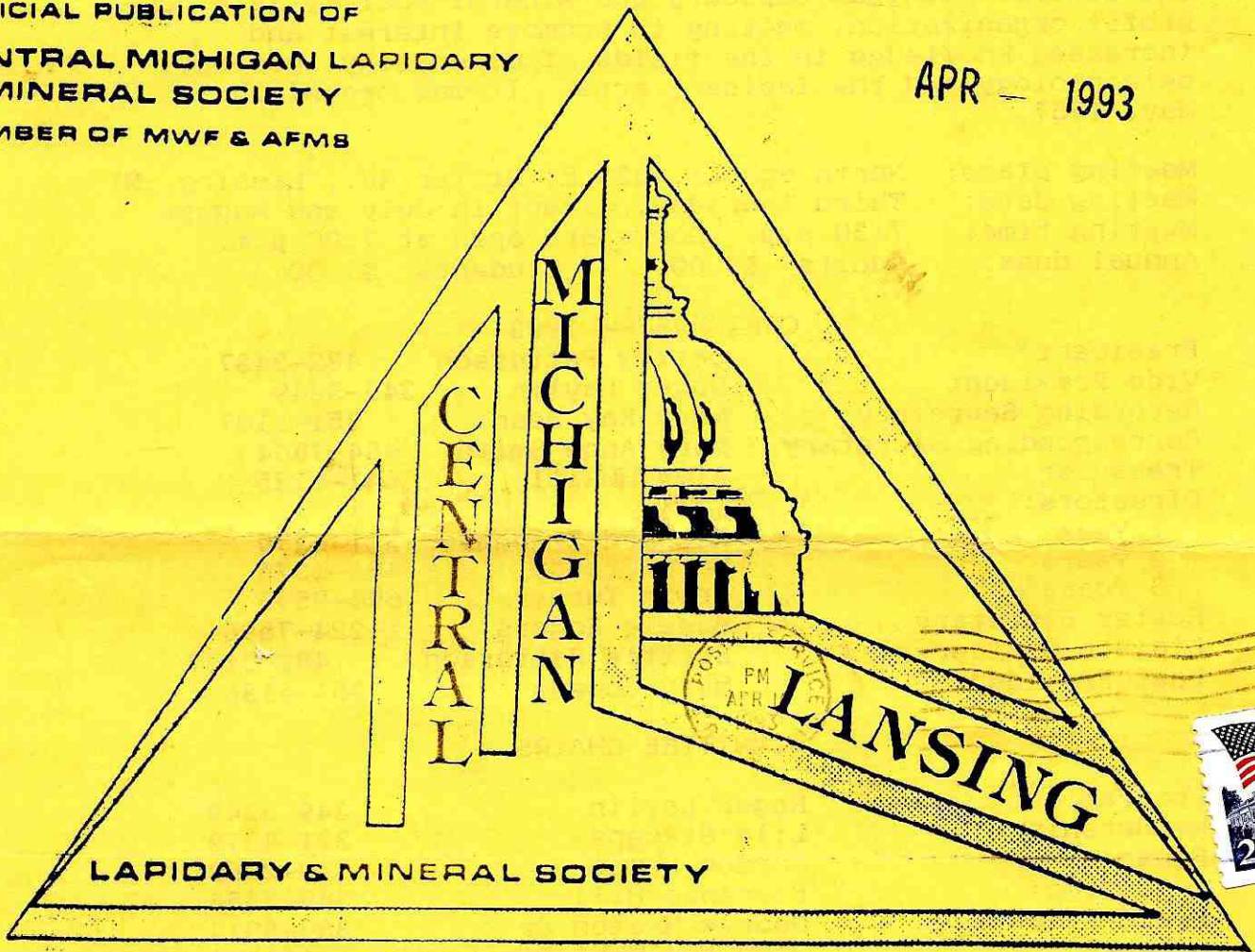


ROCKHOUNI NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
CENTRAL MICHIGAN LAPIDARY
& MINERAL SOCIETY
MEMBER OF MWF & AFMS

APR - 1993



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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 p.m. Doors are open at 7:00 p.m.
Annual dues: Adults \$3.00 Students \$1.00

OFFICERS -- 1993

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Education	Florence Hill	349-3554
Field Trips	George Heaton Jr	339-8914
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PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:

14933 Brown Road
Lansing, MI 48906

MEMBER OF:

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

TREATS FOR THE APRIL MEETING

The following members have volunteered to bring goodies for the April meeting:

- M.F. Green
- George Heaton
- Florence Hill
- Pat Olds
- Joyce Kahres.

THANK YOU!! Lila Stevens

APRIL PROGRAM— HELPFUL HINTS FOR DISPLAYING YOUR COLLECTION

At our April meeting, Red Rogers will offer advice for displaying your collection.

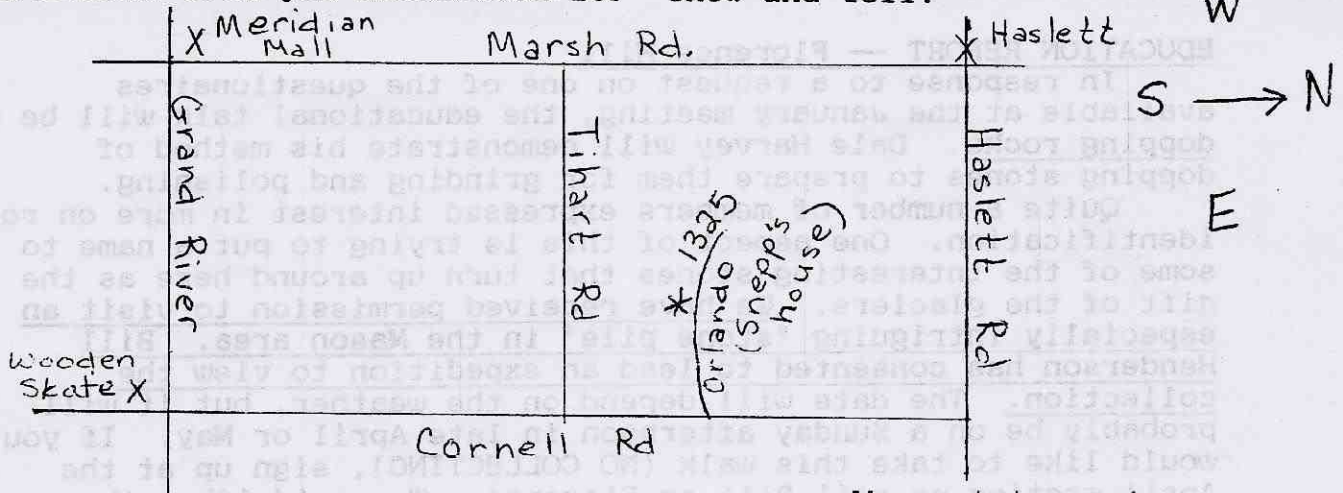
In an effort to make this a "hands on" program, you are invited to bring along a selection of your specimens, and, paper to represent the shelves of your display case. Measurements of your display case or area may be helpful.

For those interested in construction, various plans for building your own display case will also be available at the April meeting.

INVERTEBRATE FOSSIL STUDY GROUP TO MEET — April 16

Neil and Connie Snapp will hold an invertebrate fossil special interest group at their home on Friday, April 16 at 7:30pm. If you plan to attend, please call them at 339-2863 so they will have some idea of how many for which to plan.

The first meeting will emphasize echinodermata which includes crinoids, starfish and sea urchins. Please bring specimens from you collection for "show and tell."



THINKING OF GOING TO THE CINCINNATI SHOW MAY 1-2? We just found out that the show coincides with the Kentucky Derby and a Cincinnati Reds game. It is advisable to make your hotel reservations PDQ if you want a place to sleep in Cincinnati. Jean Ann & Dave

FIELD TRIP TO IRVING MATERIALS QUARRY — SAT., APRIL 24

The field trip for April will be to the Irving Materials Quarry at Anderson, Indiana on Saturday, April 24th. We will plan to meet at the quarry at 10:00am Indiana time, (11:00 our time). Most of Indiana stays on Standard Time when we switch to Daylight Savings Time.

The quarry is noted for its irridescent calcites and its honey colored twin calcites. Also, in its deeper workings fossils have been found.

The quarry can be reached by taking I-69 south from Lansing to Anderson Indiana. Take the Greenfield exit (#22) to Rt. 9 South. The quarry gate is on the left on Rt. 9, just south of the I-69 expressway. Driving time from Lansing to Anderson Indiana is about 5 hours.

The usual assortment of tools and safety equipment for collecting in quarries are needed here. These include a 2-3 lb. crack hammer, chisels of various sizes from small to large, and a sledge hammer for breaking large rocks is often useful. A sledge hammer may also be used as a cane to hobble back to your car if you injure your foot or ankle. A light hammer, such as a geologist's pick is useful for trimming some excess rock from specimens, but be careful not to go too far. Do your final trimming at home.

FOR SAFETY, REMEMBER IN ALL QUARRIES YOU MUST HAVE HARD HAT, HARD TOED BOOTS, AND SAFETY GLASSES OR GOGGLES!

A map to the quarry will be found on the last page of this newsletter. If you have any questions, contact George Heaton at 339-8914.

EDUCATION REPORT — Florence Hill

In response to a request on one of the questionnaires available at the January meeting, the educational talk will be on dopping rocks. Dale Harvey will demonstrate his method of dopping stones to prepare them for grinding and polishing.

Quite a number of members expressed interest in more on rock identification. One aspect of this is trying to put a name to some of the interesting stones that turn up around here as the gift of the glaciers. We have received permission to visit an especially intriguing "stone pile" in the Mason area. Bill Henderson has consented to lead an expedition to view the collection. The date will depend on the weather, but it will probably be on a Sunday afternoon in late April or May. If you would like to take this walk (NO COLLECTING), sign up at the April meeting or call Bill or Florence. We would like other members with expertise to take time to join us, as well as all the souls who confess they "can't tell what that stone is." You will be called if we know you want to go.

Don't forget to bring your unknown stones to the identification table at the meeting.

MSU CHILDREN'S GARDEN PROJECT -- Florence Hill

CML&MS has been invited to assist in assembling a "stone pile" of typical Michigan rocks at the Children's Garden, a part of the new horticulture gardens at MSU. Jane Taylor, who is in charge has asked our help in finding and selecting specimens.

Mary Anne Smith and Roger Laylin will serve as our committee to work with Mrs. Taylor.

Needed are boulder size (20" or more in diameter) granite, felsite, sandstone, etc. Will you -- all of you -- help locate such rocks? Do you know of any large puddingstone with which its owner will part? There should certainly be one in the Children's Garden.

The gardens are located off Bogue Street, just North of Service Drive and the railroad tracks. They will officially be open in August of this year. The rocks are needed early this summer.

CLUB BANQUET MAY 20 -- DO YOU HAVE YOUR TICKETS?

Tickets for the club banquet are available from Mary Anne Smith (484-7804). You may purchase your tickets at the April meeting or give Mary Anne a call. The cost is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children 12 and under.

Once again this year, we are looking forward to the delicious chicken dinner served by the ladies of the Okemos Eastern Star (and their husbands!) The speaker will be Dr. Richard H. Lefebvre of Grand Valley State University. (If I remember correctly, his talk will be on the mineralogy/geology of the Upper Peninsula-- but I could be wrong. Jean Ann)

REMEMBER-- TICKETS ARE NOT AVAILABLE AT THE BANQUET, GET YOURS NOW!!

FIELD TRIP TO DUFF QUARRY, SAT. MARCH 20, 1993-- George Heaton

Only four people made the field trip to Duff Quarry on Saturday, March 20 -- a very disappointing show of interest in this field trip since only two people were members of our club. The other two were George Heaton's brother, Roger Heaton, and nephew, Craig Heaton. The club members were George Heaton and Jenny Rotier. Just because there was 2 inches of snow Saturday morning is no excuse for real rockhounds. The weather is almost always different when you reach the collecting site, and it was this time too. The roads were wet, but free of snow and one could travel at normal highway speed. The quarry was free of snow, with all rocks clearly visible.

The best pyrite specimens were found by George Heaton and Jenny Rotier. Roger and Craig Heaton also found some good pyrite specimens. Jenny Rotier also found a nice group of calcite crystals on white dolomite crystals. Massive calcite is common at Duff, but good crystals are almost rare at this quarry.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT

Since the last newsletter, cards were sent to Cleora Purtil1, who is recovering from gall bladder surgery and John Hopkins who has been moved to Tendercare West, Room C-16, Bed 1, 731 Starkweather, Lansing MI 48917. We're sure John would also enjoy hearing from his many friends in CML&MS.

Cards of sympathy were sent to the family of Jack Schineman, who passed away during the third week of March and to Lucille Roggow on the death of her brother-in-law.

One more bit of sad news— Margaret Lohrer, wife of late member and former corresponding secretary, Don Lohrer, also passed away in March.

We hope now that spring is here and (finally) all the snow is melted everyone will be healthy.

One last note— my phone number was inadvertently omitted from the directory. Please add 484-7804 to my listing. The number is also listed on the inside cover of each Rockhound News. Call anytime if you have any news of our members. If I'm not available, my friendly answering machine will take your messages.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Anne Smith

COMMUNITY SERVICE

On March 12, Florence Hill visited the Kindergarten/1st grade classroom of student teacher, Tiffany Duncan, at the Glencairn School in East Lansing. Michigan rocks and how they formed were the subject of the talk and displays. Each child was given a specimen of the state stone and a "worry stone" to carry in his pocket.

ONE ROCKHOUND'S VACATION by Edith Berg, via Prospector, Flint Rock & Gem & others (I received this copy at the Red Metal Retreat a few years ago -- decided I'd better share the poem before it gets lost again.)

Some folks take their ease dozing 'neath the trees;
For me that's a terrible bore!
Just hold all my mail and hand me a pail,
I'm off for Superior's shore.

Each morning by seven I'm in Rockhound Heaven
Picking up agates and thomsonites galore
And by evening, by heck, I've a crick in my neck,
But my pail won't hold anymore.

I've a bend in my back from a vicious attack
Of the "Lake Superior Stoop",
But the treasures I find blot it all out of my mind
As back to the cabin I troop.

When winter storms blow, to my basement I go
Where the tumblers spin o'er and o'er,
The bright gems they create make it hard to wait
'Till I'm in Rockhound Heaven once more.

My friends have lamented I'm slightly demented,
I tell 'em I don't give a hoot!
They can lie in the shade in some woodland glade, but
I'll take the "Lake Superior Stoop"!

JEWELRY CLEANER via Rockpile 2/93, The Chiseler 12/92 & others

Make your own jewelry cleaner by mixing 1/4 cup white vinegar, 1/4 cup ammonia, and 1/3 cup dish detergent. Soak your jewelry in the solution for a few minutes, then scrub with a soft toothbrush, rinse under running water and air dry on a towel.

DO NOT SOAK pearls, opal, amber, ivory, jade, lapis or emeralds; only dip these in the solution, scrub, rinse and air dry on a towel. Turquoise should only be wiped with a damp cloth and polished with a soft towel.

KESWICK AGATE (Called Iowa's most beautiful stone) via Glacial Drifter 2/93, Trilobite 4/91, Leaverite News 2/91

English River and Skunk River flow nearly parallel for almost 100 miles, beginning at Grinnel and ending at the Mississippi River. They drain an area 15-30 miles in width. Buried under about 30 feet of clay loam is a thick shelf of dolomite limestone.

From New Sharon to Washington there are several limestone quarries. In three of these, Harper, Keswick and Ollie, and maybe others, are some interesting vugs. On the outside these vugs have a rough rectangular surface, but inside is a smooth quartz material. Since quartz is the bane of rock crushers, these vugs were sorted out and discarded until their colorful nature was discovered by rockhounds. They are partly hollow, their hollows being filled with a form of banded chalcedony, sometimes called coldwater agate.

Depending on the minerals contained in the overburden and the manner in which it seeped into the vugs, they contain a number of colorful lines or bands. These colors vary from blue-gray through black to red, yellow and white. The minerals vary from calcite to iron.

When not completely filled the centers are sometimes coated with travertine. Otherwise, they are usually partly filled with either feldspar, or either fine-grained quartz terminating in visible quartz crystals.

The unique form of the irregular banding resembles the lines of crazy lace agate. When cutting and polishing cabochons, a judicious workman may accent the red color, or expose circles called "eyes."

Since the choicest part of the stone is found in the fine-grained center, the most desirable vugs found weigh 50-75 pounds. The smaller ones are often filled in with solid colorless quartz, and those really large ones usually contain large empty spaces, with the color deposited along the inside shell on the soft limestone instead of being embedded in the hard crystalline center. This leaves fewer colorful patterns for the rockhound to work with, and a scarcity of the irregular bands.

Cabochons cut from the red material have highest retail value, being by far the rarest. Some of the grays and whites have been made into exceptional cabochons when cut and polished. This stone can really be polished to a very high grade luster.

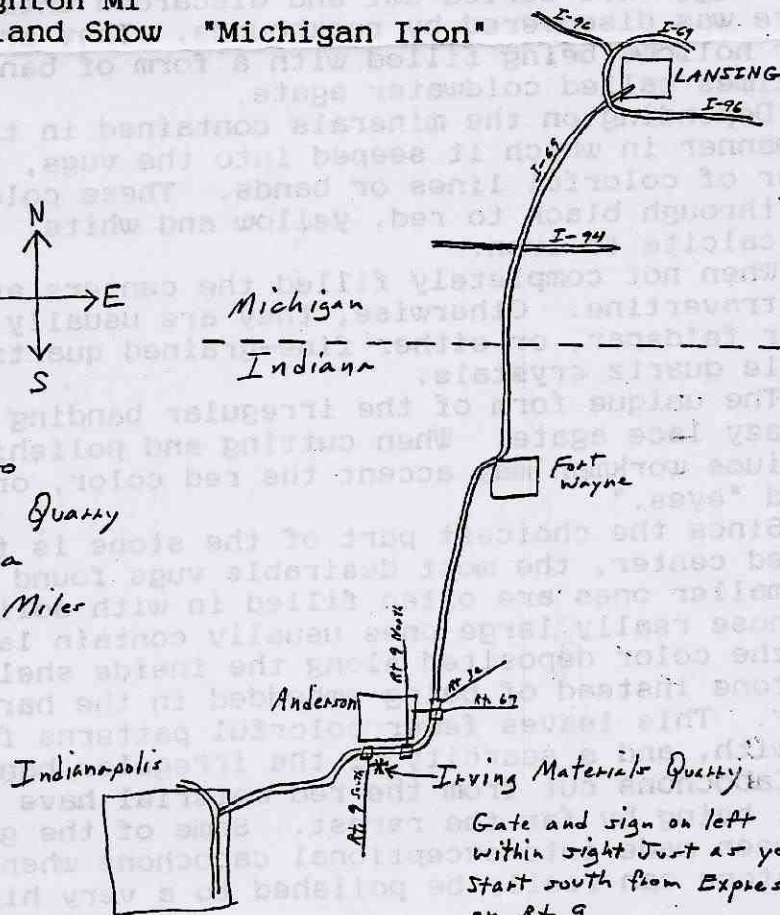
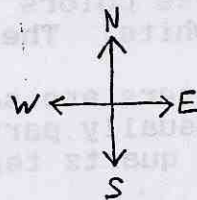
CLUB CALENDAR

- April 15 Regular Meeting
- April 22 Board Meeting, home of Roger Laylin
- April 24 Field trip, Anderson IN - Irving Materials Quarry
- May 20 Club Banquet- Okemos Masonic Temple
- July 17 Field trip to Stoneco Quarry, Maybee MI
- July 24 Picnic & Work meeting at the cottage of Rich and Lila Stevens
- August 21 Field trip to Stoneco Quarry, Maybee MI
- October 29-31 Our SHOW, "Nature's Sparklers"

SHOW CALENDAR - SEE RED ROGERS FOR FLIERS

- May 1-2 Kalamazoo Show, at the fairgrounds in Kalamazoo
- May 1-2 Cincinnati OH Show- Cincinnati Gardens, 2250 Seymour Ave. Sat 10am-7pm Sun 10am-5pm Adults \$5/1 day, \$8/2 day Age 6-15 \$1 park free
- May 14-16 Dearborn Show "Around the Great Lakes"- Dearborn Civic Center, Michigan & Greenfield Fri 5-10pm Sat 10am-8pm Sun 11am-5:30pm
- June 18-20 Lawrence County (Bedford) Indiana Show & Swap- Monroe County 4-H Fair Grounds, Bloomington Indiana
- June 26-27 MGAGS Seminar- Mid-Michigan Community College, Harrison MI
- August 9-15 Midwest Federation Field Trip Convention- Houghton MI
- Sept. 17-18 Holland Show "Michigan Iron"

Crude Map to Irving Materials Quarry Anderson, Indiana Approximately 210 Miles from Lansing



Gate and sign on left within sight Just as you start south from Expressway on Rt. 9.