

APRIL PROGRAM-- Royal Olson

For our April program, Margaret Randolph will share her knowledge of Native American artifacts-- where she has found them, how they were used, and insight into how she presents this to school children. She will also bring Mike Cook who is a skilled flint napper. He will demonstrate the ancient art of the people who used these tools.

MAKE YOUR PLANS FOR THE CLUB BANQUET, MAY 23 (jawp)

Please note that this is **NOT** our regular meeting night! The Okemos Masonic Hall was not available for May 16; your board made the decision that good food at a reasonable price was more important than the banquet date. :) This is the one night of the year that club members can set back, socialize & relax while the Masons and Eastern Star serve up their **delicious chicken dinner**. Social hour begins at 5:30, dinner is served at 6:30 SHARP-- so don't be late.

Our speaker for the evening will be **Dr. Kazuya Fujita** from the MSU Dept. of Geological Science. Many of you may recognize Dr. Fujita as MSU's earthquake expert. For our banquet, he will tell of his recent geologic research in Russia where the North American plate actually begins. Dr. Fujita has promised to include stories of his experiences with the Russian people and culture for the sake of those non-rockhound spouses and offspring joining us for the banquet!

Tickets for the event are available from Lila Stevens. The charge this year will be \$7.00 for adults and \$3.50 for children. Get your tickets at the **April meeting**, or send your check in the mail to: **Lila Stevens, 5889 W. State Rd., Lansing MI 48906**.

FIELD TRIP TO HUNTSVILLE, OHIO APRIL 20-- George Heaton

The field trip for April will be to the Duff Quarry at Huntsville Ohio on Saturday, April 20. 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 its 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.

LAST NAMES N-Z, PLEASE BRING REFRESHMENTS TO THE APRIL MTG.

"So often the first screw that works loose in a person's head is the one that holds the tongue in place." via Rock Trails 1/96

EDUCATION REPORT-- Margaret Green

The mineral for this month is celestite. Bring your favorite specimen for others to view!

Thank you to George Heaton, Gordon Lewis and Bettie Patterson for being our representatives at the M.S.U. Museum "ask the experts day" on March 30th. They helped participants identify minerals and fossils. Thanks for arranging this go to Neil Snepp.

Florence Hill gave a presentation on our hobby to about fifty people at the Lansing Center for the Arts, April 11.

To all our members: Thanks for your support. If you hear of any educational opportunities for our club please let me know.

A special note to new members: an excellent way to become familiar with the club is to volunteer to help out with our education program. Please call me at 882-3637.

YOU CAN DO IT! --Florence Hill

Spring and fall we receive a lot of requests for someone to come to classes and talk about rocks. We need more people available to answer the call. The people who are going out now will tell you it is a very rewarding experience. Why don't you join the volunteers?

"I don't know how to answer their questions." "I don't know how to talk to kids." If you have collected 15-20 different rocks and can tote them into a classroom you can help those teachers. You can't teach the whole of geology or mineralogy in 45 minutes anyway. While teachers are woefully unprepared in the area of earth science, any of them worth his/her salt can read a text and know enough to explain the basics. You don't need to do that. What you can do is provide some OOMPH! The rocks themselves will tell you what to say. You had fun didn't you, getting those rocks? You got excited enough about them to go to great lengths to bring them home. You found something interesting about them. You don't have to know everything. Don't be afraid to say "I don't know, but how can we find out?" Anyone who can bring in something that the children can put their little paws on, who is obviously getting a charge out of the things, and, who doesn't talk or act like a teacher is a real treat to any classroom.

MSU SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED (jawp)

Each year our club awards one \$1500.00 scholarship to a geology student at MSU. This year's recipient is Kimberly Berry. Kimberly has plans to graduate and complete field camp in 1997. Her primary interest is in hydrogeology and it's environmental applications.

