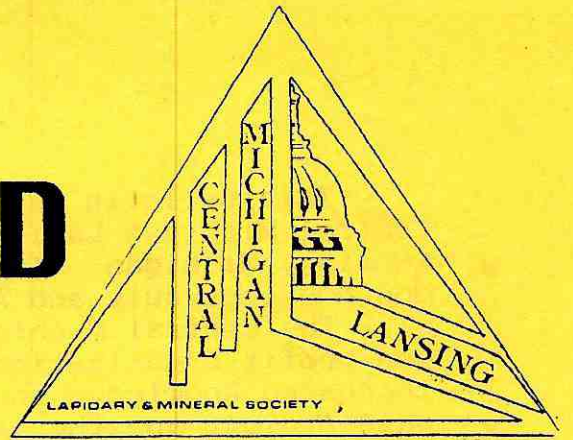


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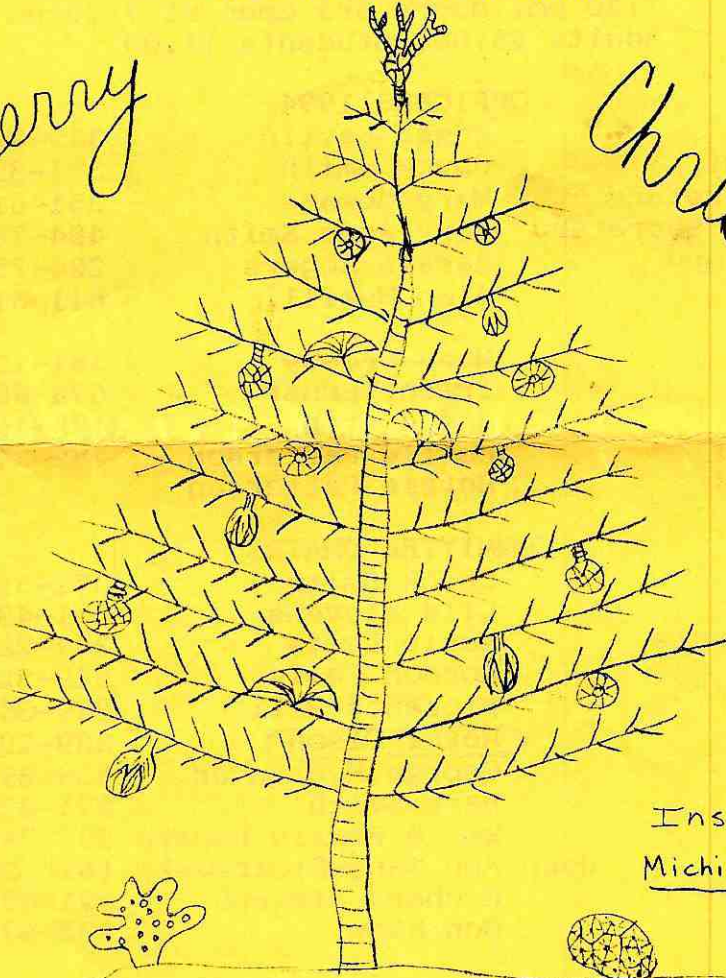
ROCKHOUND NEWS



official publication of the
Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society
member of MWF & AFMS

Merry

Christmas!



Inspired by
Michilotic Time Line



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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 pm; doors are open at 7:00 pm
Annual dues: Adults \$5.00, Students \$1.00

OFFICERS 1994

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------|
| ✓ President | Roger Laylin | 349-3249 |
| ✓ Vice President | Chuck Smith | 371-3247 |
| ✓ Recording Secretary | Mary Gowans | 351-6136 |
| ✓ Corresponding Secretary | Mary Anne Smith | 484-7804 |
| ✓ Roster Secretary | Bessie Rogers | 224-7596 |
| ✓ Treasurer | Alan Hukill | 641-6125 |
| ✓ Directors: | | |
| 1 Year | Mary Crosby | 484-1375 |
| ✓ 2 Years | Irwin Turner | 694-9596 |
| 3 Years | Joe Austin | 485-4665 |
| ✓ Liaison Officer | Bettie Patterson | 482-3437 |
| Past President | Bettie Patterson | |

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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| ✓ Program | Chuck Smith | 371-3247 |
| ✓ Membership | Lila Stevens | 321-4379 |
| ✓ Refreshments | Marie Lewis | 349-2263 |
| ✓ Finance | Gordon Lewis | 349-2263 |
| ✓ Education | Florence Hill | 349-3554 |
| | <u>Royal Olson</u> | 339-2059 |
| ✓ Field Trips | George Heaton Jr. | 339-8914 |
| ✓ Library | Barb Smith | 371-3247 |
| ✓ Display | Wm. & Bessie Rogers | 224-7596 |
| ✓ Publications | Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski | (616)948-9589 |
| ✓ Show | Richard Stevens | 321-4379 |
| | Don Kemp | 332-6736 |

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:

14933 Brown Rd.
Lansing MI 48906

MEMBER OF:

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Cards: Frank Owens



BRING COOKIES!!

BRING COOKIES!!

BRING COOKIES!!



