

NOTE: This month's meeting will be held at the Meridian Township Service Center. It is located on Gaylord Smith Dr., which is literally a driveway to the township offices and park, heading east off of Okemos Rd, just a bit North of Grand River Ave.

M-Z Please bring refreshments. Program: Bob Reszke from Eddy Geology Center.

Editor's Note-- Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski.

Complications in my parent's health kept me away from the board meeting and have left me with very little time to get the newsletter out. I have printed any material that got to me via mail or e-mail, but apologize to anyone who was left out. I am including Mary's board meeting minutes in an effort to close any gaps. Hope to see you all at the regular meeting.

Corresponding Secretary's Report-- Mary Kay Bean

I went to Michigan Capital Medical Center to visit Rich Stevens with a basket of dried flowers and a card. Guests were not being accepted at the time but the report was that Rich was in stable condition after a quadruple bi-pass heart surgery. A second card was sent later. Lila reported on the 5th of June that Rich was home and doing well.

A card of congratulations was sent to Ann Marie Smith who graduated from High School this week. Well done Ann Marie- may all your dreams come true as you enter a new era on life's pathway!

In Memorium-- Florence Hill

Francis Wysong, a Life Member of CML&MS, died in early May at the age of 98. Her husband and she were very interested in lapidary work during his lifetime.

Dear Rock Club Members,

To some of the greatest people God put on this earth, you are always there when the road of life gets rough going and to help smooth it back out again. It was a little rough there for a while but with God's help everything will be all right again in the near future. Thanks to each one of you dear friends that have made being a "Rock Hound" one of the greatest things you could belong to. It meant so much to have you there in our hour of need.

All our love, Rich & Lila

Equipment for Sale

Due to his health, John Takis is selling most of his lapidary equipment. John assured me that he will still be keeping his main faceting machine as faceting is one of the things he CAN do. Call John at 372-9754 if you are interested in any of the following:

- Craftsman horizontal lap
- 3 different size and types of rock tumblers
- buffing & polishing assembly
- faceting machine
- 10x to 100x binocular microscope
- 2 display cases
- almost a complete collection of lapidary magazines
- a large collection of rocks & minerals with stands
- 10" rock saw

Field Trip Report-- Melissa Tuchowsky

Well...If you haven't heard by now, I'm going to tell it: You all missed one heck of a trip into Canada. Fine company, weather and of course specimens. We can't wait to gloat. Look for the captured moments as well as a rare "double terminated beaverite" at the June meeting.

But lets get to the issue at hand: **a Summer of Field Trips.....**

June 27-29 is Bloomington IN: This is the annual Bedford Rock Swap held at the Monroe County 4-H Fairgrounds in Bloomington, Indiana and geode collecting at a couple of George's suggested road cuts: Salem (on Rte 56 about 6 miles east of Salem) and Harrodsburg (on Rte 37 at the Harrodsburg and Monroe Reservoir exit about 12 miles south of Bloomington). I'm also toying with the idea of an after closing excursion down to Corydon Crushed Stone & Lime Co. on Friday and a hunt over the border into Kentucky for crystal filled Brachiopods. Any takers? Give me a call as always (517) 339-0459.

The swap is a large one and takes in swappers from surrounding states and Canada. Camping is allowed on the fairgrounds (\$6.00 per night) and motels are located in Bloomington. The road cuts offer beautiful geodes of quartz, calcite, dolomite, millerite, barite, pyrite, and sphalerite. The geodes are in limestone so it can be hard "dulling" work to chisel them out. A 2-3 lb. crack hammer and several sharp chisels have been suggested by the experts as well as some heavier implements of collection.

One last thought on collecting for this trip: geodes are plentiful in river banks etc. of Indiana. Geodes are also in high demand by young and old children alike at the show (hint, hint) if we were all to bring back a few...

Directions to Bloomington: Go South on I-69 to Indianapolis, then on I-465 South to Rte. 37. Go South on Route 37 to Bloomington. To get to the Rock swap / Fair grounds you go South on Rte 37 to the intersection of Rte. 37 and Rte. 45. Turn Right on Rte 45 and go southwest on Rte 45 about 1 2/10 miles then turn right and go 7/10 mile on Airport Rd. to the Fairgrounds

July 19th heading south-east to the Amherst Quarry located in Amherstburg Ontario.

Amherstburg is located just south of Windsor and sports a variety of minerals including: blade and mass celestite, a lustrous honey-colored calcite, strontianite, a high fluorescing micro fluorite and a tell tale fossil or two. (Rumor has that celestite the size of my daughter's head has been found, I would like to see that!)

Allow about 2 1/2 hours travel time, hopefully Saturday traffic will be light. Bring your usual tools & safety equipment. We'll meet at the quarry gate about 8:30 a.m.

Directions: Take EB I-96 to Detroit. Catch SB I-75 to the Ambassador Bridge into Canada. Cross over and catch Hwy 3 SB three to four miles and Exit onto Route 18. Route 18 runs westerly for about 5 miles and then takes a sweeping curve to the south (if you miss you'll end up back in Windsor - turn around). We take Route 18 to Amherstburg (about 20 miles). Upon

reaching Amherstburg you want to take a Left at the 3rd Stoplight - Simcoe Street. The quarry is about a ½ mile down.

Field Trips, cont.

I will have hands on maps available at the June meeting. For information regarding entry into Canada, refer to last month's Rockhound News. We field trippers are getting quite adept at this custom's business by now!

July 26th is our afternoon of water, sun and fun at Rich and Lila's annual picnic / work bee. The picnic will begin at 1:00 pm. Bring lawn chairs, folding tables, FOOD, and, serving and eating equipment.

