

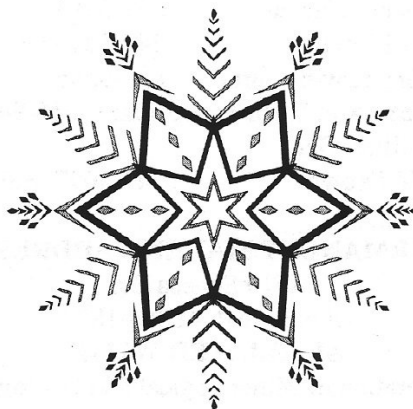
CML&MS  
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Okemos MI 48864

**TIME VALUE**  
**FIRST CLASS**



# ROCKHOUND NEWS

January 2001



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

## 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 2000

President	Ed Drown	347-5097 EdDrown@aol.com
Vice President	Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski	616-948-9589 jawp2@voyager.net
Recording Secretary	Mary Gowans	351-6136
Corresponding Secretary	Connie Snapp	339-2863
Roster Secretary	Wayne Zittel	485-2002
Treasurer	Alan Hukill	641-6125
1 Year Director	Milton Gere	
2 Year Director	Gail Hopkins	886-6047
3 Year Director	Alice Turner	694-9596
Liaison Officer	Bettie Patterson	347-8821
Past President	Mary Kay Bean	351-1107

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program	Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski	616-948-9589
Membership	Mary Kay Bean	351-1107
Finance	Gordon Lewis	349-2263
Education	Margaret Green	882-3637 magre@webtv.net
Field Trips	George Heaton	339-8914
Library	Lee Laylin	349-3249 laylin.leora@acd.net
Display	Grit (Irwin) Turner	694-9596
Publications	Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski	616-948-9589 jawp2@voyager.net
Show	Milton Gere	
	Ed Drown	347-5097 EdDrown@aol.com

### PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:

4519 Seneca Dr.

Okemos MI 48864-1837

### AFFILIATED WITH:

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

<http://www.comean.com/rock/mwf>

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

<http://www.AmFed.Org>

**REGULAR MEETING: JANUARY 18**  
**FOLKS WITH LAST NAMES R-Z, PLEASE BRING REFRESHMENTS!**  
**2001 OFFICERS WILL BE INSTALLED.**

**JANUARY PROGRAM: SNOW CRYSTALS!** -- Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski

Personally, I am finding this snowy winter a relief! All those warm, dry winters and low lake levels were making me nervous. The Midwest Federation Program catalog provided the perfect program for this winter: a slide show about snow crystals!

While not exactly mineralogy, snow certainly qualifies as "Earth Science;" and, may just help you think a little more clearly about crystal shapes and structures.

Blowing snow kept me from the January board meeting, but Ed Drown sent the following report: "The program of "Snow" was hailed as a good idea. "Ice" will be the mineral of the month and George has scheduled a collecting trip to follow the conclusion of the program."

**DON'T MISS THE JANUARY POTLUCK**—George Heaton

For our January "field trip" we will be having a potluck at the Alaiedon Township Hall on Sunday January 28 at 1:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass and your own plates, cups and other eating tools. Coffee, tea and punch will be provided.

Many of you may recall the fun times we had there in the past enjoying "Rocko," watching movies or slide shows and eating lots of good food. **It looks like our entertainment this year will be a few rounds of "ROCKO," so please be sure to bring a wrapped rock gift or two to share.**

**REMINDER: 2000 SHOW BOARD** wrap up meeting will be held after the potluck.

**"According to a geologist, the earth is made of six layers, like a cake, and the similarity is carried even further with nuts sprinkled on top."**

Via Fractured Agate via The Glacial Drifter via MGAGS Fall 2000

**RESOLVE...**

To attend all meetings,  
To go on all field trips,  
To introduce someone to the hobby,  
To donate material for club sales,  
To write articles for the newsletter,  
To make guests feel welcome,  
To participate and attend area shows,  
**Resolve to become a better club member!**

To give programs at schools,  
To get more involved, help out more,  
To reach out to your community,  
To learn a new skill,  
To display at your own show & others,  
To say "YES" if asked to be an officer,  
If asked to chair a job, to say "YES"

Kitty Starbuck, Kzoo Gems & MWF Newsletter 1/2001

**ROAMIN CLUB SPECIAL AUCTION: MARCH 10 & 11, 2001**

Sat. 11-6; Sun. 12-6; Schoolcraft College, Waterman Building, 18600 Haggerty Rd, Livonia

**CENTRAL MICHIGAN LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY  
2000 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER**

BALANCE ON HAND(1-01-00)  
 CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT(7-16-00)  
 COMERICA BANK SAVINGS  
 COMERICA BANK CHECKING  
 TOTAL

\$11664.95  
 13322.94  
 1017.50  
 \$26005.39

**RECEIPTS  
 INTEREST(SAVINGS&CD)**

DUES  
 SILENT/MINI-AUCTION  
 BANQUET  
 1999 SHOW  
 BADGES  
 CONTRIBUTIONS  
 RE-ENTRY OF CHECKS  
 TOTAL

703.91  
 485.00  
 6.00  
 509.50  
 11241.15  
 28.00  
 50.00  
 100.00  
 13123.56

**DISBURSEMENTS**

MSU SCHOLARSHIP  
 CONTRIBUTIONS  
 BANQUET  
 LIBRARY  
 SCHOOL RENT  
 PUBLICATIONS  
 PROGRAM  
 MEMBERSHIP (BADGES)  
 CORRESPONDING SECRETARY  
 ROSTER SECRETARY  
 MISCELLANEOUS  
 INSURANCE (MWF)  
 2000 SHOW  
 MWF DUES  
 STATE DIRECTOR  
 TOTAL

2000.00  
 100.00  
 803.59  
 161.50  
 375.00  
 1415.08  
 105.09  
 77.98  
 9.90  
 18.34  
 334.12  
 173.90  
 5871.74  
 330.00  
 100.00  
 11876.24

BALANCE ON HAND(12-31-00)  
 CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT(7-16-01)  
 COMERICA BANK SAVINGS  
 COMERICA BANK CHECKING  
 TOTAL

\$12236.87  
 13776.43  
 1239.41  
 \$27252.71

ALAN HUKILL, TREASURER

**CENTRAL MICHIGAN LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY  
TREASURER'S REPORT**

DECEMBER 1, 2000 - DECEMBER 31, 2000

**BALANCE ON HAND(12-01-00)**

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT(7-16-01)  
 COMERICA BANK SAVINGS  
 COMERICA BANK CHECKING  
 TOTAL

\$12236.87  
 13776.43  
 1472.58  
 \$27485.88

**RECEIPTS:**

DUES  
 BADGES  
 DONATION  
 REENTRY CK#2493  
 TOTAL

72.00  
 14.00  
 5.00  
 50.00  
 141.00

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

CORR. SECRETARY  
 2000 SHOW RAFFLE  
 STATE DIRECTOR  
 MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP  
 PUBLICATIONS  
 TOTAL

9.90  
 8.83  
 100.00  
 50.00  
 205.44  
 374.17

**BALANCE ON HAND(12-31-00)**

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT(7-16-01)  
 COMERICA BANK SAVINGS  
 COMERICA BANK CHECKING  
 TOTAL

\$12236.87  
 13776.43  
 1239.41  
 \$27252.71

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

ALAN HUKILL, TREASURER

**THE ROCKPILE**

November 2000

Volume XLIV

Issue 9

***THE HOLLAND  
EXPERIENCE.. WILLIAM  
HOLLAND SCHOOL OF  
LAPIDARY ARTS, THAT IS***

Pete and I just returned from two weeks of taking classes at William Holland School of Lapidary Arts in the beautiful mountains of Young Harris, Georgia. What a wonderful experience of being able to devote a whole week to your favorite phase of our hobby!

Situated on a mountain in North Georgia near the North Carolina border is a Rockhound's Dream come true. Here, near Young Harris College, is a special school that is like no other in the entire United States. Here the serious rockhound can learn how to turn rough gems into family keepsakes. With dedication and determination, an inspired group of hobbyists is making it possible for many others to enjoy the fruits of their knowledge. The first "students" actually built the school. Physically, that is. The building was built with their own hands and skills.

The Lapidary Arts include all the skills that are required to make custom jewelry. At the William Holland School of Lapidary Arts, classes are taught by volunteer instructors in such procedures as faceting, silversmithing, the making of cabochons, wire crafting, wax modeling and casting, gem trees, carving, channel work, bead knotting and design, and opal cutting. Some weeks also include chain making, stained glass, basket making and copper tooling. Gem and Mineral ID classes are also offered. Students learn to use all the special tools, and shop safety is stressed. Each student carried home the fruits of his or her efforts as well as fond memories of new acquaintances.

The week begins on Sunday with checkin after 2:00PM, dinner is at 6:00PM.

Classes start at 9:00AM Monday. Tuesday night is an auction with items donated by students and instructors. Proceeds go into classroom supplies.

The facilities include a main building (lodge) of two stories whose upper ground floor is like a motel with 29 bedrooms, each with a private bath and two beds, one double and one twin. Two bedrooms are equipped for the handicapped. The lower ground level contains 13 classrooms, the kitchen and dining room. Each room has a ceiling fan. Room air conditioners have recently been installed. A separate building, The Seabolt building will house the George Kasper Memorial Library. This building also has bathroom facilities for the campground. We have 10 spaces with full hookups.

All Rockhounds are eligible to participate, and these number in the many thousands. The school is named for a deceased past president of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies. The creation of the William Holland School of Lapidary Arts was primarily a personal philanthropy of Harold Sparks, another past president, and his wife Mary Lou, also now deceased. Suzanne Wagner, their daughter, now runs the school in their memory.

Many members and other friends have contributed their labor and funds to help make this dream a reality.

The cost per person per week including room and meals is very nominal. \$225.00 is the most recent price. Classes are of one week duration, and the courses vary during the time the school is in operation from May thru October. A student takes one class for the week.

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**THE ROCKPILE****November 2000****Volume XLIV****Issue 9**

The first week we were there, Pete took a class with instructor Nestor Garcia cutting cabochons and I took a beading class with instructor Dot Kasper. By the end of the week we had made good friends with Nestor and his wife Lorraine (Lorraine teaches basket-weaving), another instructor, Doti Dienst, who teaches enameling, Dot Kasper, and two students, Don and Myrna Snyder from Payne, Ohio, as well as meeting and talking with many of the other students and instructors. Jack Lahr was also a student there that week.

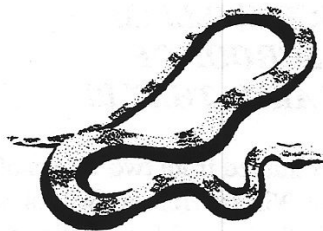
The second week, I was teaching a seed-beading class and Pete was signed up with Gerald Smith who taught a Mineral Identification class. I had 6 students in my class and Suzanne Wagner, who runs the school, sat in for a couple of days also. Pete's instructor, Gerry Smith, is a geologist and has taught in college for 30 years, is also a member of the Flint club here in Michigan. His wife, Christine was in my class both weeks.

We had the auction on Tuesday evening. One of the gals, Judi Boggs, began each and every auction item with a \$1.00 bid. What a hilarious time we had at that auction!

Thursday evenings at the school is "tail-gating" get-togethers. It gives students and teachers alike the opportunity to sell their wares. Also a fun evening!

Wonderful friends and memories are made at Wm. Holland as well as learning new things. This was our fourth time there and definitely will NOT be our last. I am returning next year to teach for two weeks in the summertime. Would anyone like to join us?? Wouldn't it be fun to have a "Michigan Week" there when all Michiganders took over the school? Shall we consider it?

Diane Kuzara



**SNAKES.....** I don't know about you but I can take them or leave them and I prefer to leave them. Even a fossilized snake would turn me off and you know how I feel about fossils. But news about fossilized snakes are so rare that when an article appeared in the American Paleontologist, February 2000 about them ("Did the first snakes burrow?"), I had to read it. The article went on with the question, did snakes lose their legs in order to burrow underground? Or were the first snakes primarily adapted for swimming, or for some other mode of life?

A newly discovered fossil snake from the Pleistocene of Australia offers to shed light on this evolutionary puzzle. According to John Scanlon of New South Wales (Nature, 403: 416, 2000), the new fossil represents one of the last surviving members of a very primitive group of snakes. Yet the animal did not have any adaptations for burrowing, suggesting that snakes that do burrow acquired this habit after the evolution of basic snake body form.

Does this change my perspective of snakes.....**No.** I will still just leave them alone.

Pat Rutkowski



## MICHIGAN MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY CONGLOMERATE NOVEMBER 2000

## SAVE OUR GERALD E. EDDY GEOLOGY CENTER

By Larry Bean, MMS Member

If you ever had a chance to visit the Gerald E. Eddy Geology Center at the Waterloo Recreation Area west of Chelsea, Michigan I am sure you appreciated the geology displays and programs at the only geology center that I am aware of. Michigan State Parks, under the Department of Natural Resources has many education and nature centers around the State of Michigan in various state parks. The Gerald E. Eddy Geology Center was special because it was dedicated to geology education and geology information. Schools from many areas ran field trips to the Geology Center on a regular basis because that was the only location available, which was dedicated to the subjects of earth science and geology.

The center has undergone dramatic changes. This past summer the building was re-worked with much needed maintenance and expansion. However, geology seems to be taking a back seat to other subjects. The DNR Parks now plans to name the center the Discovery Center and have indicated that they plan to mostly develop displays and programs that are NOT focused on geology over the next few months. They indicated that there would be some geology displays at the center.

If you want a Geology Center, now is the time to make a difference. They are in the planning stages for the programs at this center. Once the money is spent on other programs then it may be too late to change back to geology. You can write to DNR Director K.L. Cool, or to Chief of Parks and Recreation Division Rodney Stokes, or to the Manager of the Waterloo Recreation Area Robert Vanderwall and request what you want developed at the GEOLOGY CENTER. If you ask questions and demand a response then they will have to think about your comments and develop a response within a short time frame as opposed to placing your letter in a stack of things to look at "some day". I will request that they keep the name Gerald E. Eddy Geology Center and maintain the center with a focus exclusively on geology and earth science. The following contacts and addresses can be used for your letters:

K.L. Cool, director  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
Executive Division  
Mason Building, Sixth Floor  
P.O. Box 30028  
Lansing, MI 48909

Rodney Stokes, Chief  
Parks and Recreation Division  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
Mason Building, Fourth Floor  
P.O. Box 30257  
Lansing, MI 48909

Robert Vanderwall, Manager  
Waterloo Recreation Center  
16345 McClure Road  
Chelsea, MI 48118

Lawrence Bean  
Southeast Michigan District Geologist  
Waste Management Division  
Department of Environmental Quality  
Telephone: 734-953-1469  
FAX: 734-432-1277  
E-mail: beanl@state.mi.us