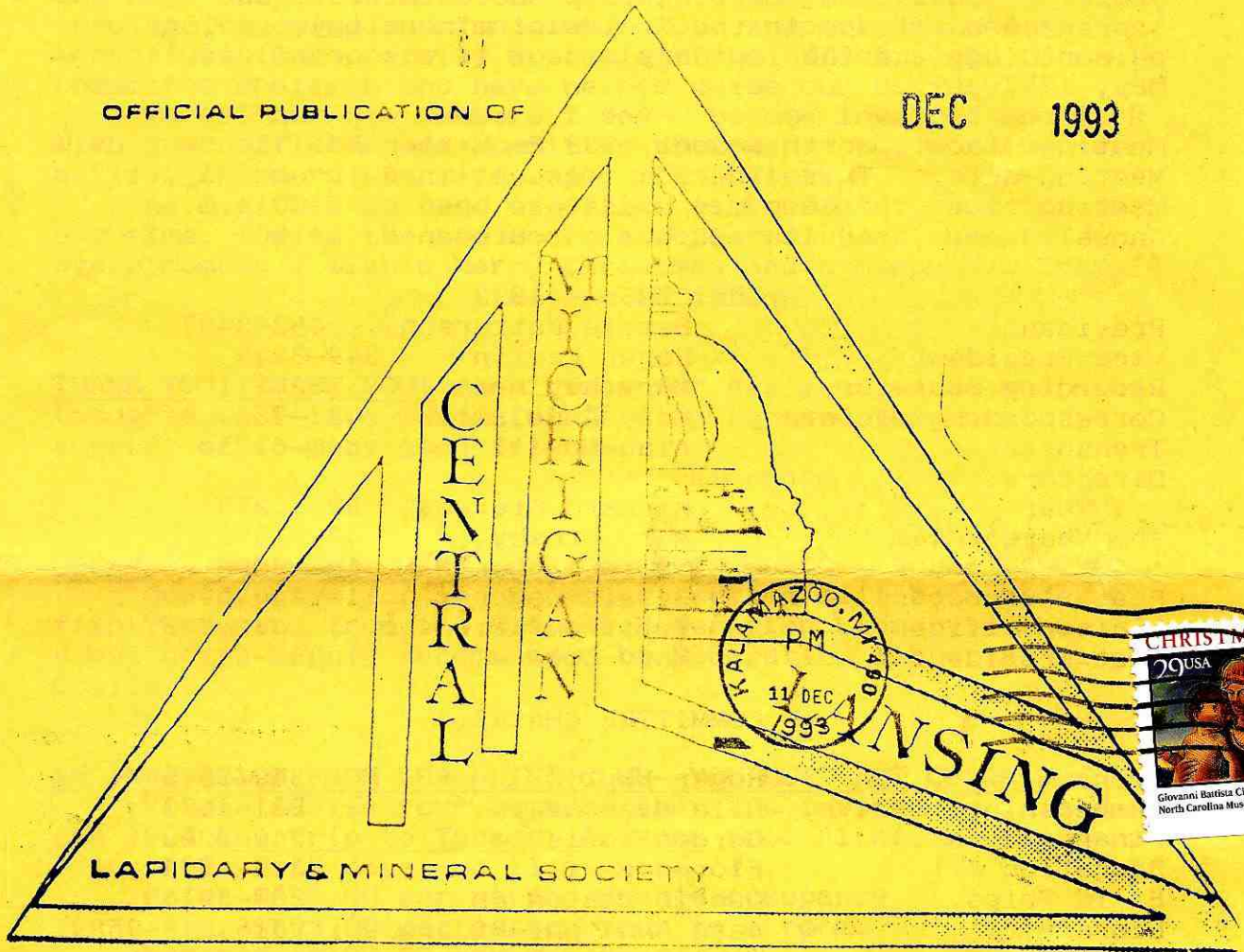


ROCKHOUND NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

DEC 1993



LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY

MEMBER OF MWF & AFMS

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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 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	VA
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

ATTENTION! IT IS TIME FOR OUR ANNUAL COOKIE MEETING—YUM, YUM. BE SURE TO BRING A DOZEN OF YOUR FAVORITE COOKIES OR OTHER CHRISTMAS GOODIES TO SHARE AT REFRESHMENT TIME.

PRESIDENT PATTERSON'S PATTTER

For my final message to you as President, I wish to thank, from the bottom of my heart, the many, many members who have helped to make our Society a busy, active, involved, growing and fun club. Your support has been wonderful! I especially appreciate the officers and committee chairmen who have helped guide our Society.

To all our new members I say— become involved and work with your officers and committee chairmen. The more you are active, the more you will enjoy the Society.

AS I finish my term of office as President, now for the 3rd time, I wish the new Board a wonderful year, and to every member I wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Bettie Patterson

THANK YOU, THANK YOU! many times for all your cards and kind thoughts. It is a wonderful feeling to have the moral support of so many good friends.

Florence

DECEMBER PROGRAM: MAKE YOUR OWN ARROWHEADS— Roger Laylin

Our program for the December meeting will be a video on flint knapping from the Midwest Federation Library. The video comes highly recommended by Federation librarian Marge Collins.

AN INVITATION FROM THE FLINT CLUB—YOU MUST ACT QUICKLY

Please advise your members they are invited to join in the 1994 Bus Trip to Tucson, Arizona from Flint, MI February 5-16, 1994. 12 days and 11 nights.

Price \$698.00 per person double occupancy

\$603.00 per person four to a room.

Deposit: \$100.00 per person

Reservation & deposit must be in by DECEMBER 15, 1993.

Balance due by January 15, 1994.

Price covers motels & transportation only. Prices are based on 30 people minimum. Call Skyline Charters, Montrose MI 1-800-359-0766.



CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT

A get well card was sent to Lindsey Bean who was ill with pneumonia. As of this time, Florence Hill is still in Sparrow Hospital, but will soon be recovering in the home of Alice and Grit Turner. Cards may be sent to Florence in care of Grit & Alice. A note of sympathy was sent to life member Paul Stevens whose wife passed away recently. Thanks were extended to "Rocky" Rockwood for the donation of a raffle ticket box for use at our annual show.

If anyone knows of any news concerning our members, please contact me at 484-7804.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Anne Smith

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY SERVICE—Florence Hill

The birthstone of December has long been turquoise, but jewelers have given us one with more glitter—zircon. So we shall hear about zircon this month. Men have added a synthetic cousin to this, with cubic zirconia, a lovely gemstone of wide use. Joe Manina will show and tell us about cubic zirconia.

On November 13 Diane Baclawski worked with six groups of 5-8 year old girl scouts in their program of promoting girls' interest in the sciences. She showed them her dinosaur tracks and talked about different kinds of fossils. Diane reports a lot of interest on the part of the girls. Thank you, Diane.

CLUB CONSTITUTION CHANGES TO BE VOTED ON DECEMBER MEETING—
Roger Laylin

All members enjoy reading and are proud of the Rockhound News as currently prepared and distributed. The expenses of this activity together with Midwest Federation dues exceeds the income currently produced by the three dollar yearly dues paid by the regular member and one dollar paid by students members.

Midwest dues are \$1.00 per dues paying member.

The cost of postage/paper/printing of the newsletter is about fifty cents each. Ten issues are published each year. Each month we mail nearly 200 newsletters, half to regular dues paying members. The other half is mailed to life/honorary members, other clubs in exchange for receiving their bulletins, 4-Her's, area museums, MSU geology department, and our scholarship recipient.

The cost of paper/printing for the annual directory is about thirty five cents.

To rectify the drain on funds intended for other club activities such as education, field trips, etc. it is proposed that dues to regular members be increased to \$5.00 per year; and, that a newsletter fee of \$3.00 be assessed to life members expressing the desire to continue receiving the Rockhound News.

Please read the following recommendations of the Constitution Committee carefully. We will discuss and vote on these items at the December meeting.

Current Constitution

Article III- Membership, Section 2 (c)

Life membership shall be given to those members reaching the age of seventy years and being a regular member for a total of 10 years or as otherwise stated in the By-Laws.

