

*****DO YOU HAVE A RED DOT ON YOUR MAILING LABEL??? IF SO, YOUR DUES ARE DUE-- SEND THE \$ TO BESSY IF YOU WISH TO CONTINUE MEMBERSHIP.

Editor's note: A few of you have probably found out by now that I had a surprise appendectomy very early this past Monday morning (3/6). The hospital stay was a little longer than usual as the appendix had begun to rupture. Got home yesterday (3/10). So, here we are again with another rough, somewhat short newsletter -- gads. Hope to see you Thursday, Jean Ann

PRESIDENT'S CORNERSTONE

This has been a very busy month. Our club members have been talking to school kids, taken part in the Michigan Science Teachers Conference and gone on a nice field trip. Our club still needs some help with coordinating the refreshment for our meetings. If you can help give me a call.

I would like to thank all who have sent cards and have called on the phone during Barb's illness. Your thoughts and prayers have been very much appreciated. See you at the next meeting.

Chuck Smith

MARCH PROGRAM: ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION (jawn)

This is your annual chance to clean the workshop and part with some of your excess rocks, minerals, findings, tools, etc. Anything hobby related is acceptable. The auction involves heated bidding wars and light footed leaps around the table, hoping to add something new to your own collection. It's sort of the annual migration of materials from one rock house to another. Gordon Lewis will be in charge of this event.

IF YOU HAVE THINGS TO SELL: Bid slips including a brief description of the item, your name, and the minimum bid need to be attached to each item you wish to put up for auction. **BE SURE TO FILL OUT THE TOP & BOTTOM PORTION OF YOUR TAG!** Failure to do so makes it nearly impossible to get the money in the proper hands. Gordon will have plenty of tags available at the meeting. **All** money goes to the person who sells the item, not to the club.

HOW TO BUY: Bring lots of small denomination bills and change, a few bigger bills might come in handy as well. Hard core bidders may want their own pencil. No bids may be placed before the auction begins. You must begin with the stated minimum, and increases must be at least 10 cents. At the sound of the horn, all bidding must stop. **THE ITEM GOES TO THE LAST COMPLETED BID.**

NEW MEMBER (jawn)

Welcome to our newest member, Marvin Oesterle. Marvin is a farmer, and enjoys mineralogy and lapidary crafts. His address: 877 Hagadorn Rd., Mason MI 48854; phone 676-2508.

MARCH FIELD TRIP TO HUNTSVILLE, OHIO MARCH 25-- George Heaton

The field trip for March will be to the Duff Quarry at Huntsville Ohio on Saturday,

March 25th. We will meet at the quarry office at 10:00 am on Saturday morning. **All field trippers must wear a hard hat, hard toed boots, and safety glasses or goggles.** Tools needed are: chisels in both large and small sizes, crack hammers of 2-3 lb. size, and a pry bar and sledge hammer of 8-10 lb. size are often useful. The sledge hammer and a long pry bar can also be used as a cane to help you back to your car should you happen to injure your foot or ankle. Also don't forget wrapping paper and boxes for packing specimens. Minerals to be found include bright, lustrous pyrite crystals of unusual crystal habits, dolomite, sphalerite, calcite and fluorite.

The November-September 1987 issue of the Mineralogical Record has an article about Duff Quarry and it's minerals, with photos and line drawings of the various crystal habits of pyrite found there. If you do not subscribe to this journal you might check our club library.

To get to Duff Quarry, take I-75 south in Ohio to Rt. 235. Go south on Rt. 117 to Duff Quarry on your left, just before coming into Huntsville. Allow about 4 hours driving time from Lansing to Huntsville Ohio.

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY SERVICE--Florence Hill

The mineral of the month this time is aragonite, a calcium carbonate. David Piotrowski will give the short talk.

Grit Turner gave a talk on rocks and minerals to fifteen young people at the Eaton County Juvenile Facility at Charlotte, Thursday, Feb. 23. He said the class and their teachers had questions waiting for him, and showed a lot of interest.

Many thanks to all who gave their time and efforts to our booth at the Okemos "Science is Fun" Day. A big thanks to all the people who made the booth at the Michigan Science Teachers' Convention a success. Participating were: Chuck & Barb Smith, Royal & Lee Olson, Grit & Alice Turner, Rich & Lila Stevens, Roger & Lee Laylin, David & Jean Ann Piotrowski, Bettie Patterson, Tom Trana, George Heaton, Alan Hukill, and Florence Hill.

Bettie Patterson received an SOS call from a science teacher in Vestaburg who is taking her class to the Michigan Natural Storage in Grand Rapids. She wanted someone to visit her class and show them what to expect and what to look for. Bettie called Grit Turner who made arrangements and visited the class Thursday March 9.

A BIT OF SHOW NEWS (jawp)

Don't forget to mark our show dates, October 27-29, on your calendar. The theme of "Crystal Magic" has been selected. Red Rogers reports that contracts have been received from The Outcrop and Red Metal Minerals.

MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW FOR THE CLUB BANQUET, MAY 18 (jawp)

Once again our banquet will be held at the Okemos Masonic Temple. The charge for tickets will be \$6.00 for adults, and \$2.00 for children of members .

JUNIOR MEMBER, SCOTT POWERS GAINS CELEBRITY STATUS-- Florence Hill

Congratulations go to one of our junior members, Scott Powers. In state wide dance competition at Livonia on February 10-12, Scott earned the state trophy in his division and the title of Mr. Teen Dance of Michigan. He will represent Michigan in his division at the national competition in California this summer.

Scott is also involved in another type of competition. He is on the Science Olympiad team for his school, Waverly Middle School. His specialties are (what else could they be?) motion and rocks. We are proud of Scott's achievements and wish him continued success. His parents are Ron & Cheryl Powers; and, his grandparents are Joe and Alberta Manina.

FEBRUARY FIELD TRIP TO GRAND RAPIDS-- George Heaton

Better than a dozen people showed up for our field trip to the Michigan Natural Storage Co. at Grand Rapids. Most of them seemed intent on collecting alabaster. I guess the program on carving at our last meeting got them interested in trying it themselves. Even George Heaton collected some alabaster just in case he decides to try it some day. I don't know why he would though, he can't even cut an oval cabachon without it being lopsided. It would have to be a nondescript something, considered modern art, and given some imaginative title. Everyone left with heavy loads of alabaster. A good quantity of "pencil ore" was also collected, as were a few very mediocre selenite crystals.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT-- Mary Kay Bean

Firstly, I want to extend my sincere thanks to everyone in the club who sent me cards, prayers and positive energy during my personal illness in February. I'm happy to say that I'm feeling stronger with each new day! Mid-month I had the pleasure of visiting Barb Smith at her home where she is steadily recovering from heart surgery. She truly should be an inspiration to us all having undergone such painful operations and within days being able to smile and be cheerful under such circumstances. Thank you to Chuck, too, for having such good care of her.

Kelsey Krup, born to Mr. & Mrs. Nate Krup on January 26th, may be our youngest "Rock Hound-In-Training" for the year 1995. Congratulations to the happy threesome!

Florence Hill who is so special to all of us, has been battling an illness for quite some time now. I've sent cards, we've spoken on the phone and she assures me she's "on the mend."

A card of congratulations and best wishes was sent to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Scorpio on the occasion of their recent wedding. We all know the bride by her former name: Oleta Brockway.

Dale Harvey has been under the weather for some time now. A card wishing him a speedy recovery was posted to him. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Dale.

In conclusion, sadly I must report that Life Member, Eliger "Rocky" Rockwood passed away while he and Lorraine were traveling in the Southern United States. At this time I have not been made aware of arrangements for a memorial service in his honor. A sympathy card was sent to Lorraine and family at their address in Holt. If you have further information for me, please phone me on 351-1107.

To reiterate, I would be very grateful for news of any sort involving our CML&MS "family." You are ALL very important members.

THANKS TO ROYAL OLSON FOR AN INSPIRING PROGRAM (jawp)

About 12 folks took to raising gypsum dust trying to carve "something" at our February meeting. I think most of us were happy with our results as well! Thanks to Royal for sharing his tool suggestions & inspirational advice, as well as his gypsum supply.

CLUB CALENDAR--

March 16 Regular Meeting, 7:30 pm, North School. SILENT AUCTION!
March 25 Field trip to Duff Quarry, Huntsville OH, be there at 10:00
April 2 Identification Day, MSU Museum, call Neil Snepp if you can help
May 18 Club Banquet
Oct. 27-29 Our Show "Crystal Magic", Marshall St. Armory

MARCH & APRIL SHOWS--

March 17-19 Jackson. Fraternal Order of Eagles, 302 Fifth St., Michigan Center.
Fri. 1-9pm, Sat. 10-9, Sun. 10-5. Adults \$2, teens .50
March 25 Dearborn Swap. 10am - 5pm. Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd,
Taylor (just east of Telegraph) FREE
March 31- Flint. Fri & Sat 10-7, Sun. 12-5. Williams Comm. Ed. Center,
April 2 3501 Minnesota Ave, Flint
April 1-2 Columbus OH. Veterans Memorial, 300 W. Broad St. Columbus OH
Sat 10-7, Sun 11-5 Adults \$4, Kids 6-16 \$1
April 5-8 Indian Mounds Show, Eastbrook Mall, 28th St., Grand Rapids
April 7-9 Mount Clemens. Mt. Clemens Community Center, 300 N. Grosbeck
Fri & Sat 10-8, Sun 11-6