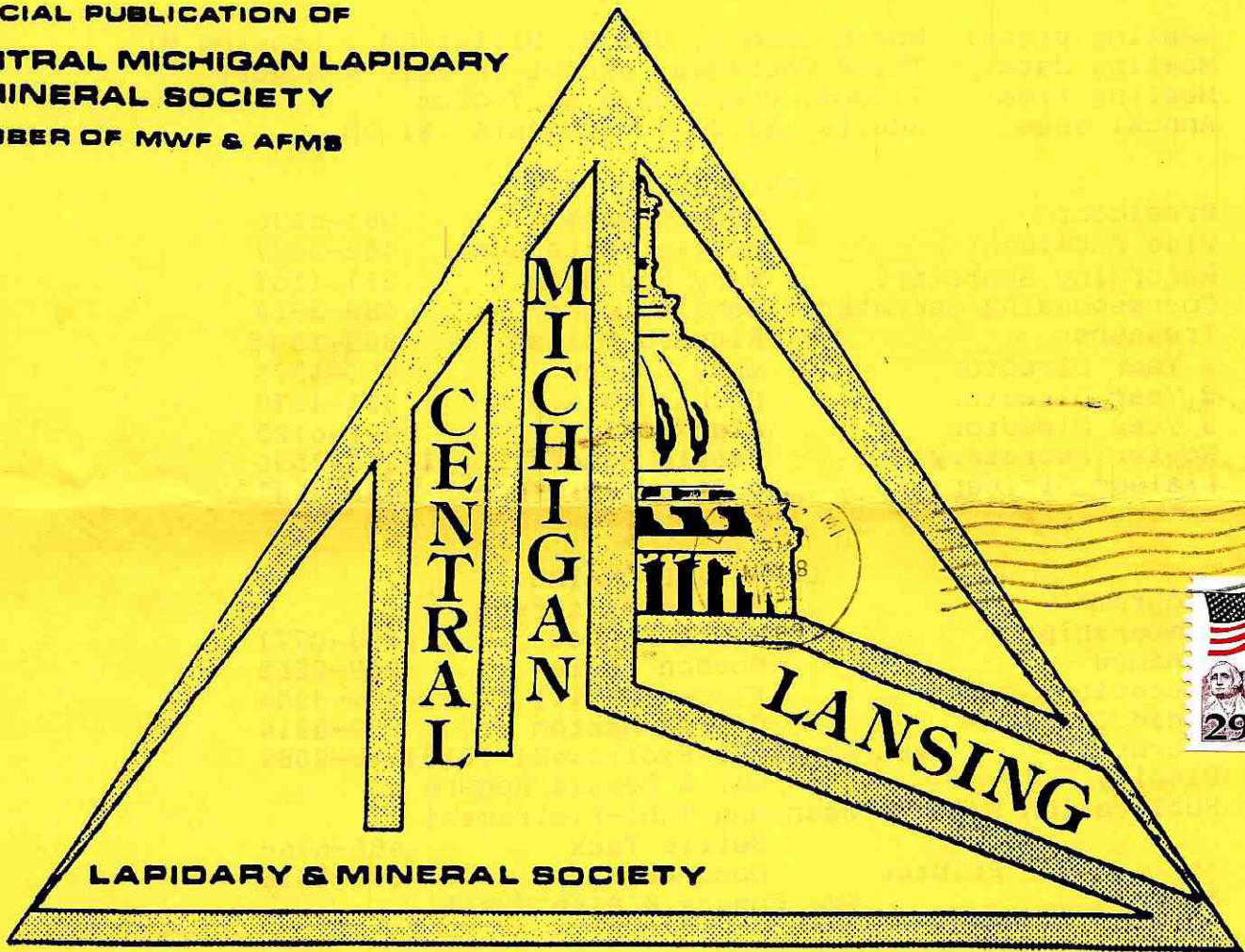


ROCKHOUND NEWS

MAY 1992

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



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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 & August
Meeting time: 7:30pm, doors open at 7:00pm
Annual dues: Adults \$3.00 Students \$1.00

OFFICERS -- 1992

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Vice President	Bettie Patterson	482-3437
Recording Secretary	Mary Kay Bean	351-1107
Corresponding Secretary	Donald Lohrer	482-2914
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MEMBER OF:

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO THE MEMBERS -- Mary Gowans
May is the month of our banquet. Our speaker, Dr. Mike Velbel will talk about meteorites. Specimens will be on display for members to take a closer look. Also, raffle tickets for the October show will be available. Please plan to pick some up to sell this summer. I do not wish to pass over spring and summer too fast, but October is only five months away. See you at the banquet.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT -- Don Lohrer

The society extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Karen Dunn. Karen passed away in mid April and she will be greatly missed by all who knew her. We send get well wishes to Lindsey Bean. Lindsey is having some bronchial problems at this writing. We all wish Lindsey the very best and pray for her speedy recovery.

After having spring in January and February and winter in April and May everything seems to be upside down. The only stable thing is our banquet on May 21st - a very pleasant evening with good food, stimulating conversation and an excellent speaker. I hope to see you there.

