

Regular Meeting, Sept. 18: A-I Please bring refreshments. Program: "Show and Tell"; Mini Silent Auction.

News from our Homeward Bound President:

Hello, my 'royal' subjects! As you read we will be arriving home from our 15,000 mile field trip encompassing Alaska, California, and Arkansas. I have many stories, stuff, and slides for show and tell-- at least two minutes worth. (ha ha) We have received a verbal commitment from June Cult Zeitner that she will be on hand to speak to our club in November. See you all at the September meeting.

"Show & Tell" at this Months Meeting-- Your Chance to Brag (jawp)

Once again, September's program will be a "show & tell" of everyone's summer collecting. If you had the forethought to take slides of their summer adventures, viewing them would be a treat. (Do bring your own projector, please.) If you have video footage to share, please contact Lila Stevens (321-4379) so she can arrange to have a TV/VCR available.

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.

Our First Mini Silent Auction This Month -- Lila Stevens

It was decided last spring that we should try to have mini silent auctions to keep things lively during refreshment time. The following rules apply:

- These silent auctions will be held at the September, October, November, January, February and April meetings, after the program during snack time.
- Bidding time will be fifteen minutes.
- Each seller will be responsible for their own cashiering.
- No more than 10 items per family per month.

September 27 Field Trip -- Melissa Tuchowski

With a excerpt like that of Jeanie's (see summer field trip report) I figure by now you're all itching to go to collecting, and that we will: September 27th, Amherstburg, Ontario. We're running this one a week later than "usual" so to not conflict with the children's table work bee Sept. 20 at the home of Grit & Alice Turner.

We found Amherstburg contained all I boasted of in the June newsletter: bladed & mass celestite, honey-colored calcites, strontianite, micro fluorite, and I believe Connie and Neil found that tell tale fossil or two. Amherstburg is located just south of Windsor, allow about 2 ½ hours travel time, hopefully Saturday traffic will be light. Bring your usual tools & safety equipment. We'll meet at the quarry gate about 8:00 a.m.

Directions: Take eastbound I-96 to Detroit. Catch southbound I-75 to the Ambassador Bridge into Canada. Cross over and catch Hwy 3 southbound for three to four miles and Exit onto Route 18. Route 18 runs westerly for about 5 miles and then takes a sweeping curve to the south (if you miss you'll end up back in Windsor - turn around). We take Route 18 to Amherstburg (about 20 miles). Upon reaching Amherstburg you want to take a left at the 3rd Stoplight - Simcoe Street. The quarry is about a ½ mile down. I will have maps available at the meeting. For information regarding entry into Canada, refer to May's Rockhound News. As always, call me with any questions or suggestions, 339-0459.

In Memory... Joe Kreps

It is with great sadness that I report the death of Joe Kreps on June 22, 1997, at the grand old age of 92. Joe, and his wife Laura who died in 1985, were both Charter Members of our Society and Joe was our 2nd President. Joe and Laura were hosts to our education classes on many occasions and shared their knowledge with all of us. Joe was a science teacher in the public schools and felt the need to stir the interest of young people in rocks and minerals. As a result, he built three portable cases for our club and filled them with rocks, minerals and fossils. These were loaned out to schools and were (and still are) taken by our club members to schools for talks to the students and to the general public. We all know them as the "Kreps Cases."

I have many wonderful memories of Joe and Laura, visited them in their homes, both in Lansing and in Tucson, and have kept in touch throughout the years. I can still picture the shelves in then home in Lansing filled with beautiful specimens and the wall in their home in Tucson covered with oddly shaped heads of knots of wood and desert cacti, decorated with eyes, mouths and even hair from old wigs. I have two of them (ugly, but treasured), as well as several crystal specimens given to me by Joe.

Our sympathy is extended to Joe's son Alan and his family, as we know he is being missed, especially by his great grandchildren who delighted in "talking rocks" with Joe.

Bettie Patterson, Liaison Officer

Education Report -- Margaret Green

Florence Hill & Marie Lewis were great presenters at the First Prespytarian Church Summer Bible School classes in Mason last August, helping Margaret foster a sense of wonder for natural creations of a geological kind. We were a GREAT team! Thanks Gal Rock Pals!

Florence worked the 4-H exhibit at the Ingham Co. Fair this year. Four youngsters earned the following awards; Blue Premium went to Jenna Philo; Red Premium went to Issak and Rachel Bean; White Premium went to Wesley Macarty. Each exhibitor has been invited to the Sept. show to be awarded their extra premium and be congratulated. Thanks for the investment of your time and effort on our club's behalf Florence!

Neil Snapp also put in an appearance at the Ingham Co. Fair, exercising his expertise and extensive experience judging 4-H science exhibits. We appreciate your commitment to the Village we live in! Thanks Neil!

!!!GET READY FOLKS!!! Teachers are calling everyday to reserve space for a field trip to the show in October, AND are asking about classroom visits too.

Mineral of the Month: David has researched several "Believe it or not" mineral stories in the Minerals of Michigan handbook to match your summer adventure tales.

I do not have class on Thursday this semester, who-ray. If you need to connect with me I can be reached by phone or fax, my number is 882-3637.

CHILDREN'S TABLE WORK BEE -- stolen from George Heaton

On **Saturday, September 20** 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 around 9:30.** 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.

"The best way to convince a fool that he is wrong is to let him have his own way."

