

Rockhound News

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 18, 2010

PROGRAM: *The Saginaw Sandstone: A Crystal Repository*

Club member David Westjohn presents a slide show!

REFRESHMENTS: Members with Initials M-Z, Please Bring Goodies

Location & Time: The CMLMS February Meeting will be held on February 18 at 7:30 pm at the North School, 333 E. Miller Rd, Lansing, MI. Please get there a little early to help set up the tables. Enjoy a great slide show about the Saginaw Sandstone and all of its features by club member, David Westjohn.

Calendar for March 2010

March 4, 2010 Board Meeting-7:00 pm at the Okemos Library

March 18, 2010 Membership Meeting at North School. Program is the spring **Silent Auction**. Please see the printable auction form available on the club website, www.michrocks.org. All members should participate! Please start selecting specimens for the Silent Auction and making out the forms for them. Bob Mosher notes that specimens in the Silent Auction should be in sealed containers if they are beautiful but poisonous – like the orange arsenic ore *Realgar*, or the dark red mercury ore *Cinnabar*, or blue-green *cupric arsenate* (called Paris Green, this pigment was used on wallpaper in the late 1800's; as people breathed in the dust from the wallpaper, they became sick and some died).

Club News:

- **2010 Officers are:** President – Roni Sionakides; Vice-President – Richard Lassin; Recording Secretary – Sue Casler; Corresponding Secretary – Mary Anne Smith; Treasurer – Kris Wood; 3 Year Director – David Westjohn; 2 Year Director, Mary Gowan; and 1 Year Director, Bob Mosher.
 - The CMLMS Club Display Chair is **David Westjohn**, who is looking for volunteers to serve on the Display Committee, which will transport and oversee the CMLMS Display at the shows of other clubs.
 - **Milt Gere and Dan Sine** are seeking volunteers and displays for the Okemos *Science is Fun Day*, which will be held on February 20, 2010, from 11 AM to 3 PM at Chippewa Middle School at Okemos Rd. & Kinawa Rd. **Please contact Milt by email or phone if you are interested in helping!**
 - **Roster Secretary Ernie Aughenbaugh:** Dues are now being collected for 2010!!! Please pay your dues or you won't be in the club directory and you won't be able to vote.
 - **Show Chair Roger Laylin:** The 2010 Annual Show will be advertised on four billboards in the Lansing/Mason area this year. Roger tracked down a great billboard rate for nonprofits, and we hope this will increase attendance. Keep an eye open when you travel the freeways in September/October!
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A Message about the CMLMS Website:

Check out the CMLMS website www.michrocks.org for all the new features and materials (information about collecting sites, plus the new Silent Auction form) that have been added. Webmaster Lyle Laylin keeps adding more useful links and features. If you don't have a computer, just go to your local library and learn to use the library's free computers! Classes are available at your local schools and libraries.

Things For Sale: During these cold winter months, a good place to find reading materials is the Book Burrow at Capitol Area District Library downtown. Book Burrow is open Saturdays from 11 am to 4 pm.

Also, Dave Slayton (past-member) has part of his mineral collection on sale in Eaton Rapids. If you are interested, call Dave at 517-663-4161 or slaytondave@juno.com.

MINUTES

CMLMS Board Meeting Minutes, January 17, 2010; Mosher residence, Holt, MI. Meeting convened at 3:15 pm. Present: R. Sionakides, R. Laylin, L. Laylin, J. Martin, M. Gere, M. Gowans, MA. Smith, D. Westjohn, R. Mosher, E. Beane. All absences were excused, since this meeting was a substitute for the one cancelled on January 7, 2010.

President's Report (R Sionakides): A contact information table listing multiple ways of contacting Board members was circulated for editing. Information received from other clubs was passed around for review.

Corresponding Secretary's Report (MA Smith): CMLMS 2010 Officers list was published in the LSJ on 1/12/2010.

One Year Director (R Mosher): Showed current work on sands, including enlarged photographs, descriptions, and collection locations. He is interested in showing others how to work with these mineral and fossil materials.

