

PRESIDENT'S CORNERSTONE--Chuck Smith

It has been a very hot summer. I hope that you and yours had a great time. Summer's over and fall is around the corner. Show time is coming soon, our monthly meetings resume, and football season is here. As we look ahead we have many opportunities for learning, fun, and socializing. For all the up coming events please read on.....

TIME FOR SHOW & TELL-- Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski, Program Chair.

Once again, September's program will be a "show & tell" of everyone's summer collecting. If anyone had the forethought to take slides of their summer adventures, viewing them would be a treat. (Do bring your own projector, please.) It seems that most of us never plan that far ahead, or are too busy collecting to worry about the camera, and so should bring along favorite specimens for the rest of the club members to drool over. Be ready to stand up and tell folks about your specimens and adventures. This should tie in nicely with the "Most Interesting Find of the Year" contest sponsored by our education committee. I will be at camp with my 5th graders, so Dave will fill in to keep things organized.

Looking forward to October, we are hoping to view two 16mm movies from the club archives. These are Michigan D.N.R. mining films which have been "misplaced" for several years. The old timers from the club remember them as quite entertaining; and, of course young'uns like me have never seen these flicks. Should be fun.

CHILDREN'S TABLE WORK PARTY AND POT-LUCK, SAT., SEPT. 23--

George Heaton

On Saturday, September 23 we will have a children's table work party and pot-luck at Grit and Alice Turner's garage where our club's children's table stuff is stored at 2667 Pine Tree Rd. Please come and help and bring food and eating tools for the pot-luck lunch. Work will begin between 9:00 am and 10:00 am. I plan to be there about 9:00 am. Lots of work needs to be done to prepare material for our October show. A significant part of our show income is derived from our children's table. **We need help and donations of material.** Please mark this on your calendar and come to help.

SPEAKING OF THE SHOW..... (jawp)

- Set up is Thursday Oct. 26 day & evening. BE THERE TO HELP.
 - Invasion of the school children, Friday Oct. 27 9am-1pm. BE THERE TO HELP.
 - Re-set up, Friday Oct. 27, 1pm ish. BE THERE TO HELP.
 - Friday evening, all day Saturday & Sunday. BE THERE TO HELP.
 - Get your DISPLAYS ready now. "Applications" will be in the Oct. newsletter.
 - Find a nice SPECIMEN or CREATE SOMETHING nice for the RAFFLE.
 - Likewise, we also need some DOOR PRIZES.
- Any questions, call Richard Stevens, 321-4379.

"There are two kinds of people, those who do the work, and those who take the credit. Try to be in the first group; there is less competition there." Indira Ghandi (via MWF Newsletter)

SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP: HALLS GAP & DANVILLE KY-- George Heaton

The September field trip will be to Halls Gap and Danville Kentucky. This will take place on the very last days of September and first days of October. Friday and Saturday September 29 & 30 and Sunday and Monday, October 1 & 2. This has to be a long week-end because of distance. It is probably about a 9 hour drive to Halls Gap and Danville KY, so you will need a full day to drive down and a full day to drive back home. The road cut at Halls Gap has become famous for its small geodes with excellent millerite, honessite, wire pyrite and other interesting minerals.

Kirtly Settles of Danville KY will be making arrangements for us to visit the Caldwell Quarry at Danville on Saturday morning. The Caldwell Quarry is known for its beautiful specimens of fluorite, calcite, barite, and sphalerite. The plan may be to either meet Kirtly at the quarry gate or near the entrance to the Pioneer Play House Campground. I will be talking with Kirtly again a week or two before the trip. Kirtly may also be able to arrange for us to visit the quarry at Monticello KY on Sunday. This quarry is about 60 miles south of Halls Gap and is known for its pink dolomite and fluorite. Kirtly said they have been having good luck at Monticello this year. In between the quarry visits, individuals can spend whatever time they wish at the Halls Gap road cut chiseling out millerite geodes from the hard rock. This can be very rewarding, but it is hard work. Kirtly also knows of many good areas for collecting creek geodes for those who don't like to work hard.

As for accommodations, in Danville the recommended motel and the one most visiting rockhounds stay in is the Super 8 Motel near the junction of Rts 127 and 150 bypass on the south side of Danville. Its rates are approx. \$32 to \$40. I understand there is also a Days Inn and a Holiday Inn in Danville. Camping can be had at the Pioneer Playhouse Campground. The phone number for the Super 8 is 606-236-8881. At this time I do not have the phone number or camping fee for the campground. I could not find it listed in the Good Sam Campground Directory. Hopefully I will know this by the time of our Sept. regular meeting. As I remember, the campground is located on the north side of the business part of Rt. 150 on the east side of Danville. The Caldwell Quarry is on the south side of Rt. 150 if I remember correctly. For those who may wish to stay close to the Halls Gap road cut there is a small motel on top of the hill about a quarter mile south of the road cut. The Halls Gap Motel phone number is 606-365-9982. This information on the Halls Gap Motel is old, so I hope it is still good.

