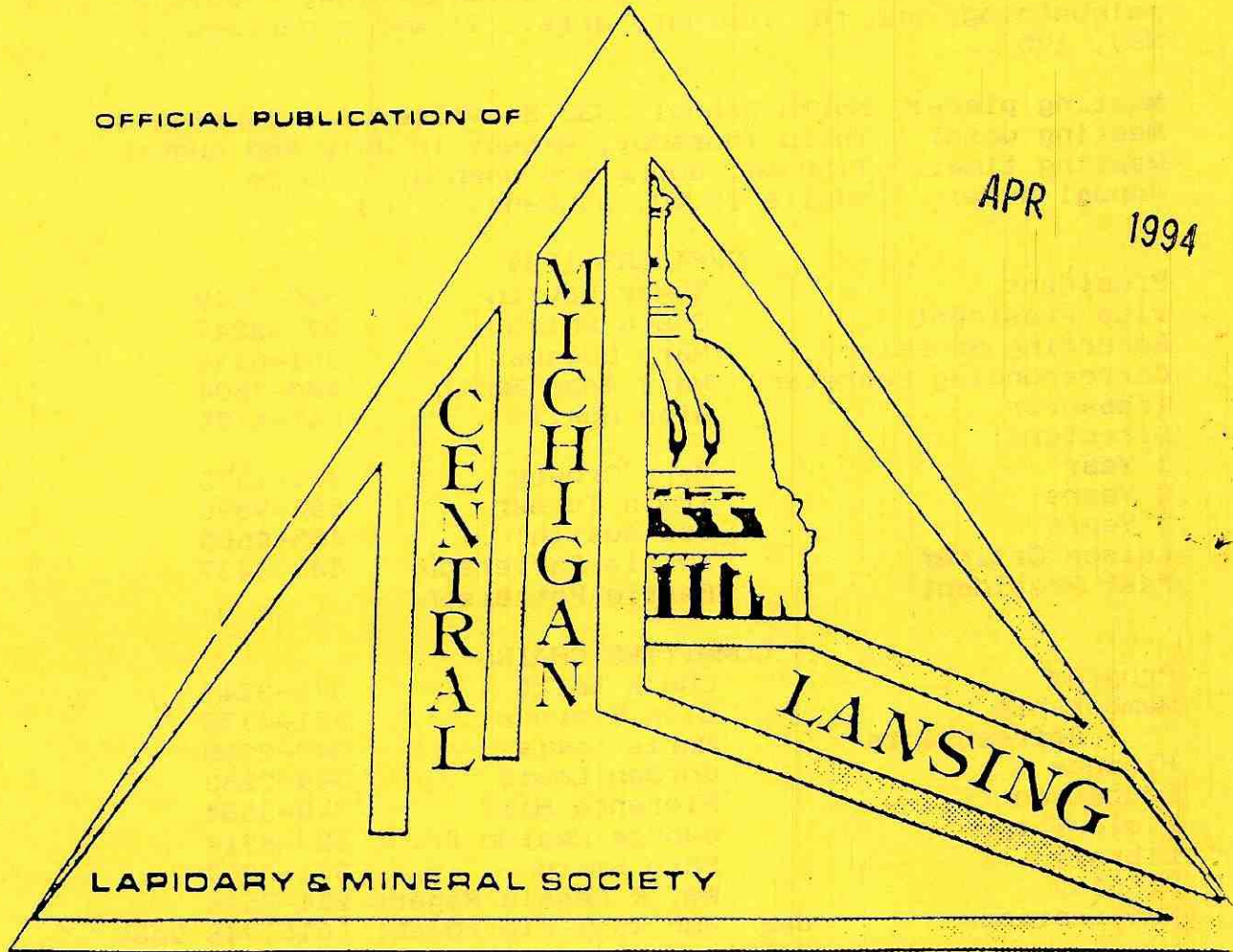


ROCKHOUND NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

APR 1994



MEMBER OF MWF & AFMB

Return To:
C.M.L. & M.S.
14933 Brown Rd..
Lansing, Michigan 48906

FIRST CLASS

TIME VALUE

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 pm; doors are open at 7:00 pm
Annual dues: Adults \$5.00, Students \$1.00

OFFICERS 1994

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Vice President	Chuck Smith	371-3247
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Corresponding Secretary	Mary Anne Smith	484-7804
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Finance	Gordon Lewis	349-2263
Education	Florence Hill	349-3554
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MEMBER OF:

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

ROGER'S RAMBLINGS

This is the time of year when my hobbies seriously conflict. There are several tricks to using binoculars to look up for birds while bending over looking for rocks with a fishing pole in your hand. At White Fish Point, I can accomplish the feat. If anyone else is interested, see you the last weekend in April at the Point.

Spring finally came, the calendar says so, but the field is still a bit muddy for an enjoyable rock hunt. Lee & I, with friends newly retired, are to visit Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and Delaware in early April. I may get to visit (Rockhunt!!) around Franklin, New Jersey!! At least Rock Shop Hunt.

We have received information from Milt Gere and the Midwest Federation regarding pending legislation which would severely limit use of U.S. Forest Service lands-- including the right to collect rocks & minerals. Further information is included in this newsletter. Please read it and write/call your representatives in Washington by April 18!

Further news re: loss of collecting opportunities... Irving Materials Quarry in Anderson, one of our clubs favorite places for calcite, is no longer allowing collecting. Richard & Lila Stevens were turned away when they stopped; and, George received a letter indicating the same when he wrote for permission for our usual April trip.

National Forests - State Forest

PROPOSED REGULATIONS BY U.S. FOREST SERVICE THREATEN MINERAL COLLECTING & OTHERWISE USE FOREST SERVICE LANDS--ACT NOW
(condensed by your editor from 4 pages from the MWF)

New proposed regulations by the U.S. Forest Service were published in the Federal Register (vol. 59, No. 32, pages 7880-7892) on February 16, 1994. Essentially the proposed regulation would make it illegal for you to pick up a fossil or mineral (paragraphs c. & j.), use an obscenity, scream loudly, possess a weapon of any kind or carry out nearly any human activity on Forest Service property. Even the "possession, storage or use of glass food or beverage containers" can be prohibited. As an example of the broad swath these regulations take, read the weapons regulation: "discharging or possessing a firearm, air rifle, gas gun or other device capable of causing injury to persons or wildlife or capable of causing property damage" is prohibited. If you would like to read the regulations for yourself, go to the nearest public library-- they should have a copy.

Quick action is important as the public comment period ends April 18, 1994. Please contact your entire Congressional Delegation immediately and demand that the Forest Service WITHDRAW PROPOSED RULES 36 CFR 261 & 262. ALSO, ASK FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PUBLIC COMMENT. Marve Starbuck reports that a 2-3 min. phone call to Washington costs only about 75 cents & is the easiest & most effective method. In addition, contact the forest service:

*Copy sent
May 18*

F Dale Robertson, Chief (5300)
 Forest Service, USDA
 PO Box 98090
 Washington DC 20090-6090.

June Culp Zeitner of Rapid City SD offers the following points which you may wish to include in a letter or call:

1. We are part of a clean, healthy, educationally oriented family hobby.
 2. The results of our collecting helps schools, museums & natural science.
 3. We have a Code of Ethics and we follow it.
 4. A large proportion of major discoveries in natural science are made by informed amateurs.
 5. *Why should it be illegal for families interested in preserving scientific items for the future to collect rocks, minerals and fossils-- when cattle and other animals can tramp all over them; or, frost, wind and fire destroy them?*
 6. *When we collect specimens on public lands it is to keep them and make them available to scientists and the public. These specimens could not be seen, studied and enjoyed if they continue to be destroyed by nature on public lands.*
 7. *There is not a shortage of rocks, minerals or fossils. Many formations go down hundreds if not thousands of feet. Each year new ones surface. The earth is made of rock. As each new layer is exposed, if the worthwhile specimens are not harvested by those who care, great parts of the history of earth will be lost.
 8. *Gem, mineral and fossil collectors who visit public lands have a positive effect on the economy of each region. They buy gas, food, lodging, maps, stamps, souvenirs and sometimes sweaters, raincoats and boots.
 9. Interest in natural science would be all but killed if children did not have the opportunity to study real specimens of rocks, minerals & fossils, most of which are provided by our members who find them on field trips.
 10. Our federations & clubs have helped educate hundred of scientists through our scholarship funds. Much of this money is raised through club sponsored auctions. The proposed regulations would make this illegal.
 11. Although amateurs have assembled fine collections, most of the scientifically important specimens, and often whole collections are left to museums, schools or other public institutions.
 12. Museums and schools can not afford to visit all the possible collecting sites and save the exposed specimens. We do it well and do it for free.
 13. In the past our members have had superb relationships with Forest Service and Grasslands people. They have lectured to our clubs. We have given them displays for their headquarters. They have even helped us find deposits and have led our field trips.
- (There are 5 more points in June's letter- I tried to pick out the strongest.--editor)

Call
 Congress-
 Mdn. or
 Representative
 for whom?
 (see stamps)

Another point: the U.S. Forest Service offers grants to DIVERSIFY uses of forest resources. Such strict regulation of Forest lands will limit rather than increase their productivity. Isn't this a contradiction in USFS policy? (editor)

At the same time request that your congressional delegation support the American Lands Access Association's legislation (The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act of 1994) in the House & Senate as guidelines for the regulation of fossil & mineral collecting on public lands. Copies of that legislation & its present status may be obtained from Marion Zenker, Black Hills Institute of Geological Research, PO Box 643, Hill City SD 57745.

PLAN ON THE CLUB BANQUET, MAY 19- Lee Laylin & Marie Lewis

This year's banquet will be held at the Okemos masonic Temple, 2175 Hamilton Rd, Okemos. (Same place as the last two years.) Social hour begins at 5:30 pm and dinner will be served at 6:30 pm sharp. Our menu will be family style chicken dinner with mashed potatoes, gravy, gravy & biscuits, corn, molded salad, home-made pie, biscuits, coffee, tea, and milk. The cost is \$6.00 for adults, \$2.00 for children. Ticket for the banquet will be available at the April meeting from Mary Ann Smith. Checks should be made out to CML&MS. Deadline for banquet reservations is May 14.

This year seven club members will be awarded their Life Membership: Oleta Brockway, Pat & Al McCort, Lucille Roggow, Ann Williams and William & May Zimmerman. Congratulations to these members and a big thank you for years of dedicated service to our club.

Our guest speaker for the evening will be Stanley Dyle II, curator of the Seaman Mineralogical Museum at Michigan Technological University, Houghton MI. The topic will be the Mining History of the Upper Peninsula.

We are looking forward to chatting with all the "snow birds" and friends we haven't seen for a while. So circle May 19 on your calendar, purchase your ticket from Mary Ann Smith, and join us for an evening of fun, fellowship and good food. See you there!

APRIL FIELD TRIP TO LIME CITY, OHIO-- George Heaton

The April field trip will be to the Stoneco Quarry at Lime City, Ohio on Saturday, April 23. We are allowed to collect on Saturday morning from 8:00 am to noon. This means we must meet at the quarry office before 8:00 am and must be out of the quarry by noon. You should check in at the office as you leave so they know everyone is out of the quarry. It is about 130 miles from Lansing to Lime City, Ohio, so you should allow at least 2 1/2 hours driving time to get to the quarry.

To get to the quarry from Lansing, take I-96 east to US-23. Go south on US-23 to Ohio where you pick up I-475 by-pass around Toledo. You take I-475 south to where it meets I-75 and you go north on I-75 to the first exit beyond the intersection of I-475 and I-75. This is the Rt. 20 and 23 exit to Perryburg. From here you go east about 2 miles to Lime City. The quarry entrance is on the left about one or two blocks after you cross the railroad tracks in Lime City.

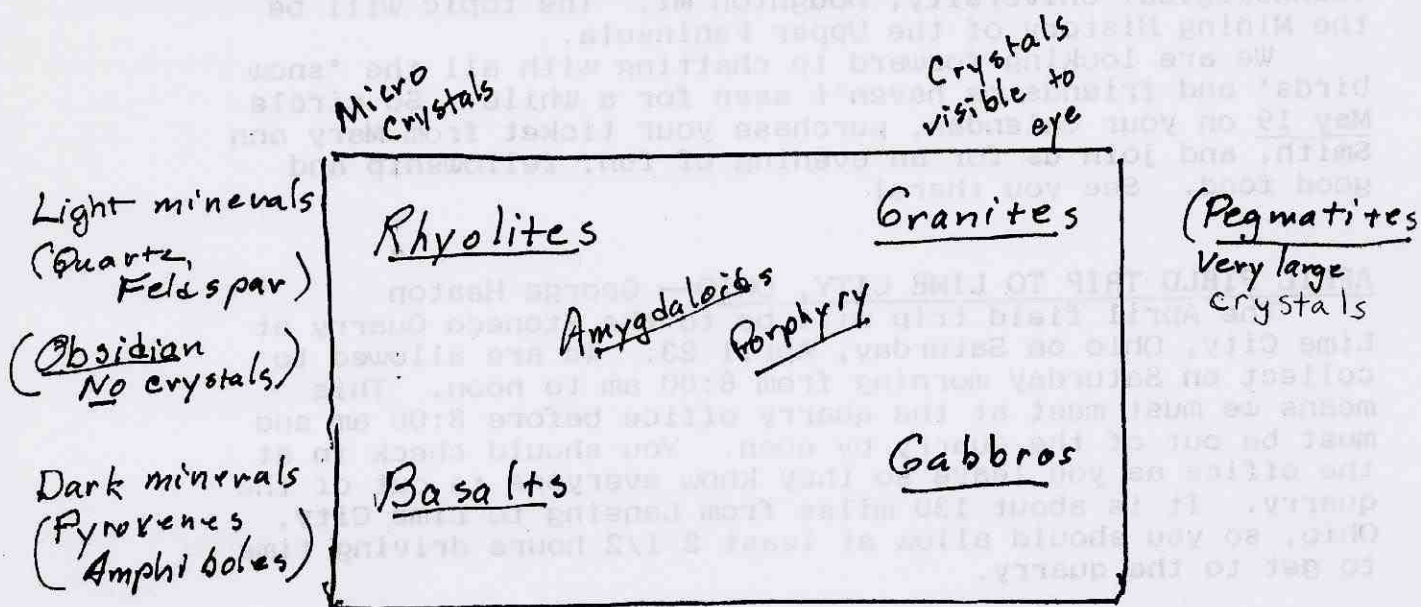
The material to collect includes celestite, fluorite, dolomite, aragonite, barite, sphalerite, gypsum, galena, marcasite, pyrite and sulfur. The usual tools, including hammers of various sizes and an assortment of various chisels are needed. Remember to bring a sledge hammer and pry bar if you wish to work on some of the larger rocks. Also bring wrapping paper and boxes for your specimens. You must have a hard hat, hard-toed boots and safety glasses or goggles.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE— Florence Hill

Now that we are getting outdoors again, it is time to resume our study of rocks as we find them. Again we will have a contest—showing in September, so start looking for interesting specimens. The subjects of our April five minute talk are igneous rocks you are apt to find in Michigan.

As you know, igneous rocks are those formed by the cooling of hot, fluid magma. In Michigan the western U.P. has igneous rocks at or near the surface. Downstate we have to look for igneous rocks in the boulder or gravel deposits. These rocks were hard enough to survive the long trip down from Canada and points north via the glaciers.

Varieties are classified by the minerals they contain and the size of crystals formed in them. The latter characteristic depends on the rate of cooling. This over-simplified diagram show how the division works:



In between are all shades and crystal sizes, some 600 of them. The varieties shade one into the other, so that even the experts hesitate to attach a name to some specimens. What fun!

Close at hand- finish up your lapidary projects for showing at our May banquet. Please call 349-3554 before May 12 to tell what project you can show.

Community service: Let us know when you demonstrate or talk so we can give you credit. Alice and Grit Turner demonstrated wire-wrapping at the Jackson Show. Bettie Patterson put in a display of crystals and minerals at the Impression 5 Museum on March 31.

SHOW NEWS--- Richard Stevens

There will be a Show Board Meeting at our house on Thursday May 5, 1994 at 7:30 pm.

Everything is coming along real well. I hope you are trying to do some rock hunting this summer, because we are in need of a lot of material for the children's table.

Thank you!

MARCH FIELD TRIP TO DUFF QUARRY--- George Heaton

We had nine people show up for our April field trip on Saturday, April 26 to the Duff Quarry at Huntsville, Ohio. As it usually does on my field trips, the weather turned out fine. The morning was cold when I left for Huntsville, with temperatures in the low twenties, but when I arrived at the quarry it turned sunny and was beginning to warm up. Most of the day was bright and sunny with temperatures probably in the mid-forties.

I was disappointed to find they had not blasted, but there was still enough rock left along the wall and in some old piles to provide hope of finding something, and some good finds were made.

David and James Slayton discovered some nice vugs of dolomite well sprinkled with brilliant pyrite crystals. Connie Snapp found some small brachiopod fossils. George Heaton and Neil Snapp found some small vugs of white dolomite with small crystals of dark red sphalerite and small, light purple cubes of fluorite.

The dolomite with sphalerite and fluorite came from rock dug from the quarry floor to make a drainage ditch and indicates that in the future even the lower level may provide things of interest.

HELP!!! MORE egg carton size specimens are needed. Call 349-3554, or bring them to a meeting for Florence.

BOARD MEETING (3-31-94) BRIEFS -- editor

(Would those be Hane's or Fruit of the Loom?)

--18 board members & 2 guests were present

--Corresponding Secretary: get well cards have been sent to Mary McMahon and Roger Laylin.

--April program will be a MWF slide show Making Silver Jewelry. Royal Olson will bring his equipment and provide a live demonstration of silversmithing.

--There was a discussion re: bulk mailing of our newsletter.

Postal requirements: proof on non-profit status which includes lengthy forms & even possible examination of our financial records; \$75.00 a year; 17 cents for each item mailed; all mail must be sent from the same post office.

Problems: time crunch in receiving news, preparing, printing & mailing; no guarantee of delivery time; lifestyle of editor & printer (i.e. we work while the post office is open) make it difficult to mail from the postal counter.

(We usually hold up the line at a drop box late Friday pm or early Saturday am.); paperwork to prove our non-profit status: would need to increase our mailing list to meet 200 minimum.

Cost analysis: (aprox.) \$41.50 month using bulk; \$53-\$55 month 1st class.

Decision: not a significant savings for the effort at this time.

--We will once again match premiums earned by Ingham County 4-H'ers in the "Rocks and Minerals" area.

--Discussion of banquet expenditures. We pay \$6.00/person to Eastern Star for our dinner regardless of age. Decided on ticket price of \$6.00 for adults; \$2.00 for children.

Club will cover remainder of cost for any children. Will continue to allow \$115.00 for decorations & door prizes.

--Finance committee will interview candidates for our MSU Scholarship on April 7.