Three Year Director (M. Gowans): The club needs to reinstate the calling tree, and the Board needs to do the same, particularly for cancelled meetings. Education items – Requests for Petoskey Stone polishing demonstrations are coming in to Kara Miller. The Annual Show - Childrens' Tour will be impacted by the fact that Lansing Schools now teach Earth Science to third grade in the spring, rather than in the fall; a trip to the CMLMS show cannot be justified. Potential substitutes for Lansing School participation may be charter schools and Catholic schools. Mary Anne Smith offered to help in contacting all charter schools authorized by Central Michigan University and Bay Mills Community College.

Display Chair (D Westjohn): Meeting with Roger Laylin to review the condition of display cases, clean & make repairs, review the inventory of specimens, and layout new arrangements. Dan Sine will help review the logistics of moving the display, setting it up and taking it down. Ruth Ann Lehner has volunteered to help with repairs and cleaning. The Display Committee needs more volunteers.

Field Trip Education (D Westjohn): List of potential Michigan field trips includes – Shelby Gem Factory (with slide show) in Hart off Rt 31 near Muskegon, could be tied to local show; Blue Ridge quarry, off I-127 south of Jackson; (this trip could also include glacial geology, a spur of the Mason Esker, and a Marshall Sandstone exposure); and Belleville quarry with galena, pyrite, and calcite. The Tulip City club (Bob Sherwood) plans a western trip each year, and other Michigan club members may join in all or part of its itinerary.

Publications Chair (E Beane): We have gained some new members (which is good), but newsletter copying costs and postage keep going up (which is bad). At some point, we will need to go totally to electronic delivery of the newsletter (email & website) OR add a surcharge on dues for members who want mailed copies. Quotes are being sought from small print shops for newsletter printing, folding, tabbing, addressing, and mailing. We'll see if this is feasible within the current budget.

Education Chair (J Martin): The Education Committee is making a presentation to a Young Adult Group in May. D Westjohn has offered ideas for education activities for the club: He has done a presentation on Michigan industrial minerals for Potterville Schools Science Day, including Show & Tell and a lecture. It might be more effective and efficient to do educational presentations for groups of teachers, who could then be mentored as they did classroom presentations. The PowerPoint Presentation includes state information on limestone, sand, gravel, and other industrial minerals; the PPT could be recorded on a DVD or CD and given to teachers and the Michigan Science Teachers Association. Lyle Laylin indicated that he could help with DVD production.

Show Chair (R Laylin): Ideas for the Childrens' Tour and the Annual Show include: a section where kids could make up their own mineral kits from baskets of samples and labels; a gumball machine (used) loaded with small agates; & a gem, mineral, and fossil identification booth with books as references (but no valuations).

M Gere commented that Okemos Science Is Fun Day (Feb. 20) offers 7 tables for CMLMS exhibits, so we need people to volunteer and bring materials.

Places to Go and Things to Do

February 27-28. Roseville, MN. Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club's Pre-Spring Show. Har Mar Mall, Snelling at Co. Rd. B, Sat 10-6, Sun 12-5. Contact Martha Miss, 8445 Grange Blvd, Cottage Grove, MN 55016, 651-459-0343, rockbiz8@cs.com.

March 5-7. Richmond, IN. Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society's Annual Show. Wayne Co. Fairgrounds, 861 N. Salisbury Rd., Fri 9-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-4. Contact John LaMont, 14158 State Rt. 1, Brookville, IN 47012, 765-647-4894, midwestchar@peoplepc.com.

March 13-14. Macomb IL. Geodeland Earth Science Clubs, Inc. 30th Annual Show. Western Illinois Univ. Student Union, Murray St, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5. Contact Dennis Bomke, 6240 Whimsy Hill Ln., Springfield, IL 62707, 217-546-4096, dbomke@comcast.net.

March 19-21. Jackson, MI. Michigan Gem & Mineral Society 48th Annual Gem and Rock Show. Jackson County Fair Grounds, Fair Event Center, 200 W. Ganson St, Fri 10-7, Sat 10-7, Sun 10-5. Check www.mgmsrockclub.com.

March 20-21. Cedar Rapids, IA. Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society's Annual Show. Teamsters Union Hall, 500 J St. SW, Sat 8:30-6, Sun 9:30-5. Contact Marv Houg, 1820 30th St. Dr. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403, 319-364-2868, m_houg@yahoo.com.