Directions: Take I-96 West towards Grand Rapids to the Lake Odessa exit. Go south 1/2 mile to Portland Rd., west to Jackson Rd. (about 3 miles,) south (along side of the golf course) about 1/2 mile to Elm Rd. which is a private drive in the pine trees. Follow the road around the lake until you reach 291 Elm Road.

August brings us north to the Keweenaw. We shouldn't freeze our toes agate picking this time of year. **August 1-3 is the Ishpeming Swap / Field Trips followed by the Red Metal Retreat the 3rd -7th followed by the Copper Country Gem & Mineral Show 8-10th.**

Now if you aren't too burnt out by then or not able to get to the great blue yonder I have a few options on August Field trips. The Quarries I've contacted either have not set up that far in advance or are on a short notice basis. One is Bluffton Stone Co. and the other is Maumee, both are in Ohio. We also have the option of Maybee, but I've already set that for October. See below. So folks this is your chance to really give me some input... and it leaves the August field trip a phone call away: my number is (517) 339 0459. Call or let me know if you would like to be contacted for the time and day of this trip or any other impromptu trips that come up through out the summer.

I do have September and October set: Duff in September (date not confirmed), and Maybee on October 11.

Millerite Collecting at Bayport, MI-- Ed Drown

The Wallace Stone Products quarry in Bayport has been yielding satisfying quantities of quartz geodes with millerite and other minerals (calcite, galena, sphalerite, dolomite, jambosite (possibly), pyrite). I was a guest with the Midland club to collect in this quarry at the end of May. The trip was productive, with geodes that contained from just a few tufts of millerite tastefully arranged ala Martha Stewart to some that contained mats of millerite that with the addition of two eyes and a tail could be mistaken for a mouse. The company will be blasting again in this area and I have arranged with my contact in the Midland club to be notified when the club will be going to collect. If you wish to be notified so that you can join the collecting trip, see me at the June meeting or leave a message on my answering machine with your name and phone number. I can be reached at 347-5097. This is a hard rock quarry with steel-toed boots, hard hat and goggles a strict requirement. To get to the productive layer a 5' pry bar is a necessity, there is 12 to 18" of overburden limestone that must be removed to get to the layer of compressed corals that contain the geodes. I cannot promise

that this trip will occur, that you'll get much advance warning or that you'll find anything - but that's rockhounding sometimes.

CLUB CALENDAR

June 19 Regular meeting, Meridian Twp. Service Center, 7:30 pm
 June 27-29 Field trip: Bloomington/Bedford Swap & geode collecting
 July 19 Field trip: Amherstberg Ontario, 8:30 a.m.
 July 26 PICNIC & WORK BEE at the cottage of Rich & Lila Stevens
 August Call Melissa to confirm field trip location & date
 Sept. 4 Board meeting, Meridian Twp. Service Center, 7:30 pm
 Sept. 18 Regular meeting, North School, 7:30. Mini silent auction.
 Oct. 11 Field trip: Maybee MI.
 Oct. 24-26 OUR SHOW

SHOW CALENDAR

June 25-28 Used Lapidary Equipment Sale at A&B Jewels & Tools, 350 W. Grand River
 Williamston MI. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Call Bill Gardener for more info
 655-4664.
 June 27-29 Lawrence County IN show/swap. Monroe Co. 4-H Fairgrounds, Bloomington
 Indiana. Fri. 10-7, Sat. 8-7, Sun. 8-4. Camping \$6.00 per night. Free admission.
 June 28-29 MGAGS Rockhound Seminar. Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron
 River Dr., Ann Arbor MI. \$10.00 per day, advance \$8.00 per day. See Grit &
 Alice Turner for more information.
 July 19 Mt. Clemens swap & sale. Mt. Clemens Community Center, 300 N. Groesbeck.
 9 am - 5 pm. Free.
 July 19 Seaman Mineral Museum, Houghton MI. Surplus inventory auction. Houghton Co.
 Arena, Hancock MI. 9 am - 5 pm. for more info contact: jaszczak@mtu.edu
 July 31-Aug.3 Bancroft Ontario Gemboree-- show & field trips
 Aug. 1-3 Ishpeming Swap & Field Trips. Fri. field trip, meet 9:00 a.m. K-Mart parking lot in
 Marquette. Sat. swap at the Negaunee Twp. Hall 8 mi. West of Marquette on US
 41,
 Saturday's then South 3/10 mi on M-35. Sun. trip to Lindbergh Quarry, must sign up at
 swap, \$2.00 per person.
 Aug. 3-7 Red Metal Retreat sponsored by Quincy Mine Hoist Assoc., Red Metal Min. & Copper
 Country Rock & Min. Club. see Jean Ann or Dave Wahl-Piotrowski for more
 info
 Aug. 8-10 Copper Country Gem & Min. Show. Student Development Complex, MTU, Houghton.
 \$1 adults, .50 cents children 12 & under. Fri. 5-9 pm, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5.
 Sept. 20-21 Falls Fossil Festival, Falls of the Ohio State Park, Clarksville IN. Swap, talks, field
 trips. Sat. 9-7, Sun. 9-5.
 Oct. 4-5 Eddy Center Geology Arts Fair. 10730 Bush Rd. Chelsea MI. State Park motor
 vehicle permit required for entry. Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4.
 Oct. 10-12 Detroit Show. Light Guard Armory, 4400 East Eight Mile Rd, Detroit. \$5.00
 adults, \$3.00 seniors, \$2.00 under 15, Free under 5 yrs old. Fri. 9-7, Sat. 10-
 8,
 Sun. 10-6.

Some summer safety hints made easily copied by Walt Vogtmann of The Rockpile, 5/97 & 6/97: