

CMLMS
15785 Park Lake Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

**TIME VALUE
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Rockhound News—February, 2013



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

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Rockhound² 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: North School, 333 E. Miller Rd, Lansing 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 Thursday, except July and August; 7:00 p.m., Okemos Library

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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.gamfed.org>

ROCKHOUND NEWS

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 21, 2013

PROGRAM: DVD *Homer, the Triceratops*

REFRESHMENTS: Members with Initials A - L Please Bring Goodies

Location and Time: The CMLMS membership meeting will be held on February 21, 2013, at 7:30 p.m., at the **North School**, our usual meeting place **through April 2013**.

Calendar for Winter 2013 and later

February 21, 2013 - Membership meeting, program *Homer, the Triceratops*

March 5, 2013 - Tuesday, Board Meeting, 7 pm, Okemos Library, note change in day

March 21, 2013 - Membership Meeting, program Annual Silent Auction

April 4, 2013, Board Meeting, 7 pm, Okemos Library

**A message from Roster Secretary Ernie Aughenbaugh
Dues are now being collected for 2013!!!**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Let Sue Casler know if you have any ideas for speakers, or other programs.

February's program - DVD *Homer, the Triceratops*, by Michael Henderson, Department of Geology and environmental Geosciences, Northern Illinois University, Dekalb, Illinois (MWF production).

March is our annual Silent Auction. Now is the time to start thinking about rockcleaning (a more weighty form of housecleaning!) and get together those you want to contribute to the silent auction. Bid slips will be available at the February meeting and also online at the club website.

April's program - DVD, *Keokuk Geodes*, by Ed Wagner, Geologist, EPA.

May is the annual banquet. Tickets will be available in February.

June meeting will be a work bee if needed at the Masonic Temple in Okemos.

Also note: April will be our last meeting in the North School. In September of 2013 the meeting location will change to the Masonic Temple in Okemos on Hamilton Street.

SOCIETY HAPPENINGS**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS****Don Dowland of Lansing****Neil Speerbrecher of Lansing****Committee positions that need to be filled**

Display committee: A new committee chair is needed. We also need a person or persons to take the beautiful new cub display cases to shows put on by other mineral, lapidary and gem clubs in Michigan. If you are going to a Michigan show, please consider taking the club's display with you. Call or email Jan Sjoquist to join the committee or President Elaine Beane if you would like to be chairperson.

Show committee: Show Chair *Pro Tempore*, Roger Laylin, needs an apprentice to help with the 2013 show committee and who will be willing to take over the show chair position. Call or email Roger Laylin to join the committee or President Elaine Beane if you would like to be chairperson.

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.

CLUB NEWS

Field Trips! See Dan Sine to sign up and for more information.

- May 18, Sylvania Quarry near Toledo, Ohio, guided trip limited to 20, filled but can contact Dan if interested to check on a cancellation. Trilobites, calcite.

Minimum age for above trip, again a quarry, is 12. No children under 12 will be allowed at the quarries (their rule). Trips to other collecting sites may have no minimum, or maximum, age requirement. Safety rules in the **Field Trip Guide** are posted at the society website. They should be reviewed, printed out and **taken to every field trip**. Also, insurance coverage for the field trips by the Federation is very limited. It provides only for damage that members might do on-site. There is no personal injury coverage; no coverage underground. Coverage is only for members, so our policy is that field trips are only for members. Members should review this insurance information on our website. Let Dan know of any other locations and contact information that you may know about and would like to visit. Dan does a fabulous job getting these field trips lined up for club members so please take a moment to thank him personally for all his work.

In planning are trips to Pipe Creek, Indiana, Paulding, Ohio, Irish Hills, Michigan, the Crandall Pit of Charlotte as well as a geode trip to Indiana. Contact Dan sine if you have places for field trips.

Outreach: Upcoming Science Fairs - please plan to help out. These are fun to do.

Bennett Woods Elementary School, Okemos, February 20, 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Call or email Dan Sine, Mary Gowans or Roni Sionakides to sign up. This is the day before the February membership meeting. Short notice.

Fairview elementary School, Lansing, April 11, 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Sign up sheet will be at February and March membership meetings.

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

**FoundMichigan, an online magazine on culture in Michigan—
www.foundmichigan.org**

**Check out our website for items for sale. There are links to eBay and
Craig's List.**

From Milt Gere - interesting Canadian website Gemologyonline.com

March 2 and 3, 2013 - The Roamin Club
Special Auction at Schoolcraft College, Visatech Center
18600 Haggerty Road, Livonis, Michigan
Information: Todd Gall 248-348-5093 or Don Brown 734-421-8159

March 15, 16, and 17, 2013 - Michigan Gem and Mineral Society
“Gems of Green in Twenty-Thirteen” gem and mineral show
Jackson County Fairgrounds, 200 West Ganson, Jackson, Michigan
Information: Sally 517-522-3396 or www.mgmsrockclub.com

April 4,5, and 6, 2013 - Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club's 38th annual
Gem and Mineral Show
Wyoming Village Shopping Center, 1220-28th St, Wyoming, Michigan
Information: John Donker MIROCKPAGES.org or 616-457-0556

CMLMS MINUTES

CMLMS, Membership Meeting, January 17, 2013

Call to Order: Vice-president Sue Casler called the January 2013 membership meeting to order at 7:41 pm at the North Elementary School, Lansing, Michigan.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests/Visitors: Dennis and Deb Carmichael of Lansing.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: The December membership minutes and the January board meeting minutes were printed in the January 2013 newsletter. There were no corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer absent, no report. Secretary has the report filed at the January board meeting.

Announcements:

- Alan Robards, field trips: Field Trip to Sylvania Quarry in Ohio on Saturday, May 18, 2013. The Quarry is west of Toledo. This will be a guided trip, limited to 20 participants. The transportation into the quarry will be by a van, so there will be a \$ 10 charge per person for van use. We will be transported into an area reserved for collecting. Fossils such as trilobites and brachiopods are items to collect. This is a great opportunity for collecting. A sign up sheet was available at the meeting. Contact Jan Sjoquist if you wish to sign up before the next meeting. It is expected that collecting would start about 10 am, but more detail will be available later.
- Jan Sjoquist, display chair: Memorial book has been found and it is being reviewed for updating. Grit Turner donated an amazing calcite specimen for a memorial for Betty Patterson. The specimen is dogtooth calcite from the Pugh Quarry of Ohio. Those who knew Betty remember how much she loved the specimens from this location. The specimen will be displayed in the Memorial Case. Thank you, Grit.
- Lee Laylin, library: New books on the back table!
- Roni Sionakides, newsletter: Deadline February 11, 2013 for articles to be printed in the newsletter. Contributions are encouraged.
- Roger Laylin, banquet: The Okemos Masonic Lodge has been reserved for the banquet on May 16, 2013.
- Richard Miller: Was contacted by an East Lansing teacher who wished to send Petoskey Polishing Kits to a school class in Tennessee that was studying Michigan rocks and minerals. Richard cut Petoskey Stones and prepared twenty-one kits that he sent out. He also included a baseball-sized polished Petoskey Stone to serve as an example. Thank you, Richard for promoting our Society and Michigan.

Adjournment: Lee Laylin moved to adjourn the meeting, supported by Grit Turner. Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Janet Sjoquist, Recording Secretary

Program: 1. *Great Lakes, Ancient Shores: Sinkholes*, a Noble DVD; 2. *Grand Canyon, South Rim in Winter*: Lyle Laylin

CMLMS, Board Meeting, February 7, 2013

Board Members Present: Elaine Beane, Sue Casler, Roni Sionakides, Gordon Lewis, Roger Laylin, Lyle Laylin, Dan Sine, Ernie Augenbaugh, Theresa Hubbard, Milt Gere, Nate Krupp.

Board Members Absent: Kris Wood, Kara Miller, Jennifer Martin, Elaine Angstman, Jan Sjoquist, Alan Hukill, Mary Gowans.

Guests: Bob Mosher, George Heaton.

President: Elaine Angstman absent. Vice President Sue Casler called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. The only announcement was about the change of date of the March Board meeting from the usual Thursday date to Tuesday, March 5, the library not being available on Thursday.

Vice President: Sue Casler: Programs through August-February DVD Homer, the Triceratops; March annual club silent auction; April DVD Keokuk Geodes; May club banquet; June work bee if needed or short DVD; July and August no meeting, so rock collecting..

Recording Secretary: Jan Sjoquist: absent, no report. Roni Sionakides acting recording secretary.

Corresponding Secretary: Theresa Hubbard: no report.

Treasurer: Kris Wood was absent but emailed the November treasurer's report that was read by Publications Chair Roni Sionakides.

Directors: Milt Gere (1-yr.): no report. Lyle Laylin (2-yr.): no report. Nate Krupp (3-yr.): first meeting and welcomed, no report.

Roster Secretary: Ernie Aughenbaug:. Received a membership renewal from Angela Ransom with the addition of Neil Speerbrecher. In the absence of membership chair at this meeting, he has received an application for membership by Don Dowland of Lansing, Michigan. **Sue Casler moved to accept Don Dowland for membership, seconded by Roger Laylin. The membership was approved.**

Liaison Officer: Alan Hukill: Absent..

Past President: Elaine Beane: No report but commented that the newsletter should have a map to the new meeting place.

Membership: Elaine Angstman, absent.

Education: Kara Miller/Jennifer Martin, absent

Outreach: Mary Gowans, absent. Upcoming cub scout presentation and school science fairs were discussed

- February 28, Cub Scout Pack 82 in northwestern Lansing
- February 20, Bennett Woods School Science Fair. Sign up sheet passed around board; Lyle will send out an email notice to membership
- Okemos Science is Fun day is unknown at this time and may not be happening this year
- Darwin Discovery Days - no contact and will not be participating this year
- April 11, Fairview School Science Fair - sign up sheet will be at February and March membership meetings

Field Trip Chair: Dan Sine: May 18, limited space Sylvania, Ohio quarry trip is filled. There is a \$10 charge and money must be in by April. Coming up is a trip to the Irish Hills gravel quarry but not scheduled yet.

Publications Chair: Roni Sionakides: Presented email from GemstoneGuru on listing them on our website. Also the February newsletter deadline of February 11.

Finance Chair: Gordon Lewis: No report

Webmaster: Lyle Laylin: no report. Nate was concerned about the February online calendar. Lyle is looking for another module that works better.

Show Chair: Roger Laylin: Indicated that he could complete the financial report. Theresa reported that Springport Schools finally sent bill for busing of \$285 that will close the costs of the show. Roger has placed ads for the 2013 show in the Rock & Gem magazine and MWF listings. Flyers will be done in April when there is a complete list of dealers. There were 900 exit gifts left with an additional 300 needed. There were leftover egg carton kits. The postcard list was discussed. Roger sends out about 500.

Display Chair: Jan Sjoquist: Absent.

Old Business:

- Banquet: Dan has the tickets ready to be printed; door prizes - Sue, decoration - Lee Laylin and Marie Lewis, selling tickets - Ernie, speaker - Elaine Angstman, hospitality and door tickets - volunteers needed. Discussion on price of ticket and that society can support some costs. **Elaine Beane moved that the ticket price be \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, Roger Laylin seconded, approved.**
- Memorial trophy: Theresa and Jan are matching specimens per book of memorials and will

have a list prepared to add to memorial trophies. There was discussion that the society needs to work on directory and coordinate with membership list, especially those who have died. This will affect other lists such as newsletter mailing and email mailing lists.

New Business: None presented.

Adjournment: Dan Sine made a motion, seconded by Elaine Beane, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Roni Sionakides, acting Recording Secretary

SHARING

The Mystic Years

By Marvin Oesterle

Once, in my younger days, my very pregnant wife and I had returned home from a holiday party with friends. My wife was distraught and wailed that she was bloated and was “the ugliest one there.” I knew that that was my cue so I jumped in and said “Oh Honey, you weren’t the ugliest one there.” She coolly looked me in the eye and said, “Wrong answer, would you like to try again?”

This exchange about taking a wrong turn took me back to what I call my mystic period. As you know, it has been an enjoyable journey searching for the answer to the age old question, “Why are we so enchanted by rocks?” Mankind just loves stones. Maybe it is because their bright colors can be so beautiful (and, human nature being what it is, to flaunt them in front of others) ...or their durability to stand the test of time... or maybe it is because we have attributed meaning or value to certain stones.

Crystals seem to hold a special attraction. If you doubt that, just check on eBay for a whole selection of wands, scepters, healing crystals, crystal balls, spirit guardian crystals and many more. I would hold the base of crystal on my hurt and imagine the negative energy flowing away. Then I would turn the crystal around and with the point over my hurt, imagine the good and positive energy flowing in. Yup. Dr. Marv, that’s me. Crystals, also didn’t help my psyche or spirit much either. I think the key word is imagine and I must have lacked the imagination. On the other hand, there was no deductible to pay.

From the earliest days of mankind, as we sought to understand our world, stones have played a role in our beliefs and superstitions. Thomas Nicols, in the “Faithful Lapidary” wrote in the mid seventeenth century, “Lapidists are said to be, the making of men rich and eloquent, to preserve men from thunder and lightning, from plagues and diseases, to move dreams, to procure sleep, to foretell things to come, to make men wise, to strengthen memory, to procure honors, to hinder fascinations and witchcraft, to hinder slothfulness, to put courage into men, to keep men chaste, to increase friendship, to hinder difference and dissention, and to make men invisible....” All of which seems to be asking a lot of a few minerals. Of course, this doesn’t apply to the worry stone I carry because that really works. And my birthstone belt buckle that I made, really does tell a lot about me. And the diamond ring I gave to my ex-wife... Wait, never mind.

Stones have also had a large role to play in religions from pagan to present. A large part of this may be the fact that people want to give their most precious possessions as an offering. Of course, the priests may have offered some encouragement. Precious stones have decorated religious objects. They have had religious teachings carved on them like Ancient Egypt’s “Book of the Dead”. Or they can be carved to be a religious symbol like the Native Americans often did. Aztecs, Babylonians, Hindus,...the list is endless. The Old Testament Bible talks about the precious stones in the breastplate of the Jewish High Priest.

Maybe stones are something we can touch that represents something abstract that we can’t touch. Whether they are talismans or healing stones or religious artifacts or a guide to help your spiritual growth or even if they are just plain beautiful, they seem to have a hold on us.

Back to the present, my wife was still looking at me and expecting an answer. I knew that I was being given a second chance. I said “Of course, I meant that *in my eyes*, you weren’t the ugliest one there.” I slept on the couch that night.

HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY