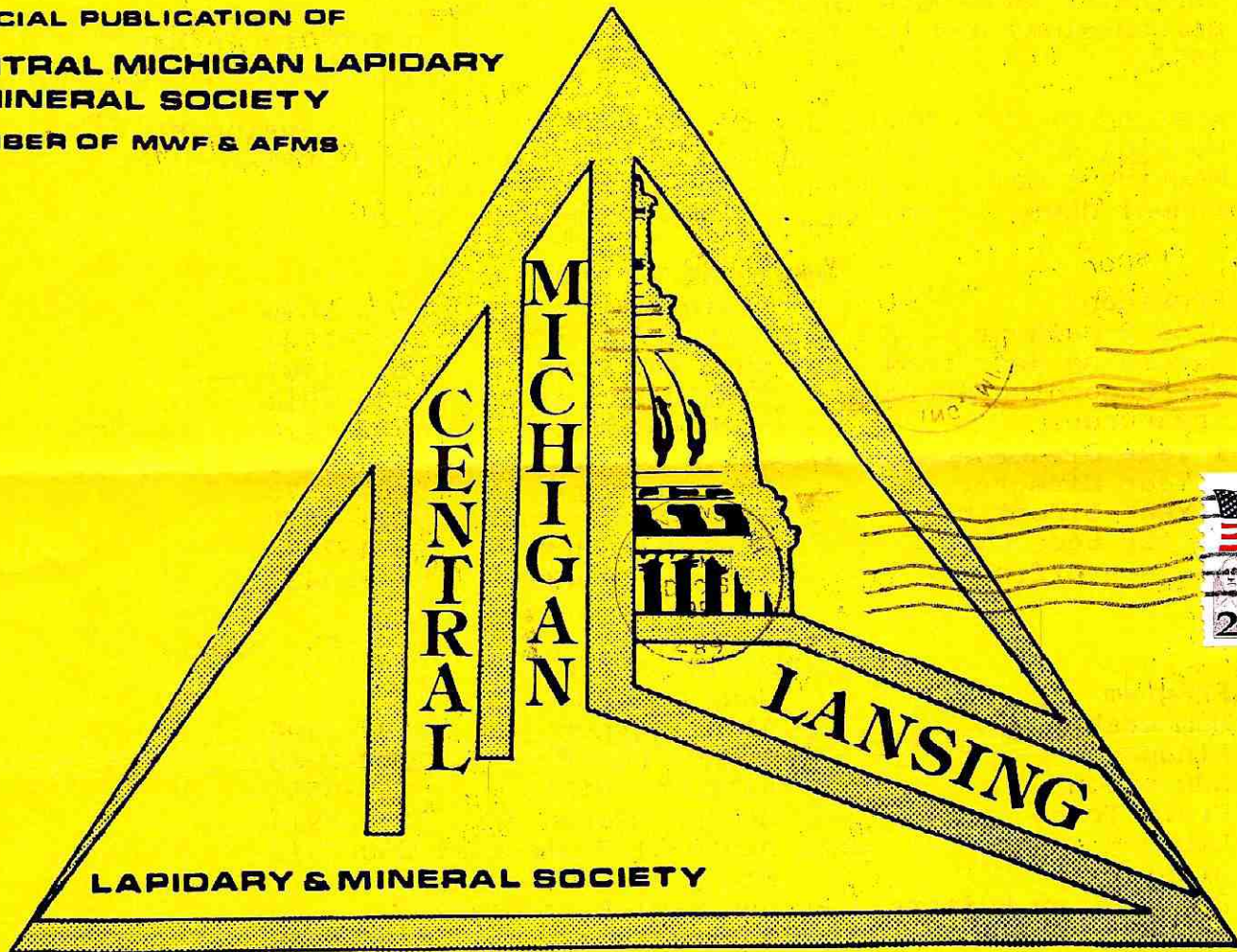


ROCKHOUND NEWS

DEC 1991

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



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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 & August
Meeting time: 7:30pm, doors open at 7:00pm
Annual dues: Adults \$3.00 Students \$1.00

OFFICERS -- 1991

President	Irwin Turner	694-9596
Vice President	Mary Gowans	351-6136
Recording Secretary	Mary Kay Bean	351-1107
Corresponding Secretary	Donald Lohrer	482-2914
Treasurer	Richard Miller	882-1516
1 Year Director	Joyce Kahres	694-0771
2 Year Director	Mary Crosby	484-1375
3 Year Director	Richard Stevens	321-4379
Roster Secretary	Bessie Rogers	1-224-7596
Liaison Officer	Bettie Patterson	482-3437

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program	Mary Gowans		
Membership	Alice Turner	694-9596	
Finance	Gordon Lewis	349-2263	
Education	Florence Hill	349-3554	
Field Trips	George Heaton Jr.	339-8914	
Library	Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski	353-7912	
Display	Wm. & Bessie Rogers		
Publication Editors	Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski		
	Bettie Tack	485-6768	
	Printer	Dona Lay	393-5418
Show		Neil Snapp	339-2863

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:
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MEMBER OF:

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

GRIT'S REPORT

1991 is fast coming to an end, so this will be the last Grit's Report for me as President. I might come up with another from time to time though.

I feel that this was a good year for the club and I've learned a lot from all of you. Thanks for all your help making the club prosper in 1991. Be sure to give Mary your support for next year. Thank you and see you at the meeting. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Grit

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT

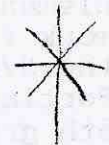
Get well wishes were sent to Reo Hovey in Ingham Medical Center, suffering from breathing problems. Also, cards were sent to Lindsey Bean and Sharon Gere. Lindsey was ill at home and Sharon is recovering from surgery at her home in Marquette. I received a note from Sharon expressing her appreciation for the many cards and letters she received and wishing us all a very happy holiday season. Thank you Shar.

The calendar and weather tell us Christmas is fast approaching. Take a few moments from your busy schedule to recall the true meaning of Christmas. True Christmas spirit comes from within. Material things are superficial. NOW, TRY TO EXPLAIN THAT TO YOUR CHILDREN OR GRANDCHILDREN!! I would like to wish you all a very happy holiday season.

Respectfully, Don Lohrer

TIS' THE SEASON TO SHARE GOODIES FROM YOUR KITCHEN!

Snacks are always best at our December meeting, when everyone brings a dozen Christmas cookies or other goodies! Once again we are sure to have a beautiful and bountiful table to share with each other and our guests. Please do your part, and remember to bring a little something!

DECEMBER PROGRAM

Program Chair, Mary Gowans, has arranged for a special program of Christmas music, to be provided by the Grand Ledge Madrigal Singers. This is a group of 16 high school students, directed by Nancy Lang.

THE NEW YEAR IS ALMOST HERE & DUES ARE DUE

It's that time of year again when Roster Secretary Bessie Rogers is collecting dues! Remember, it's only \$3.00 per person a year. You may see Bessie at the club meeting, or mail a check (made out to CML&MS) to her at 2222 W. Marshall Rd, St. Johns, MI 48879.

A NOTE FROM ONE OF OUR CLUB DIRECTORS

Joyce Kahres would like to encourage members, new and old, to make an effort to go on club field trips and join in other club activities. Our club members have a lot of information and experience to share -- don't hesitate to take advantage of opportunities to learn from each other and enjoy each other's company.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE -- Florence Hill

In the spirit of the season, the mineral for this month is atacamite, a deep emerald green copper chloride. Dave Piotrowski will give the five minute talk.

Richard and Lila Stevens hosted 10 boy scouts, 1 girl scout and 3 leaders from Grand Ledge on the evening of November 18. The scouts visited the Stevens' home to view their collection; learn about the Moh's hardness scale; and, learn a little something about fossils of Michigan. They were a nice bunch of kids, with a lot of good questions.

An impressive rock and mineral display can be found in the hallway of Pattengill Junior High School thanks to the efforts of Bettie Patterson, Rich & Lila Stevens, and Gordon Lewis. There are two cases, one containing 53 minerals and another filled with fluorescent specimens.

Margaret Randolph kept busy through the month of November, giving presentations to several schools in the area. On November 22 she gave a rock and mineral presentation to 35 third graders and 2 adults at Oakwood Elementary in Portland. November 25 found Margaret hard at work from 9:00am to 3:20pm, sharing Indian artifacts with the 375 children and 10 adults of Westwood Elementary in Portland. She spoke with children from Kindergarten through 5th grade. The next day, she traveled to Beagle Middle School in Grand Ledge to share the artifacts with the 6th grade students there -- 86 students in four sessions! Whew!!! Margaret is reportedly giving up rocks for music during the Christmas season, doubtless without slowing up a bit.

It should also be noted that there was a write up in the Portland Review & Observer about the Randolphs' rock and artifact collection and their many presentations to the community. Congratulations!

SHOW DISPLAY REPORT -- Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski

I would like to thank all of you, again, for taking the time to bring your displays to our club show and donating cases for the use of others. To the best of my knowledge, we had 33 cases displayed by 21 club members; 12 cases from 7 members of other clubs; and, 4 displays by Ingham County 4-Her's.

For the first time in the three years I have held this job, I did not need to use decorations to fill in space on the tables! It was thrilling to have every inch filled with

attractive and educational displays. As I checked the cases during the show, I could see that all of them were well endowed with the "fingerprint seal of approval." Your work certainly was appreciated by our visitors. Thanks.

VOTING RESULTS FROM THE NOVEMBER MEETING

In the event that you missed the November regular meeting, you may be interested to know that the membership voted to hold a show again in 1992.

The annual election of officers also took place with the following results:

President — Mary Gowans
Vice-President — Bettie Patterson
Recording Secretary — Mary Kaye Bean
Corresponding Secretary — Don Lohrer
Treasurer — Richard Miller
3 Year Director — Alan Hukill.

JOGGERS JEWEL from The Prospector via SMS Matrix and others

A lady jogger in Montana picked up a bright gold-colored stone. It was so bright and pretty that she wanted to get it set into a piece of jewelry. A jeweler tested it and found it was a DIAMOND!

A New York art dealer bought the stone for \$80,000 and intends to keep the diamond in its uncut state. It has been named the Lewis and Clark Diamond and is the largest ever found in Montana.

"ICE AGE FOREST" IN LAKE HURON!— Ed Benjamin, Arrowhead News (Indian Mounds Club, Grand Rapids) Nov. 1991

We've been hearing reports for a year or so about a forest of stumps found on the bottom of Lake Michigan offshore from the Chicago area. Today (Nov. 5) the Grand Rapids Press carried an article datelined LEXINGTON (Mich.) and telling of the discovery of another "forest" of stumps submerged 40 feet in Lake Huron. The discovery was made by the "Sanilac Shores Underwater Preserve Committee" and reported by their James Stayer.

The article refers to "hundreds" of feet of stumps up to 6 feet in diameter, with logs up to 20 feet long remaining the area. The article suggests an age of 7,000 years for the forest.

This report is one more confirmation of a low lake stage in the period after the retreat of the last major glacial advance of some 10,000 years ago. This appears to be one more confirmation of the possibility that the signs of man-worked copper outcrops under the waters of Lake Superior might have been correctly interpreted by Brian Schultz, except that the time of the possible event may have been much more recent than was supposed by Brian.

WHAT AN AGATE STORY FROM ED BENJAMIN OF INDIAN MOUNDS!!!

(I know I'm not the only agate fanatic in the club, and couldn't resist passing on this excerpt from Ed's September column which describes one of his summer collecting trips.)

.....The presence of our new friends was enough to reassure Barb that we could survive a night in the wilderness of Keweenaw, so we spent the night at High Rock Bay. The old van got shook up a bit by the drive in and on the return trip. It's not something to be tackled casually in the family car (But we did make it there and back years ago with our old '78 LaBaron) and we probably wouldn't have done it without our friends leading the way with a little 4-wheel drive van.

High Rock Bay netted one of our trips "extras" - lots of luscious thimble berries, enough for a couple pints of jam once we got home. But, the finest trophies of the trip are still there -- I think. Searching the shoreline for agate, and the second time past the same spot, I spotted a "humongous" agate embedded in the basalt, right at the water line. It was beautifully clear quartz with fantastic iron-red fortification lines tracing their twisting patterns across its face. We really weren't prepared for such a rock, still deeply embedded in the basalt, but brought out the crack hammer and rock chisel and started working along the natural fractures in the basalt, 4 or 5 inches safely away from the agate. Twenty minutes or so later, I could see no progress and could feel my not-so-young muscles telling me "whoa." Reluctantly, and soaked to my belt from Superior's waves, I creaked to my feet and took a couple steps away, looked back, and curiously, saw a crumpled "Coke Can" at the interface between basalt and gravel, just 3 feet from where I had been working. Odd, so I took a closer look -- IT WASN'T A COKE CAN, IT WAS ANOTHER AGATE. Scraping away the gravel, I finally uncovered the whole stone-- and it was between 9 and 10 inches long, almond shaped, about 3 inches wide! No telling how far it goes into the basalt!

I didn't work so long on this one but I did take a few whacks with the crack hammer and rock chisel at the natural fault lines around the rock. No trace of any "give." Now here's a project for another year....

(Now for your geography lesson: High Rock Bay is located at the Eastern tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula, about six miles from the end of the road at Lake Fanny Hooe. It sounds like a great adventure -- Jean Ann)



Merry Christmas to all!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEIGHBOR CLUBS: INDIAN MOUNDS & DEARBORN

After reprinting two articles from the Arrowhead News, it seems appropriate to extend congratulations to the club and editor Ed Benjamin for placing 5th among large bulletins in the Midwest Federation Competition. Ed also received a 7th place award for one of his original articles.

The Rockpile, published by the Dearborn Club, took 1st place for large bulletins.

AND... THE 1st PLACE POEM FROM THE MWF.....

DIDYA EVER? by Dolores Rose, Grand Island Earth Science Soc.

Didya ever notice--

Certain people who walk down the street
Seem to be looking at their feet?

Didya ever notice--

They walk through a gravel lot
And seem to bend over an awful lot?

Didya ever notice--

When they walk near a rock pile
They always stop and look awhile?

Didya ever wonder--

Why these people are always looking down?
That's easy! They're just a ROCKHOUND!

CRYSTAL REPAIR HINT from The Rockpile via Mineral News & Lapidarian 9/91

If you have been looking for a cement to repair quartz crystals check with your local hardware store for a product called CRYSTAL CLEAR. It is made by Duro, and comes in a small plastic red syringe.

It has the same refractive index as glass, is crystal clear, and is cured with UV light. Somewhat thick, (only a small amount is needed), the cement dries in a few seconds under bright sunlight or a longwave ultra-violet lamp. Under a shortwave lamp it takes longer. On a broken quartz crystal the repair almost disappears.

The package says it can be used for fill holes and to repair glass. It should also be good for repairing many translucent minerals, especially those having a refractive index close to quartz.

CALENDAR

Dec. 19	Regular Meeting, 7:30 PLEASE BRING A DOZEN COOKIES OR OTHER GOODIES FOR REFRESHMENTS
Jan. 2	Board Meeting, 7:30
June 12-28	MGAGS Seminar, Mott Community College, Flint
July 23-26	MWF/AFMS Show & Convention, Brunswick Ohio
AUGUST 8-15, 1993 (YES, 1993) MIDWEST FEDERATION FIELD TRIP CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN THE COPPER COUNTRY	

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Yours truly,
Director

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