--Will send \$89.00 being held in treasury for MWF Endowment Fund to MWF. Will ask Neil Snapp to give a history & explanation of Endowment Fund at April meeting.

--Suggestion by Chuck & Barb Smith re: shelved carts to hold club library. Determined not feasible a couple years ago (cost of carts + storage difficulties.) Chuck will look into logistics again.

--John Takis read letter to board outlining suggestions for improving the club.

HOW TO FLAT LAP W/O A MACHINE- Virgil Stine, Rocky Ledger via Pegmatite via Michigan Gem News 1/94

The process of flat lapping is so simple that anyone can do it even if you don't have a flat lap. So go to it, and polish the bookends you want, or that clock face.

Just get a piece of aluminum about 12 or 14 square inches. Place it on a flat surface. Take a teaspoon of 120 grit (or even 90 grit if you have saw marks on the slab),

mix with vaseline or water. (I like vaseline because it holds the grit better.)

Now take your slab to be polished or sanded and dop a piece of wood to it so that you have a handle and can hold it down on the grit. Be sure that your grit is always under your slab. Don't run it over the dry aluminum. Spread out the grit as you move the stone over it, in any movement pattern you like. Be sure to add more grit so it doesn't get too fine. Keep at it until all saw marks are well sanded off.

Next: Wash the stone and the aluminum top well, so that there is no grit any place. The next step is to mix 220 grit as before and start sanding all over for a finer finish. Then wash everything well again...Finally mix 600 grit and sand again. Your slab should now be ready for polishing.

For polishing, obtain a piece of leather. You can get it at some shoe repair shop or leather shop. Get a square about 12 x 12 inches. Stick it to a board and keep it for polishing only. Don't tack it down because the tacks can scratch your stone. Put your favorite polish mix all over the leather. Start polishing it as you sanded it. When polished, wash well and you will have a lovely shine. This is the oldest way to do it, before we had motors. It takes time and work, but a little time each night will do the trick.

CLUB CALENDAR

April 21 Regular meeting; 7:30 North School
 April 28 Board meeting; 7:30 Meridian Service Ctr.
 May 5 Show Board meeting; home of Richard & Lila Stevens
 May 19 Club banquet; Okemos Masonic Temple;
 social hour 5:30; dinner 6:30 sharp

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

April 23 Stoneco Quarry, Lime City Ohio, 8:00 am
 May 29 Memorial Weekend trip, hosted by Scarborough Ontario Club. Probably to Bowmanville for Trilobites, or perhaps somewhere new.
 June 17-19 Bloomington IN; swap & geode collecting
 July 23 Stoneco Quarry, Maybee MI; limited to 15; no children under 16; no power tools.
 July 30 Pot-luck picnic at Richard & Lila Stevens cabin
 August 27 Stoneco Quarry, Maybee MI; limited to 15; no children under 16; no power tools.
 August ? Kid's table work party at Turner's place

THINK SPRING! THINK SHOWS!!!!

April 6-9 Indian Mounds Show, Eastbrook Mall, 28th Street a bit West of I96, Grand Rapids
 April 10 FLINTKNAPPERS REUNION, Waterloo Rec. Area, Chelsea MI. For info call 313-475-8307.
 April 9-10 Fossil, Gem & Jewelry Show- Columbus OH

