

# ROCKHOUND NEWS

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 16, 2012**

**PROGRAM: "It Started With A Rock Collection--Charles Darwin, Geologist"**

**REFRESHMENTS: Members with Initials M–Z, Please Bring Goodies**

**Location and Time:** The CMLMS February Meeting will be held on February 16, 2012, at 7:30 pm, at the North School, 333 E. Miller Road, Lansing, Michigan. Please get there a little early to help set up the tables.

**Danita Brandt, PhD**, MSU, will present a program on Charles Darwin as geologist.

## Calendar for March 2012

March 1, 2012 Board Meeting–7:00 pm at the Okemos Public Library

March 15, 2012 Membership Meeting at North School, 7:30 pm.–CMLMS Annual Silent Auction

**DUES ARE NOW OVERDUE!!! Please see Ernie Aughenbaugh to get paid up!!!**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Now is a good time to be of service to your society. There is always need for help with various projects and committees. Please think of lending a hand for any of our committees, becoming an officer, and getting to know us better. We are a fun group!!!

**Display committee:** A new committee chair is needed. We also need a person or persons to take the beautiful new cub display cases to shows put on by other mineral, lapidary and gem clubs in Michigan. If you are going to a Michigan show, please consider taking the club's display with you. Call or email Jan Sjoquist to join the committee or President Elaine Beane if you would like to be chairperson.

**Show committee:** Show Chair *Pro Tempore*, Roger Laylin, needs an apprentice to help with the 2012 show committee and who will be willing to take over the show chair position. Call or email Roger Laylin to join the committee or President Elaine Beane if you would like to be chairperson.

**Outreach Committee:** Always in need of volunteers to help with school science fairs, talks and presentations at schools and other organizations, and educational opportunities. Contact committee chair Mary Gowans to lend a hand.

## ALWAYS WANTED

Needed for the show and outreach are clean styrofoam egg cartons, about 1,000 and quantities of specimens for the show's children's tables; polished rocks, about 2" diameter, for Ele's Place; Petoskey stones (not Alpena type) for the show and outreach.

## CLUB NEWS

**UPDATE YOUR INFO:** Now is the time to update any changes in your address, phone number, e-mail address. Contact publications and roster chairs.

**LOST AND FOUND:** An attender at the show last fall lost a crucifix attached to a red, black, white and blue beaded necklace. She thinks she may have lost it at the show. Please let Theresa Hubbard know if you found one.

**2012 Banquet will be on May 17:** Volunteers are needed for tickets, hospitality table, decorations, and overall coordination. Please volunteer now. Let's have another successful and fun evening!

**Field Trips!** See Dan Sine to sign up and for more information.

- ☐ **February 25, Alabastine Gypsum Mine in Grand Rapids** (\$2.00 fee). There are a number of requirements for entering this mine. It is a good idea to read all the guidance materials before signing up. If you want to join the February field trip, contact organizer Kreigh Tomaszewski from the Indian Mounds Club at kreigh@tomaszewski.net.
- ☐ **March Basement Field Trips:** This is a good opportunity to visit some basements to see some rock collections and chat with other collectors. Since travel is involved to the various basements of at least an hour away, plan to carpool if possible. Take a camera, plan lunch with friends, and have a wonder time! Contact organizer Kreigh Tomaszewski from the Indian Mounds Club at kreigh@tomaszewski.net for more information.

Kalamazoo Club

- ☐ Jerry & Allison VanNocker, March 10, 10 am, 13101 E. Armour Lane, Battle Creek, MI

Mid-Michigan Rock Club

- ☐ Bill & Barbara Tite, March 10, 10 am, 5408 Michael Street, Bay City, MI

Tulip City Club

- ☐ Ken & Betty Hoekstra, March 10, 2 pm, 580 Julie Street, Hudsonville, MI

Indian Mounds club

- ☐ Don & Lois VanDyke, March 24, 10 am, 4296 Oakview, Hudsonville, MI

- ☐ Gordon & Nancy Spalenka, March 24, 2 pm, 2119 Waldron Street NW, Wyoming, MI

**Science Fairs:** Put on your calendar and volunteer to help out! Always a lot of fun! Sign up sheets at February and March membership meetings.

- ☐ **March 7, 2012**, Bennett Woods Elementary School, Okemos, Science Fair, 6:30 - 8 pm.

- ☐ **April 11, 2012**, Fairview Elementary School, Lansing, 6 - 9 pm.

**PLACES TO GO AND THINGS TO DO—Check [www.amfed.org/mwf](http://www.amfed.org/mwf)**

## CMLMS MINUTES

### Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society, Board Meeting, January 5, 2011

**Board Members Present:** Elaine Beane, Sue Casler, Jan Sjoquist, Theresa Hubbard, Kris Wood, Bob Mosher, Milt Gere, Ernie Aughenbaugh, Alan Hukill, Roni Sionakides, Dan Sine, Kara Miller, Roger Laylin, Mary Gowans. [Board Members Absent: Lyle Laylin, Gordon Lewis, Elaine Angstman]

**President:** Elaine Beane called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. The officer list was reviewed, corrected, and needs identified for vacant positions of show chair and display chair. The Midwest Federation requested our club logo for their use. That request will be forwarded to Lyle Laylin to transmit logo electronically.

**Vice President:** Sue Casler reported January speaker, Trisha Smrecak, will present: "Marcellus Shale of PA, OH, WV: a look at unconventional natural gas drilling in the East Coast and the importance of public outreach."

**Recording Secretary:** Jan Sjoquist, no report. December minutes will be in the January newsletter.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Theresa Hubbard, no report.

**Treasurer:** Kris Wood presented December, 2011 report.

**Directors:** Bob Mosher (1-yr.), Lyle Laylin (2-yr.) absent, Milt Gere (3-yr.), no reports.

**Roster Secretary:** Ernie Aughenbaugh is still collecting dues. They are due in January.

**Liaison Officer:** Alan Hukill, no report.

**Past President:** Roni Sionakides, no report.

**Membership:** Elaine Angstman (absent), no report.

**Education:** Kara Miller and Jennifer Martin did Petoskey stone polishing for 86 students at Post Oak Elementary School today. They are in the need of more Petoskey stones and favosites that will accept polish (not Alpena stones).

**Outreach:** Mary Gowans needs members to go to schools for presentations of only ½ hour. If you have something to share, an area of interest or expertise, or an interesting specimen with information to donate, see Mary. Times throughout the day are available. A sign-up sheet was circulated. Dan Sine was contacted by a Cub Scout leader about a presentation for a merit badge. Questions were generated with more information needed. Dan will do follow-up contact. Theresa Hubbard suggested having a printed product to promote CMLMS. Various forms suggested; brochure, business card, tri-fold flier, show bills (will be available soon). Roni, Theresa and Elaine will consult. Roni Sionakides still needs volunteers of all abilities to help with Darwin Discovery Days at MSU, February 12, 2012. Last week to sign up and get shirts. Saturday dates available through April 24. Dan Sine has prepared 313 gifts for the event.

**Field Trips:** Dan Sine-Spaces still available for the trips to the Gypsum Mine in January and February. Contact: Kreigh@Tomaszewski.net

**Publications:** Roni Sionakides, no report.

**Library:** Lee Laylin, no report.

**Finance:** Gordon Lewis, absent, no report.

**Webmaster:** absent

**Show Chair:** Roger Laylin (Pro Tempore). Show wrap-up meeting: February 7, 2012, 6:30 PM at the Laylin's; open to all. All the allotted show transport funds were used to bus students. Truck help is needed to transport rocks from Clarksville, MI.

**Display:** Jan Sjoquist, no report, new chair needed.

**Old Business:** Discussion will be held at the January membership meeting about banquet committee, dates and price. Committee Chair positions discussed earlier.

**New Business:** Roger Laylin informed the board that the glass display case and collection needs to be removed from Fenner Nature Center. Discussion ensued about what to do with the large case. Theresa Hubbard volunteered to enlist another science teacher from St. Johns Schools to visit Fenner to determine if the school could use the case. CMLMS would donate the case. President Elaine Beane will be setting up an Ad Hoc Remodeling Committee to consider a new club model for efficiency and for attractiveness to members.

**Adjournment:** Kara Miller moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mary Gowans. Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM

Respectfully submitted, Jan Sjoquist, Recording Secretary

### **Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society, Membership Meeting, January 19, 2012**

**Call to Order:** The January 19, 2012 meeting was called to order by President Elaine Beane at 7:40 pm at the North Elementary School, Lansing, Michigan.

**Welcome and Introduction of Guests/Visitors:** New member, Alan Robords, and the guest speaker Trisha Smrecak were welcomed.

**Minutes of Last Meeting:** The minutes of the 2011 membership meetings of June 16, November 17, December 13 and the board meeting of December 1, 2011 were printed in the January 2012 newsletter. The minutes of the board meeting on January 5, 2012 were submitted and will be available in the February, 2012 newsletter.

**Treasurer's Report:** No report, treasurer absent.

#### **Announcements:**

*President Elaine Beane:*

- ☐ An unidentified piece of jewelry was lost at the CMLMS show. If found, contact Theresa Hubbard or Elaine Beane.
- ☐ Informational materials were shared about Darwin Discovery Days, the American Federation, "extinct" Galapagos Island tortoises, and upcoming shows/sales.

*Dan Sine:*

- ☐ Sign up for Darwin Discovery Days, Sunday, February 12, 1-5pm and weekend slots through April and the Okemos Science Fair, February 18, 11:00 am to 3:00pm. Help is needed; a lot of empty slots.
- ☐ Is doing a geology presentation on types of rock for seventeen Scouts in Howell on Tuesday, January 24, 2012.
- ☐ States there is space available to sign up for gypsum mine trip in February. Info in newsletter.

*Neil Snepp, CMLMS spring banquet:*

**Motion was made by Roger Laylin, seconded by Sue Casler, to have a banquet. Motion made by Dan Sine and seconded by Sue Casler to have chicken served. Motion was made by Roger Laylin and seconded by Neil Snepp to charge the actual cost of \$ 10 per ticket, with student (under 12 years old) ticket \$5.**

**Additional banquet costs will be absorbed by the club. All motions were approved by the membership.** Dan Sine will have the tickets printed and available at the February board meeting. The Spring banquet will be held at the Okemos Masonic Temple on Thursday, May, 17, 2012. Neil will also request that site for the June 21, 2012 membership meeting.

*Roger Laylin, show:*

- ☐ Shared a letter from the MSU Geology Club thanking us for our monetary contribution of \$400 and for the learning opportunity our show provided to students.
  - ☐ Invited all interested members to the show wrap-up meeting at the Laylin's on February 7, 2012 at 7:00 pm. New ideas, comments, etc. will be solicited.
  - ☐ Expressed appreciation to all who have helped him to provide smooth-running, successful shows throughout his years in the position of show chair.
  - ☐ Availed himself to help whomever would be willing to take the position(s) of show chair or co-chairs.
- The membership responded with a show of appreciation for all of Roger and Lee's dedication, time, energy, expertise and goodwill in promoting the purpose of CMLMS through the annual show.

*Milt Gere:*

- ☐ Received a correspondence from someone who was interested in locating pudding stones and chert in Michigan. Milt has email address for responders.

**Door Prizes:** Dan Sine provided ten door prizes that were awarded by drawing numbers.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Sherry Sparks to adjourn the meeting; second by Neil Snepp.

Respectfully Submitted, Janet Sjoquist, Recording Secretary

### **Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society, Board Meeting, February 2, 2012**

**Board Members Present:** Elaine Beane, Sue Casler, Jan Sjoquist, Theresa Hubbard, Bob Mosher, Milt Gere, Lyle Laylin, Alan Hukill, Roni Sionakides, Dan Sine, Mary Gowans, Gordon Lewis, Roger Laylin. [Board Members Absent: Kris Wood, Ernie Aughenbaugh, Elaine Angstman, Kara Miller, Jennifer Martin.] Guests: George Heaton

**President:** Elaine Beane called the meeting to order at 7:09pm and shared this information:

- ☐ Science Fun Day will be held at the Okemos High School on February 18, 2012, from 11:00 am until 3:00pm. Set up can begin at 9:00am. Workers are needed.
- ☐ Fairview Elementary School will have their science fair on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 6:00 pm. Volunteers are needed. See Dan Sine to sign- up. Roni will create a sign-up sheet and bring to the next membership meeting.

Sign-up sheet for Science Fun Day at Okemos was passed around.

**Vice President:** Sue Casler presented the program plans for the membership meetings:

- ☐ February: "It Started with a Rock Collection," about Charles Darwin. Presenter is Danita Brandt, PhD, from MSU.
- ☐ March: Silent auction.
- ☐ April: "Geology of Michigan," video presentation.
- ☐ May: CMLMS Banquet.
- ☐ June: Work Party! Egg carton project, etc.

**Recording Secretary:** Jan Sjoquist said January Board and Membership meeting minutes will be in the February newsletter.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Theresa Hubbard will send a sympathy card to Ernie Aughenbaugh whose brother passed away. This information was relayed by Milt Gere.

**Treasurer:** Kris Wood was absent but emailed the January treasurer's report.

**Directors:** Bob Mosher (1-yr.): No report. Lyle Laylin (2-yr.): See report under "Webmaster." Milt Gere (3-yr.): Informed us of the death of the brother of Ernie Aughenbaugh.

**Roster Secretary:** Ernie Aughenbaugh absent.

**Liaison Officer:** Alan Hukill had No report

**Past President:** Roni Sionakides reminded about Darwin Discovery Days. Set up at the MSU Museum starts at

4:00 pm on Saturday, February 11, 2012. Dan and Roger will be there.

**Membership:** Elaine Angstman, absent. Milt provided information about prospective new member, Alan Robords of Charlotte. **Dan made a motion “to accept Alan Robords into membership”** and Mary Gowans seconded the motion. Vote was taken, the motion was passed. Welcome, Alan, to CMLMS!

**Education:** Kara Miller/Jennifer Martin, absent.

**Outreach:** Mary Gowans is researching school science curriculum. She stated that grades 1-3 focus primarily on fossils; grades 4-5 on fossils and some rocks, and grade 6 on minerals and rocks. Mary’s vision is to put together educational kits that are grade appropriate and are user-friendly for volunteers to present in classrooms.

**Field Trip Chair:** Dan Sine has had a good response for the February Grand Rapids Gypsum Mine trip. Dan circulated information on “Basement Field Trips” during March in which CMLMS was invited to participate. The specifics will be printed in the February CMLMS newsletter. This is an opportunity to enjoy the specimens of many different collectors in southern Michigan.

**Publications Chair:** Roni Sionakides has revamped the CMLMS Newsletter design to accommodate her system and to give the newsletter a new look. Discussion about including a “Wanted” section to procure needed materials for club use (egg cartons, polished rocks, specimens, etc.).

**Finance Chair:** Gordon Lewis presented copies of the approved 2012 budget.

**Webmaster:** Lyle Laylin gave Director/Webmaster report: There are two logos that have been used by CMLMS. The “old” logo reproduces better and Lyle would like to use it. The newer logo has “Lansing” in a diagonal that does not reproduce clearly. Mary Gowans made a motion to **“Use the old logo without the word Lansing as our official logo”**. The motion received a second by Sue Casler. A vote was taken and the motion was passed. We will now use the triangular design without the word Lansing but with “Central Michigan” banner.

**Show Chair:** (*Pro Tempore*) Roger Laylin reminded us of the wrap up meeting at his home on Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at 7:00PM. Roger would like to have new show fliers printed to accommodate a tri-fold design for use at MDOT service centers. Theresa Hubbard validated this design for her show use also. Roger will follow up with Ernie about the costs, numbers, etc. Roger shared some excellent informational websites with teaching materials and pictures:

**Mii.org**            **Mineral.net**

**Display Chair:** (*Pro Tempore*) Jan Sjoquist had no report.

**Old Business:** President Elaine Beane lifted up the need for volunteers to fill vacant positions and to fill slots in the banquet committee. Please help!! These are short -term commitments. Theresa Hubbard and another St. John’s Public School teacher hope to visit Fenner and make a decision about the glass display case soon.

**New Business:** Tabled.

**Adjournment:** **Mary Gowans made a motion to adjourn the meeting;** seconded by Sue Casler. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jan Sjoquist, Recording Secretary

## SHARING

Reprinted from *The Living Stones*, the official publication of the Livingston Gem and Mineral Society, January 2012.

### HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

The Livingston Gem & Mineral Society has been very fortunate to have among its active members, the very people who are responsible for the success of this society. I know that many of you who now enjoy the benefits of their hard work would like to know a little more about them. I would like to pass along a little of their history to you as their stories become available to me.

Ladies first...Hazel Morgan is well known to many of you and just recently I was able to sit down with her to talk about her life and the early history of our club. Hazel has a long history of taking on leadership positions, both as President (twice) and for her many tours of duty on the Board of Directors. Her knowledge of Geology and Mineralogy is impressive and most sought after when it comes to identifying stones, minerals and fossils. Hazel was born here in Livingston County in the middle of the "Roaring Twenties" and has resided in the Silver Lake area for most of her life. She attended McDonald Grade School and graduated from Brighton High School in 1942. College soon followed and she received a Pharmacy Degree in 1947.

Hazel and her husband Clarence became interested in Mineralogy in 1965 and their interest in the Lapidary Arts soon followed. Collecting mineral specimens and polishing equipment came next. Hazel, Clarence and their three daughters traveled out west in their camper trailer many times and came back with an impressive collection of stones, fossils and artifacts. They also collected many friends and like-minded rock hounds in their travels.

The Morgans first joined the Lansing Rock Club in 1967 (the LGMS didn't even exist at that time) and Hazel became their President in 1973 (Just as Johnny Johnson and Nelson Short were starting the LGMS). As President of the Lansing Club, Hazel made full use of the Midwest Federation's vast library of educational programs to help the members understand and appreciate the fine points of their most interesting hobby. When Hazel became President of the LGMS, she put together all she learned in Lansing and shared all that knowledge with us here in Hartland. Many are the times she brought in film libraries and slide shows.

Hazel now resides in Brooklyn, Michigan with her mother and daughter. It's a long drive from Brooklyn to Hartland but Hazel does it routinely and sometimes brings her mother along. We fervently hope that we will continue to see her in our workshop for just as long as she would like to grace us with her presence.

Respectfully Submitted  
Chuck Amberger  
Club Historian