Josh Billings via Crystal Cluster 9/97

Michigan Minerals: "Believe it or not." This month's five minute talk will highlight some strange occurrences documented in the Michigan Geological Survey x-files!

An Overview of a Summer of Field Trips -- Melissa Tuchowski

The sun shown upon us this summer with its twinkling blue eyes and followed us from the creek beds of Kentucky to the northern shores of 5 mile point. I hear tell some traveled quite a bit further and I look forward to seeing / hearing their tales at this months meeting.

Jean Ann and I discovered the true meaning of "Rock Marathon." It goes something like this: Maps, tents, and chisels packed, southbound M-66 beckoned us on to Indiana. A quick catnap at the truck stop and the morning found us wading the creek beds of Kentucky in search of the allusive crystal lined brachiopods. Oh, we found them all right and a road cut or two later we were eastbound to the Marengo Cave. Five minutes to spare before the tour leaving ... a childhood dream fulfilled. But the day isn't over yet, Corydon awaited with a fresh blast and the graceful pink of the dolomite as well as some intense lavender micro-fluorite crystals. Dusk falling, we pitched tent at the Bloomington / Bedford swap with visions of geodes embanked in our heads. Now if that isn't a rock marathon I don't know what is...and wait 'til you see the geode we found, even George says its a keeper!

The following is an excerpt from a letter from Jeanie, a 'first timer on our field trip to Amherstburg: "I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW MUCH I ENJOYED IT. I LOVED IT. I WANT TO GO AGAIN AND JOIN THE ROCK CLUB. WE LAUGHED TILL WE CRIED, WE SWEAT TILL WE STANK, WE DRANK TILL WE _____, WE CLIMBED TILL WE FELL, WE HUNTED TILL WE FOUND, WE STAYED TILL WE FAINTED. IT WAS GREAT. REALLY , REALLY, BROUGHT BACK LOTS OF ROCKS . I HAVE LOTS OF FUNNY STORIES TO TELL. I'M STILL SMILIN..." I believe that's it in a brachiopod shell!

The Keweenaw needs little more to be said... The water still carried its northern chill, the children again outdid me in agate collection (they have the eyes...) Champion was forever sparkling. I hear much copper and dolomite were found. (Ask Grit about his pea size find.) And, all in all, the region offered it's usual wonderful breath of fresh air.

Many, many thanks to all who have collected for the children this summer. Rebekah came excitedly home the first week of school with news that her class would be attending "The Show".

THINKING OF THE SHOW..... (jawp)

Here we go again with the usual plea for assistance. Next month I'll bother you with the list of things that need to be done the week of the show. For now, you can get working on this list:

--Clean up a few boxes of rockses from the basement & bring some material to the

CHILDREN'S TABLE work bee on Sept. 20.

--Get your **DISPLAYS** ready. Pick out 15 - 20 specimens that you have been dying to show off, make some labels & there you have it. If you need to borrow a case to put them in please call Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski 616-948-4540, or better yet e-mail me at jawp2@im4u.com. Don't have that many specimens? Smaller cases are also available.

--Find a nice **SPECIMEN** or **CREATE SOMETHING** nice for the **RAFFLE**. Remember, this is something of higher quality that will incite folks to buy a \$1.00 ticket. Get your donation to Gail Hopkins. She will also be glad to give you tickets to sell.

--Likewise, we also need some **DOOR PRIZES**. Specimens, lapidary creations or jewelry are welcome. These are given away based on a drawing of admission tickets & should be of decent

quality. We also have separate drawing of kid's tickets, so you may want to think of some things they might especially enjoy. Give your donations to Roger Laylin.

CLUB CALENDAR

- Sept. 18 Regular meeting, North School, 7:30. Mini silent auction.
Sept. 20 Children's Table work bee. Home of Alice & Grit Turner.
Sept. 27 Field trip to Amherstberg Ontario
Oct. 23 Show set up
Oct. 24-26 OUR SHOW: "Ruby Anniversary" Fri. 6-9 pm, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 11-5.
Marshall Street Armory, Lansing.
Nov. 20 Regular meeting. Speaker: June Culp Zeitner

SHOW CALENDAR

- Sept. 20-21 Falls Fossil Festival, Falls of the Ohio State Park, Clarksville IN. Swap, talks, field trips. Sat. 9-7, Sun. 9-5.
Oct. 4-5 Eddy Center Geology Arts Fair. 10730 Bush Rd. Chelsea MI. State Park motor vehicle permit required for entry. Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4.
Oct. 10-12 Detroit Show. Light Guard Armory, 4400 East Eight Mile Rd, Detroit. \$5.00 adults, \$3.00 seniors, \$2.00 under 15, Free under 5 yrs old. Fri. 9-7, Sat. 10-8, Sun. 10-6.
Oct. 17-19 Ft. Wayne, IN Show. Allen Co. Fairgrounds, 2726 Carroll Rd., Ft. Wayne
Oct. 24-26 CML&MS show: "Ruby Anniversary" Fri. 6-9 pm, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 11-5.
Marshall Street Armory, Lansing.
Oct. 24-26 Midwest Federation Convention & Show. Davenport Iowa Rivercenter, Great River Hall, 136 East Third St. Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5
Nov. 1 Dearborn Auction. Allen Park Civic Hall, 15871 Philomena, Allen Park.
Nov. 7-9 Midwest Faceters Guild Show. Dearborn Civic Center, 15801 Michigan Ave, Dearborn. Fri. 5-9, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5.