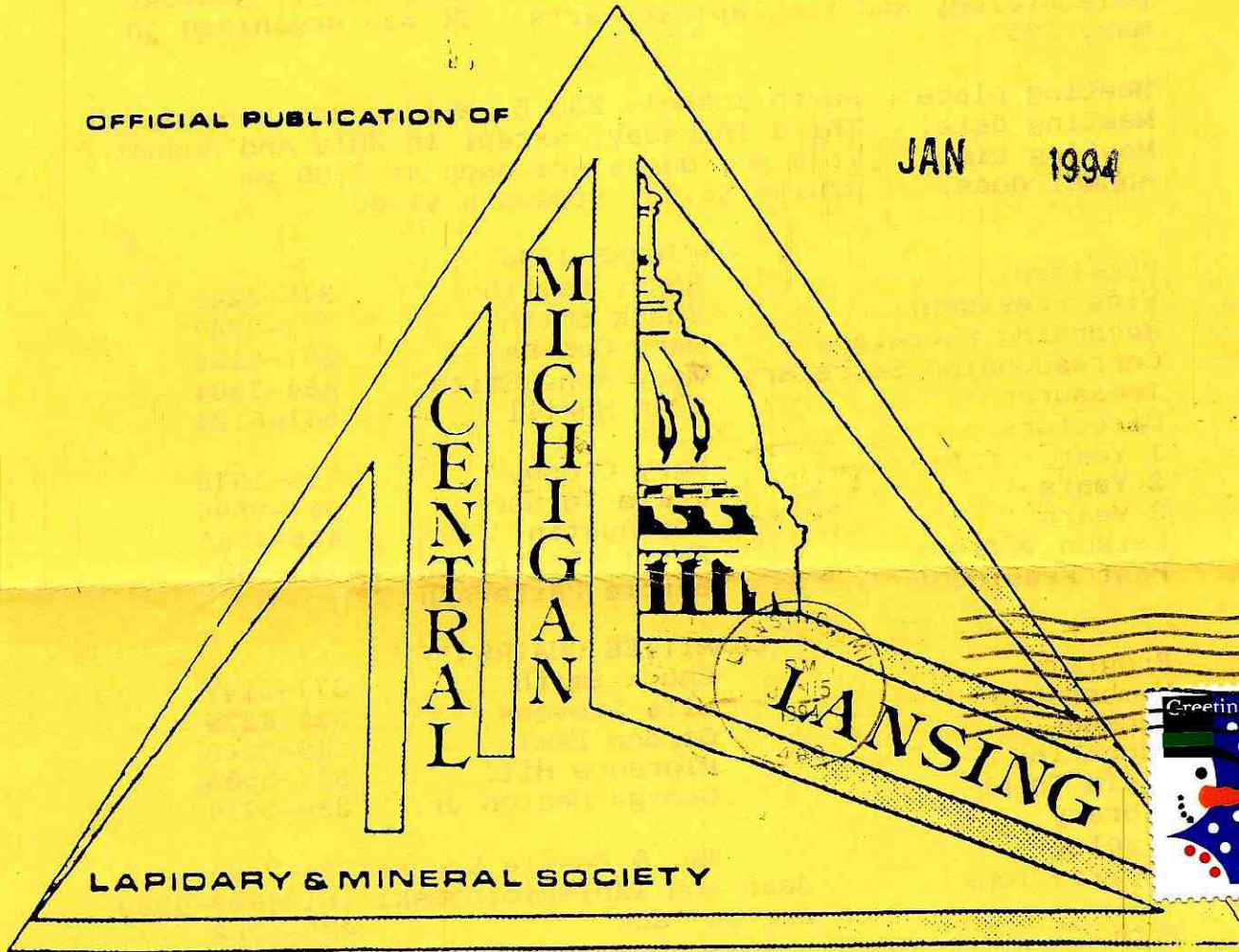


ROCKHOUND NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

JAN 1994



LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY

MEMBER OF MWF & AFMS

Return To:
C.M.L. & M.S.
14933 Brown Rd.,
Lansing, Michigan 48906

FIRST CLASS

T I M E V A L U E



ROCKHOUND NEWS

This bulletin is the official publication of the Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society of Greater Lansing, Michigan. It is published the second week of each month except July and August.

The Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society is a non-profit organization, meeting to promote interest and increased knowledge in the fields of mineralogy, geology, paleontology and the lapidary arts. It was organized in May, 1957.

