

NEXT MEETING: November 21, North School

MINERAL OF THE MONTH: ?????

PROGRAM: Rich Williams, Scrimshaw Artist

REFRESHMENTS: J-Q please bring goodies.

President's Note – Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski

Many thanks to all of you who contributed muscles, time, brain cells, rocks, minerals, lapidary and food to our gem and mineral show. I personally am most thankful for the food. □ While the crowds often seemed sparse, the door count shows we were down by only about 150 people from last year, which was actually an average crowd for us. Many folks commented that spirits seem to be low at just about any event they attend lately: rock show, craft show, whatever... a symptom of our national economy and international affairs it seems. All the same, I had fun and I hope you did too. Bills of course are still coming in, but we are definitely looking at a profit. Once again, in true CML&MS fashion, we pulled off a darn good show.

November Program: Rich Williams, Scrimshaw Artist

Our speaker for November is Rich Williams. He will give us a quick overview and history of the art of Scrimshaw --- the carving or scratching of a design or picture onto the surface of ivory, shell, bone, or rock and rubbing ink or dye into it to highlight the design. Rich will show us examples of scrimshaw work and answer our questions about it. This is one of our rock hobby categories we do not see much of and should be a very interesting program.

After our program, some members may want to spend a few minutes to hold a mini-silent auction of some of their excess materials.

Hope to see you all at the meeting. Milt

Nominating Committee Report

This year's nominating committee consisted of Ed Drown, Mary Gowens, Rich Stevens, Lila Stevens, and Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski. The following is our new official slate:

President—Milt Gere

Vice-President – Mary Gowens

Recording Secretary – Sue Casler

Treasurer – Alan Hukill

Corresponding Secretary – Margaret Green

3 year Director – Christine Juroszek

Election will take place at the November meeting. Nominations may be made the night of the election; however, you must have permission of the person you are nominating.

I'ts Dues Time Folks! Pay up! Get the bucks to Ernie Aughenbach PDQ. Adults \$5.00, Students under 18 \$1.00. See Ernie at the meeting, or mail your dues to him at PO Box 67, St. Johns MI 48879-0067.

Corresponding Secretary Report—Mary Gowens

A sympathy card was sent to the family of Frances Swaggart. We also received a thank you from her family.

Show Report – Bettie Patterson, Co-Chairman

What a great show! Some people don't know what they missed. Displays were beautiful, dealers' attractive booths had wonderful things to sell, demonstrations were most interesting, and the fluorescent booth was attractive. The silent auction, door prizes, swap table, kid's table and raffle added excitement. Refreshments were delicious, thanks to all of you who contributed.

My special thanks go to Neil and Connie Snepp for obtaining the displays and security; Alice Turner, the working demonstrations; Margaret Green, the ticket sales; John Juroszek, Roger Laylin and Milt Gere, the announcers; Jean Ann & David Wahl-Piotrowski, the lovely copper piece for the front display; and, Ruth Ann Lehner, Lorna Tripp, Joyce Kahres, Eva Whipple and Lee and Roger Laylin who all helped me man the information table.

I was very impressed with the number of newer members who helped during the show and afterwards as well. Don't we have a wonderful group of workers and we all had fun too! It was nice to see Florence Hill, Lola Pearson, Bessie Rogers and, although I didn't see him, Joe Austin—it was great they were able to attend.

Thanks to everyone who helped make my job much easier. Bless you!

Some Fun Holiday Activities for Kids Young and Old! Via MGAGS Newsletter Fall 2002

“Window Frosting” Cedar Valley Gems

Make a “frosted window” for the holidays. Dissolve as much Epsom salts in two cups of boiling water as you can, then add a few drops of water-soluble glue. Brush onto glass, and as the solution cools and the water evaporates, salt crystals will form that look like frost. They are easy to wash off.

”Crystal Star Christmas Ornament” by Kerry Lowrie, FGMS Member

What you need: sugar, water, pipe cleaners, string, jar, pot, tablespoon

What you do:

- 1) Fill a jar with boiling water. Add white sugar a spoonful at a time, until no more will dissolve.
- 2) Make a star shape (or snowflake) out of a pipe cleaner. Colored pipe cleaners give a fun effect. Then attach a string to the shape. Hang the star in the solution. Let it remain three days. Leave longer for bigger crystals.
- 3) Lift out the star by the string. Allow to dry. Different colors can be achieved with food coloring.

“Make a Stone You Can Carve” via No Stone Unturned 9/98

Are you a budding sculpture? This project will give you a granite-like texture, be almost white, and after drying about a week, can be painted or left natural.

Ingredients: 1 quart water, 1 quart plaster of paris, 1 quart vermiculite (found in building supply stores or garden centers).

Mix in a clean plastic bucket. Pour mixture into clean cardboard milk or juice cartons and let set for 4 to 5 days. **Do not let any of the mixture go down the drain when cleaning your materials!!!**

After the mixture has set, peel off the cardboard cartons. You have blocks to sculpt with simple kitchen tools.

Welcome to our New Members

As is usual after the show, we have several new members this month.

Karl Hallbert was the scrimshaw demonstrator at our show just past, perhaps you had a chance to meet him them. Karl's other interests include archaeology, carving, fossils, lapidary and metalcraft. . His address:36850 Schafer, Clinton Twp. MI 48035. 586-790-8823

George & Roger Heaton's sister, Joan Elmore, is also joining our ranks. With three Heatons in the club, we should have triple the good weather for our events! Interested in . Her address: 478 Waynoke Dr., Sardina OH 45171.

Mark Terpstra's interests include archaeology, carving, lapidary and minerals. His address: 6238 Beechfield, Lansing MI 48911. 517-394-3747.

Marie and Gaylord Brooks were visitors at the October meeting and decided to join the club. Their interests include archaeology, geology, and lapidary. Their address: 3601 Glasgow Dr., Lansing MI 49811. 517-394-7211.

Upcoming Shows

Nov. 23 &24 Lapidary & Rock Demo Weekend. Lake Erie Marshlands Museum & Nature Center, Lake Erie Metropart, 32841 W. Jefferson, Brownstown MI. \$3.00 per car admission to park. Sat. 10-5, Sun. 12-5

March 8-9 Roamin Club Auction. Schoolcraft College, Waterman Campus Center, 18600 Haggerty Rd, Livonia. Fril 11-6, Sat. 12-6.

March 22 "Dearborn" Club Swap. Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd, Taylor. 10-5. If you go ask a member for directions to the Pink Flamingo for lunch or supper, great food.

March 29-30 Blossomland Show. Berrien Co. Sportsmans Club, 2985 E. Linco Rd., Berrien Springs. Sat. & Sun. 10-5.

April 11-13 Mt. Clemens Show. Mt. Clemens Community Center, 300 North Groesbeck, Mt. Clemens. Fit & Sat. 10-7, Sun. 11-5.

May 30-June 1 "Dearborn" Show. Allen Park Civic Arena, 15800 White, Allen Park. Fir. 5-9, Sat. 10-8, Sun. 11-5:30.

I received this poem regarding housecleaning from one of my fiber friends (where I spend my other Thursday nights). Sounds like great justification for us rock types too. jawp

Dust if you must...
but wouldn't it be better
to paint a picture or write a letter,
Bake a cake or plant a seed.
Ponder the difference between want and need?

Dust if you must...
but there's not much time,
With rivers to swim and mountains to climb,
Music to hear and books to read,
Friends to cherish and life to lead

Dust if you must...
but the world's out there
with the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair,
A flutter of snow, and a shower of rain.
This day will not come around again.

Dust if you must...
but bear in mind,
Old age will come and it's not kind.
And when you go and go you must,
you, yourself, will make more dust.

Remember, a house becomes a home when you can write, "I love you" on the furniture.