Recommended change

Life membership shall be given to those members reaching the age of sixty-five years with membership for 25 years, or as otherwise stated in the By-laws.

Current Constitution

Article X- Reports

The President and Treasurer shall present annual reports to the Society at the Annual Meeting. Treasurer's report shall be audited in advance by the Auditing Committee.

Recommended Change

Correct the word report to read "books."

Current Bylaws

Article I- Membership, Section 1 (d)

Life membership shall be given to those members reaching the age of seventy years and being a regular member for a total of ten years or a regular member for a total of 15 years at age sixty-five. Age shall be determined as of January 1.

Recommended change

Life membership shall be given to those members reaching the age of sixty-five with membership for twenty-five years. Age shall be determined as of January 1 of the year the member becomes sixty-five. Members reaching life membership under 1990 bylaws as of January 1, 2000 will be exempt from Article I, Section 1 (d) revised 1994.

Current By-laws

Article II- Dues and Fees, Section 1

The annual dues for Regular Members shall be three dollars.

Recommended change

The annual dues for Regular Members shall be five dollars, which includes the newsletter, effective December 17, 1993.

Recommended addition- Section 3

A newsletter fee of \$3.00 per year shall be assessed to those life members expressing the desire to continue receiving the Rockhound News. Honorary members are exempt.

Current By-Laws

Article VII- Dispersal of Properties upon Dissolution of the Society

Section 1. If permanent dissolution occurs:

(a) All monies belonging to the Society shall be divided between the Geology Department of Michigan State University and the Earth Science Department of the Lansing Community College on the basis of 70% to Michigan State University and 30% to Lansing Community College. The funding shall be disbursed as scholarships annually, based on guide lines in effect and the amounts equal to that given by the Society to the respective institutions in the year immediately preceding dissolution.

(b) All tangible properties of the Society shall be donated to the Geology Department of Michigan State University to be used or disposed of at their discretion.
Recommended addition

(c) In the event Lansing Community College has no Earth Science Department upon dissolution of the Society, then 100% of all remaining monies shall be donated to the Geology Department of Michigan State University and disbursed as stated in Section 1 (a) above.

Constitution committee: Bettie Patterson, Roger Laylin,
Alan Hukill

MICHIGAN TEEN WINS AMERICAN FEDERATION AWARD (editor from
AFMS Newsletter, November 1993)

I was pleased to see that Shannon Kobs of the Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club (Holland, if you couldn't guess) was the recipient of the AFMS Education Thru Sharing 1993 Junior Merit Award.

"Shannon was a very busy person during 1992. In February she helped with a Brownie workshop giving five 10 minute talks on minerals; in March she gave a talk to a national women's group; and in April she gave two presentations on mineral formation and identification to third grade students at the Sheldon Woods School. Also, during the year she made eleven 20 minute talks on exploring to 22 kindergarten classes. At summer Girl Scout Camp she taught how to make gem trees and identify rocks. She also assisted older Scouts in earning their geology badge. Shannon is an exhibitor at her club's annual show, a dedicated field tripper and a hard worker for her club.

What makes all that and Shannon so special? She's only 12 years old!"

FOSSIL CLEANING via Rockpile 1/93 & Backbenders Gazette

Two goals of fossil cleaning are removal of the dirt and rock attached to the fossil and elimination of stains and discolorations, if possible. Loose dirt can simply be removed with soap (detergent) and water with the use of a brush, such as a toothbrush. Never use a wire brush since it is harder than most fossils and will leave scratches. Attention must be given to the specimen's state of

preservation so it remains intact during the cleaning process!

If, after washing and brushing, the specimen still has unwanted matrix, the following steps may be tried. The list is arranged in order of increasing severity.

BORAX OR BAKING SODA. Some clays may be removed by boiling in detergent, borax or baking soda.