Meeting place: North School, 333 E. Miller Rd, Lansing MI
Meeting date: Third Thursday, except in July and August
Meeting time: 7:30 pm; doors are open at 7:00 pm
Annual dues: Adults \$5.00, Students \$1.00

OFFICERS 1994

President	Roger Laylin	349-3249
Vice President	Chuck Smith	371-3247
Recording Secretary	Mary Gowens	351-6136
Corresponding Secretary	Mary Anne Smith	484-7804
Treasurer	Alan Hukill	641-6125
Directors:		
1 Year	Mary Crosby	484-1375
2 Years	Irwin Turner	694-9596
3 Years	Joe Austin	485-4665
Liaison Officer	Bettie Patterson	482-3437
Past President	Bettie Patterson	

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program	Chuck Smith	371-3247
Membership	Lila Stevens	321-4379
Finance	Gordon Lewis	349-2263
Education	Florence Hill	349-3554
Field Trips	George Heaton Jr.	339-8914
Library		
Display	Wm. & Bessie Rogers	224-7596
Publications	Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski	(616)948-9589
	Bettie Tack	485-6768
Show	Richard Stevens	321-4379
	Alan Hukill	641-6125

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:

14933 Brown Rd.
Lansing MI 48906

MEMBER OF:

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

ROGER'S RAMBLINGS

The new year brings a few new faces to the Board of Directors and quite a few, approximately 28, new 1993 members to the club. Welcome aboard all. With the new interest and the continued magnificent support of the long term members this promises to be an exciting year of learning, practicing and teaching others about our enjoyable hobby.

I will do my best to make this a fun filled, informative and meaningful year. To accomplish this I'll need the help of all of our members. Remember the year is now 1994. Best wishes to all and Happy Rockhounding.

Roger

WEATHER NOTICE (Roger)

In the event of severe weather determined bad enough to warrant cancelling a regular or board meeting, we will notify radio stations WFMK 99FM and WJIM 1240AM. Please tune to one of these stations to find out if a meeting is cancelled.

WE NEED AN EDUCATION CHAIR IN TRAINING (Roger)

Education Committee Chairwoman Florence Hill desires an active, mobile, interested first assistant.

If you are willing to take on the job of being Florence's right hand please give Roger Laylin or Florence a call.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE-- Florence Hill

We will continue the theme of birthstones for our "5 minute talk." January's stone is garnet, a sometimes abrasive, but attractive mineral. Remember to bring or wear your different varieties of garnet to the meeting.

Winter is the best season of the year for working on the "indoor" aspects of our hobby. I'm sure that many of you are busy with your specialties-- be it capping, faceting, silversmithing, wirewrapping, critter making, trees or beading. Keep up the good work and we will have a spring "show & tell" of our winter accomplishments at one of the upcoming meetings.

Some of our members have been busy sharing their knowledge with others. On January 12, Alice Tuner demonstrated wire wrapping during a special hour at Holt Middle School. On January 13, Bettie Patterson gave a rock talk to the American Business Womens' Association, Virgo Chapter. Her topic was "Mysteries and Minerals of Your Birthstones."

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS CHANGES IN YOUR DIRECTORY:

Cleora Purtil
558 Sterling
Diamondale MI 48821

Frances Ridgley
621 S. Erie St. Apt. B
Three Rivers MI 49093
(616) 278-1402

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT

After an uneventful December, that last couple of weeks have been rough on our membership, health wise. Get well cards have been sent to Joe Austin, Bessie Rogers, Marie Lewis, George Heaton, Mary Crosby and Milo Crosby. We hope they will be feeling better soon.

As always, please let me know if any of our members should be sent a note of consolation or congratulations.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Anne Smith

DUES DUES DUES (Roger)

In an effort to bring the club's administrative income in line with expenses, the membership approved an increase in regular membership dues, and established a newsletter fee to life member households.

To assure that your name is included in the 1994 Membership Directory your dues, \$5.00 regular member and \$1.00 student member, should be paid by the February 17th meeting. Checks should be made payable to CML&MS and mailed to our Roster Secretary: Bessie Rogers, 2222 W. Marshall Rd, St. Johns MI 48879.

DON'T MISS THE JANUARY POTLUCK -- George Heaton

For our January "field trip" we will be having a potluck at the Alaiedon Township Hall on Sunday January 23 at 1:30 pm. Please bring a dish to pass and your own plates, cups and other eating tools. Hammers and chisels can be left home this time, as most rockhounds are pretty good cooks.

For our entertainment, Chuck and Barb Smith have agreed to share the geologic memories of their trip to Hawaii. You may look forward to a video, still photographs, and self collected samples of volcanic rock samples and black sand. The video is a professional production, a different one than we saw earlier this year. The photos were taken by Barb and Chuck of an active lava flow. The sights of Hawaii should be a relief after all the cold weather and snow we have had this season!

The Alaiedon Township Hall is located on Holt Road, just a 1/4 mile or so east of Okemos Road.

ANOTHER NEW MEMBER (editor)

We would like to welcome Judith Transue as our newest member. Judith is interested in mineralogy, lapidary arts and fossils. Her address: 1101 Cawood, Lansing MI 48915; phone 485-7471.

INFORMATION FROM THE MWF UNIFORM RULES CHAIR, BOB MILLER

For competition the following information has been added to the LAPIDARY MATERIALS NAMES LIST. There will not be time to publish this before this year's show into a supplement for the uniform rules book. This is a necessary guide for anyone who enters opal into competition.

OPAL (DOUBLET) or OPAL, DOUBLET
IDAHO IDAHO

OPAL (TRIPLET) or OPAL, TRIPLET
IDAHO IDAHO

The word doublet or triplet MUST be on the label and WILL BE JUDGED. Parentheses may or may not be used.

February is a good month to start planning your competitive case for the MWF convention/show this year in South Bend, Indiana. So, time for TIP NUMBER 2. Now that you have gotten your rule book form the MWF Director of Supplies, or checked out the one from your club library, and you have decided in which area you would like to compete-- start now to pick the best pieces you have...Have another member double check your identification and spelling on your labels. Next, check the rule book to see how many pieces you may use and don't go over the amount...You have six months to put together a winning case!

SOME INTERESTING NEWS ABOUT COLLECTING IN THE U.S. VIA CANADA (editor via MWF Newsletter)

Chuck Collins, the Midwest Federation liaison to the Central Canadian Federation, had some interesting tidbits to report from his perusal of Canadian federation newsletters.

Did you know that it is illegal to collect at ROAD CUTS in the state of VERMONT? Violators caught be the police will be ticketed.

In UTAH it is required that you carry a "valid, current rock club membership card when you are collecting on State Education lands (all state owned lands) or be subject to a fine for picking up rock without obtaining proper permits. The Utah Federation has an agreement with the government and pays an annual \$200 fee to allow hobby collecting on these lands."

If you plan to collect obsidian in designated area of Modoc National Forest in Northern California, you must obtain a permit for non-commercial recreational rockhounding by writing to: Minerals Officer, Warner Mountain Ranger District, 385 Wallace St., Cedarville CA 96104.

MORE FIELD TRIP NEWS -- June King, MWF Safety & Field trips
 On a recent cold, snowy field trip to Duff Quarry, Huntsville, Ohio our group was informed that the quarry will soon start blasting at a lower level. Each layer can mean a different selection of minerals and it could mean we will not collect the special pyrite in the near future.

MICHIGAN MINE YIELDS 2.1 BILLION YEAR OLD FOSSILS--Joyce Hanschu, MWF Education Chairman

Hundreds of 2.1 billion year old fossils have been found in the Negaunee Iron Formation at the Empire Mine near Marquette, MI. A few of these fossils were discovered in float material in 1974 by Tsu-Ming Han, Senior Research Scientist for Cleveland-Cliffs Mining Co. Serious study of the fossils began in 1990 when many more were found in place in the mine.

These Michigan fossils, Grypania cf G. spiralis, are 700 to 1000 million years older than Grypania spiralis, which they closely resemble... This is significant because it indicates that complex marine plants lived much earlier than previously thought. Until now, Gypania spiralis had only been found in rocks 1.3 to 1.4 billion years old in China, India and Montana.

The Michigan Grypania are found in two different types: thick spirally coiled filaments 1.5 mm in diameter and thin spirally coiled filaments 0.7 to 1.1 mm in diameter. Both can be up to 90mm in length. Both are thought to be the remains of multicelled, photosynthetic algae deposited in a shallow water environment. Studies are continuing to learn more about these fossils.

Reference: Tsu-Ming Han & Bruce Runnegar. "Megascopic Eukaryotic Algae form the 2.1 Billion-Year-Old Negaunee Iron Formation, Michigan." Science, Vol. 257, July 10, 1992, pp.232-235.

EPOXY HINT via Rockpile 1/94 via Pegmatite & Petrograph

After a tube of epoxy has been opened, dp a bit of Vaseline on the threads. Also, put some Vaseline around the rim of your tumbler before bolting on the lid. It makes a tighter seal and it will be easy to revove the lid.

CLUB CALENDAR

January 20	Regular meeting, North School, 7:30 Program: flint knapping video
January 23	Potluck, Alaiedon Twp. Hall, 1:30pm
January 27	Board Meeting, Meridian Service Ctr., 7:30
February 17	Regular meeting
February 19	Tentative field trip to MI Natural Storage, Grand Rapids for gypsum

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES— George Loud, Chair via MWF News



Rahall Mining Bill Released from Committee

HR-322 sponsored by Congressman Nick J. Rahall, II (D-WV) was reported out of house committee on November 3, 1993. I suspect that by the time this newsletter reaches your mailbox the Rahall mining bill will have been voted upon and passed by the U.S. House of Representatives. It will then go to a House-Senate conference committee where an attempt will be made to reconcile it with S-775 sponsored by Senator Larry E. Craig (R-ID) which has already passed the Senate. The House conferees would be appointed by Congressman George Miller (D-CA) and the Senate conferees would be appointed by Senator J. Bennet Johnson (D-LA).

Our interest in this legislation is essentially two-fold. First, a number of clubs and individual collectors have operated mining claims for the purpose of recovering specimen material. Second, a number of mines are also operated commercially for the sole purpose of recovering specimen material, e.g. the Sweet Home Mine operated by Brian Lees and associates.

With reference to HR-322, my predecessor John Boland wrote in the May 1993 AFMS Newsletter, *"although these bills were written to extract royalties from the big mining companies, it could destroy the small mining operator who is a major supplier of hobby materials, and close down club and societies mining claims that are used for recreational purposes."*

In contrast, the American Lands Access Association (ALAA) has described S-775 as a "compromise bill" that the mining industry and hobbyists "can live with." If HR-322 has not yet passed the full house, please write your Congressman. If HR-322 has reached the Senate-House conference committee, please write Congressman George Miller and Senator Johnson to express your views.

The Paleontology Legislation

As of this writing, neither the newly redrafted bill of Senator Max Baucus (D-MT) nor the ALAA drafted legislation has been introduced. We are advised by the staff of Congressman Tim Johnson, (D-SD) that they are actively lobbying members of the House Natural Resources Committee and the National Parks, Forests and Public Lands Subcommittee in an attempt to reach a consensus as to the appropriateness of the legislation. We have been assured by Congressman Johnson's staff that they will push forward with this proposed legislation. We are advised that Congressman Joe Skeen (R-NM) and his staff have been working with Congressman Johnson's office to promote the ALAA drafted legislation. Please write to encourage their efforts, especially if you reside in the district of either of these Congressmen.

The California Desert Protection Act of 1993

S-21 introduced by Senator Feinstein (D-CA) was reported out upon by the full Senate in the near future. HR-518 spon-

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE...continued;

sored by Congressman Richard H. Lehman (D-CA) has been the subject of one House committee hearing but, as of this writing, no action by the House committee is pending or scheduled. I hope to obtain a copy of S-21 as amended and report on the amendments in the next AFMS Newsletter. If anyone has any information regarding this legislation please write me at 1628 Crowell Road, Vienna, Virginia 22812.

Write!

Senator _____
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Telephone Senate (202) 224-3121

Congressman _____
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515 House
Telephone House (202) 224-3121

What Can Be Done

Join the ALAA and have a Conservation/
Legislation Liaison appointed for your club.
Clubs should advise me of the name and address
of their club liaison. To the best of my knowl-
edge, the
first such liaison has been appointed by the
Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia.

THINK SPRING! THINK SHOWS!!!!

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| March 12-13 | Roamin Club Annual Auction, Schoolcraft College, Livonia |
| March 26 | Metro Rock Swap (Dearborn Club); 10am-5pm, free; Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., just east of Telegraph. This is a fun event, pick up a flier at the meeting. |
| April 9-10 | Fossil, Gem & Jewelry Show- Columbus OH |
| April 30-May 1 | Gem & Jewelry Show- Kalamazoo |
| May 20-22 | Dearborn Show- Dearborn Civic Center, Fri. 5-10pm; Sat. 10am-8pm; Sun. 11am-5:30pm |
| June 25-26 | MGAGS Rockhound Seminar |

FOSSIL INTEREST GROUP--Connie Snapp

The next meeting of the Fossil Interest Group will be held at the home of Neil and Connie Snapp, 1325 Orlando, Haslett (339-2863) on Friday, January 28 at 7:30pm. The subject will be arthropods (jointed foot animals) including trilobites, banacles, crabs, insects, and eurypterids.

Bring your specimens and perhaps we could have a prize for the meanest looking bug! You may also want to enhance the refreshment table with your specialty. See you then!