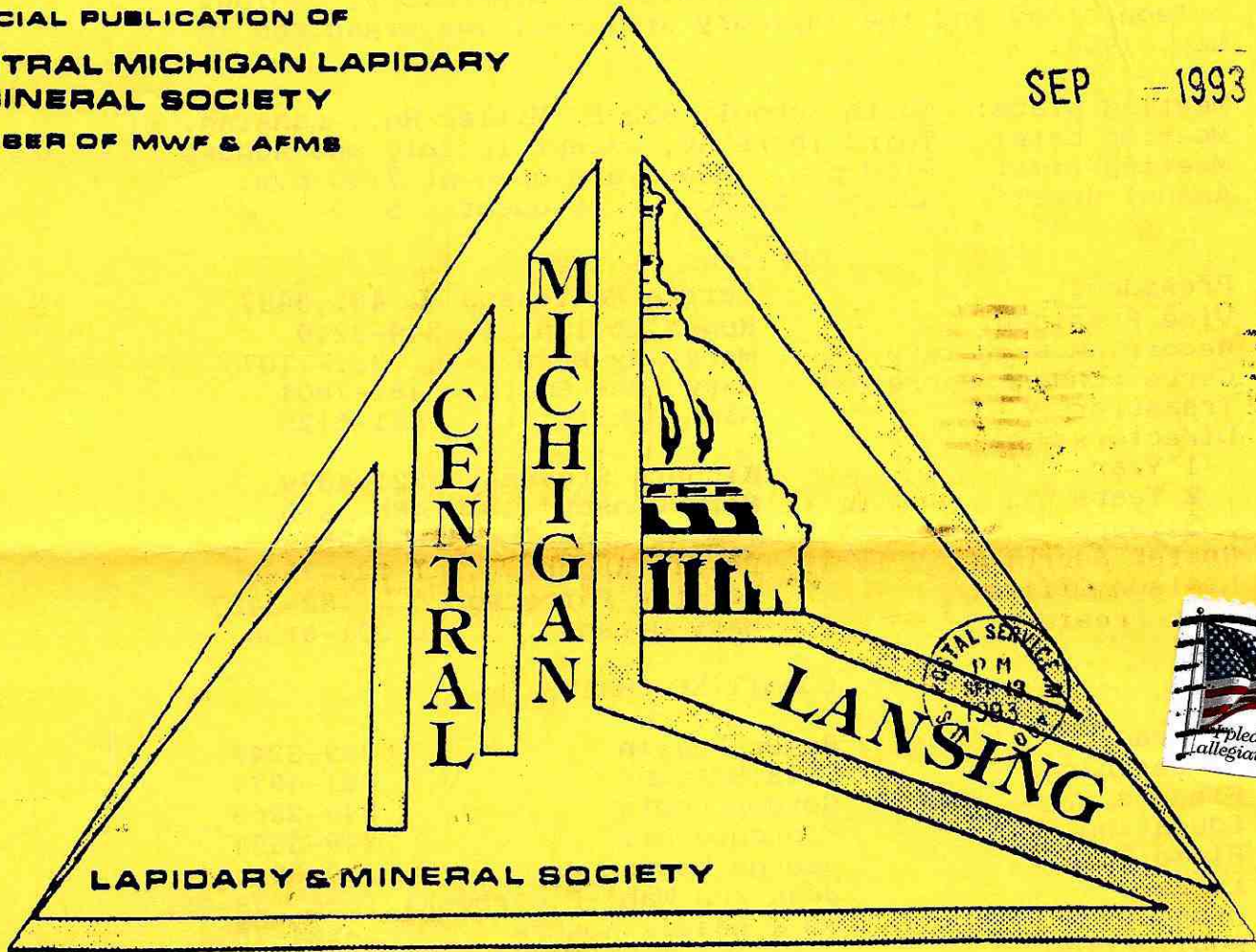


ROCKHOUND NEWS

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

SEP 1993



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

OFFICERS -- 1993

President	Bettie Patterson	482-3437
Vice President	Roger Laylin	349-3249
Recording Secretary	Mary Kay Bean	351-1107
Corresponding Secretary	Mary Anne Smith	484-7804
Treasurer	Alan Fukill	641-6125
Directors:		
1 Year	Richard Stevens	321-4379
2 Years	Mary Crosby	484-1375
3 Years	Irwin Turner	694-9596
Roster Secretary	Bessie Rogers	1-224-7596
Liaison Officer	Bettie Patterson	482-3437
Past President	Mary Gowens	351-6136

