

CMLMS
15785 Park Lake Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

**TIME VALUE
FIRST CLASS**

Rockhound News—February, 2016

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

**Dues are Due
for 2016**



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 2016

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| President | Sue Casler | 517-694-1233 caslers@michigan.gov |
| Vice-President | VACANT | |
| Recording Secretary | Jan Sjoquist | 517-543-1464 sjoquist@sbcglobal.net |
| Corresponding Secretary | Theresa Hubbard | 517-203-9620 thrshubbard@yahoo.com |
| Treasurer | Elaine Beane | 517-272-9661 gebeane@comcast.net |
| 1 Year Director | Lyle Laylin | 517-488-7908 lyle18@gmail.com |
| 2 Year Director | Nate Krupp | 517-626-1136 nathan.krupp1@gmail.com |
| 3 Year Director | Gaylord Brooks | 517-394-7211 rockinme60@gmail.com |
| Roster Secretary | Ernie Aughenbaugh | 989-224-7619 esaslapidary@gmail.com |
| Liaison Officer | Alan Hukill | 517-641-6125 facetman60@yahoo.com |
| Past President | Elaine Angstman | 517-282-9775 eangstman@hotmail.com |

COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2016

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Membership | Dave Berquist | 517-321-7752 3waverly@gmail.com |
| Field Trip | Dan Sine | 517-381-0805 daniel.sine@opm.gov |
| Publications | Roni Sionakides | 517-482-5986 rsionakide@yahoo.com |
| Display | Jan Sjoquist | 517-543-1464 sjoquist@sbcglobal.net |
| Education | VACANT | |
| Outreach | Mary Gowans | 517-351-6135 gowans@msu.edu |
| Library | Lee Laylin | 517-349-3249 l.r.laylin@gmail.com |
| Finance | VACANT | |
| Show | Roger Laylin (<i>pro tem</i>) | 517-349-3249 l.r.laylin@gmail.com |
| Web Master | Lyle Laylin | www.michrocks.org |

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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, February 18, 2016

PROGRAM: Speaker Stewart Powell of Linn and Owen Jewelers

REFRESHMENTS: Members with Initials A-L Please Bring Goodies

Location and Time: The CMLMS membership meeting will be held on February 18, 2016, at 7:30 p.m., at the **Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Street, beautiful downtown Okemos.**

Calendar for Winter 2016 and later

February 17, 2016 - Donley Elementary School, East Lansing, Science Night

February 18, 2016 - 7:30 p.m., membership meeting, speaker Stewart Powell of Linn and Owen Jewelers

March 1, 2016 - board meeting, TUESDAY, 7 p.m., Okemos Library

March 16, 2016 - Bennett Woods Elementary School, Okemos, Science Night

March 17, 2016 - 7:30 p.m., membership meeting, silent auction

April 5, 2016 - board meeting, TUESDAY, 7 p.m., Okemos Library

[Editor's note: the deadline for the newsletter is now the Sunday after the board meeting]

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Speaker will be Stewart Powell of Downtown Lansing's Linn and Owen Jewelers who will talk about the history of the store and his business.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

The Vice-President's position is vacant. Let President, Sue Casler, or a board member know if you have any ideas for speakers, or other programs.

March 17, 2016 - Annual Silent Auction; mineral beryl, var. aquamarine.

April 21, 2016 - Sally Labadie, mammoths, mineral diamond

May 19, 2016 - Annual banquet, mineral emerald

MINERAL OF THE MONTH

The board has decided to offer a **Mineral of the Month** feature at membership meetings to encourage society participation. Members can bring in samples of their specimens with a chance to speak briefly about them. This year will feature birthstones. February's birthstone is amethyst. Everyone go through your stash and bring in samples of amethysts. Samples can include not only the mineral but beads, jewelry, etc. See pages 8 and 9 for more on amethysts.

Message from Roster Secretary Ernie Aughenbaugh

Dues are now being collected for 2016

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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HOSPITALITY AND VARIOUS CHAIRS

We need members willing to set up hospitality on membership meeting nights. Please consider taking a few minutes to help out.

Show chair is open. Currently the board will pick up the duties but a permanent chairperson is needed.

Library chair is open. Please let the board know if you are interested in either position.

TRANSITIONS

In Memory

Gordon L. Lewis

Gordon passed away at his home on January 11, 2016 at the age of 81 years. In December 1954 he married Marie, who survives him.

In 1958 he received his Bachelor of Science degree in geology from Michigan State University, then retired from Michigan Department of Natural resources in 1997. He was a long time member of Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society where he was president in 1984. He liked to spend time on field trips and vacations with his family in the Upper Peninsula searching for agates on Lake Superior.

Besides his wife, he is survived by his two sons, 10 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

From Sue Casler, CMLMS, President

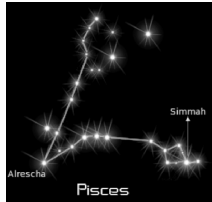
A last thank you to a cherished rockhound friend, Gordon Lewis, sweet, smart and seriously funny. As long as I have been on the board of the Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society ("Society" as you always referred to our organization), you were there as the Finance Chair. And every year you diligently prepared the "Society" budget for the year and presented it to the board for review and approval and we thanked you. At our January meeting, in your frail health and a bitter cold evening, you arrived at the Board meeting with the budget prepared for 2016. Because several items had longer discussion and you left early, the budget you prepared was presented and discussed after you left. Little did we know then that we wouldn't see you again in our presence, we didn't get to thank you for your work on the 2016 budget as we did each and every year you presented the budget. What an incredible strength of will and dedication you exhibited to bring yourself to that meeting to fulfill that duty. With heartfelt sadness and grateful thanks, not just for the budget work, but also for all the other roles you actively participated in for the "Society" - until we see you again on the eternal rockpile (where you will always find what you are looking for) - Thank you Gordon Lewis, you will be greatly missed.

From Doug and Jan Sjoquist

Gordon loved his white Toyota Tacoma and took it on a few field trips that Jan and I also participated in. I have a Toyota Tacoma, also, so I guess that made us kindred spirits in a way. We laughed about both of us having one and how much we enjoyed our trucks. Jan and I both smile every time when we remember that he always carried a hand truck in the back of his truck as well as his rock hounding supplies. It sure came in handy numerous times – especially at the quarry in Anderson, Indiana and at Crandall Pit near Charlotte. There always seemed to be a subtle rivalry between Jan and Gordon about who will haul away the heaviest specimen and that hand truck

seemed to encourage the competition. We certainly had many wonderful times with Gordon on field trips as well just sitting around the same table at rock club meetings. We'll miss him!

90th Birthday Party



Long time member, Mary Gowans, is to celebrate her birthday on March 10th (she's a Pisces!). A party is planned to be held at the MSU Planetarium 755 Science Road, just east of Farm Lane. There will be a social time from 1 to 3 PM and then a 1 hour Planetarium Show. Mary asks that if you plan to attend to RSVP, call her at 351-6136. PLEASE NO GIFTS!

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.

We have been invited to two Science Fairs and need volunteers:

- 1) Donley Elementary School, East Lansing, on Wednesday, February 17, set up is 5:30 pm the fair is from 6 pm to 8 pm. Donley is located on Lake Lansing Road. There is also need for a nondisplay volunteer. If you are interested please email Mary Gowans at gowans@msu.edu.
- 2) Bennett Woods Elementary School, Okemos, on March 16, set up is 5:30 pm and the fair is from 6 pm to 8 pm. If you are interested, email Mary Gowans. Let me know how many tables you will need and if you will need electricity.

If you have questions about volunteering, please email me at gowans@msu.edu.

Mary Gowans, Outreach Chair

Also Fairview Elementary School Science Night is coming up on April 20, 6 -8 p.m. More later.

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

Field Trips!

None scheduled at this time. See Dan Sine to sign up and for more information. Cell phone 517-316-5713 or daniel.sine@opm.gov. Dan would like to set up an email list of all who plan to go on the field trips. Please contact him if interested in getting emails as field trips are set up.

Minimum age for 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.

**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.**

UPCOMING SHOWS

March 4-6: RICHMOND, IN - Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society Annual Show. Fri & Sat 10 am - 6 pm, Sun 11 am - 4 pm, Wayne County Fairgrounds, 861 N. Salisbury Rd., Richmond. Contact: Judy Burton, (937) 339-1966; jleeburton@woh.rr.com; eiggs.weebly.com.

March 5-6: LIVONIA, MI - The Roamin Club Annual Show. Sat 11 - 6; Sun 12 - 6 Schoolcraft Community College, 18600 Haggerty Rd., Livonia. Contact: Todd Gass (248) 348-5093.

March 18-20: JACKSON, MI - Michigan Gem and Mineral Society Show. Friday 10-7, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 11-5, Jackson County Fairgrounds, West Ganson. Contact Sally 517-522-3396.

March 19: TAYLOR, MI - Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society of Michigan Rock Swap. 10 - 5 St. John's Lutheran Church 13115 Telegraph Rd., Taylor. Contact Lou Talley, (734) 259-8532; ltalley1970@gmail.com www.mmls.us.

April 7-9: WYOMING, MI - Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show. Roger's Plaza, 28th St at Clyde Park, Wyoming. Thurs & Fri. 9:30 - 9; Sat 9:30 - 8. Contact Kreigh Tomaszewski, (616) 243-5851; kreigh@gmail.com www.indianmoundsrockclub.com.

CMLMS MINUTES

CMLMS, Membership Meeting, January 21, 2016

Call to Order: In the absence of President Sue Casler, the meeting was called to order by Theresa Hubbard at 7:45pm at the Okemos Masonic Hall.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests/Visitors: Welcome to Sue St. Charles from Mason.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: The December Membership Meeting minutes and the January Board Meeting minutes were printed in the January Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Elaine Beane submitted her report through December 31, 2015. The report is as current as possible because of cycle of statements and bills.

Announcements:

Theresa Hubbard informed the membership of the passing of Gordon Lewis. Gordon has served in a variety of board positions through many years. Most recently, he was the Finance Chairman and gave his report at the January Board Meeting just days before his passing. Gordon is greatly missed and appreciated.

Dues need to be paid by January 31.

Dan Sine believes there are openings for the Grand Rapids Alabastine Mine trip on January 23.

Donley Elementary School in East Lansing will be having a Science Night on February 17, 2016. Anyone interested in participating should contact Mary Gowans.

Roni Sionakides, Newsletter Editor, would like to have a Gordon Lewis Tribute Page in the next newsletter. Members are encouraged to write a paragraph about any special memory of Gordon and submit it to Roni.

Mineral of the Month: January birthstone, **Garnet:** Theresa Hubbard presented information about the January birthstone, Garnet. Several members contributed their garnets for a display during the meeting. Wendy Rosier researched and shared information about the history of

birthstones and shared a chart of the spectrum of colors of garnet.

February's feature will be **amethyst**. Members are asked to bring in specimens, stories, or information about amethyst for display or discussion during the meeting.

Door Prizes: Arranged by Dan Sine

Adjournment: Tom Rosier **made a motion to adjourn the meeting**. The motion was supported by Lee Laylin. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Program: *Mineral Explorers, Mexico's Silver*. Thanks to Milt Gere for bringing his "half-breed" silver/copper specimen for display at the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted, Janet Sjoquist, Recording Secretary

CMLMS, Board Meeting, February 2, 2016

Board Members Present: Elaine Beane, Dave Berquist, Sue Casler, Theresa Hubbard, Alan Hukill, Roger Laylin, Lee Laylin, Lyle Laylin, Dan Sine, Roni Sionakides.

Board Members Absent: Elaine Angstman, Ernie Augenbaugh, Gaylord Brooks, Mary Gowans, Nate Krupp, Jan Sjoquist.

Members Present: None.

President: Sue Casler called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. at the Okemos Library.

The program for the February CMLMS Membership Meeting will be talk by Stewart Powell of Linn and Owen Jewelers in Lansing, Michigan on the history of the longtime Lansing shop and his business. In addition, the birthstone Amethyst will be featured as the "Mineral of the Month". Other programs are as previously stated - March Silent Auction, April Sally Labadie on mammoths, May Banquet. The speaker is to be determined.

Treasurer: Elaine Beane has not received a current statement from the bank as yet, but reported on January activities and added to the December 31, 2015 statement. She will update the report at the Membership meeting.

Sue Casler mailed in the raffle report to the State of Michigan.

Recording Secretary: Jan Sjoquist absent; Roni Sionakides acting secretary. The January Membership meeting minutes have been submitted for publication in the newsletter.

Corresponding Secretary: Theresa Hubbard sent card and flowers for Gordon Lewis's funeral.

Directors: Gaylord Brooks (3yr): absent, no report. Lyle Laylin (2yr): no report. Nate Krupp (1yr): absent, no report.

Roster Secretary: Ernie Augenbaugh: absent, no report.

Liaison Officer: Alan Hukill: no report.

Past President: Elaine Angstman: absent, no report.

Membership: Dave Berquist: has received applications for membership from Susanne St. Charles of Mason and Richard Sobotta and family - Leejean and Jacob Grubb - of Webberville, Michigan. Alan Hukill made a **motion to accept the new applicants into membership**. The motion received support by Dan Sine. A vote was taken, passed and all are welcomed into CMLMS membership.

Dave Berquist submitted a final draft of the new membership application that was formatted by Roni Sionakides. A few small final changes were discussed, will be added and submitted to the webmaster to post to the website. All old forms will be recycled.

Field Trips: Dan Sine: no report.

Publications: Roni Sionakides will need Newsletter submissions by the Sunday evening following board meetings. She also updated the board contact information and passed it out to the members present.

Education: Vacant. The presentation format for the “Mineral of the Month” was discussed with the time allotted after the main business meeting and just before adjournment. It was decided to keep the talk to 10-15 minutes. Theresa Hubbard will be moderator encouraging others at the meeting to participate.

Community Outreach: Mary Gowans: absent, no report. Roni Sionakides said Donley Elementary will be February 17, Fairview will be March 17.

Library: Lee Laylin: no report.

Display: Jan Sjoquist: absent, no report.

Finance: Vacant, need to replace. Jan Sjoquist sent a note that the MSU scholarship applications should go out before spring break. Lyle Laylin will contact the school.

Budget for 2016. Roger Laylin went over the show budget for 2016 with some changes. Alan Hukill moved to **accept the show budget for 2016 as written**, Lyle Laylin seconded, the motion passed.

Budget for Society for 2016. Roger Laylin presented. After changes and including the show budget, Alan Hukill moved to **accept the 2016 budget as written**, Dan Sine seconded, motion passed.

Webmaster: Lyle Laylin: no report.

Show: Roger Laylin: no report.

Old Business: Membership Application was finalized.

New Business: Roger Laylin made a motion to **donate \$100 to University of Michigan Museum of Natural History for preparation of the mammoth discovered at the Bristle Farm near Chelsea, Michigan**, Lee Laylin seconded, motion passed.

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

Respectfully Submitted, Roni Sionakides, Acting Recording Secretary

AMETHYST - MINERAL OF THE MONTH

Word origin by Roni Sionakides (transliteration of Greek using European system rather than Erasmian)

