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15785 Park Lake Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

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Rockhound News—January, 2017

Official publication of the
**Central Michigan Lapidary and
Mineral Society**
Affiliated with MWF and AFMS

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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 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 and celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 2007.

Meeting place: Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Street, Okemos, MI

Regular meeting date: Third Thursday, except July and August

Meeting time: 7:30 p.m., doors are open at 7:00 p.m.

Annual Dues: Adults \$10.00; Families \$15.00; Students under 18 \$2.00

Board meetings: First Tuesday, except July and August; 7:00 p.m., Okemos Library

OFFICERS 2017

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Affiliated With

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies
<http://www.amfed.org/mwf/>
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
<http://www.amfed.org>

ROCKHOUND NEWS

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, January 19, 2017

PROGRAM: Iceland: The Land of Fire and Ice

REFRESHMENTS: Members with Initials M - Z Please Bring Goodies

Location and Time: The CMLMS membership meeting will be held on January 19, 2017, at 7:30 p.m., at the **Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Street, beautiful downtown Okemos.**

Calendar for Winter 2017

January 19, 2017 - membership meeting, 7:30 p.m.

February 2 - board meeting, 7 p.m., Okemos Library

February 16, 2017 - membership meeting, 7:30 p.m.

February 27, 2017 - **MONDAY, board meeting, 7 p.m., Okemos Library, please note change**

February 16, 2017 - membership meeting, 7:30 p.m.

March 2, 2017 - Bennett Woods Science Night, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

March 16, 2017 - membership meeting, 7:30 p.m.

[Editor's note: the deadline for the newsletter is the **Monday, 8 a.m.** after the board meeting.]

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

January 19, 2017 - Doug Sjoquist will present on *Iceland: The Land of Fire and Ice*. Mineral of the month will be thomsonite/prehnite.

February 16, 2017 - Quartz varieties

March 16, 2017 - Silent Auction

Iceland: The Land of Fire and Ice

by Doug Sjoquist

Iceland has a rich cultural history and its landscape is rugged, remote, and beautiful. For anyone interested in geology and volcanology Iceland is an ideal place to explore. This presentation will discuss Iceland's position on the mid-Atlantic ridge and examine some of the country's physical features that illustrate its status as one of the most geologically active places on Earth.

Message from Roster Secretary Ernie Aughenbaugh

Dues are now being collected for 2017

Membership dues for 2017 are being collected through the end of April at which time, if unpaid, you will be removed from the list for the newsletter. If you are receiving a paper copy and have a red check on the label this will be your final issue. If you have not paid, please remember you will no longer have privileges for field trips. **YOU MUST BE A SOCIETY MEMBER TO GO WITH THE SOCIETY.** Please keep in mind that December 31 of each year is the actual date your dues should

be paid to the society so the board can plan accordingly for publishing an annual directory and insurance for each member for field trips. Also, if you receive your newsletter or any other notifications by electronic means, PLEASE NOTIFY THE BOARD IF YOU HAVE A CHANGE IN YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS.

SURVEY - PLEASE RESPOND

Attention CML&MS Members: we Need Your Input!!

At the recent December club Board Meeting, the topic of demonstrations or classes relating to our several rock-related hobbies came up. We would like your comments about your desire for club learning sessions at meetings and related activities.

1. Would you like and attend: (A) demonstrations at meetings, or (B) short classes at meetings, or (C) longer classes at another time and location. Some cost may be associated with the last option.
2. What topics would you like covered? We have members involved with many facets of our hobby. Members and others could provide information on: Rock & Mineral identification, fossil identification, lapidary work, tumbling rocks, faceting, wire wrapping, beading, metalsmithing, archaeology, setting up displays, field collecting and safety, enameling, etc. Please list your favorite topics.
3. Would you give a talk at a meeting, class, etc., on one of these or a related topic? If not you, who do you suggest for us to have as a speaker?
4. Any other suggestions for club meetings and related activities, educational or otherwise? Please explain.
5. Please list any off-site locations you think could be used free or rented for longer classes.

Thank you for your comments from your club board members.

Please send your answers, comments and suggestions to Milt Gere for compiling.
Send by e-mail to MiltGere@aol.com , please place SURVEY in the subject line.
Send by U.S. mail to my address in the Club Directory.
Hand deliver at the next Club meeting, Thursday, December 15, 2016.

CLUB NEWS

Outreach Committee: Always in need of volunteers to help with school science fairs, talks and presentations at schools and other organizations, and educational opportunities. Contact committee chair Mary Gowans to lend a hand. gowans@msu.edu or 517-351-6135.

March 2, 2017 - Bennett Woods Elementary School Science Night. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Setup at 5:30 p.m. Call Mary if interesting in participating.

Library: Check out the new books in the library boxes. Always something in there, old or new, for all interests.

New Books for the Library

Fiborn Quarry Then and Now, by Mark Whitney
Roadside Geology of Wisconsin, by Robert H. Dott, Jr.
Guide to Backyard Astronomy, by Robert Burnham and others
Ohio Rocks! by Albert B. Dickas
Lets Go Rock Collecting, by Roma Gans (children's book)
The Complete Book Of Dinosaurs, by Dougal Dixon
The Complete Guide To Rocks & Minerals, by John Farndon
An Instant Guide To Rocks and Minerals, by Eva Fejer & Cecilia Fitzsimons
Pockets Gemstones, by Emma Foa
Lake Superior Agates Identification (folder), by Jim Magnuson & Carol Wood
Under Michigan Story of Michigan's Rocks and Fossils, by Charles F. Barker
Collector's Guide to the Beryl Group, by Robert J. Lauf
Collector's Guide to the Vesuvianite Group, by Robert J. Lauf
Collector's Guide to the Epidote Group, by Robert J. Lauf
Collector's Guide to the Axinite Group, by Robert J. Lauf
Concise Illustrated Book of Dinosaurs, by Rupert Matthews

Field Trips!

There are no field trips planned at this time. Many of the quarries are no longer allowing rock hounds to have access to their premises for collecting purposes. If you know of any place that will allow enthusiasts to collect, please let Dan Sine or someone on the board know.

**PLACES TO GO AND THINGS TO DO—Check www.amfed.org/mwf
or our website www.michrocks.org**

UPCOMING SHOWS

None at this time.

Tour of the Dice Mineralogical Museum - Rescheduled

From Dave Berquist:

Several members of my Scrabble Club are interested in car pooling to Grand Rapids. On Monday, January 23, we will be playing Scrabble at a Senior Center at 10 a.m. and then to the Bruce Dice Mineralogical Museum at Calvin College. The tour at the Museum is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. The Senior Center is downtown, so you can play, hang out or explore Grand Rapids, meet at the museum at 1:30. There is a moon rock on display until the end of February.

The Grand Rapids Senior Neighbors Center is located at 333 Division Avenue, Suite 100. Lunch is available at the center for a fee if interested.

The idea is to carpool to Grand Rapids on Monday, January 23, play Scrabble at 10, have lunch, drive to Dice Museum for the tour, return to Lansing.

Location of the museum is at North Hall, 1st Floor, 3201 Burton SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan if interested in meeting Dave at the museum. Burton Street crosses E. Beltline. There is parking available in Lots 4 and 5 just west of North Hall and the Engineering Building.

Call Dave for more information at 517 643-2301.

CMLMS MINUTES

CMLMS, Membership Meeting, December 15, 2016

Call to Order: President Sue Casler called the meeting to order at 7:51 p.m. at the Okemos Masonic Hall.

Before the meeting: Lyle Laylin made a motion and Dan Sine seconded **to recommend membership for the Mansfield Family - Christopher, Christi, Aron and Andy.** Motion carried.

Welcome & Introduction of Guests/Visitors: There were no guests.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: The November Membership Minutes and the December Board Meeting notes (no quorum present) were printed in the December Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Elaine Beane was absent, no report.

Installation of Officers for 2017: Milt Gere presided over the swearing in. Present were Sue Casler-President, Nate Krupp-Vice-president, Theresa Hubbard-Corresponding Secretary and Lyle Laylin-1-Year Director; absent were Jan Sjoquist-Recording Secretary, Elaine Bean-Treasurer, Gaylord Brooks-2-Year Director and Chuck Taricska-3-Year Director.

Announcements: 1. Roger Laylin, CMLMS show chair, discussed the billing statements not yet received. Reminder that a new show chair is needed.

2. Nate Krupp went over the 2017 programs he has confirmed to date - January will be Doug and Jan Sjoquist on their trip to Iceland; February Dr. Wood from MSU on banded iron; March silent auction; April Mike Godfrey from the MSU Museum on New Zealand invertebrate paleontology; May banquet; June show work bee; July/August summer vacation; September show and tell; October show set up; November Danita Brandt tentatively.

Recognition: President Sue Casler presented a thank you gift from the society to Lee and Roger Laylin for appreciation for all the work they do for the club - show, library, and many more. She also presented a thank you gift to Ernie Aughenbaugh, roster secretary, for all his work for the society and the show.

December mineral of the month: Theresa Hubbard gave a very interesting presentation on turquoise. She would also like to keep the mineral of the month going and invited anyone to suggest a mineral for January or even present a mineral.

Door Prizes: Dan Sine.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Roger Laylin and seconded by Lyle Laylin to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. for holiday refreshments.

Respectfully Submitted: Roni Sionakides, Acting Recording Secretary

CMLMS, Board Meeting, January 5, 2017

Board Members Present: Ernie Augenbaugh, Dave Berquist, Sue Casler, Milt Gere, Theresa Hubbard, Alan Hukill, Nate Krupp, Lee Laylin, Roger Laylin, Dan Sine, Jan Sjoquist, Roni Sionakides, Chuck Taricska.

Board Members Absent: Elaine Angstman, Elaine Beane, Gaylord Brooks, Mary Gowans, Lyle Laylin.

President: Sue Casler called the meeting to order at 7:10pm at the Okemos Library. Sue asked the board to change the date of the March Board Meeting from Thursday, March 2 because of the conflict with the Bennett Woods Family Science Night on that evening. Sue will try to schedule the CMLMS board meeting for February 28, 2017.

Vice President: Nate Krupp announced the Membership Meeting Programs: January - Doug Sjoquist presentation on Iceland trip and discussion of thomsonite/ prehnite. February -

Theresa Hubbard presentation and membership sharing on the varieties (and safety issues) of quartz. Members are urged to bring quartz to the meeting; *March* - Silent Auction; *April* - Mike Godfrey, New Zealand vertebrate paleontology.

Treasurer: Elaine Beane, absent, no report.

Recording Secretary: Jan Sjoquist, December membership minutes were recorded and submitted for publication by Roni Sionakides.

Corresponding Secretary: Theresa Hubbard, nothing to report.

Directors: Chuck Taricska (3 year), no report; Gaylord Brooks (2 year), absent, no report; Lyle Laylin (1 year), absent, no report.

Roster Secretary: Ernie Augenbaugh, nothing to report.

Liaison Officer: Alan Hukill, no report.

Past President: Elaine Angstman, absent, no report.

Membership: Dave Berquist: no report. Dave has scheduled a trip to the Dice Mineral Museum in Grand Rapids and lunch on January 23, 2017. Contact Dave for reservations.

Field Trips: Dan Sine, no report.

Publications: Roni Sionakides: Newsletter deadline is on Monday.

Education: Theresa Hubbard: January, Thomsonite/Prehnite; February, Varieties of quartz.

Community Outreach: Mary Gowans, absent, but announced the invitation to participate in the Bennett Woods Family Science Night on Thursday, March 2 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm.

Library: Lee Laylin has purchased many new books for our library. She will share a list of them for the newsletter.

Display: Jan Sjoquist is still looking for volunteers to replace her on the display committee.

Finance: Milt Gere will review the budget for approval at the February Board Meeting. Alan Hukill has prepared the show budget. The budget was reviewed and adjusted and will also be up for approval at the February Board Meeting.

Show: Roger Laylin has confirmed the show dates for October 20, 21 and 22, 2017 with set up on Thursday, October 19, 2017. Roger presented an advertising opportunity for 40,000 fliers to be included in the Lansing State Journal. A new design was discussed, perhaps the previously submitted more eye-catching design.

Roger has filed a report with the IRS for our non-profit status. Dave Berquist suggested ways to make sure critical deadlines are not overlooked because the information resides within so few people.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Adjournment: Alan Hukill made a **motion to adjourn the meeting**. The motion received a second by Lee Layin and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Jan Sjoquist, Recording Secretary.

MINERAL OF THE MONTH - THOMSONITE

by Theresa Hubbard

We will be discussing thomsonite at our January meeting, please bring with you any specimens you have. More photos of the two will also be available at the meeting. Following is an excerpt from the Agate Lady's Blog.

Difference between Prehnite and Thomsonite by Karen Brzys (The Agate Lady) Blog 2013

While I was working my booth during the Rock On show last weekend, I looked at a lot of rocks. For what ever reason, more people bring rocks to that show for us dealers/experts to identify than at any other show. One person brought a rock she found in the Keweenaw Peninsula. She

showed it to eight of us dealers. Half said it was prehnite and half said it was thomsonite. So this blog posting is for all the rockhounds who have wondered about the difference between prehnite and thomsonite.

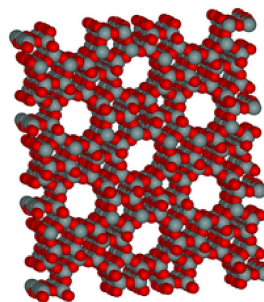
Thomsonite is the name of a series of silicate minerals of the zeolite group. Zeolites are microporous minerals that commonly adsorb water. Below is a diagram of the porous structure.

The term zeolite was originally coined in 1756 by a Swedish mineralogist (Axel Fredrik Cronstedt), who observed that upon rapidly heating a zeolite, it produced large amounts of steam from water that had been adsorbed by the rock. Based on this, he called the material zeolite, from the Greek words meaning “to boil” and “stone”.

Thomsonite was first identified in material from Scotland in 1820. It is named for the Scottish chemist Thomas Thomson. The Mohs hardness is 5 to 5.5. It is transparent to translucent and has a density of 2.3 to 2.4. It may be colorless, white, beige, or somewhat green, yellow, or red. The crystals tend to be long thin blades that typically form radial aggregates, and sometimes fans and tufts. The aggregates are variable and may be spikey in appearance, dense and ball-like, or form worm-like growths. Tight acicular radiating clusters and spherules are common forms. Thomsonite is pyroelectric, meaning it can generate an electrical charge when heated. In addition to the Lake Superior area, thomsonites have been found in Faroe Islands, Scotland, Colorado, New Jersey, Oregon, Nova Scotia, India, and Russia. Most of these thomsonite nodules are less than 0.6 cm (1/4 inch). Those enclosed in basalt are extremely difficult to remove without breaking them. Consequently, a very large percentage of those used as gemstones have been, and continue to be, pebbles collected from beaches.

Prehnite is a phyllosilicate of calcium and aluminium. Prehnite is an abundant secondary mineral found in basaltic matrix rocks on Isle Royale, in the Keweenaw Peninsula, and elsewhere in the Lake Superior region. It occurs as amygdale fillings, crosscutting veins, and as a replacement of earlier minerals or rock. Though not a zeolite, it is found associated with minerals such as thomsonite as well as with datolite, calcite, and other minerals. It is the first mineral to be named after someone. It was named for its discoverer: Dutch mineralogist, Colonel Hendrik Von Prehn.

According to the webpage <http://www.snobappealjewelry.com/blog/tag/prehnite/> most of what people refer to as thomsonite from the Upper Peninsula is really copper-bearing prehnite, or what is sometimes referred to as patricianite. They suggest that any thomsonite-like specimens that contain specks of copper are most likely prehnite. The inclusions in the prehnite are endless and create lovely pastel colors. Often “eyes” are present as are variegated type feathery patterns. Many people refer to these gemstones as U.P. Thomsonite.



Left: Picture of polished Thomsonite found in Minnesota.

Center: Picture of polished Prehnite found in Michigan.

Right: Structure of zeolite

References and citations

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zeolite>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Thomsonite-Ca-55547.jpg>

R. Weller/Cochise College:

<http://skywalker.cochise.edu/wellerr/mingem/gemtl/thomsonite/thomsoniteL.htm>

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http://gemaddicts.com/gallery/main.php?g2_view=core.DownloadItem&g2_itemId=1189&g2_serialNumber=3

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<http://stoneplus.cst.cmich.edu/thomsonite.htm>

http://www.minsocam.org/msa/collectors_corner/vft/mi4c1.htm

<http://www.snobappealjewelry.com/blog/tag/prehnite/>

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