For Halls Gap a 2-3 lb. crack hammer and lots of chisels of all sizes are needed. It is best to regrind new chisels so its point is shaped more like that of a wood wedge rather than the more blunt angle of a new cold chisel. Also make sure they are knife sharp. They will gut the limestone at the Gap better, but they also will chip and dull sooner, so you need for a large number of chisels.

To get to Danville KY take I-75 south through Cincinnati Ohio into Kentucky and continue on I-75 south to Lexington KY where you leave I-75 at exit 115, Rt. 922, and go south a few blocks to Rt. 4, the circle freeway around Lexington. Go west on Rt. 4. Here you have a choice of at least two routes to Danville. You may choose to exit on Rt. 60, go west to the Blue Grass Parkway, west on the Blue Grass Parkway to Rt. 127, and then south on Rt. 127 to Danville. The other choice is to exit off of Rt. 4 onto Rt. 27 and go

southern Rt. 27 to Rt. 34 and then southwest on Rt. 34 to Danville. Maps are published at end of this newsletter.

EDUCATION REPORT--Florence Hill & Royal Olsen

The mineral to be described by David Piotrowski this month is dolomite, a calcium-magnesium carbonate.

4-H Rocks and Minerals had five entries at the Ingham County Fair this summer.

They were:

David Bills, Cactus Creek 4-H Club of Williamston

Tom Joy, OnLine 4-H Club of Lansing

Alexis Oesterle, Sandhill 4-H Club of Mason

Jenna Philo, Northwest Leslie 4-H Club of Leslie

Greg Walls, Sandhill 4-H Club of Mason.

All entries were of a high quality. Best of show was awarded to Alexis Oesterle. As in years past, CML&MS will match their 4-H premium awards. Neil Snapp was the judge of this division.

At the September meeting we will have a contest for the most interesting find of the year, Sept. 1994 to Sept. 21, 1995. So, lets see the pride of your field-tripping jaunts.

WANTED: Members willing to share their interest in the hobby! We will be receiving requests for member to visit classrooms and other groups to talk on rocks. We have already been invited to repeat our display-demonstration at the Okemos and Haslett school science events. We need all of you ready to talk about what rockhounds do and show some of your treasures and skills. You don't have to know everything. What you enjoy, you can pass on to someone else. It's really fun to do; ask anyone who has done it.

Another venture we will try this winter is a series of weekend programs at Fenner Nature Center, Lansing. If you are willing to put on a 45 min. program on something you know, or have, or do, or some field trip experiences you enjoyed, let Royal Olsen or Florence Hill know.

These are opportunities for us to share some of the satisfaction we have found in the rock hobby, and open the doors for others to enjoy it too. Let's be generous with the gift we have found!

BOARD BRIEFS FOR MEETING OF SEPT. 7, 1995

--14 board members & 3 members present

--Florence Hill noted that honorary members Dr. Stonehouse and Len Stuttman are not in the directory. Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski indicated that if names are removed, it is because repeated mailings have been returned with no forwarding address. An effort will be made to find addresses for these gentlemen.

--Bettie Patterson, Liaison, has scheduled North School for the 95-96 school year meetings.

--Member Lorainne Rockwood passed away this week.

--Lee Laylin is busy putting our library holdings on computer. A print out should be done by October.

--Reminder of the Eddy Center Geology Arts Fair Oct. 7 & 8. Anyone interested in swap space contact Gordon Lewis & he will put you in touch with the proper authority.

--A nomination form for the "National Rockhound & Lapidary Hall of Fame" was

received from the Lapidary Journal. Clarence Kirkby (minerals) & Alice Turner (jewelry) were mentioned as possible nominees from our club. The requirements will be investigated further.

HAPPY 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY TO HOWARD & MARGARET RANDOLPH!

It was reported at the September board meeting that Howard & Margaret celebrated their 50th anniversary this summer. It's not too late to send cards of congratulations.

ALICE TURNER'S WORK ON EXHIBITION! (jawp)

Alice Turner's wire wrap jewelry is on exhibition at the Left Bank Gallery, 503 East Street, Flint from September 10 to October 10. The Left Bank is a not for profit gallery, run by volunteers, and is located in one of Flint's fine historic homes. It is open Tuesday thru Saturday from 12 to 4pm.

If there are any other members who create original art work (ex: metalsmithing, carving, wirework) and who would be interested in having an exhibition, they may contact the gallery.

LAPIDARY EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

The Cards would like to sell their lapidary equipment which includes grinding wheels & saws. Some of the pieces are board mounted so as to be portable. If you are interested call Cora Card at 882-6270.

OUR SUMMER FIELD TRIPS-- George Heaton

Bloomfield, Indiana.

Our June field trip was to Bloomington Indiana for the rock swap and geode collecting at the road cuts and area stream beds, June 21-23. Besides myself I found Gordon & Marie Lewis, Royal & Arlene Olson, Neil & Connie Snapp, Iral & Donaline Nutt, and, Charles & Marge Collins from our club had made the trip to Bloomington. Also, George Heaton's brother Roger, Roger's wife Elsie, and George's sister Joan showed up at the rock swap again this year. George Heaton and his brother and sister spent most of their morning and afternoon hours digging for geodes at the road cuts near the Harrodsburg exit on Rt. 37. We spent the hotter mid-day hours checking out the rock swap at the fairgrounds. I thought the prices at most of the tables were rather high. It seems most of the dealers wanted big fancy show prices at a flea market type show with mostly flea market quality minerals. George and his brother dug quite a few geodes at the road cut. George found at least one with millerite. Roger found a very nice quartz and calcite geode. Most of our geodes we took home unopened. Neil & Connie Snapp and Gordon & Marie Lewis also collected at the road cut, but I did not see what they found.

Maybee, Michigan

Only four of our members showed up for our field trip to the Stoneco Quarry at Maybee Michigan on Saturday July 15. In attendance were Neil Snapp, Gordon & Marie Lewis and George Heaton. I guess the very hot and humid weather kept most of the regular field trippers home. It was very hot and humid which made it very difficult to work hard at rock collecting. George Heaton, who has a low heat tolerance, could not take the heat and had to leave early before the others. Collecting was poor to mediocre. I

saw very little sulfur this time and some mediocre celestite. I suppose the others could have found something after I left, but I do not know.

Morrison Lake Picnic

Richard & Lila Stevens hosted our summer pot-luck picnic again this year on Saturday July 29th. About two dozen of our members showed up for the popular event which was blessed with perfect weather. We had clear blue sky, low humidity, and a nice breeze off the lake. Best of all there was a good selection of very good food again this year and George Heaton ate just the right amount of food, again. We also had a work session where we prepared many hundreds of little rock specimen bags to be given to the children at our show in October. I thank Richard & Lila Stevens for hosting this event again this year.

Lime City, Ohio

We had a dozen people from our club show up for the field trip to the Stoneco Quarry at Lime City Ohio on Saturday, August 26. It was a warm and sunny day but not nearly as hot and humid as the July trip to Maybee. In fact if one could find shade near the quarry wall it was quite tolerable if you didn't work too hard. I judged the collecting as being mediocre, based mostly on what George Heaton found. Lila Stevens found a section from a straight shelled cephalopod. Neil Snepp found a large specimen of calcite crystals with celestite crystals. The specimen had a few small dings on the crystals though. Dave Piotrowski's brother collected a decent fluorite specimen. It was the only good fluorite I saw that day. I think almost everyone, including George Heaton, probably collected an ample amount of mediocre celestite.

CLUB CALENDAR:

Sept. 21 Regular meeting, 7:30 North School. Show & Tell, "Interesting Find" Contest
 Sept. 23 Kids' Table Work Bee & Pot-Luck, Turner's House, 9am-?
 Sept. 29-Oct. 2 Kentucky Field trip
 Oct. Board meeting, 7:30 Meridian Twp. Service Center
 Oct. 28-30 OUR SHOW

OTHER SHOWS:

Sept. 15 & 16 Tulip City. Holland Civic Cntr. 150 W. 8th St. between Pine & Maple.
 10am-9pm daily
 Sept. 23 & 24 Livingston. Hartland High School. 9525 Highland Rd. Hartland MI
 Sat. 10-7 Sun. 10-5
 Oct. 7 & 8 Eddy Center Glg. Arts Fair. Waterloo Recreation Area, 10730 Busy Rd.
 Chelsea MI. State park vehicle permit required for entry.
 Oct. 13-15 Detroit Show/MWF convention. Detroit Light Guard Armory, 4400 E.
 Eight Mile Rd. Detroit. Fri. 9-7 Sat. 10-9 Sun. 10-6.
 Nov. 10-12 Midwest Faceters Guild. Dearborn Civic Cntr. Greenfield at Michigan
 Ave.
 Dearborn MI Fri. 6-9 Sat. 10-6 Sun 10-5