VAR SOL-WATER. Most clays and shales will absorb water, causing swelling or expansion. follow these steps: (1) Heat the specimen, preferably above 200 degrees F., to evaporate out all water, between the clay particles and continue heating to drive off some of the water of hydration; (2) Place the still warm fossil in Varsol (kerosene is smelly and not as effective) and leave until the Varsol has penetrated all of the clay (several hours or even days); (3) Pour off the Varsol and immerse the fossil in water (hot, if possible.) Varsol acts as a wetting agent and fills the pores but will not be absorbed by the clay. As water replaces Varsol, swelling spreads clay particles apart so they slough off; (4) Scrub with soap (detergent) and a toothbrush to remove remaining matrix; (5) Repeat from Step 1 as many times as necessary.

TSP. Some clays are partially cemented or nonswelling and require other treatment. Try boiling specimens in Trisodium phosphate (TSP.)

HYDROGEN PEROXIDE. An ionic bond exists between some clay particles and may be disintegrated by breaking the bond. Try soaking the specimen in a 1-3% hydrogen peroxide solution. Do not soak too long or use higher concentrations because the soaking can etch or discolor the fossil.

ACID. Hard limestone will not respond to the above treatments. A last resort method is a careful use of a very dilute acid (vinegar is a very weak solution.) Apply to a small area with a fine brush or toothpick and neutralize with water and bicarbonate of soda before damage is done to the specimen.

MORE NEW MEMBERS!!!! (editor)

We are pleased to welcome six new members to our club this month. For the year we have had 24 new members (18 adults and 6 students) and four previous members have rejoined— pretty impressive! Keep an eye out for our newcomers at the club meetings and be sure to make them feel welcome.

Shirley Remwick enjoys painting and handwork. When it comes to rocks she is interested in everything except lapidary. Her address: 427 Maple St., Mason MI 48854; phone 676-5314.

Mary Hagen enjoys furniture refinishing, photography and "nature stuff." Her address: 427 Maple St., Mason MI

48854; phone 676-5314.

Linda and Robert O'Shaughnessy 1721 N
MI 48843; phone 676-5314

instructor who also enjoys gardening, photography, art, fishing, traveling and minerals. Robert lists engineering, hunting, fishing and traveling as his interests.

Mary Seeger and her son Jim (age 10) are dairy farmers who are also interested in rocks. Their address: 12440 Chandler Rd., Bath MI 48808; phone 641-4504.

ROCKINITIONS by Carl Tooley Gem & Minerals Dec. 1963, via Smoke Signals & Border Gem Chatter 4/93

Tumbler-- one who falls down a rock pile.

Amateur-- one who keeps his mouth shut and his ears open.

Quartz-- two pints of rocks.

Zinc-- where you wash your tired feet after a long hunt.

Zincite-- a small zinc.

Apatite-- what you get on a long hunt.

Tripolite-- what your bag would be if you had left the leavitheres.

Garnet-- what you say when a rock falls on your foot.

Conglomerates-- a group of rockhounds.

Petrified-- what you are when you see just what you're looking for.

Gneiss-- those big, perfect specimens.

SHOP TIP-- Leslie Brooks, Border Gem Chatter 4/93

To get an extra high polish on cabachon or a flat piece, first polish in the regular way, then buzz with a used sheet of "Bounce" fabric softener, or a similar fabric softener. A used sheet seems to work better, maybe it has been transformed by heat in the drying process. Any brand of sheet would result in the same manner. This trick has worked on lots of different materials. The higher polish is very noticeable.

CALENDAR

- | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| December 16 | Regular Meeting, North School 7:30pm
Everyone bring 1 doz. COOKIES. Vote on
Constitution & By-law changes. Program on
flint knapping. |
| December 25 | MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL! |
| January 6 | Board meeting, 7:30, Meridian Service Center? |
| January 20 | Regular Meeting |
| January 23 | Tentative potluck, Aleidon Twp. Hall |

Ahhh... The newsletter is done and we can get back to our baking, decorating and crafts! Wishing you all a happy and peaceful Christmas season...Your editor & printer,

Jean Ann & Dave

HELP! Mary Gowans is missing 2 self-collected topaz in glass bottles which she brought to the Nov. meeting. If you know of their whereabouts please call Mary@351-6136.

