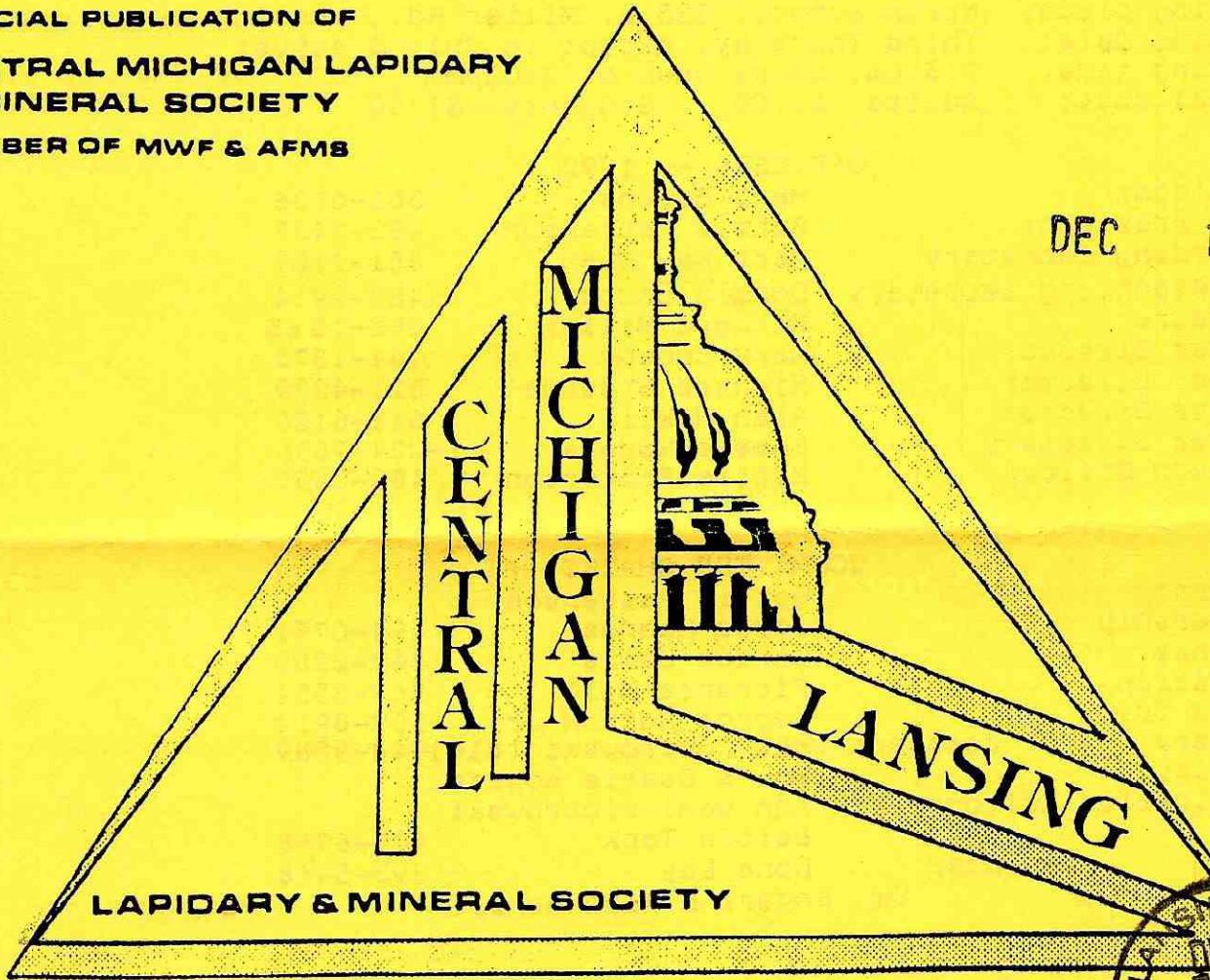


ROCKHOUND NEWS

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

DEC 1992



Return To:
C.M.L. & M.S.
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 & August
Meeting time: 7:30pm, doors open at 7:00pm
Annual dues: Adults \$3.00 Students \$1.00

OFFICERS — 1992

President	Mary Gowans	351-6136
Vice President	Bettie Patterson	482-3437
Recording Secretary	Mary Kay Bean	351-1107
Corresponding Secretary	Donald Lohrer	482-2914
Treasurer	Richard Miller	882-1565
1 Year Director	Mary Crosby	484-1375
2 Year Director	Richard Stevens	321-4379
3 Year Director	Alan Hukill	641-6125
Roster Secretary	Bessie Rogers	1-224-7596
Liaison Officer	Bettie Patterson	482-3437

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program	Bettie Patterson	
Membership	Joyce Kahres	694-0771
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	
Publication Editors	Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski	
	Bettie Tack	485-6768
Printer	Dona Lay	393-5418
Show	Wm. Rogers & Alan Hukill	

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:
14933 Brown Rd.
Lansing, MI 48906

MEMBER OF:

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

MARY'S MEMO TO THE MEMBERS

Suddenly, the calendar is on its last page, the month is December. We have so many things to do before the end of the year: starting or finishing Christmas shopping; preparing for next year's taxes; going to numerous Christmas parties; writing notes and cards to friends and family; and, any other items on the agenda. This is one of those items - my last memo to you.

I hope it has been a good year for you. I hope that you have found many pretty rocks, special fossils and stunning jewelry during the year, and at the show. I hope that you found some neat specimens on the field trips. I hope that you have enjoyed coming to the programs at our meetings. I hope that you have improved your identification of basic rocks through David Piotrowski's presentations.

The club has lost some very special members and gained some very special new members.

The show this year was one of the best in several years. And, as usual, many of the members helped from set-up to take-down.

I would like to offer a special thanks to the officers and committee chairpersons who worked with dedication.

I would like to offer all members a special thanks for their help this year and to everyone a Happy Holiday Season. See you at the Christmas party.

DECEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS -- BE THERE!!!!

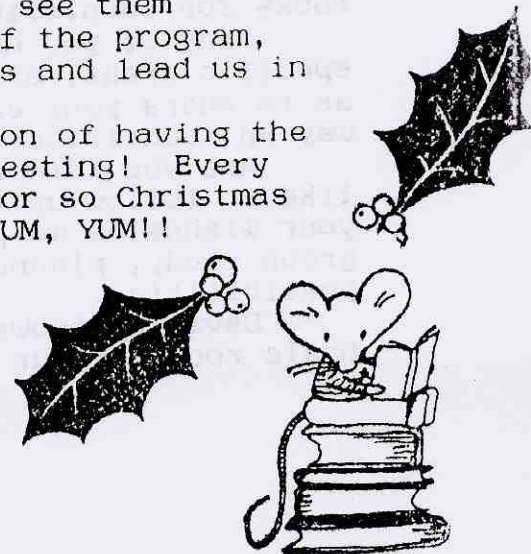
Members can always count on the December meeting to be one of the year's most pleasant. Don't let the bustle of the season keep you away, take a break and relax with your fellow rockhounds!

Bettie Patterson, Program Chairman, is pleased to announce that the program for the December meeting will be presented by members Margaret and Howard Randolph, who will share their knowledge of Indian artifacts in Michigan. Margaret and Howard speak on this topic and share their collection with numerous church and school groups each year. It certainly will be a pleasure to hear and see them ourselves. After the educational portion of the program, Margaret will also polish off the piano keys and lead us in a bit of Christmas caroling.

We will also continue our club tradition of having the world's best refreshments at our December meeting! Every attending member is asked to bring a dozen or so Christmas goodies to share -- sweets or otherwise. YUM, YUM!!

Dues are due.

Please send your
\$ to Bessie Rogers.



CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT --Mary Kay Bean

During the first week in November, Mac McMahon was reported to have been under the weather, so a get well card was posted to him. Hope by now you're "in the pink," Mac.

Alberta Manina sustained an injury some time ago from which she is currently recovering. I was pleased to send her greetings from the Society. We want you to know that our thoughts and prayers are with you through this very uncertain time.

Both Eliger and Lorraine Rockwood are reported to be in ill health presently; best wishes were extended to them on behalf of the club. Perhaps the advent of the holiday season will bring better spirits and healing energy to all our friends and members who require uplifting right now.

It surely has been my pleasure and honor to have taken over Don Lohrer's responsibilities as Corresponding Secretary for the past six months. With my personal wishes for the best holiday season to each of you, I am pleased to turn this secretarial position over to Mary Ann Smith, whom I'm certain will do a smashing job!

Merriest of Christmases,
Happiest of Hanukkahs,
Mary Kay Bean

EDUCATION -- Florence Hill

Beginning this month, we will have an identification panel at each meeting to examine and, hopefully, put a name to specimens brought in to them. In order to keep this from being a "boom-or-bust" thing, people with specimens they wish to have identified should sign a card stating how many specimens they will bring; whether the specimens are rock, mineral or fossil; and, their phone number. You will be notified when your turn comes (by a drawing if necessary, or simply in order of request.) Be ready to tell the place from which the specimens came and the type of environment -- quarry, gravel pit, beach, rock outcrop, etc. The panel may want to chip your specimen to expose a fresh surface. This month, Joyce Kahres and Ann Marie Smith will bring their rocks for identification.

Many of you have extensive knowledge of rocks of specific areas, or types of specimens. Will you be so good as to share your expertise when needed? That is the only way an identification program can succeed.

Are you thinking of the branch of our hobby you would like to follow up this coming year? Be ready to indicate your wishes as we plan for 1993. Lessons from an expert, group study, planned readings, on-on-one study -- all are possibilities.

David Piotrowski will have more samples to illustrate basic rocks at our December meeting.

COMMUNITY SERVICE -- Florence Hill

Things have been rather quiet since the show. Be sure to report any demonstration, display or talk you have given.

WORDS OF THANKS

We would like to express our thanks to the club for the use of the wheelchair ramp; and, especially the men who worked so faithfully one Saturday to set it up for us: Grit Turner, Rich Stevens, Joe Manina and Gordon Lewis. It has already been a blessing.

Thank you, and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

John and Wilma Hopkins

The club would like to acknowledge the donation of materials from the estate of Helen Collins of Spokane, Washington.

CML&MS members who participated in the last Midwest Federation sponsored field trip around Lake Superior conducted by Wayne Henderson and Don Clarke may remember Helen. She was so impressed by the friendliness of Michigan rockhounds that she wanted her rock collection to be disbursed among them.

Much of the material was used for the silent auction and kid's table at our show this year.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE:

One used sphere making machine and one 12" slab saw. Contact Howard Randolph. Phone 1-647-4803.

EN MEMORIUM

We are saddened to learn that long time club member Don Clarke passed away November 19 of a massive heart attack, only two weeks into his annual winter respite in Arizona.

Don is best remembered for his love of the Michigan Copper Country. Many lucky folks have stories to tell of field trips through the region which Don led; and, many a traveler is familiar with Don's short publications on the various copper mines of the Upper Peninsula.

It is always sad to loose a fellow rockhound. It is especially disheartening when within that man, we also loose a willing font of knowledge. Our sympathy goes out to his wife, Sally, and their three sons.

"OUT OF THE EARTH" -- What a show it was!

Show chairman Wm. Rogers reports that this was one of the best shows we have had in a long time, and would like to thank all the people who helped out.

The vital show statistics are as follows:

School tour attendance: 1423 students from 24 schools

Paid Show Attendance: 1627 adults and 1423 students

Displays: Aprox. 50 cases shown by 20 CML&MS members and 13 members of other clubs

Profit: \$4818.50

CHILDREN'S TABLE REPORT -- George Heaton

I want to thank all those people who helped out with the Children's Table during set-up, the school tours, during the rest of the show; and, breaking it down and transporting it back to Grit's place for storage.

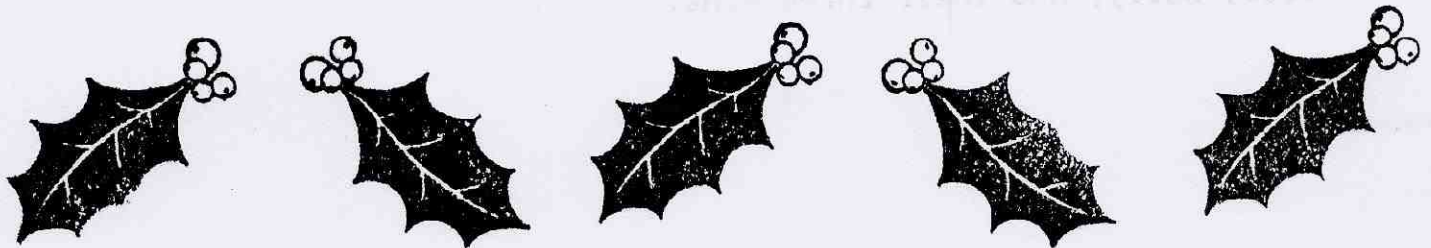
When I arrived at the armory Thursday afternoon before the show I was pleasantly surprised to find all the Children's Table stuff had already been transported to the armory, so I especially wish to thank Grit Turner, Gordon Lewis, Richard Stevens and Roger Laylin because I think they were the culprits most responsible for doing this. If I missed anyone else or made other errors, I claim ignorance. These people also helped greatly at getting the stuff all back to Grit's place after the show. I had lots of good help this year and greatly appreciate it.

The Children's Table sold a great amount of stuff this year and I think took in a record amount of money, probably at least enough to pay the rent. I think we sold at least two thirds of all the stuff we started with and will need a lot of new donations for next year. I thank those people who made all the grab bags, specimen kits, petoskey stone polishing kits, critters and jewelry. It may have been their hard work and creativity that was largely responsible for the record income the children's table brought in this year.

WELCOME TO TWO NEW MEMBERS

Nate Krupp is interested in lapidary work, fossils and geology. His address: 3805 Cooley Dr., Lansing 48911; 887-2426.

David Hicke, who replaced Rod Cranston as head of the earth science department at Lansing Community College, has asked to be an official member of our club. His address: Science Dept, LCC, 903 N. Capitol, Lansing 48906.



NEW BOOKS IN THE CLUB LIBRARY -- Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski Design and Facet; and, Design and Facet Volume II -- by David B Miller

These two books were donated to the library by the Midwest Faceters Guild in memory of the author and esteemed faceter, David Miller.

The Geologic Story of Isle Royale National Park by N. King Huber has been purchased by the club in memory of member Bruce Brockway. Even a glance at the Isle Royal Greenstone's (Pumpellyite var. Chlorastrolyte) in the collection of Bruce and Oleta Brockway would be enough to make one brave the rough seas of Superior, and head out to Isle Royale. This publication takes us there vicariously with plenty of photographs and detailed geologic maps. The text is enjoyable to read, and flows well from general to technical information.

Indian Artifacts of the Midwest by Lar Hothem (c1992) was purchased by the club as a memorial for Leon North. This is, for the most part, a catalogue of Native American artifacts from the midwest. Arrangement is by time period-- Paleo, Archaic, Woodland & Mississippian-- and background information is provided at the beginning of each section. It is an interesting book to browse through, and should also prove valuable for identification.

The Eyewitness book Dinosaur was purchased by the club to fulfill Don Lohrer's request that his memorial be "a book on dinosaurs for the children to read." This is a great book, with wonderful illustrations. I especially like the comparisons made between modern day life forms and those from the time of the dinosaurs.

AMERICAN FEDERATION CONSERVATION & LEGISLATION UPDATE--
John Boldan, Chairman

ALERT The US Forest Service is about to change policy unless they get a strong "NO" from the user public. Their current policy of "Open roads unless posted Closed" to vehicle travel would change to "Closed unless posted Open." In many western areas, this would close most roads because there are limited funds and personnel to post all currently open roads. Some preservationist groups have already stated that it is their intent to tear down any "Open" signs. You can write to Mr. Dale Robertson, Chief USDA Forest Service, PO Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090

MAGNETITE & MAGNETS -- Just the other day, while I was offering pieces of magnetite as rewards to my students, one of them asked how the mineral got it's name. I said "Because it is magnetic." The student replied -- "but how

did magnets get that name?" I was stumped. Then, while reading the December Glacial Drifter I found this answer: "Magnets take their name from the ancient Greek city of Magnesia, where lodestones were first discovered. A lodestone is a piece of iron oxide with natural magnetic properties." Thought some one else might be able to use this information as well! Jean Ann

WORDS TO THE WISE FOR COLLECTING IN THE SOUTHWEST

via MWF Newsletter 12/92 & Tule Smoke Signals

In the morning and late afternoon, snakes and lizards sun themselves on rocks and paved roads. During the hot part of the day they hide from the sun. Rattlesnakes rest in abandoned animal holes, under rocks and beneath the bushes and shrubs. Be careful while digging in sandy soil. When moving stones, run a stick underneath the rock first. When hiking, step on rocks, rather than over them. Stay out of bushes. A successful field trip is a safe field trip.

The Bureau of Land Management and the United States Dept. of Forestry report that more people are bitten by rattlesnakes while trying to kill the snake than any other way. They instruct that it is best to leave the reptilian animals alone, and move swiftly out of the area.

2,000 CARAT GARNET FOUND via The Rockpile 12/92 & others

The old Rutherford Mine just outside of Amelia, Virginia is only open to collectors three days a year when the Old Dominion Mineral Treasures Festival is held. On September 1, 1991, Richard Seaver was on his hands and knees searching in the mud for unusual rocks when he found a baseball-sized red and orange garnet, one of the largest ever found in Virginia.

Seaver had been collecting rocks for 23 years, and had been to the Rutherford Mine many time. "Oh, my Lord," was his comment as he washed the mud away. He called it the "Rutherford Lady." He has not decided what to do with the crystal, but if he sells it, he will stipulate that the buyer not cut it. The estimated value if cut is \$5,000 to \$10,000. As a specimen, it could be worth more.

CLUB CALENDAR:

- December 17 Regular Meeting, North School, 7:30
BRING A DOZEN COOKIES OR OTHER GOODIES
- January 6 Board Meeting, Rich & Lila Stevens' home
7:30
- January 24 TENTATIVE DATE FOR CLUB POTLUCK