DYING GEMSTONES via Outcroppings 3/96 via Roadrunner News 11/94

To dye gemstones, mix a box of RIT dye with 3 or 4 ounces of wood alcohol and soak your stones in the solution. This could take from 30 min. to overnight or longer. If the stone is overdyed, the excess color can be removed by soaking in plain wood alcohol. After dying, wash in soap and water, apply a coat of wax (natural shoe polish,) and polish with a soft cloth. Try dying honey onyx, banded agate or crazy lace agate. Slabbing can result in fantastic patterns.

"How come diamonds are a girl's best friend, but man has to settle for the dog?"

via MWF Newsletter 4/96

MARCH FIELD TRIP, CORYDON & SALEM INDIANA-- George Heaton

Our field trip to the Corydon Crushed Stone Co. Quarry and the Rt. 56 road cut near Salem Indiana on Saturday, March 23 attracted 7 members and George Heaton's sister and nephew. Typical of George Heaton's field trips the weather was near perfect again, being sunny and warm, with temperatures near 60 degrees yet cool enough so one could work hard without getting hot and sweaty. There was a little bit of snow left from the recent snow storm but it was melting fast and the little rivulets from the melting snow were used to wash our boots at the end of the day.

The collecting at Corydon was not outstanding but some good dolomite and calcite specimens were found. I heard that Arlene Olson found a nice plate of dolomite with calcite crystals, but I did not

see it so I can't judge it. Neil Snepp found an acceptable calcite specimen. Gordon and Marie Lewis stopped at the Rt. 56 road cut on Saturday morning before going on to the Corydon Quarry. They collected some geodes and Marie said that Gordon collected a very nice large one with nice calcite crystals. I did not get a look at this one either so I can't criticize it. On Sunday morning Neil and Connie Snepp decided to go fossil collecting over near Brookville Indiana. Gordon and Marie decided to go and check out the location of a quarry they heard about near St. Paul Indiana that was supposed to be good fossil collecting. The Olsons went to Harrodsburg Indiana. George Heaton, his sister and nephew went to the Rt. 56 roadcut where George's little nephew collected the two best geodes he saw collected on this trip. Life is unfair like that sometimes. George did collect a few nice specimens though.

SHOW NEEDS--

- Specimens for the egg cartons, about quarter size, at least 60 of a kind to Florence Hill
- Larger polished stones for critter bases to Alice Turner
- Better quality items for raffle prizes to Gail Hopkins

TREASURERS REPORTS-- Please note the omission of a \$500 transfer from savings to checking which was omitted from the March report. The proposed budget was approved with the addition of \$250 for club insurance. In the past this was included as a show expense.

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR via Petoskey Stone 3/96 via Coral Geode 2/96

Geology is mostly about rocks. There are three main kinds of rocks: ignominious, sedentary and metaphoric. Ignominious rocks can be taken for granite. Sedentary rocks are mostly chalk, which comes in cliffs, or small round sticks, and sandstone about which the less is said the better. Metaphoric rocks are more interesting. One kind is marble which comes in little round balls, flat slabs, and shapes that look like naked people without arms which are kept in museums. Another kind is slate which is for geologists to write on with chalk. The only other kind worth mentioning is steatite, or soapstone, which is found in the shape of ashtrays and old-fashioned sinks. The other kinds are, mostly, a lot of schist.

Stones come in a lot of different periods. These were invented by geologists, who have to have something to do, and they are the only ones who can remember which is which. The only one I can remember is the Plasticene Period which is when man first learned how to model and get oil stains on his rompers.

You have to sort of get used to geologists. At first they seem to have nothing but rocks in their heads, and when they talk about beds, they don't mean what you think. But underneath they are almost normal. When they go on a field trip with little hammers, they sit around the evening fire on their terminal moraines and sing just like anyone else. They sing songs like: "Lava Come Back to Me," "Shale be Cambrian Round the Mountain," "You'd be so Gneiss to Come Home To," and "When the Chalk is on the Greensands, I'll Come Huronian Back to You in My New Red Marl."

When you meet a geologist, be nice to him, he may be somebody's mammal.

FREE MINERAL & FOSSIL MUSEUM OPENS AT MALL IN SARNIA ONTARIO-- Rockpile 4/96 based on info. provided by Pat Rutkowski & Les Wilson

"Stones 'N Bones Museum," has opened in the Sarnia Eaton Centre, in Sarnia Ontario. Casting a broad net, it displays minerals, fossils, gemstones, artifacts, shells, butterflies and insects. And it's free.

Club members Les Wilson and Pat Rutkowski visited the museum recently and give it high marks. This is what Pat had to say about it:

"Don't expect a huge area with floors upon floors of specimens. It is basically in a store area, but don't let this deter you. they do have plans on extending the area in the future. You will be treated, however, to a nicely exhibited room containing first quality specimens. There are minerals, fossils (some of the finest I have seen,) gemstones that will knock your eye out, American and Canadian Indian artifacts, modern day seashells and some of the most beautiful and interesting insects and butterflies--something for everyone."

The museum hours are the same as the mall: Mon. thru Sat. 10-5:30, except Thur. and Fri. 'til 9 p.m. Closed Sundays and holidays.

After crossing the Blue Water Bridge from Port Huron, take the Front St. Exit #1. The Sarnia Eaton Centre is six blocks south, bounded by George, Christina, Cromwell and Vidal Streets, just past the city hall. Underground parking is available and there are a number of good eating places in the area.

"Wisdom doesn't necessarily come with age. Sometimes age just shows up all by itself." via Rock Trails 1/96 via Bee Hive Buzzer 10/94

LEGISLATIVE NEWS FROM AFMS via MWF Newsletter 4/96

CLUB CALENDAR

- April 18 Regular meeting, 7:30 North School. **N-Z PLEASE BRING FOOD.**
Program: Native American artifacts and flint napping.
- April 25 Ralya School science night
Fairview School science night
- May 2 Board meeting, 7:30 Meridian Twp. Service Center
- May 14 Murphy School
- MAY 23 CLUB BANQUET, Okemos Masonic Hall.

SHOW CALENDAR

- April 19-20 Mt. Clemens Show. Mt. Clemens Community Center, 300 N. Groesbeck,
Mt. Clemens. Fri & Sat 10-8, Sun. 11-6
- May 4-5 Kalamazoo Show. Fairgrounds County Center Bldg., Lake St.
Fri. 4-8, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5. Donation \$2, under 12 free.
- May 4-5 Cincinnati Show. Cincinnati Gardens, 2250 Seymour Ave.
Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5. Adults \$5, both days \$8, kids 6-15 \$1. free parking
- May 10-12 Flint Show, Flint IMA Sports Arena, I69 at Center Rd. & Lapeer Rd.
Fri & Sat 10-7, Sun. 12-5
- May 17-19 Dearborn Show. Dearborn Civic Center, Michigan & Greenfield.
Fri. 5-9, Sat. 10-8, Sun. 11-5:30
- June 21-23 Bloomington Show & Swap, Bloomington IN
- June 29-30 MGAGS Rockhound Seminar, Alpena Community College.
- July 19-21 Sudbury Gem & Mineral Show, Sudbury Ontario
- July 26-28 Geodeland Earth Science Clubs & MWF Show & Convention,
Macomb IL
- Aug. 5-9 Red Metal Retreat
- Sept. 6-8 Muskegon Show. Doo Drop Inn, 2410 Henry St., Muskegon.
Fri. 6-9, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 11-5
- Sept. 6-8 Toledo Show. Strananhan Theater, Masonic Complex, 4645
Heatherdowns Blvd. Fri. 4-9, Sat. 10-8, Sun. 10-5
- Sept. 21-22 Livingston Show. Hartland High School, 9525 Highland Rd, Hartland MI
Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5