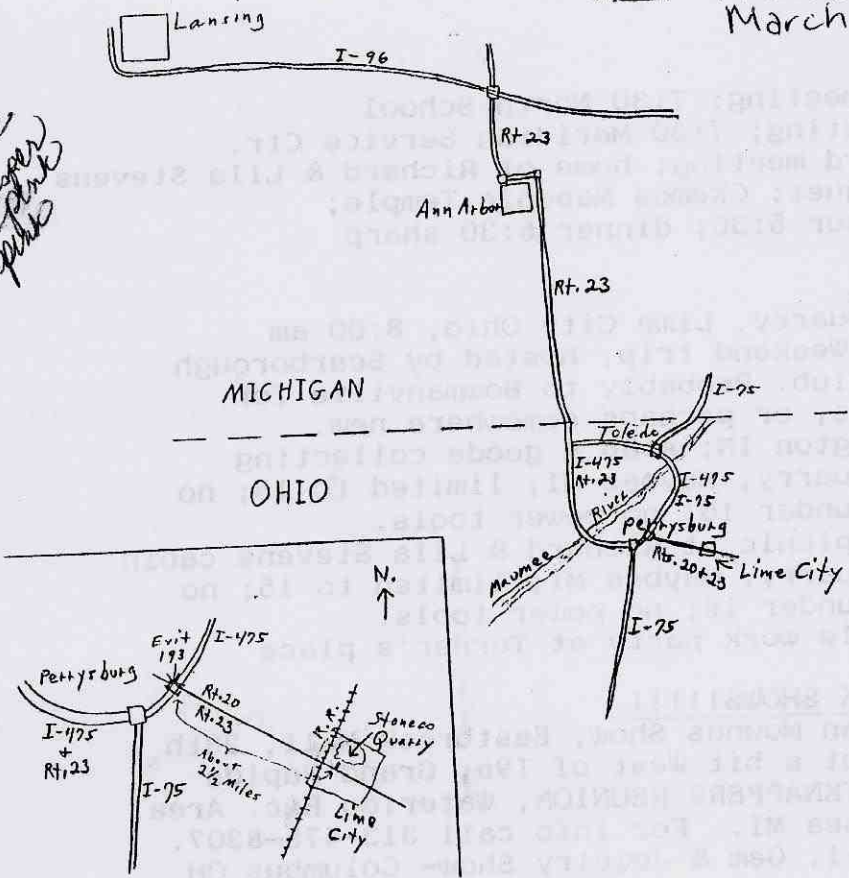
June 4x5

- April 15-17 Mount Clemens Show; Community Center, 300 N. Groesbeck; Fri & Sat 10-8; Sun 11-6
- April 10- May 22 South Bend (IN) Gem & Jewelry Show & Sale
Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley; display of gems, jewelry & goldsmithing from Hungarian Natl. Museum. Tues-Sat 10am-5pm; Sun. 1-5pm; closed Mon.; free
- April 22-24 Flint Show, Williams Comm. School, 3501 Minnesota Ave.; Fri & Sat 10-7, Sun 12-5.
- April 30-May 1 Gem & Jewelry Show- Kalamazoo, Fair Grounds, 2900 Lake St.; Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5
- Port Huron Show; Armory, 2525 Dove Rd. Sat 11-7, Sun 12-6
- Cincinnati Show; Cincinnati Gardens, 2250 Seymour Ave; Sat 10-7; Sun 10-5
- May 20-22 Dearborn Show- Dearborn Civic Center, Fri. 5-10pm; Sat. 10am-8pm; Sun. 11am-5:30pm
- June 17-19 Swap, Lawrence Co. Rock Club; Monroe Co. 4-H Fairgrounds, Bloomington Indiana
- June 25-26 MGAGS Rockhound Seminar
- Sept. 2-4 MWF & Michiana Gem & Mineral Soc. Show & Convention - *South Bend, Ind.*

FYI-- It has taken 5 hours to prepare this newsletter for printing. That includes composing, editing work of others, condensing, gathering of info from other clubs (30 min.) and typing. It took 20 minutes to update & print the mailing labels. I'll update you on time spent copying & colating next month. Dave & I are proud of this newsletter & hope you are too. Positive suggestions are always welcome. jawp

The newsletter fee for Life Members ~~was~~ rescinded at the March meeting.

*ignore
quarry
quarry
quarry*



Crudely Drawn Map to Lime City Ohio and Stoneco Quarry.
Drawn not even remotely to scale.

David