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program	Roger Laylin	349-3249
Membership	Lila Stevens	321-4379
Finance	Gordon Lewis	349-2263
Education	Florence Hill	349-3554
Field Trips	George Heaton Jr	339-8914
Library	Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski	(616)948-9589
Display	Wm & Bessie Rogers	1-224-7596
Publication	Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski	(616)948-9589
	Betty Tack	485-6768
Show	Richard Stevens	321-4379

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:

14933 Brown Road
Lansing, MI 48906

MEMBER OF:

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

Editor's Note: There is a reason for the haphazard appearance of this newsletter. Betty Tack, who usually prepares the June-Nov. newsletters, fell ill. Though Betty put the committee reports, etc. in the mail on Sept. 8-- here it is Sunday afternoon and no thick package has arrived. I'm also to a late start as I was at camp with my fifth graders through Friday; then came home to discover that one of Dave's brothers would be spending Friday & Saturday with us. So, I'm typing and Dave is running the copier. I assure you (I think) that all the really important information that you need for the month is in here. Eloquence is not guaranteed. One page is blank. Thanks for your understanding. Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski

President Patterson's Patter

The fall season is upon us almost before we are ready for it. So let's start with a fun meeting on September 16--a brag and tell about your summer finds and a big contest for the best conglomerate and unusual rock-- with you members as the judges.

It's time to start thinking about our show and getting your displays ready. We need lots of willing workers for set up, during the show and for take down.

Also, it is time for the nominating committee to be getting the slate of officers ready to present at the October meeting. If you would like to suggest some names, let the nominating committee know. The committee consists of Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski as Chair., Mary Crosby, Alan Hukill, Milo Hillis and Richard Miller.

See you September 16!

Corresponding Secretary Report--Mary Anne Smith

Over the summer, get well wishes were sent to Bettie Patterson, Mary Kay Bean and Milo Hillis.

Sympathy was extended to Grit & Alice Turner, Red & Bessie Rogers and Milo & Mary Crosby who all lost family members. Cards of sympathy were sent to the families of life members Rose Whidden and Nora DeLashmutt.

Tidbits about our show (jawn)

DISPLAYS: People want something to look at between bursts of shopping-- please bring your collection for others to enjoy. Display forms will be available at the Sept. meeting-- fill one out there or send a note indicating your willingness to display to: Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski, 1407 Coats Grove, Hastings MI 49058. It is equally important that anyone who will not be able to display, but who has a display case, let me know if we may please lend their case to someone in need. I promise to take good care of them.

DONATIONS NEEDED: Any of these items may be brought to a meeting or directly to the show.

Kid's table-- we have a lot less material than in the past. Please dig through your basement or garage and pull out that stuff you don't need but a kid would appreciate. To be really helpful, put this material in "flats"--the short cardboard boxes such as pop cans arrive in at the grocery store (you can use a second as a lid.) On a note card, write in decently large letters: what it is; where it came from; and, a price for each piece. (Most items on the kids table range from 5 to 25 cents.) Put this card in the box. Write the same information on the ends of the lid, so it is visible when the boxes are stacked. See George Heaton.

Door prizes-- Every so often during the show, prizes are awarded by calling ticket numbers. These need not be something super-- but should be of high enough quality to be attractive to most show attendees, not just hard core rockers. Specimens or rock creations are welcome. See Red Rogers.

Raffle-- Do you have something really nice to give away? Something nice enough to entice someone to buy a dollar raffle ticket in hopes of winning? If so give Mary Gowens a call.

Hospitality, Ice-- Bessie has agreed to provide some healthy snacks if we will help provide enough ice to keep vegetables crunchy and perishables cool. Please freeze up water in plastic juice or milk jugs-- it lasts longer than cubes-- and find out from Bessie Rogers which day she would like you to bring ice. Donations of food to snack on are always welcome.

WANTED: WARM BODIES ABLE TO WORK: The show won't go on without lots of bodies to get the work done.

Thursday afternoon & evening-- set up tables & chairs; help Joe Manina string electric chords; help Mary Crosby cover the tables with plastic.

Friday morning till 1:00pm-- sell lots of rocks to lots of kids who are in a big hurry; provide crowd control around the displays; help lost kids find their rocks; and, don't be afraid to correct the behavior of those rowdy one's who need a little "guidance."

Friday afternoon-- help clean up from this circus so that the dealers can set up; help George Heaton reorganize the kids table so it's ready to go for the evening.

Friday evening, Saturday & Sunday--sell raffle tickets; take admission; wander the floor to help folks if they need it; **HELP GEORGE SELL LOTS OF ROCKS TO LOTS OF KIDS AND ADULTS;** give Gordon & Marie Lewis a break from manning the silent auction.

Sunday 5:00PM-- **be there please** to help take down the tables and chairs; roll up those electric chords; carry lots of left over rocks from the kids table to Grit's truck and unload the stuff at his house; sweep the floor; carry Bessie's left over hospitality to the van; and, whatever else needs to be done when we are all exhausted after the long weekend!

Are you tired already?

Education--Florence Hill (jawn)

Every year our club supports the Ingham County 4-Her's who participate in the rocks & minerals project area by matching the premium which they were awarded. In addition, these 4-Her's will receive The Rockhound News for the coming year. We are hopeful that they will also be present at the September meeting for a special presentation of their checks and see what our club is like! This year's winners are: Cassie Barker, Lauren Barker, Lindsey Bean, David Buchko, Cyrena Haddad, Monica Killwen, James Nash, Ben Revers, Patti Ruggiero, Geoff Ruonavara, Cheryl Voss and Greg Walls. Congratulations to all of you!

The education committee is also organizing a "best rock" contest for the September meeting. Bring in your best HAND SIZE example of a CONGLOMERATE and an "UNUSUAL ROCK." You must have collected these yourself in MICHIGAN; and, you may only make one entry in each category. Please label where you found your specimen and be specific; for example: "Gravelpit, Sandhill Rd, Mason." Prizes will be awarded.

You may stop saving egg cartons for mineral kits. Go ahead and bring in any you have saved up, and we will have a sufficient number of cartons for next year, at least. Please note that many grocery stores will accept styrofoam egg cartons for recycling, so they need not be cluttering up a landfill.

Field Trips-- George Heaton (jawn)

The June 18-20 field trip to Bloomington Indiana for the annual rock swap and geode collecting was not very well attended by our membership, based on the number who joined George at the road cut to collect geodes. Neil & Connie Snapp were there, and George may have mentioned a few others, but I can't remember for sure.

The July and August field trips to the Stoneco Quarry in Maybee Michigan were fairly profitable; however, for both trips we were below our allotted 12 members due to last minute cancellations. Laylins came away with some decent sulfur crystals, as well as a good quantity of sulfur for the kids' table. On the second trip, larger celestite crystals were more plentiful and someone brought home a yard size rock with a nice large vug of these pretty blue crystals. (Could have been Snepps or Lewis'?) In general, it was fun to explore a new location and I think everyone found at least one self collected celestite to add to their collections, even if George would consider them fit only for the kids' table.

The annual pot luck/work bee at the Steven's cottage on Morrison Lake, July 24th was well attended. I believe the count was somewhere around 30 folks. 1000 or so gift bags were completed for the school children; and, several grab bags specimens were prepared. Lets see...."There was lots of food including some tasty chicken wings. And again, George Heaton,

who never overeats, ate just the right amount to feel pleasantly stuffed."

We also accomplished a good deal of work at the Turners on August 31. About 12 members worked from 10:00am to 2:00pm sorting, labeling and pricing material for the kids' table. There is definitely a shortage of material so please do get busy & see what YOU can part with from your accumulation. Of course, we took time out for a delicious lunch-- there was an amazing quantity and variety of food for such a small group-- and George had another chance to eat just the right amount to feel pleasantly stuffed!

FIELD TRIP TO STONECO QUARRY, MAYBEE MI, SEPT. 18

Thanks to Mary Kay Bean our club has one more chance to collect celestite and sulfur at the Maybee Quarry. The twelve allotted slots have all been filled, however you are welcome to add your name to the waiting list. If you are signed up, and now find yourself unable to attend, PLEASE contact Mary Kay or Mary Anne Smith and inform them, so another member can take your place. With so many members anxious to collect in Maybee, it is a shame that we haven't had a full slate yet.

Collecting was not permitted at this quarry for several years. If we want to keep it open, we must be on our best behavior. HARD HATS, SAFETY GLASSES AND STEEL TOE BOOTS ARE A MUST. YOU MUST ALSO ARRIVE AT APPROXIMATELY 7:20AM TO SIGN THE RELEASE FORM, AS THE QUARRY SUPERVISOR WILL TAKE THE GROUP DOWN AT 7:30 SHARP. We may must be out of the quarry, and checked out in the office by noon.

Bring your usual tools: sledge hammer for working boulders; crack hammer; a variety of sharp chisels; and perhaps even a pick hammer if you wish to do some finer trimming in the field. Don't forget wrapping paper & boxes. You may also want some plastic bags or jugs in which to collect sulfur crumbles for show grab bags, etc.

For directions, see your June newsletter. George may also have a few extra maps at the meeting.

Eddy Center Annual Geology Arts Fair-- October 2 & 3

If you are itching to enjoy the fall outdoors, you may want to drive down M52 to the Gerald E. Eddy Geology Center, 10730 Bush Rd., Chelsea MI-- within the Waterloo State Recreation Area. There will be programs, demonstrations, work shops, geology hikes and a "swap & sell." The events will take place from 10am to 5pm on Saturday and 10am to 4pm on Sunday. Admission is free; but, you must have a State Park Motor Vehicle permit for entry. Of course you can buy a daily pass on arrival. For more information you may call (313)475-3170.

Believe it or not, we already have next years show dates set. Mark your calendars for October 21-23, 1994.

MWF Field Trip & Convention Report- Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski

Dave & I began our week long adventure at the Ishpeming Swap on Saturday, Aug. 6. While there we ran into Neil & Connie Snapp and Richard & Lila Stevens who had arrived the day before and already collected some kona dolomite for the show grab bags. Tired from driving all night, we didn't spend much time at the swap. We did participate in the Sunday trip to the Lindberg Quarry for our own share of kona. For those of you who have never been, walking into the quarry is like walking into a huge container of swirled strawberry ice cream- it's up to you to just choose your favorite shades and patterns of this beautiful metamorphic rock.

We arrived in the Keweenaw Sunday evening in time for a cook out with Dave's brother who lives in Chassel. It was an unusual Copper Country visit for us, as we spent most of our time helping others rather than collecting ourselves. Tuesday was spent with our friend Richard Whiteman guiding Midwest Federation folks around the Mass C Shaft and the Minesota Mines down in Ontonagon County. Convention participants could also join in the 6th Annual Red Metal Retreat. In conjunction with that event, Wednesday was spent helping collectors inside and outside of the Caledonia Mine. (The Caledonia is currently being mined by Richard for specimens.) At the Caledonia we heard the familiar voices (and finally saw the familiar faces) of Joe and Alberta Manina-- they were in the dark of the mine at the time!

Collecting trips were also available to the Clark and Gratiot Mines up in Keweenaw Country. Joe and Alberta had good luck at the Clark. However, I didn't hear positive reports from anyone else. The piles had been freshly bulldozed, but there was no cooperating rain to wash away the dirt and expose the copper.

The most challenging event of the week was setting through the four hour Midwest Federation Meeting as our club delegate! Highlights are as follows:

--1994 MWF Convention/Show will be at South Bend IN, Sept. 2-4
--By-laws were changed to give the host society for MWF shows 75% of the net profit and the MWF 25%. This was previously a 50/50 split.

--Currently, clubs pay .25 per member dues to the American Federation of Mineral Societies. The folks out west have been trying to increase this to 1.00 per member. It was the recommendation of the delegate body, to the Midwest Federation Executive Committee, that support be made for increasing dues up to .25 (a total of .50 per member.) The dues have remained .25 since the 1950's if I remember correctly.

--There is a resolution in the state legislature to make copper and hematite co-state minerals. I guess the iron folks and copper folks have been battling this issue for several years, thus a compromise.

--Election results were as follows:

President-- Marvin Starbuck, Vicksburg MI
First Vice-President-- Anne Cook, Cleveland Hts OH
2nd Vice-President-- Mary Hanning, Huntsville IL

Secretary--Jean Reynolds, Clarendon Hills IL
Treasurer--Norm Hanschu, Canton MI
Nominating Committee-- Nellie Claxton, Southern IL
Dean Stone, West Central IL

****READ THIS**** THERE IS NEW FEDERAL LEGISLATION PENDING TO
PRESERVE FOSSIL COLLECTING RIGHTS ON PUBLIC LANDS:
"PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION ACT OF 1993." More
info follows in this newsletter; read it and contact your
representatives.

HOUSE BILL PROMOTES FOSSIL COLLECTING ON PUBLIC LANDS FOLLOWS NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Support *The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act of 1993.*
Now ready for introduction into the House of Representatives and Senate.

Please write or call your U. S. Representative and Senators immediately and request that they sign on as sponsors of this bill. The Blue pages in your phone book will list the names of your Members of Congress or call the Capitol switchboard number in Washington, DC for their names, phone numbers and addresses (202/224-3121).

This is a brief synopsis of the benefits of the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act of 1993 (hereinafter referred to as the House Bill) as well as some points of difference between this Act and the Baucus Bill introduced in the Senate in 1992.

SUMMARY

Fossils are abundant. Fossils are a "non-renewable" resource only in that an individual fossil once lost to the elements is gone forever. This unique nature of the paleontological resource demands that fossils be collected to be preserved. The same forces of weathering which expose fossils to our eyes will inevitably destroy them if they are left uncollected. In fact, most fossils once exposed are lost in this way. The science of paleontology is also unique in that the average person can, and often does, make valuable contributions by discovering fossil specimens and sites. Historically, some 80% of all scientifically significant specimens have been discovered by amateurs.

Consequently, a policy of open access for the collection of this resource is necessary if fossils are to be preserved. This is contrary to most Land Management practices which restrict access to resources in order to preserve them. Currently a maze of conflicting bureaucratic rules and policies are being misapplied that restrict access to fossil collecting on public lands. The House Bill establishes clear guidelines to the Land Management Agencies to open access for fossil collecting. It also provides for the special treatment of the occasional rare fossil by placing ownership of significant specimens with the United States government.

Benefits of the House Bill

The House Bill benefits Land Management Agencies because:

- it clarifies their mandate to manage this resource.
- it creates a positive, educational role for them by encouraging the public to understand and preserve this resource.

The House Bill benefits Science because:

- it encourages fossil collecting which preserves the resource.
- more collected fossils benefit the science of paleontology.
- unimpeded access to fossils aids research in the related fields of stratigraphy, sedimentology and sedimentary geochemistry, etc.
- it increases the pool of recruits into all these areas of study both as vocations and avocations.

The House Bill benefits museums and universities as well as earth science classes and clubs at all educational levels by:

- allowing permit free access for field trips and educational groups for casual collecting.
- providing more specimens for study at all educational levels.
- providing more display specimens for public and private museums and collections.

The House Bill benefits the resource by:

- increasing the chance that the fossils on public lands will be discovered and preserved.

Most importantly, the House Bill benefits the general public because it is a fiscally responsible bill which does not require more tax dollars to fund the agencies required to manage this resource. The public, in the person of the amateur collector, has always been an integral part of the science of paleontology by making most of the important discoveries. Therefore, it is of paramount importance that public access to fossils on public lands be encouraged. As the 1987 NAS report, titled *Paleontological Collecting*, (page 3) stated: "We feel strongly that only with unimpeded access can our knowledge of ancient life move ahead with vigor."

The 1993 Paleontological Resources Preservation Act -the House Bill- provides a common sense, scientifically sound, approach to the management of paleontological resources on public lands. A healthy nation encourages education and the proper use of its resources rather than imposing the dark shadow of restrictive regulation and enforcement. Education may seem like "the long route" but it is the only practical option for the continued preservation of this marvelous resource.

CALENDAR

Sept. 16	Regular meeting, North School, 7:30pm
Sept. 18	Field trip, Maybee Quarry 7:30am SHARP
Sept. 17-18	Holland Show; Holland Civic Center
Sept. 30	Board Meeting
Oct. 2-3	Geology Arts Fair; Eddy Geology Center
Oct. 9-11	Detroit Show; Light Gaurd Armory
Oct. 21	Regular meeting, North School, 7:30pm
Oct. 28	Show set up
Oct. 29-31	OUR SHOW
Nov. 6	Pumpkin Pie Lunch at the Piotrowski's