Roger's Ramblings

The year 1994 sure has gone by in a hurry. I hope all members have received as much enjoyment from the activities of the Society as I have this past year.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to all of the officers, directors and committee chairs for their hard work and dedication to a successful year. All of the members who assisted or participated in the 1994 events are an asset to our society and its intended purposes.

It has been a winning year for some of our club members. Special congratulations are due to Neil & Connie Snapp for the several awards they received from the Midwest and American Federations in recognition of their dedicated educational efforts; and, to Alice Turner who took first place in both the MWF & AFMS program competitions with her wirewrapping video.

Please continue to provide your support to the new slate of officers during 1995. Thank you for allowing me the honor of being your president this year.

Roger Laylin

December Meeting— Time to Celebrate (jawn)

With any luck, those who attend the December meeting will have as much fun as your board has had planning for the meeting! Most important things first — food! Marie Lewis asks that each family bring a dozen cookies or other goodies to share for refreshments. It's always fun to sample from the large variety of Christmas specialties at the December meeting. Eat your supper, but leave plenty of room for desert!

One serious point of business will be the installation of our 1995 officers, conducted by Bettie Patterson. Due to an oversight by the board, we will also need to elect a corresponding secretary for 1995.

For our program we will have a light-hearted "contest."
Part the First: You are challenged to peruse through your collections of rocks, minerals and fossils; and, use them to SPELL A HOLIDAY WORD, for example: HO HO could be halite, obsidian, hematite, olivine. You may choose to label or not label the specimens as to their identity. You are welcome to create more than one entry. A panel of judges will award prizes in the following categories: 1) most creative/humorous 2) longest word 3) most unusual word and, 4) shortest word.

Part the Second: All in attendance will be challenged to view the displays and attempt to guess what words are being spelled. Feel free to bring your field guide to aid in identification, or borrow one from the club library. HOWEVER, NO SCRATCH TESTING WILL BE ALLOWED! :) Prizes will be awarded to the best, and worst, guessers.

**Helpful hint— You may wish to consult the vocabulary lesson in last month's Rockhound News as you prepare your spelling!

Education & Community Service -- Florence Hill

David Piotrowski will give the 5 minute talk on this month's mineral, siderite. Siderite is an iron carbonate $FeCO_3$.

Is there some phase of our hobby you would like to know more about? You will have the opportunity at the December meeting to name your interests. These may be lapidary sills or a subject for study. Last year a number of people wanted to study fossils and low, a fossil study group arose, thanks to Connie & Neil Snapp. Your expressed ideas will be very helpful for next year's planning.

On November 22, Royal Olsen gave a geology-rock talk to the second grade at St. Mary's School, Williamston. The class had been studying the subject and showed much interest.

On November 15, Grit Turner shared his copper mineral collection with Mrs. Collar's 4th/5th grade at Elliott School in Holt. He showed his volcano video, also. On November 22, Grit visited Debbie Shankler's 3rd grade at the Colt School, Waverly system, again using his copper minerals and his volcano video.

Our hobby covers a very broad field. Each of us has acquired some knowledge in the area which intrigues us. We should be willing to share our enthusiasm and understanding of our little piece of the whole with people who know little or nothing about it. We don't have to know everything. This means that you can give a talk or demonstration. You are needed.

Sad News From the North (jawn)

Milt Gere has sent a message indicating that Laurence Sain, a member of the Ishpeming Club, passed away the week of November 30. Milt thought that some of our members might know Laurence and would wish to send a card to his wife, Olive. Her address is: 818 W. Kaye, Marquette MI 49855 (phone 906-226-7325)

Milt adds: "Hope all Lansing news is good news."

December 1, 1994 Board Meeting Briefs (jawn)

(items not covered elsewhere in the news)

--16 members, 3 guests, and 1 new 95 board member were present

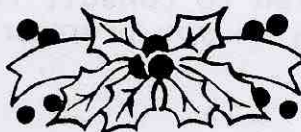
--Bettie Patterson. Laison, read a letter from a mail order source of amonite for lapidary work.

--Plan on January 22 for our annual potluck at the Aleidon Twp. hall. Bettie Patterson will give her program on the history and myths of birthstones.

--Club's certificate of deposit will come due 12-6, decided to add \$2,00 and renew for 18 months.

--Budget for 1995 accepted as proposed by the financial chair, Gordon Lewis.

--Dr. Dorothy McMeekin and Dr. Bill Cambray will be setting up a rock and minerals display in Kedzie Hall (MSU) the weeks of Dec. 19-23 & 27-29.



LOW STRESS GIFT SHOPPING AT FENNER ARBORETUM -- see Lee Laylin there to help you select quality books on all sorts of nature topics, including EARTH SCIENCE! You might want to give Lee a call first to check on hours- 349-3249.

Legislative update from the AFMS via the MWF (jawnp)

It appears that once again federal regulations may limit rock and mineral collecting-- this time by way of controlling access to roads going through public lands. The November MWF newsletter contains a FOUR PAGE article on the subject. I will bring a few copies to the meeting for anyone who is interested in trying to digest it all.

According to the article, the public comment period ended on November 15, but I feel obliged to share the information anyway so that you may seek an update if you so desire.

A Couple of "Gems" from the Border Gem Chatter 11/94:

"There's one good thing about world crisis- we learn a lot of geography."

"Don't tell me worry doesn't do any good. I know better because the things I worry about don't happen."

"The weather bureau is a non-prophet agency."

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES YET? SEND THE BUCKS TO BESSIE, PDQ.

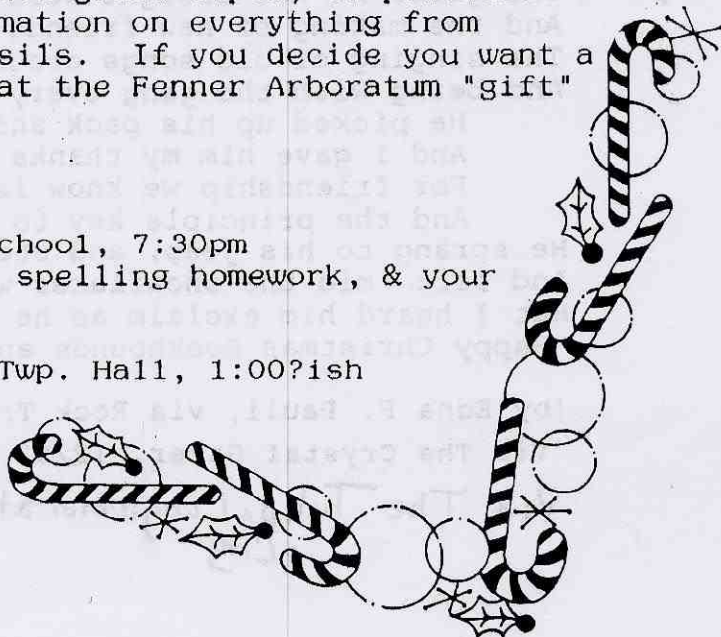
New in the Club Library (jawnp)

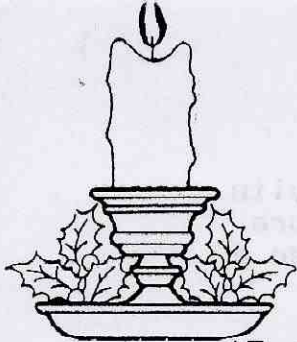
Last month we printed a review of the new DNR publication: Michilic Time Line. Thanks to Mary Ann Smith, we now have a copy for the club. It looks to be a handy little publication.

We also purchased a copy of A Field Manual for the Amateur Geologist by Alan M. Cvanara. (Sleuthing Fossils, by the same author is a popular title in our collection.) I like this book because of it's plentiful photographs and straight forward explanations. While it does not have great depth, it provides easily digestible amounts of information on everything from landforms to rocks, minerals & fossils. If you decide you want a copy for yourself, see Lee Laylin at the Fenner Arboratum "gift" shop.

Calendar

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Dec. 15 | Regular meeting, North School, 7:30pm bring your cookies, your spelling homework, & your thinking caps |
| Jan. 5 | Board meeting |
| Jan. 22 | Potluck dinner, Aleidon Twp. Hall, 1:00?ish |





THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, there wasn't room for a mouse.
With geodes and nodules under table and chair.
A wee little mouse can't squeeze in anywhere.

The children were nestled all snug in their beds
As visions of fossil fish swam through their heads,
And Mother, dreaming of opals and me of a lap.
Had just settled down for a long winter's nap.

When out in the street there 'rose such a clatter
I jumped out of bed as mad as a hatter,
Stumbled down stairs two at a time,
Just as our clock tolled its 3 a.m. chime.

I opened the door and took a long look
The sight that I saw there would make quite a book.
For parking in front with a roar and a squeak,
Was dear old St. Nick in a well-loaded jeep.

He paused just a moment to check his long list
And make doubly certain no one would be missed.
There's agate, onyx, turquoise, and rodenite,
Carnelian, crystal, sapphire, and malachite.

He named every stone I ever had heard,
And my heart was so happy it sang like a bird.
For rocks to a rockhound are really a must
Right next to that stuff labeled, "In God We Trust."

It took quite a while to do this little chore.
But as soon as he'd finished, he came straight for our door.
And I can't understand, though I've honestly tried
But before I could turn, he was right there inside.

He spoke not a word but went straight to his work
And I stood there and watched though I felt like a "jerk"
For he knew what I wanted more than I did myself.
And was wise beyond reason, this right jolly old elf.

The gifts he has brought were trips for next year.
And the making of new friends from far and near,
The singing of old songs around campfires bright,
And being with the gang every rock meeting night.

He picked up his pack and prepared to depart
And I gave him my thanks from the bottom of my heart.
For friendship we know is a wonderful gem,
And the principle key to Peace Among Men.

He sprang to his jeep, and stepped on the gas
And left 'mid the snowflakes which sparkled like glass.
But I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight,
"Happy Christmas Rockhounds and to all a good night."

(by Edna F. Pauli, via Rock Trails)

Via The Crystal Gazer, 12/93

Via The Tulip Conglomerate 12/93
City

