

ROCKHOUND NEWS

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

OCT 1993



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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 Hukill	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

PRESIDENT PATTERSON'S PATTERN

Wasn't it fun to be a JUDGE? Our two contests for the best conglomerate and the most interesting or unusual rock had lots of entries making it difficult to judge—but we made it!

October is here and the time for our show is near. I hope you are all looking over your collections and deciding which you wish to display; which you can donate to Mary Gowans for the raffle or to Red Rogers for door prizes; or, which material can go to George Heaton for the children's table.

Also, be sure to sign up to help wherever it is needed—before, during and after the show.

See you at our October meeting— the 21st.

Bettie Patterson

OCTOBER PROGRAM— Roger Laylin

This month's program will be a slide show from the Mid-West Federation library titled Fossils of Alpena County, Michigan. The show was prepared by Pat and Bob Rutkowski as a field trip and study program showing the collecting areas and varied fossils in the Alpena limestone formation.

Members with specimens of Alpena fossils are invited to bring samples to the meeting for examination.

IT'S CLUB ELECTION TIME—Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski

In keeping with the club constitution, an election will be held at the October meeting. A nominating committee was given the task of finding people willing to take office; however, nominations are welcome from the floor the night of the meeting. The only requirement is that you have permission of the nominee.

The following nominations are being presented:

President— Roger Laylin and Richard Miller

Vice President— Chuck Smith and Richard Stevens

Recording Secretary— still looking as of 10/13/93

Treasurer— Alan Hukill

Corresponding Secretary— Mary Anne Smith

Director (3 yr)— Joe Austin and Barb Smith.

If you are willing to run for the position of Recording Secretary, please call Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski at (616) 948-9589 so your name can be added to the roster. It's a big job, but someone has to do it!

THE RAFFLE STILL NEEDS MORE PRIZES. Anyone who finds something to donate, please call Mary Gowans (351-6136.) Nice rock specimens or jewelry are welcome.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT

Cards were sent since the last newsletter to the following: Lorraine Rockwood (get well), two cards to Betty Tack (get well); and, a card of sympathy to Gordon & Marie Lewis on the passing of Marie's brother.

Please continue to call with any information regarding our members.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Smith

OCTOBER FIELD TRIP— George Heaton

The field trip for October will be our Gem and Mineral show at the Marshall Street Armory, October 29-31. I hope all of our members will be willing to participate in this event by working at one or more of the many jobs that must be done to put on a good show.

The children's table will need lots of help, especially during the school tours on Friday morning; and, George would like enough help on Saturday and Sunday so he can goof-off now and then and look at stuff, have a snack, check the silent auction, etc...

FIELD TRIP REPORT, 18TH SEPTEMBER 1993— Mary Kay Bean

The September 18th field trip to the StoneCo Quarry in Maybee, Michigan, was attended by twelve of us "hard core" miners. We had been informed by the quarry supervisor that blasting had taken place the previous day on the South face, so many of us began our search for calcite there while others ventured off into other territories in search of blue celestite and sulfur crystals. Some dolomite specimens were also reported to have been collected, as well as the occasional fossil.

What I considered the most exciting event of the day was the discovery by David and Jean Ann Piotrowski of a huge (400-500 pound?) boulder containing magnificent Rhombohedral calcite crystals. The assistance of numerous members was required to successfully "roll" the large mass from the top of the highest pile of rock in the entire quarry to the ground, and then into the back of their truck. I think that everyone there shared in the excitement of this particular conquest. Perhaps we can persuade Dave and Jean Ann to display this beauty at our show?!

All of the "rockhounds" appeared to be pleased with the day's acquisitions; the children's table can surely expect additional donations, as well. Twelve o'clock noon certainly came too soon for many of us who could have spent much longer in search of his/her prize.

Following the field trip, a number of us hungry members chose to gather at the small municipal park in Maybee for a picnic and great conversation, bringing the 1993 field trip season to a close.

DISPLAY REPORT— Wm. Rogers

Those of you who did not go to the Livingston Club show missed a good show. Bessie and I displayed the club case and two of our own cases.

Alberta and Joe Manina had their February case there; and, Clarence and Hazel Morgan displayed their polished geodes.

EDUCATION REPORT— Florence Hill

Wasn't it fun to look over that long lineup of rocks brought in for the contest at the September 16 meeting? Take a bow, Alan Hukill, for suggesting something we all enjoyed so much! George Heaton's copper country conglomerate won the most votes in that category, with Neil Snapp's jasper meta-conglomerate as runner up. Brice Robison's entry was chosen the most interesting rock, with second honors going to Lindsey Bean's cluster of blue celestite crystals-- her own find at Maybee this summer! Congratulations to all of you who brought in specimens to enter. You gave us a chance to share your interest in a special piece of the earth.

The conglomerate contest brought up the problem of deciding what to call each of the varieties of rock which have bits of other rocks within them. That will be the subject of the 5 minute talk at the October 21 meeting. Margaret Green will explain and show the difference between conglomerate, breccia, porphyry, amygdaloidal basalt and pegmatite granite.

4-H club members who were at the September meeting to receive their club awards in the 4-H Rocks and Minerals project were Lindsay Bean, David Buchko, Cyrina Hadad, Monica Kilburn, Ben Revers, and Greg Walls. We hope we will see them again at our meetings. 4-H rock and mineral people are always especially welcome.

Margaret Green is scheduled to spend some time with the fourth grade rooms at the Dimondale-Holt School on October 28, helping with their geology study. Lila Stevens entertained nine Cub Scouts on Sept. 20, studying common rocks and fossils.

NO MORE EGG CARTONS, PLEASE!! But keep bringing interesting pebbles for the Pebble Pond at the show.

I HAVE AN ACETYLENE TANK AND TORCH(?) WHICH I WILL GLADLY GIVE SOMEONE, IF ANYONE WANTS IT. SEE ME AT THE MEETING!

ALAN HUKILL

THE SECOND ANNUAL HARVEST LUNCH & PUMPKIN PIE EXTRAVAGANZA

Once again club members are invited to drive out to Hastings and have lunch in our drafty old house the Saturday after our show-- Nov. 6, around NOON. I picked the pumpkins tonight, so you can count on fresh, homemade pie for desert-- including some made with artificial sweetner for Red Rogers and anyone else on a restricted diet. (At least I think Red will share!) You'll also be able to view the calcite piece from Maybee, which has found it's permanent home in the wild flower garden next to the house.

Folks who came last year seemed to enjoy having a chance to just sit and visit. The drive out is pleasant, though I'm afraid the fall color will be gone by then. To get to our place take M43 West of Lansing to the 4 way stop just past Sunfield. Turn South on M66/M43. After 2 miles you will turn West (right) onto M43 (M66 continues South.) Continue West on M43 for 8 1/2 miles, and then turn South onto Barber Rd. (there is a DNR sign for Middle Lake Public Access marking the road.) Watch for the "Day by Day" general store on your right-- our corner is about 1/2 mile beyond this and poorly marked. As you come into a rather large curve, you will turn right onto Coats Grove Road. Ours is the first house on the right.

We'll have maps and a sign up sheet at the show. We hope to have a house full! Dave & Jean Ann Piotrowski

BE SURE TO VISIT THE NEW 4-H CHILDRENS GARDEN (MSU HORTICULTURAL GARDENS) OFF BOGUE STREET--Betty Tack (this article should have appeared in Sept. but was temporarily lost in the mail.)

From the musical squares for jumping on, through the labyrinth of grassy paths between lovely flowers & feathery grasses, the new children's garden is delight. There are dome fountains and spitting frogs; and, a special pizza garden including tomatos, onions, peppers & herbs. There are familiar crimson zinnias, asters and marigolds, besides less familiar flowers which are conveniently labeled. The beauty is set off by rocks too-- some of which were donated by club members. You can't help but enjoy this lovely display and will want to return each season.

MORE INFORMATION REGARDING FOSSIL LEGISLATION--jawp

In last month's newsletter I printed some information about a new house bill which would support amateur collection of fossils. In this newsletter you will find a comparison of this new house bill to the previous "Baucus Bill" which was an object of much contention in the last year. A petition in support of the house bill will be available at the October meeting.

House Bill vs. Baucus

The most basic and irreconcilable differences between the 1993 House Bill and the 1992 Baucus Bill are the premises upon which each bill is written:

House Bill

-The House bill was written in response to fears about excessive regulation raised by the Baucus Bill in the amateur paleontological community.

-The House bill was written by the American Lands Access Association* (an organization formed by the largest amateur societies of paleontological collectors in the United States), in consultation with academic and commercial paleontologists.

-The House Bill remains faithful to the recommendations and statement of principle of the 1987 National Academy of Sciences report on *Paleontological Collecting*. This study resulted in a consensus document encompassing the concerns and interests of the entire paleontological community and those of federal land managers.

-The House Bill acknowledges that protecting paleontological resources on public lands requires that

access be allowed so that fossils are discovered and collected.

-The House Bill recognizes that such access is encouraged by a clearly defined policy allowing reconnaissance and collecting without permits for casual collecting.

-The House Bill mandates a reasonable permit process and agency oversight for more extensive collecting by museum, research and commercial paleontologists.

-The House Bill provides misdemeanor penalties for violators of this Act.

-The House Bill mandates that Land Management agencies implement educational programs and protect collecting sites to encourage interest in, and collecting of, fossils.

* ALAA, Jon Spunaugle, President (206) 957-1343

Baucus Bill

-The 1992 Baucus Bill violated every recommendation of the 1987 National Academy of Sciences report referred to above.

-The Baucus bill was written primarily by an aide to Senator Baucus in consultation with a few academic paleontologists and some Federal Land Management agency personnel.

-The 1992 Baucus bill did not represent a consensus even within the small academic paleontological community and was widely rejected by the larger paleontological community including all the major amateur societies, the American Association of Museums

and the American Association of Paleontological Suppliers.

-The Baucus Bill assumes that protecting paleontological resources on public lands requires restricted access to public lands and fossils.

-The Baucus Bill requires that such restricted access be enforced by increasing the surveillance and enforcement personnel of the Land Management Agencies.

-The Baucus bill further mandates that violators be charged with felonies which carry penalties of hundreds of thousands of dollars and prison terms.

A SAFETY TIP FROM MWF LAPIDARY ARTS CHAIRMAN, BILL HORTON

DANGER MEXP - An eye specialist has given strong warnings about the grave danger of using the catalyst hardener which is mixed with some resins. The specific toxic agent involved is methyl-ethyl-ketone-peroxide. A drop of this catalyst in the eye very progressively destroys the tissue and results in blindness!!!!!! Once started, there is no way of stopping the destruction or of repairing the damage. No known neutralizer has been discovered. Washing the eye with water will only be effective if done within four seconds after contamination.

Although MEXP is not present in all epoxy glues, it is present in extremely high concentration in most modern fillers, glues, and in the catalyst used in Fiberglass hardeners and liquid casting plastic!!!!!! **BEWARE!!!!!!**

And from the Border Gem Chatter:
A Summer Rockhound by Cindy Lind, member CLGMS

The skeeter and the rockhound both
Went out to hunt one day.
The rockhound wanted specimens
The skeeter wanted prey.

The rockhound found a likely spot
And settled with his gear.
He'd dug a short time when he heard
A buzzing in his ear.

The rockhound swatted at the noise
And stood to look around.
He missed the skeeter, but he saw
A great stone on the ground.

The rockhound bent to lift the stone
His backside in the air.
The skeeter took advantage then
and bit the rockhound there.

The rockhound jumped and squashed the bug
His bottom to defend.
The rockhound and the skeeter had
Both got it in THE END.

To craft a silver tree, form a few strands of copper wire into a tree-like form and place into a large glass vessel. Dissolve two grams of silver nitrate in 4 liters of distilled water. Transfer this solution to the vessel containing the wire tree. A reaction will become apparent immediately and will be completed within a few hours. Silver crystals will form on the copper tree. Copper is oxidized in a solution of silver nitrate at the same time silver ions are fused to metallic silver, which forms a soft white lustrous metal attached to the limbs of the tree, giving the appearance of snow. A fun project.

* * * * *

SILENCE: There is a silence that you hear and feel deep in the wood, or at sunset in the desert when for a few moments the birds are hushed and the wind is stilled. But the most silent silence in the world is when the President of the Club asks for a "volunteer."

Achates
via Chip & Lick, 5/93
via Tulip City Conglomerate 9/93

CLUB CALENDAR

- Oct. 21 Regular meeting, North School, 7:30pm
Election of officers
- Oct. 28 Show set up
- Oct. 29-31 OUR SHOW-- come and lend a hand
- Nov. 4 Board meeting, Bettie Patterson's
- Nov. 6 Lunch & pumpkin pie at the Piotrowski's
- Dec. 2 December Board meeting
- Dec. 30 "January" Board meeting

Gem & Mineral Show - 1993

"Nature's Sparklers"

Sponsor: Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society

Dates: October 29, 30, 31, 1991

Place: Marshall Street Armory, Lansing, MI

Set-Up Time: Thursday Oct. 28, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Friday Oct. 29, 1:30- 5:30 pm

Removal Time: Sunday, October 31, 5:00 pm

All displays will be non-competitive. Any lighted case 36" wide or less will be allowed a maximum of 50 watts; over 36" wide, 80 watts. Exhibitors must furnish their own extension cord, properly identified.

(tear here)

I wish to exhibit at the 28th Annual Gem & Mineral Show, "Nature's Sparklers" sponsored by Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society.

Classification of exhibit _____
(mineral, fossil, lapidary, etc.)

I will furnish _____ cases.
(number)

Size: _____ wide x _____ high x _____ deep. Lighted? ___yes ___no

I would like to borrow a case. _____

The Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society will furnish security and take all reasonable and expected precautions to protect the property and person of the exhibitor.

The Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society shall not be liable to any exhibitor for any damages to or for the loss or destruction of any exhibit. This shall include the property of an exhibitor or injuries to his/her person resulting from any cause.

Submission of a signed application constitutes acceptance of all rules and regulations.

Date _____

Signature _____

Street _____

City & State _____

Club Affiliation _____

Phone Number _____

Send application before October 28 to: Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski
1407 Coats Grove Rd.
Hastings, MI 49058
(616) 948-9589

Open: Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society
Oct 29, 30, 31, 1993
Place: Marshall Street Armory, Lansing, MI
Set-up Time: Thursday Oct 28, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Friday Oct 29, 1:00 - 5:30 pm
Removal Time: Sunday, October 31, 8:00 pm

All displays will be non-competitive. Any exhibit case 36" wide or less will be allowed a maximum of 80 watts, over 36" wide, 80 watts. Exhibitors must furnish their own extension cord, properly identified.

(Text here)
I wish to exhibit at the 1993 annual Gen & Mineral Show, National Speakers, sponsored by Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society.
Classification of exhibit:
I will furnish _____ cases.
Star _____ wide x _____ high x _____ deep. I intend _____ to _____
I would like to borrow a case.
The Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society will furnish security and take all responsibility and expense for the exhibit. I will be _____
_____ and person of the exhibit.

The Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society will not be liable to any exhibitor for any damage to or loss of equipment or any exhibit. This shall include the property of an exhibitor or injuries to health persons resulting from any cause.
Submission of a stand application constitutes acceptance of all rules and regulations.

Signature _____
Street _____
City & State _____
Club Affiliation _____
Phone Number _____

Send application before October 25 to:
Lansing and Webb-Forsman
1407 East Dr. # 88
Lansing, MI 48906
(517) 344-2888