

CMLMS
15785 Park Lake Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

**TIME VALUE
FIRST CLASS**

Rockhound News—March, 2016

Official publication of the
**Central Michigan Lapidary and
Mineral Society**
Affiliated with MWF and AFMS

**Silent Auction
Issue**



Rockhound News

This bulletin is the official publication of the Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society of greater Lansing, Michigan. It is published 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 and celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 2007.

Meeting place: Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Street, Okemos, MI

Regular meeting date: Third Thursday, except July and August

Meeting time: 7:30 p.m., doors are open at 7:00 p.m.

Annual Dues: Adults \$10.00; Families \$15.00; Students under 18 \$2.00

Board meetings: First Tuesday, except July and August; 7:00 p.m., Okemos Library

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Affiliated With

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

<http://www.amfed.org/mwf/>

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

<http://www.amfed.org>

ROCKHOUND NEWS

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 17, 2016

PROGRAM: Annual Silent Auction

REFRESHMENTS: Members with Initials M-Z Please Bring Goodies

Location and Time: The CMLMS membership meeting will be held on March 17, 2016, at 7:30 p.m., at the **Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Street, beautiful downtown Okemos.**

Calendar for Winter 2016 and later

March 16, 2016 - Bennett Woods Elementary School, Okemos, Science Night

March 17, 2016 - 7:30 p.m., membership meeting, silent auction

April 5, 2016 - board meeting, TUESDAY, 7 p.m., Okemos Library

April 21, 2016 - 7:30 p.m., membership meeting, Sally Labadie, mammoths

[Editor's note: the deadline for the newsletter is now the Sunday after the board meeting]

ORANGE BARREL ALERT!!!

Okemos Road where the humpback bridge crosses the Red Cedar River has been undergoing repairs since last year. It is now nearly completely blocked. Plan to travel to the Masonic Center using routes other than Okemos Road between Hamilton and Mount Hope.

SILENT AUCTION IS COMING - BRING LOTS TO SELL!!

Silent Auction information: Now is the time to start thinking about rockcleaning (a more weighty form of housecleaning!) and get together those items you want to contribute to the silent auction. Mineral specimens, jewelry, rock-related equipment, books/magazines may be sold at the silent auction. Auction sheets are available at the CMLMS website - www.michrocks.org. It is on the Home Page. There is a hyperlink to the auction sheets. They can be printed out with either 2 or 3 sheets per page. Please have your auction sheets filled out when you arrive. But if you forget there should be a few available at the meeting. **Also bring change for cashing out.**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

The Vice-President's position is vacant. Let President, Sue Casler, or a board member know if you have any ideas for speakers, or other programs.

March 17, 2016 - Annual Silent Auction; mineral beryl, variety aquamarine.

April 21, 2016 - Sally Labadie, mammoths, mineral diamond

May 19, 2016 - Annual banquet, mineral beryl, variety emerald

June 16, 2016 - Show work bee

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Susanne St. Charles of Mason

Richard and Leejean Sobata and Jacob Grub of Webberville

MINERAL OF THE MONTH

The board has decided to offer a **Mineral of the Month** feature at membership meetings to encourage society participation. Members can bring in samples of their specimens with a chance to speak briefly about them. This year will feature birthstones. March's birthstone is aquamarine. Everyone go through your stash and bring in samples of aquamarines. Samples can include not only the mineral but beads, jewelry, etc.

Message from Roster Secretary Ernie Aughenbaugh Dues are now being collected for 2016

Please keep in mind that December 31 of each year is the actual date your dues should be paid to the society so the board can plan accordingly for publishing an annual directory and insurance for each member for field trips. Also, if you receive your newsletter or any other notifications by electronic means, PLEASE NOTIFY THE BOARD IF YOU HAVE A CHANGE IN YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HOSPITALITY AND VARIOUS CHAIRS

We need members willing to set up hospitality on membership meeting nights. Please consider taking a few minutes to help out.

Show chair is open. Currently the board will pick up the duties but a permanent chairperson is needed.

Library chair is open. Please let the board know if you are interested in either position.

CLUB NEWS

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. gowans@msu.edu or 517-351-6135.

Bennett Woods Elementary School, Okemos, on March 16, set up is 5:30 pm and the fair is from 6 pm to 8 pm. If you are interested, email Mary Gowans. Let me know how many tables you will need and if you will need electricity.

If you have questions about volunteering, please email me at gowans@msu.edu.
Mary Gowans, Outreach Chair

Also Fairview Elementary School Science Night is coming up on April 20, 6 -8 p.m. More later.

Library: Check out the new books in the library boxes. Always something in there, old or new, for all interests.

Field Trips!

None scheduled at this time. See Dan Sine to sign up and for more information. Cell phone 517-316-5713 or daniel.sine@opm.gov. Dan would like to set up an email list of all who plan to go on the field trips. Please contact him if interested in getting emails as field trips are set up.

Minimum age for a quarry is 12. No children under 12 will be allowed at the quarries (their rule). Trips to other collecting sites may have no minimum, or maximum, age requirement. Safety rules in the **Field Trip Guide** are posted at the society website. They should be reviewed, printed

out and **taken to every field trip**. Also, insurance coverage for the field trips by the Federation is very limited. It provides only for damage that members might do on-site. There is no personal injury coverage; no coverage underground. Coverage is only for members, so our policy is that field trips are only for members. Members should review this insurance information on our website. Let Dan know of any other locations and contact information that you may know about and would like to visit. Dan does a fabulous job getting these field trips lined up for club members so please take a moment to thank him personally for all his work.

**PLACES TO GO AND THINGS TO DO—Check www.amfed.org/mwf
or our website www.michrocks.org**

**FoundMichigan, an online magazine on culture in Michigan—www.foundmichigan.org
Check out our website for items for sale. There are links to eBay and Craig's List.**

UPCOMING SHOWS

March 18-20: JACKSON, MI - Michigan Gem and Mineral Society Show. Friday 10-7, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 11-5, Jackson County Fairgrounds, West Ganson. Contact Sally 517-522-3396.

March 19: TAYLOR, MI - Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society of Michigan Rock Swap. 10 - 5 St. John's Lutheran Church 13115 Telegraph Rd., Taylor. Contact Lou Talley, (734) 259-8532; ltalley1970@gmail.com www.mmls.us.

April 7-9: WYOMING, MI - Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show. Roger's Plaza, 28th St at Clyde Park, Wyoming. Thurs & Fri. 9:30 - 9; Sat 9:30 - 8. Contact Kreigh Tomaszewski, (616) 243-5851; kreigh@gmail.com www.indianmoundsrockclub.com.

CMLMS MINUTES

CMLMS, Membership Meeting, February 18, 2016

Call to Order: President Sue Casler called the meeting to order at 7:40pm at the Okemos Masonic Hall.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests/Visitors: Visitors included Stewart Powell of Linn and Owen Jewelers and Steve Wilson. New members Sue St. Charles and the Sobotta family were also at the meeting.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: The January Membership Meeting minutes and the February Board Meeting minutes were printed in the February Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Elaine Beane submitted her report of January 1 through January 29.

Announcements:

Sue went over the upcoming programs through June: March - Annual silent Auction; April - Sally Labadie will have a program on mammoths; May - Annual Banquet; June - show work bee; July/August - summer break.

Sue also listed the board positions open: Vice President, unfilled; Finance - Milt Gere will take the position.

Banquet tickets price will be determined after Roger Laylin contacts the Masonic lodge. Chicken will be the dinner option as voted on at the meeting.

Dan Sine read a letter from Irving Materials explaining that they will no longer be accommodating field trips and collection at their Indiana sites. He will contact Ohio quarries and LaFarge to arrange collection trips. He has not contacted Greymont or Paulding. Sue mentioned collection opportunities in the Keweenaw through Copper country Rock and Mineral Club. They have Keweenaw Week August 5-14, 2016. Theresa also said she had heard

the gypsum mine in Grand Rapids was no longer offering collecting opportunities.

Roger Laylin said that the Donley Elementary School Science Night had members Dave Berquist, Theresa Hubbard, Roni Sionakides and himself set up displays. He passed out 65 old exit gifts to the attenders.

Mineral of the Month: February birthstone, amethyst was presented by Theresa Hubbard. Several members contributed samples of amethyst and jewelry for a display during the meeting.

March's feature will be **aquamarine**. Members are asked to bring in specimens, stories, or information about aquamarine for display or discussion during the meeting.

Door Prizes: Dan Sine had 11 prizes.

Adjournment: John Crockett **made a motion to adjourn the meeting**. The motion was supported by Diane Baclawski. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Program: Stewart Powell talked about the history of Linn and Owen Jewelers in downtown Lansing and about gems, answering many questions from the membership.

Respectfully Submitted, Roni Sionakides, Acting Recording Secretary

CMLMS, Board Meeting, March 1, 2016

The board meeting was cancelled because of bad weather.

BERYL: VARIETY AQUA MARINE - MINERAL OF THE MONTH

Word origin by Roni Sionakides

The word beryl is derived from Greek *beryllos* or *berullos*, meaning beryl stone (via Latin *beryllus*, Old French *beryl*, and Middle English *beril*) and related to Prakrit (Middle Indo-Aryan) *verulia*, *veluriya*, beryl and Old Persian *ballur*, crystal [*An Etymological Dictionary of Modern English*]. The Medieval meaning of the word was "crystal." Thayer's *Lexicon of Greek-English of the New Testament* defines beryl as a precious stone of a pale green color [From Pliny and used in Revelations, 21:20 "the eighth beryl"]. It is a very old word with origins in the Indo-European diaspora which led to the various languages found in Europe, the Middle East, and the Indus Valley. Beryllium is also from the Greek *beryllion* or *berullion*. Only the ending changes; the root is the same. The 'E' in both words is an eta or the 'H'-shaped vowel that transliterates into an 'E' (Erasmian) or an 'I' (modern European). The 'Y' is a Greek upsilon which transliterates into either a 'U' or and 'Y'. Either form is used in ancient Greek writing.

After all that excitement, aquamarine comes from the Latin, aqua, water and marina, sea. Seawater! Pretty straightforward! If you need to fancy it up, the French is aigue-marine.

AQUA MARINE VARIETY OF BERYL--DID YOU KNOW?

From Theresa Hubbard, source Wikipedia

An ancient gem, Bloodstone (Heliotrope), had long served as the primary March birthstone along with Jasper up until 1912. However, the National Association of Jewelers adopted a standard list of birthstones, switching the primary and alternate gems, thus Aquamarine has become the modern birth stone for the month of March.

Aquamarine (Be₃Al₂Si₆O₁₈) is almost universally found in cavities in pegmatites or in alluvial deposits, and forms larger, clearer crystals than emerald. One transparent crystal from Brazil weighed 245 pounds. Before 1925, it was used solely as a gemstone, however since then many important uses have been found for beryllium. Common beryl is a beryllium aluminum silicate that is now widely used as the ore of this rare element. Beryllium is used to regulate the flow of neutrons in beryllium moderated nuclear reactors.

Common beryl ranges in color from tan to pale green, pale or sky blue, or yellowish. The pale blue color of aquamarine is attributed to Fe²⁺. Fe³⁺ ions produce a golden-yellow color, and when both Fe²⁺ and Fe³⁺ are present, the color is a darker blue as in maxixe. Beryl of various colors is found most commonly in granitic pegmatites, but also occurs in mica schists in the Ural Mountains, and limestone in Colombia. Beryl is often associated with tin and tungsten ore bodies. New England's pegmatites have produced some of the largest beryls found, including one massive crystal from the Bumpus Quarry in Albany, Maine with dimensions 5.5 by 1.2 m (18.0 by 3.9 ft) with a mass of around 18 metric tons; it is New Hampshire's state mineral. As of 1999, the world's largest known naturally occurring crystal of any mineral is a crystal of beryl from Malakialina, Madagascar, 18m (59ft) long and 3.5m (11ft) in diameter, and weighing 380,000kg (840,000 lbs).

In the United States, aquamarines can be found at the summit of Mt. Antero in the Sawatch Range in central Colorado. In Wyoming, aquamarine has been discovered in the Big Horn Mountains, near Powder River Pass. Another location within the United States is the Sawtooth Range near Stanley, Idaho, although the minerals are within a wilderness area which prevents collecting. In Brazil, there are mines in the states of Minas Gerais, Espirito Santo, and Bahia, and minorly in Rio Grande do Norte. The mines of Colombia, Zambia, Madagascar, Malawi, Tanzania and Kenya also produce aquamarine.

The largest aquamarine of gemstone quality ever mined was found in Marambaia, Minas Gerais, Brazil, in 1910. It weighed over 110 kg (240 lb), and measured 48.5 cm (19 in) long and 42 cm (17 in) in diameter. The largest cut aquamarine gem is the Dom Pedro aquamarine, now housed in the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History.

In ancient times, aquamarine amulets engraved with Poseidon were thought to protect sailors.

**HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S
DAY**

and

HAPPY EASTER!