MEMORIALS -- Florence Hill

Karen Dunn passed away April 18th after a long illness. Sympathy goes to her family.

Sam D. Knox, a charter member of CML&MS died May 6th. Sympathy is extended to his wife and son.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE -- Florence Hill

Club members displaying at the Kalamazoo show were Scott Taylor, Grit and Alice Turner, Alberta Manina and Joe Manina. The Club display was shown by Grit Turner. Alice Turner demonstrated wire wrap and Joe Manina demonstrated faceting.

Alice Turner demonstrated wire wrap and the Turners had a display at Flint, Mt Clemens and Jackson. They took the club case to Jackson too.

Bill and Beanie Rogers took the Club display and displays of their own to Flint and Mt. Clemens.

Rich and Lila Stevens entertained 13 Girl Scouts and 3 leaders at their home. The girls were working on their jewelry badge. They examined stones for their suitability in jewelry - hardness, brilliance, beauty, and rarity.

A workshop on hand polishing Petoskey stones and other soft stones is being planned. We need more people who are able to do this, as we get requests for leaders from schools and summer recreation groups. It is also a very useful technique in finishing some of your stones. We need to know how much material to have on hand so please call Florence Hill, Lila Stevens or Dave Piatrowski if you are interested. Please call before June 4th.

FIELD TRIPS -- George Heaton

April Field Trip - Corydon, Indiana -- I was pleased to see 8 of our members plus myself show up for our Corydon field trip on Saturday, April 25. I consider this a fairly good turn-out for a field trip this far from home. It was better than I expected. The weather also cooperated by not raining on us. Soon after we arrived at the Corydon quarry some of the Friends of Mineralogy group arrived and we all signed the quarry's release form but were then told we would not be able to enter the quarry until noon. Rather than wait there until noon we all decided to drive down to Irvington, Kentucky to the Kentucky Stone Co. Quarry where the Friends of Mineralogy had made arrangements for collecting there as well as at Corydon. We found the collecting to be poor at Irvington so we did not stay long, only a little more than an hour, and then drive back to Corydon where we entered the quarry about 12:30 pm. That level which was usually the most productive of good dolomite and calcite crystals in the past had not been blasted for quite a while but there seemed to be a lot of activity at the lowest level of the quarry. There were several cars parked down there and quite a few people digging and pounding down there so we went and checked it out. There was lots of dolomite but most of the vugs were small and yielded mediocre specimens.

Sunday morning we met at the road out on Rt. 56 East of Salem, Indiana where quartz and dolomite geodes with calcite crystals can be found. Whole intact geodes are very difficult to collect here because the rock is greatly weathered and fractures through the geodes. The best one can do here is to try to collect good geode pieces with some of the beautiful clear calcite crystals on the orange dolomite. Some of the calcite crystals from this spot are so nice that it is well worth the effort and all of us were able to collect some attractive specimens of calcite on dolomite from this spot.

MAY FIELD TRIP - MEMORIAL DAY WEEK END -- May 25-27

On Sunday, May 24th, the Gem and Mineral Club of Scarborough, Ontario will be hosting our club on a joint field trip to the Flamboro Quarry at Flamborough, Ontario. Following the field trip they will treat us to a barbecue and potluck supper at the near-by Christie Conservation Area.*

The field trip being on Sunday will allow us to travel on Saturday and return home on Monday. I estimate the travel time from Lansing to Flamborough to be about 5 1/2-6 hours. The Flamboro Quarry is noted for its very interesting, cubic, water-clear fluorite crystals and micro crystals of barite. Also calcite crystals in vugs and fossils (corals and brachiopods). Blair Campbell also believes sphalerite may be present. Blair also says that quarry owners are quite strict about hard hats and safety shoes so make sure you have your safety equipment.

We are to meet at Big John's Hamburger Restaurant on the northeast corner of highways 5 and 6 at 9:00 A.M sharp on May 24th and proceed to the quarry from there.

Field trips cont.

Recommended Motels:

- Confirmed OK*
1. Artesian Wells MOtel 416-689-6674, Watertown, Ont., \$40-45.
 2. Clappison's Corner Motor Inn, Clappison's Corners, 416-689-6615 \$35-\$40. *4704*
 3. Escarpment View Inn, Clappison's Corners, 416-689-6121 \$30?

To get to Flamborough from Lansing, take I69 east to Port Huron and cross the bridge to Sarnie, Ontario. From Sarnia take Rt. 402 to Rt. 401 and then east on Rt. 401 to Morriston and take Rt. 6 south from Morriston to the intersection of Rte. 5 and 6 at Clappison's Corners where our meeting place will be and near which the recommended motels are located. I hope we can show our Scarborough friends a good turn-out worthy of their efforts to show us a good time. Picking up an Ontario map at the Information Center in Sarnie might prove helpful. You can change your money there also.

* A word about Christie Conservation Area..it's a natural for Family Fun. This scenic 336 hectare conservation area is the perfect spot for both winter and summer activities. Christie is a great destination for large and small group and family picnics. It has plenty of parking, covered picnic pavilions, hundreds of picnic tables and acres of grassy fields just perfect for games, races, or just relaxing. Christie is a great place for nature lovers too.

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) has asked the regional federations and their member clubs to debate the merits of several recommendations made by the AFMS President's Select Committee and which the AFMS Board of Directors will consider at the Brunswick, Ohio convention this July. One of these recommendations is to establish a so-called 501 (c) (4) non-profit corporation under the Internal Revenue Code. With such a designation the AFMS could conduct lobbying efforts to influence legislation having relevance on the activities and interests of rock clubs, including the collection of minerals and fossils on public lands.

Before rockhounds in the AFMS give support to the establishment of a 501(c)(4) corporation, should they not first be given some specifics by the AFMS leadership about the positions it currently would take on legislation pending in the Congress and the positions it foresees staking out for itself in the future? Let's define the message before we seek to deliver it.

From the editor of THE ROCKPILE April 1992

The name calcite means burnt lime. It is the most widely distributed of minerals, while in the beautiful development and extraordinary variety of form its crystals are surpassed by none. Flawless transparent calcite is used in optical instruments, especially in geological (polarizing) microscopes. Marble cave formations, travertine, and onyx are all calcite varieties.

Calcite's composition is calcium carbonate, magnesite, siderite, and all members belong to the rhombohedral division of the hexagonal system. Calcite is frequently fluorescent, a small amount of manganese is enough to make it glow red under ultraviolet light. One important property of calcite is the great ease with which it may be cleaved in three directions. Most calcite is white, though various impurities may tint it almost any color, even black.

From "The Strata Data" - Gem and Mineral Club
Scarborough, Ontario April 1992

FLUORESCENTS

The Texas Big Bend/Davis Mountains area has a good variety of fluorescent rocks and minerals. The most spectacular specimen of this area is the Terlingua pink calcite which is blue-green when mined, becoming pink, somewhat like rose quartz, after exposure to the sun's radiation. It fluoresces orange or peach under long waves, blue-white under short waves.

Among the silicates we have agates, chalcedony, opal and petrified wood that fluoresce various shades of green, from dull to vivid bright, due to uranium content. Other fluorescents include aragonites, caliche and fluorite.

There also fluorescents among the flora and fauna. For example, scorpions glow green, and if I'm not mistaken, at least some spider eyes fluoresce red.

Fluorescence is caused by activators, some of which are impurities in the specimens. The ultra violet radiations cause atoms to vibrate at the various color frequencies

From "The Glacial Drifter" 11/91

HEAT STICKS

Beryllium is a rare metal which has the property of absorbing intense heat and is known as a "heat stick". If placed in a cup of hot coffee, the metal would immediately absorb all the heat, leaving a cold cup of coffee. Its use in the nose cones of rockets made exploration of space possible, and new uses in industry are being found every day.

From "The Rock Bag" via Michigan News 4/92

FOSSILS - A PETRIFIED WOOD FACT

Many pieces of petrified wood, especially from the Northwest, have a center that looks like wood, but with a layer of chalcedony, or pumice, between the center and the outside. This indicated that the tree was green when it was buried in the hot ash. The water in the green wood evaporated, making the wood shrink. The outside was made into a cast by the heat, so the area left between the wood and cast filled with chalcedony,

NEEDING HELP

We need taconite balls (3000) to give to the school children on the Friday morning of our SHOW. If you are going to the U.P. in June or July we would appreciate your bringing us some. I understand they are available along the railroad tracks which lead to the ore docks. The Tacks

MSU SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

The club is giving a scholarship to Timothy Monaghan, a student at MSU majoring in Environmental Geology. We are hoping that he and his wife will attend our banquet on May 21st. Make them welcome.

SPECIAL ROCK AUCTION ON MAY 30

The collection of Mr. Harold McClure is being sold at auction in Dayton, Ohio. Mr. McClure was past president of several Dayton area gem and mineral clubs and an officer of the MWF. Available: Lapidary equipment including trim saw, tumblers, grit, polish, display case etc. Carvings, Indian bola tie, jewelry, tumbled stones, findings. Arrowheads and artifacts. Mineral collection, petrified wood, collection of calcite fossils. Lapidary rough, opal, jade, flint, rhodocrosite slabs. Lapidary magazines from 1940's on. Display cases large and small. Sale starts 9:30 A.M. The home is at 3233 Zephyr Drive. From I75 take exit 57B. Go west to Dixie, turn right. Go 1 block to Siebenthaler, turn left. Go 1/2 mile to Zephyr, turn left to 3233.

CLUB CALENDAR

May 21st	Club Banquet	5:30 Social Hour 6:30 Dinner Contact Lila Stevens Okemos Masonic Lodge
June 4	Board Meeting	7:30 at Bettie Patterson's
June 18	Regular Club meeting	7:30 at Meridian Township Service Center on north Okemos Road. (Turn east just South of RR tracks)
June 27-28	MGAGS Rockhound Seminar.	Mott Community College, Flint
Aug. 8-15	MWF Field Trip	in the Copper Country
Oct. 23-25	OUR SHOW "Out of the Earth"	in The Marshall Street Armory

See back of page for map to Flamborough

Crudly drawn Map, Not to Scale
Lansing to Flamborough Area

