

CMLMS  
15785 Park Lake Road  
East Lansing, MI 48823

**TIME VALUE  
FIRST CLASS**

## **Rockhound News—November, 2015**

Official publication of the  
**Central Michigan Lapidary and  
Mineral Society**  
Affiliated with MWF and AFMS

**Dues are Due  
for 2016**



# Rockhound News

This bulletin is the official publication of the Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society of greater Lansing, Michigan. It is published 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 and celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 2007.

**Meeting place: Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Street, Okemos, MI**

**Regular meeting date: Third Thursday, except July and August**

**Meeting time: 7:30 p.m., doors are open at 7:00 p.m.**

**Annual Dues: Adults \$10.00; Families \$15.00; Students under 18 \$2.00**

**Board meetings: First Tuesday, except July and August; 7:00 p.m., Okemos Library**

## OFFICERS 2015

President	Sue Casler	517-694-1233 caslers@michigan.gov
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## Affiliated With

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

<http://www.amfed.org/mwf/>

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

<http://www.amfed.org>

# ROCKHOUND NEWS

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, November 19, 2015**

**PROGRAM: Doug Sjoquist speaking on Mineral Names**

**REFRESHMENTS: Members with Initials A - L Please Bring Goodies**

**Location and Time:** The CMLMS membership meeting will be held on November 19, 2015, at 7:30 p.m., at the **Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Street, beautiful downtown Okemos.**

**Calendar for Fall 2015** and later

**November 18, 2015 - 7 p.m., Show Wrap Up Meeting, home of Roger Laylin**

November 19, 2015 - 7:30 p.m., membership meeting

December 1, 2015 - board meeting, TUESDAY, 7 p.m., Okemos Library

December 17, 2015 - 7:30 p.m., membership meeting

January 5, 2016 - board meeting, TUESDAY, 7 p.m., Okemos Library

January 21, 2016 - 7:30 p.m., membership meeting

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**The Vice-President's position is vacant. Let President, Sue Casler, or a board member know if you have any ideas for speakers, or other programs.**

November 19, 2015 - *Mineral Names: The Places and People Behind Them*, Doug Sjoquist

December 17, 2015 - Annual Christmas party with the Rocky Gift Exchange

## November Program

*Mineral Names: The Places and People Behind Them*, by Doug Sjoquist

As amateur mineral collectors we are quite familiar with the names of our favorite minerals and tend to be educated about their characteristics. We can identify where we found them and we love sharing why we like them. Rarely do we take into consideration, however, how the mineral came to be named. What is the history behind the names of our most cherished minerals? How did malachite come to be called malachite, for example? There are over five thousand or more recognized mineral species and new ones are added each year. (The IMA Database identifies 5,046 as of August 2015). In general, how do minerals get their names?

History, geography, linguistics, and science all intersect in the absorbing field of mineralogy. The presentation looks at the diverse ways minerals came to be named and provides examples of each. Some of the origins of mineral names might be surprising. Are there any mineral names that are relevant to Michigan? Are there any minerals named for non-Westerners or for women? To conclude, the presentation describes recommendations set by the IMA (International Mineralogical Association) for naming minerals in the future.

## Welcome New Members

**Rory Grinnell of Owosso**

**Anna Fulger of Charlotte**

## **Message from Roster Secretary Ernie Aughenbaugh: Dues are now being collected for 2016.**

Please keep in mind that December 31 of each year is the actual date your dues should be paid to the society so the board can plan accordingly for publishing an annual directory and insurance for each member for field trips. Also, if you receive your newsletter or any other notifications by electronic means, PLEASE NOTIFY THE BOARD IF YOU HAVE A CHANGE IN YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HOSPITALITY**

We need members willing to set up hospitality on membership meeting nights. Please consider taking a few minutes to help out.

### **REPORT OF 50th GEM MINERAL & FOSSIL SHOW**

This year about 52 of our members, 16 volunteer friends and 10 MSU Geology Club members took an active part in creating the Show. They all deserve thanks from the non-participating members.

The helping support of as many members as can attend is greatly needed as at least 255 hours of manning public show activities is required. This does not include the efforts necessary to cover the 4 hours on Friday morning attempting to inspire the children to learn more about rocks, minerals and the natural world. Just belonging to the Society is not enough; participation in activities is desirable. I realize that unforeseen last minute emergencies can occur to prevent your helping. But it is known a year in advance when the Show is to be held and it seems to me that schedules could be arranged, annual leave requested, if you are truly in accord with the tenants of the Society.

Theresa Hubbard, Children's Day Coordinator, again put in much individual effort and combined with others did a great job in greeting the students and explaining the displays. This year school children numbers were down from the Lansing and other school systems to less than 800. Finances and curriculum changes were the main cause even though we are again providing financial support to schools for the transportation of the children.

The Exit Gifts free passes and those to volunteers provided for the return of 30 friends and children. The total counted attendance was 1429 practically the same as last year, and their interest and purchases appeared to be normal.

The new Dealers, Beauties of Creation and Peacock Rocks, offered a new selection of items and appeared to be well received by the patrons. Moorehead Enterprises returned again to join the usual group. The additional Dealer seemed to fill out the floor and better balance the flow of the attendees. We hope to make this a permanent addition.

Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski and Chuck Collins managing the hospitality room did another superb job keeping us all well fed and happy. Thanks also to the many members who contributed the good food that we happily consumed during the show. No one went home hungry; if they did it was their own fault.

Chuck Collins again provided morning relief for the night duty security person, thus saving some other member from an early morning call. MANY MANY THANKS, CHUCK!

Ernie Aughenbaugh along with arranging for the Dealers this year contacted the Demonstrators to assure their attendance. He again did an excellent job. His efforts in these duties must be appreciated by all.

The Children's table was again managed by George Heaton with assistance by numerous others-

Lyle Laylin, Jan and Doug Sjoquist and several others. The Swap table was again dominated by George and Roger Heaton. They also donated nice specimens to the Door Prize table and a quantity of maple syrup.

The Silent Auction and Spinning Wheel, managed by Elaine Angstman, Sherry Sparks and Gaylord Brooks, attracted a crowd at each offering, however while all items sold, the return was only a bit below average. We hope that Elaine will be able to continue chairing these activities while residing at Branch, Michigan and Demming, New Mexico.

Our Raffle, was managed by Sue Casler, which offered 47 prizes, all of which were very nice. While we had sales of 893 tickets, final results will not be available until all mailings are completed. This year yours truly and Sue Casler had their tickets pulled Nos. 1 and 2 respectively.

The new Fluorescent Booth as designed and constructed by Lyle Laylin was again a big success. As a part of the new booth the repaired lamp provided exceptional illumination of the specimens. The designed and reconstructed interior of the storage trailer organized the contents efficiently and saved much lifting of boxes. The new electric cords he and Ernie plan to make for the Demonstrator tables have been postponed till next year.

Club member turnout for both set-up and tear-down was good (we can always use more hands to make the work easier). The 4 Geology Students who turned out Thursday noon were a great help setting up the 200 plus tables. At tear down on Sunday evening, the group's energy and strength were much appreciated! We trust the help from the Geology Club continues.

The efforts put forth by members working on the Children's Tour and at all of the various show functions was again exceptional - publicity, children's table, silent auction, spinning wheel, demonstrators, displays, admissions, raffle, florescent booth, security, dealer liaison, treasury and, last but not least, FOOD. Our new activity "Geode Cracking," which was manned primarily by Lyle with assistance by myself, John Sidange and Dave Berquist, more than paid for the purchased geodes with many leftovers.

The Dealers on a whole seemed satisfied with the results of the weekend and all indications are that the Show was again an educational and financial success and was enjoyed by those in attendance. A special THANK YOU to all of you in charge as well as all of the members who assisted so ably during the 50th Show.

The pebble pond DESPERATELY needs refilling. The "Kids" nearly drained the supply of the more desirable fossils and mineral specimens so get out there and collect over the coming year!

All the volunteers that assist us during the Children's Tour (Friday morning) help make that day a success. Jan Sjoquist invited 2 and Lee and I accounted for the other 14 volunteers previously mentioned. I must ask does anyone else have friends? PLEASE recruit your friends and relatives or enemies, the more the merrier.