The word comes directly from the Greek, *amethystos*, meaning not drunken (Liddell and Scott dictionary for ancient Greek). The prefix “a” has the same meaning in Greek as it does in English - not - and that was added to an old word for wine or mead - *methi* meaning strong drink, or *methu/methy*, wine or mead, and used in Homer. *Methuo*, the verb, means to be drunken with wine. This is a very old word probably going back to Bronze-Age Greece since it was used in Homer whose stories originate in that age. In Thayer (dictionary for Biblical Greek) *amethystos* is the Greek word for amethyst, the stone of purple, but not used in describing the condition of not being drunken, although modern Greek still uses the word for not intoxicated. *Amethystos lithos* is the modern Greek for amethyst. The same words for wine and drunkenness are still in the Bible and are used in modern Greek, along with *oinos* and *krasi*. Greeks wore amethyst jewelry, particularly rings, sometimes beautifully carved, as a talisman to ward off drunkenness at their infamous parties or symposia. Sometimes they used goblets carved out of amethyst for the same reason. The color of wine is the same as the color of the stone so there was something of an association between the two. Vase painting in ancient Greece does have many scenes of male drinking parties and drunkenness. There are many words in Greek that have to do with serious drunkenness; fewer words for being sober! *Bakchos* ruled!!

AMETHYST - DID YOU KNOW

From Theresa Hubbard, resource *Wikipedia*

Amethyst is the birth stone of February as well as the official state gemstone of South Carolina. Up until the 18th century, amethyst was included in the cardinal, or most valuable gemstones (along with diamond, sapphire, ruby and emerald). However, since the discovery of extensive deposits in locations such as Brazil, it has lost most of its value and is now considered semiprecious.

Amethyst is a purple variety of quartz (SiO_2) and owes its violet color to irradiation, iron impurities (in some cases in conjunction with transition element impurities), and the presence of trace elements, which result in complex crystal lattice substitutions. In the 19th century, the color of amethyst was thought to be due to the presence of manganese. However, since it can be greatly altered and even discharged by heat, the color was believed by some authorities to be from an organic source. Ferric thiocyanate had been suggested, and sulfur was said to have been detected in the mineral.

The color of amethyst has been demonstrated to result from substitution by irradiation of trivalent iron (Fe^{3+}) for silicon in the structure, in the presence of trace elements of large ionic radius, and, to a certain extent, the amethyst color can naturally result from displacement of transition elements even if the iron concentration is low. Natural amethyst is dichroic in reddish violet and bluish violet, but when heated, turns yellow-orange, yellow-brown, or dark brownish and may resemble citrine, but loses its dichroism, unlike genuine citrine. When partially heated, amethyst can result in ametrine. It can also fade in tone if overexposed to light sources and can be artificially darkened with adequate irradiation.

Amethyst occurs in primary hues from a light pinkish violet to a deep purple and may exhibit one or both secondary hues, red and blue. The best varieties of amethyst can be found in Siberia, Sri Lanka, Brazil and the far East. The ideal grade is called "Deep Siberian" and has a primary purple hue of around 75–80%, with 15–20% blue and (depending on the light source) red secondary hues. Green quartz is sometimes incorrectly called green amethyst, which is a misnomer and not an appropriate name for the material, the proper terminology being prasiolite. Other names for green quartz are vermarine or lime citrine.

Synthetic amethyst is produced by gamma-ray, x-ray or electron beam irradiation of clear quartz which has been first doped with ferric impurities. On exposure to heat, the irradiation effects can be partially cancelled and amethyst generally becomes yellow or even green, and much of the citrine, cairngorm, or yellow quartz of jewelry is said to be merely "burnt amethyst."

The chemical and physical properties of synthetic amethyst are so similar to that of natural amethyst that it can not be differentiated with absolute certainty without advanced gemmological testing (which is often cost-prohibitive). There is one test based on "Brazil law twinning," a form of quartz twinning where right and left hand quartz structures are combined in a single crystal which can be used to identify synthetic amethyst rather easily. It is possible to synthesize twinned amethyst, but this type is not available in large quantities in the market.

The biggest factor in the value of amethyst is the color displayed as amethyst is readily available in large structures so the value of the gem is not primarily defined by carat weight; this is different to most gemstones where the carat weight exponentially increases the value of the stone.

Amethyst occurs at many localities in the United States. In the midwest it can be found in the Lake Superior region of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan and is relatively common in the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Nova Scotia. The largest amethyst mine in North America is located in Thunder Bay, Ontario.