Show Wrap up meeting will be held on November 18 at 1770 Sandhill Road. Anyone interested in the Show is welcome.

**A HEART FELT THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED.**

**AGAIN PLEASE: MEMBERSHIP, THIS CHAIR NEEDS A NEW BODY. AFTER ALL THE YEARS, I WILL BE HAPPY TO PASS MY EXPERIENCE AND INFORMATION FILES TO A NEW CHAIRPERSON.**

**L. ROGER LAYLIN, GENERAL CHAIRMAN**

**Moh's Scale 3-3.5**

From West Michigan MWF Mineral Study Group

Hardness is a very useful attribute to help with mineral identification and is one of the first tests normally done on an unknown. Our Mineral Study Group likes to learn about the science and practical uses of the minerals we study, but we really want to learn to hand identify them. Hand identification is a skill you learn from holding and studying many different specimens of a given mineral (and doing some homework on its physical properties). We are currently reviewing minerals by hardness. At our last meeting we looked at minerals with a hardness of 3 to 3.5 on the Moh's scale.

We try to do our homework on the science and come prepared to discuss the mineral (class or group) of the month, but we also dig through our collections and come with one or more specimens for everyone to handle. We really do learn from each other, but you have to share your specimens with others before they can be appreciated.

This month we had one or more specimens of Calcite, Malachite, Siderite, Baryte, Sphalerite, Chalcopyrite, Azurite, Dolomite, Pyromorphite, Cerussite, Rhodochrosite, Mimetite, Vanadinite, Aragonite, Celestine, Pyrrhotite, Tetrahedrite, Heulandite, Adamite, Millerite, Bornite, Desclosite, Native Arsenic, Atacamite, Paravauxite, Mottramite, Anhydrite, Enargite, Vauxite, Boleite, Witherite, Weloganite, Allenonite, Pottsite, Cacoxinite, Strontianite, Astrophylite, Pentagonite, Stilbite, Bournonite, Germanite, Wurzite, Montrumite, Chrysotile, Wolastonite, Anitgorite, Chrysocolla, Wulfenite, Ricolite, Chamosite, Strunzite, Domeykite, Bronchantite, Wavelite, and Cuprite. It was a wonderful collection of minerals to pass around the table and we almost ran out of time.

It is one thing to look at the pretty pictures in the field books, but you get a much deeper appreciation when you can hold a specimen and look at it through a lens (feel the density, shine a bright light on it, look at it under black light, etc.). And then examine another specimen of the same mineral (and maybe another). And then look at something else that is close but different.

Some homework was done, and we learned a bit about the specimens we studied during our sharing - people came with specimens they were unsure about. This month we even had door prizes, and everyone went home with a couple new specimens for their collections thanks to the generosity of several study group members.

## CLUB NEWS

**Outreach Committee:** Always in need of volunteers to help with school science fairs, talks and presentations at schools and other organizations, and educational opportunities. Contact committee chair Mary Gowans to lend a hand. [gowans@msu.edu](mailto:gowans@msu.edu) or 517-351-6135.

Thursday, November 5, 5 members of the Outreach Team presented at Marble Elementary School Science Fair. Team members were Roger Laylin, Dave Berquist, Nate Krupp, Theresa Hubbard and Mary Gowans. We had over 250 visitors to our exhibits.

The next Science Fair will be on November 19 at Glencairn Elementary School.  
Mary Gowans, Chair, Outreach Committee

### Upcoming Science Nights

1. Glencairn Elementary School, 939 North Harrison Road, East Lansing, Thursday, November 19, 2015. Same times. This one is staffed but come if you have something to share.

2. Donley Elementary, Wednesday, February 17, 2016 Science Night. More information later.

Please mark your calendars and email me at: [gowans@msu.edu](mailto:gowans@msu.edu) and let me know which events you can attend.

### **Field Trips!**

Field Trip to the Alabastine Gypsum Mine (Michigan Natural Storage Co.), 1200 Judd S.W., Grand Rapids, MI, Winter, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Check with Dan for more information.

See Dan Sine to sign up and for more information. Cell phone 517-316-5713 or [daniel.sine@opm.gov](mailto:daniel.sine@opm.gov). Dan would like to set up an email list of all who plan to go on the field trips. Please contact him if interested in getting emails as field trips are set up.

Minimum age for a quarry is 12. No children under 12 will be allowed at the quarries (their rule). Trips to other collecting sites may have no minimum, or maximum, age requirement. Safety rules in the **Field Trip Guide** are posted at the society website. They should be reviewed, printed out and **taken to every field trip**. Also, insurance coverage for the field trips by the Federation is very limited. It provides only for damage that members might do on-site. There is no personal injury coverage; no coverage underground. Coverage is only for members, so our policy is that field trips are only for members. Members should review this insurance information on our website. Let Dan know of any other locations and contact information that you may know about and would like to visit. Dan does a fabulous job getting these field trips lined up for club members so please take a moment to thank him personally for all his work.

**PLACES TO GO AND THINGS TO DO—Check [www.amfed.org/mwf](http://www.amfed.org/mwf)  
or our website [www.michrocks.org](http://www.michrocks.org)**

**FoundMichigan, an online magazine on culture in Michigan—[www.foundmichigan.org](http://www.foundmichigan.org)  
Check out our website for items for sale. There are links to eBay and Craig's List.**

### **UPCOMING SHOWS**

Third Weekend: CLIO, MI Flint Rock & Gem Club Annual Show Sat & Sun 10 am - 5 pm, Carter Middle School, Rogers Lane Dr., Clio Contact: Bill Wendling, (810) 638-5796; [bwrockbarn@century.net](mailto:bwrockbarn@century.net); [www.flintrockandgem.org](http://www.flintrockandgem.org)

### ***NOVA* on PBS**

There is a current mini-series on PBS “Making North America” being shown on Wednesday evenings, 9 p.m., local channel WKAR. Part 2 will air November 11 and Part 3 will air November 18. Part 1 already aired on November 4, but if you have a streaming device you can still see it for a short time. The *Nova* website under “Planet Earth” tab has more on the series and upcoming programs, educational materials, DVD sales. [Editor’s note: I have a Roku streaming device and use it occasionally when I miss a program or want to view a program again. It’s much easier than watching on the smaller computer screen.]

### **CMLMS MINUTES**

#### **CMLMC, Membership Meeting, October 15, 2015**

**Call to Order:** The October Membership Meeting was called to order by President Sue Casler at 7:45pm at the Okemos Masonic Hall.

**Treasurer:** Elaine Beane presented the September, 2015 report and requested input for cash box needs for the show. The MSU Scholarship check has been cashed and it is reflected in the September treasurer’s report.

**Announcements:** Sue Casler announced the speaker for the November Membership Meeting. Doug Sjoquist will present a program about naming minerals.

Roger Laylin:

1. Roger and Theresa Hubbard attended the MSTA (Michigan Science Teachers Association) meeting and showed pictures of past shows.
2. Mason Cub Scouts has requested the opportunity to sell Scout popcorn during the October show. Discussion ensued. Rob Roland **made a motion to allow the Boy Scouts to set up outside the main hall to sell popcorn.** John Sidange supported the motion; a vote was taken and the motion was passed.
3. MSU Geology Club plans to have four people helping at show setup and eleven helpers at tear down.
4. A revised floor plan is available for review; see Roger.
5. Lee Laylin has enlisted the help of fourteen people for the Friday morning children's tour.
6. Nate Krupp is in charge of displays. Please let Nate know if you are bringing a display and how much space is needed.
7. Sue Casler is in need of volunteers to man the raffle table.
8. Richard Miller needs help at the Petoskey Polishing table. He is the only person working it this year.
9. Roger shared information about a television program that may be of interest. *Nova/Making of America* will be televised on PBS for three weeks in November.

**Adjournment:** Lyle Laylin made a **motion to adjourn the meeting.** Richard Miller supported the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm.

**Program:** Marvel Mitchell-demo/display of knife handles.  
Respectfully Submitted, Janet Sjoquist, Recording Secretary

### **CMLMS, Board Meeting, November 3, 2015**

**Board Members Present:** Ernie Augenbaugh, Elaine Beane, Dave Berquist, Gaylord Brooks, Sue Casler Mary Gowans, Theresa Hubbard, Roger Laylin, Gordon Lewis, Dan Sine, Jan Sjoquist, Roni Sionakides.

**Board Members Absent:** Alan Hukill, Nate Krupp, Lee Laylin, Jennifer Martin, Kara Miller.

**Members Present:** Bob Mosher

**President:** Sue Casler called the meeting to order at 7:12pm at the Okemos Masonic Hall. She has received some inquiries that she referred to Roger Laylin for response.

Sue announced the dates for future board meetings: December 1, January 5, and probably February 2. All meeting will be on Tuesdays.

**Vice-president:** Sue Casler reviewed the membership meeting programs: November, Doug Sjoquist will present the program about naming minerals; December will be the Holiday party and rock exchange; January and February programs are pending. Sally Labadie will do a program on Mastodons in April, and the May meeting will be the banquet.

**Treasurer:** Elaine Beane is preparing the final show tally. There are outstanding revenues and expenditures.

**Recording Secretary:** Jan Sjoquist has submitted the October Membership Meeting minutes for publication.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Theresa Hubbard has sent out thank you notes for donations.

**Directors:** Gaylord Brooks (3yr), no report; Lyle Laylin (2yr), no report; Nate Krupp (1yr), absent, no report.

**Roster Secretary:** Ernie Augenbaugh, nothing to report.

**Liaison Officer:** Alan Hukill, absent, no report.

**Past President:** Elaine Beane, no report.

**Membership:** Dave Berquist submitted two applications for membership: Anna Fulger from Charlotte and Rory Grinnell. Elaine Beane made a **motion to accept the applicants into membership**. Lyle Laylin supported the motion, a vote was taken and membership was approved. Welcome Anna and Rory!

Dave suggested updating the application form and board members discussed possible changes. Dave will prepare a draft showing these revisions for approval at a future board meeting.

Roger Laylin brought up some concerns about non-active members in regard to insurance and newsletter costs. No changes will be made. There was a discussion about how members are notified about their membership approval. Theresa suggested items to include in a letter if we decide to re-instate the welcome letter.

**Field Trip:** Dan Sine anticipates a trip opportunity to the Grand Rapids Alabastine Gypsum Mine during the winter.

**Publications:** Roni Sionakides set the newsletter deadline for Monday, November 9.

**Education:** Kara Miller and Jennifer Martin: absent, no report

**Community Outreach:** Mary Gowans expects four member volunteers at the Marble Elementary Science Night and three members at the Glencairn Elementary program on the evening of our membership meeting.

The possibility of combining the Education and Community Outreach positions was suggested as a way to assure a quorum for voting. Mary Gowans defined the positions and informed the board of how the Education position was used as a platform to present information to the membership at meetings. Board members showed an interest in re-instating this. The committees will not be combined.

**Library:** Roger Laylin for Lee Laylin: purchases for the library were made at the show and will be available at the membership meeting.

**Display:** Jan Sjoquist set up the Memorial Display cases at the show and received a touching reaction and thank you by the daughter of a memorialized member.

**Finance:** Gordon Lewis, no report.

**Web Master:** Lyle Laylin: no report.

**Show:** Roger Laylin has the show report ready except for final financial figures. Elaine Beane gave figures for admission, fossils, minerals, geodes, silent auction, raffle, Petoskey polishing and partial results of other sales. More to come.

Sue Casler has mailed raffle prizes and Roger will deliver prizes to local winners.

**Show wrap up meeting is Wednesday, November 18, 7pm at the Laylins. All are welcome.**

Theresa Hubbard expressed concern over dealers losing sales because there was no WiFi at the Mason Fairgrounds.

**Old Business and New Business:** Deferred due to time restraints.

**Adjournment:** Lyle Laylin made a **motion to adjourn the meeting**. The motion received a second by Mary Gowans and the meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Jan Sjoquist, Recording Secretary

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING!