CML&MS
4519 Seneca
Okemos MI 48864
TIME VALUE
FIRST CLASS

KALAMAZOO, MI 490
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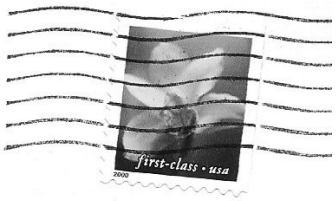
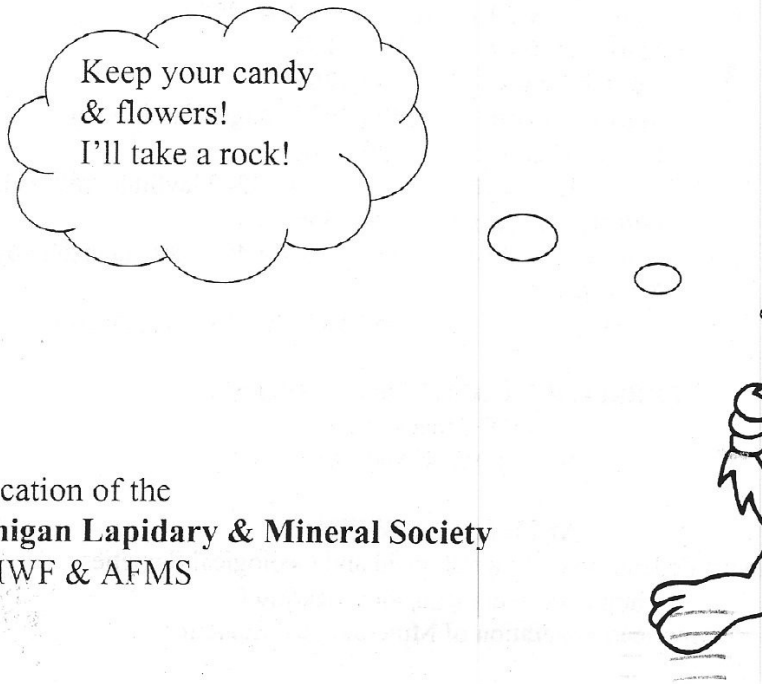


ROCKHOUND NEWS

February 2001



Official publication of the
Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society
Member of 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 2001

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 Snepp	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
Laison 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

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Okemos MI 48864-1837

AFFILIATED WITH:

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies
http://www.comean.com/rock/mwf
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

REGULAR MEETING: FEBRUARY 15
FOLKS WITH LAST NAMES A-I, PLEASE BRING REFRESHMENTS!
PROGRAM: SEDIMENTARY ROCKS

BASIC ROCK ID: THE SEDIMENTARY ROCKS – Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski
Frequently, folks join our club because they want to be able to identify the rocks we see lying around us everyday in our driveways and along the road. These rocks, thanks to glaciation and weathering, are generally much harder to identify than our aesthetic mineral specimens.

This month's program will give thorough coverage to sedimentary rock. We will begin with a short video examining the formation process, and study some good samples of common sedimentary rock characteristics. Following the presentation, Dave & I will give you a chance to test your knowledge, hands on, with mystery specimens.

MINERAL OF THE MONTH: THE OLIVINE FAMILY – Margaret Green
For the year 2001 we will be exploring a classification of minerals known as the silicates, since they compose by weight 98% of the earth's crust. Eight common elements, (oxygen, silicon, aluminum, iron, calcium, sodium, potassium and magnesium), combine in various amounts to form the rock-forming minerals.

Silicates are defined by the amount of oxygen and silicon bonded together to make the basic building block; the silicon-oxygen tetrahedron, where four oxygen atoms are bonded to one silicon atom. Each silicate mineral has a structure and a chemical composition that indicates the conditions under which it formed. Most silicate minerals form when magma cools. They are divided into two main groups, the ferromagnesian silicates and the non-ferromagnesian silicates.

Olivine belongs in the sub-group of the ferromagnesian silicates, the nesosilicates, known for the formation of single or isolated tetrahedrans. The chemical formula is (Mg,Fe)2 SIO4. The magnesium ions and the iron ions substitute for each other in a variety of amounts so at one extreme olivine may contain only iron without magnesium(Fe2SIO4), identified as Fayalite, and at the other extreme iron is totally lacking(Mg2SIO4), identified as Forsterite (or the gem Peridot). Between these extremes any ratio of iron to magnesium is possible, with the intermediate member being olivine (which is not scientifically recognized as a seperate mineral) or a.k.a. Chrysolite, thus the olivines are really a group of minerals..

It crystallizes at high temperatures and pressures, and possesses a chemical structure that is stable at high temperatures. As the temperatures of the melt cools and the chemical composition of the melt changes, Olivine becomes part of a discontinuous reaction series, changing to Pyroxene, to Amphibole and then to Biotite mica. If Olivine crystals "settle out" of a melt by differential crystallization then fractional crystalliation results giving the solidifying melt "layers" of crystals of differing chemical composition. Exposed to earth surface conditions this mineral usually alters to serpentine, bowlingite, or iddingsite. Small rounded crystals are commonly formed that give specimens a granular appearance, or thick, tablular crystals form frequently with wedge-shaped terminations. Other habits are massive or compact.

Color ranges from black to olive green to yellowish brown to brown with a glassy luster. The streak is colorless. Crystals can be transparent to translucent. Because it is composed of individual tetrahedra linked by ions of iron or magnesium with the oxygen ions bonded together the weak Van der Waal forces create a 2,1; 3,1 cleavage forming a 90 degree angle.. On Moh's scale of hardness, it is at 61/2 to 7. Specific gravity is 3.27 - 4.32, the crystal system is orthohombic.

Olivine is a common mineral found in mafic and ulra-mafic intrusive and volcanic igneous rocks such as, dunites, basalt, gabbros and peridotites. In metamorphic rocks it occurs in high-temperature regional or contact metamorphosed dolomitic limestone. According to E. Wm. Heinrich in the Minerology of Michigan, look in Houghton and Keweenaw counties at the base of the basalt flows and dikes of the Keweenaw Series and at Pulpit Rock, Presque Isle, Marquette Co. In metamorphic rocks it occurs in high-temperature regional or contact metamorphosed dolomitic limestone. Also in the United States large crystals can be found near San Carlos (in the San Carlos Indian Reservation), Gila and Graham counties and near Fort Defience (Buell Park and Garnet Ridge), Apache Co. Arizona. Around the world olivines are found in Egypt, Norway, Italy, Burma, Pakistan and Germany. It is used as flux in making steel and is an ore of magnesium.

If you have a specimen of Olivine you would like to share with club members, please bring it to the February General Membership meeting.

INTERESTED IN EDUCATION? -- Margaret Green

Hello, May I have your attention please?

You can be old fashioned and call me a chairman. You can use a more modern term, chairwoman or you can use the polically correct term chairperson. However you say it, if I do not have a commitee, then I am just a person. Every "Chair" needs someone to fill it, not just with a person willing to be responsible for leadership, but with folks willing to help with the various duties that need to be done so that every facet of our club thrives. I can not ask the individuals already filling a position of leadership within the club to be on the Education Commitee, they already have their plate full. I am asking the members who want to be an active member, but need a place to start. I am accepting volunteers to be active participants on the Education Commitee. All interesed parties can contact Margaret Green for more information, I am listed in the current club directory. Thank you.

GEORGE HEATON'S POTLUCK REPORT

We had our January potluck at the Alaiedon Township Hall on Sunday, January 28th. I think I counted at least 34 people present which may be a record for this event. This was sufficient to provide a large quantity and variety of food. Even with this large variety of food available George Heaton did not overeat, but ate just the right amount, again exhibiting his truly amazing will power. Beside eating food we also played that bingo-like game, Rocko, with plenty of rock related prizes to be won. There were enough prizes available that I believe everyone won at least one prize except George Heaton who had to run the game, but this was O.K. since he already has lots of rocks and would have given it to Grit to use for a door prize anyway.

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE TO MEET FEB. 22 (jawp)

It's been many years since we evaluated our club constitution and by-laws. A committee has been formed to look for any glitches and problems. If you have any concerns or ideas, please share them with one of the committee members: Chair. Mary Gowans, Alan Hukill, Bettie Patterson, Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski, (and I can't remember the fifth person—it's either Ed Drown or Gordon Lewis, I think.) The meeting will be held Feb. 22, 7:30 at the home of Bettie Patterson.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY – Connie Snepp

Cards were sent to Betty and Peter Tack; Daphene Hansor,who is undergoing radiation treatments; and Bettie Patterson, whose brother died. I also made phone calls to a number of people whose health has been fragile lately, and most are holding their own. It was good to see Florence Hill, Daphene Hansor and George Olds at the January "picnic." (Everyone else, too!)

WELCOME BACK (jawp)

We welcome back a rejoining member, John Engel. John's interests include archaeology, faceting, geology, lapidary crafts, metal crafts, and wirecraft. His address: 3800 Gale Rd, Easton Rapids MI 48827, email bear24@voyager.net.

SNOW REVIEW – Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski

Our snow program seems to have kept fresh white stuff at bay. If you would like a copy of the directions for preserving snow crystals, please contact me and I will get one to you. The web site which I find enlightening & enjoyable is "Snow Crystals" designed by Kenneth Libbrecht: http://www.cco.caltech.edu/~atomic/snowcrystals/

The book to which I referred, Michigan Weather by Richard Keen, is out of print. However, you may be able to find it used or in the library.

A ROCK AND ROLL DINOSAUR THAT IS NOT A ROLLING STONE - Ed Drown

Mark Knopfler, the veteran front-man of the rock group Dire Straits had a rare honor bestowed on him - a newly discovered dinosaur has been named after him. Masiakasaurus Knopfleri (mah-SHEE-kah-sawr-us nawp-FLAIR-ee) was found on Madagascar, having lived in the late Cretaceous period, 65 to 70 million years ago. The distinguishing feature are its front teeth, described by team leader Dr. Sampson; 'The teeth at front are weird. They're long and conical with hooked tips. They protrude straight forward, so it might be easier to catch fish, but it might be used to spear insects or some other animal'. These formidable looking teeth led to the first part of the name, "masiaka", the native word for vicious. Mr. Knopfler said through a spokeswoman that 'I'm really delighted. The fact that it's a dinosaur is certainly apt, but I'm happy to report that I'm not in the least bit vicious'. Finally, why Mr. Knopfler? The team listened to a lot of Dire Straits during the dig (a good luck charm?). So the next time you're in Arkona and hear "Poor Boy Blues" drifting over from Hungry Hollow just look for my car. Reference: http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/012401/markknopfler.sml

CENTRAL MICHIGAN LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY 2001 SHOW—Milt Gere

"Michigan's Geological Treasures" October 26, 27, 28, 2001

Chairpersons as of 2/7/01

Show Co-chairpersons: Ed Drown, Bettie Patterson, Alan Hukill, Milt Gere

Finance: Alan Hukill
Electrical: Chuck Smith
School Tours: Mary Gowans
Display: Neil Snepp
Publicity: Shar Gere, Alan Hukill, Larry Bourland
Children's Table: George Heaton
Tickets: Margaret Green
Raffle: Gail Hopkins
Demonstrations: Alice Turner
Silent Auction: Larry Bourland, Elaine Angstman
Announcer / Door Prizes: Bettie Patterson
Fluorescent Booth: Ed Drown
Hospitality Room: Jean Ann Wahl-Pitrowski
Fossils: Connie Snepp
Critters: Marie Lewis
Mineral Kits: to be filled
Member Swap Table: Guidelines: Gordon Lewis
Attendant at Show: to be filled
Transportation: to be filled
Signs: to be filled
School Bus Parking: to be filled
Loading Ramp/ in & out: to be filled
Tables/Arrangements: to be filled
Security: School Tour: to be filled
Dealer Set Up: Grit Turner
Show Hours: to be filled

There may be more categories that I've missed and you folks can help by telling me about it. Also, volunteering to chair, be another co-chair, or happy worker in any category will be appreciated.

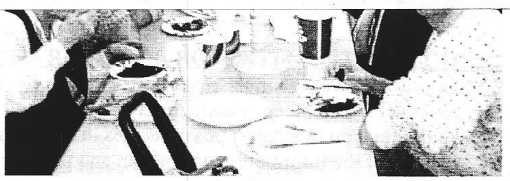
Please note, if I missed you name or misspelled it, please let me know that too. Thanks. Milt Gere, Show Co-Chair (2/7/01)

SPRING SHOWS

March 10 & 11	Roamin Club auction. Sat. 11-6 Sun 12-6. Schoolcraft College, Waterman Campus Center Bldg., 18600 Haggerty Rd, Livonia
March 16-18	Jackson Show. Fri. 11-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5. Michigan Center Masonic Lodge, 355 Napoleon Rd., Michigan Center
March 24	Dearborn Club Swap. 10-5. Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd., Taylor (just east of Telegraph Rd.)
April 21-22	"Blossom Land Show" Bridgman MI. 10-5 both days. Exit 16 off I-94, 3 1/2 miles North on Red Arrow Highway. Free admission.
April 5-7	Indian Mounds, Grand Rapids Show. Eastbrook Mall, 3655 28th St. SE; Thurs & Fri 9:30am-9pm, Sat. 9:30-6:00
April 27-29	Mt. Clemens Show. Fri. & Sat. 10-7, Sun. 11-6. Mt. Clemens Recreation Center, 300 N. Grosebeck, Mt. Clemens
May 4-6	Kalamazoo Show. Fri. 4-8, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5. Fairgrounds Country Center Bldg., take Sprinkle Rd. to Lake St.
May 5-6	Cincinnati Show. New Location: Sabin Cincinnati Convention Center, 525 Elm St.
June 1-3	"Dearborn" Show. Allen Park Civic Arena, 15800 White, Allen Park

[redacted] MINERAL SOCIETY
TREASURER'S REPORT
JANUARY 1, 2001 - JANUARY 31, 2001

BALANCE ON HAND(01-01-01)	
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT(7-16-01)	$12236.87
COMERICA BANK SAVINGS	13776.43
COMERICA BANK CHECKING	1239.41
TOTAL	$27252.71
RECEIPTS:	
INTEREST(SAVINGS)	33.75
DUES	35.00
DONATIONS	10.00
TRANSFER FROM SAVINGS TO CHECKING	500.00
TOTAL	578.75
DISBURSEMENTS:	
MWF DUES	325.50
MWF INSURANCE	186.00
LIBRARY	53.00
2001 SHOW	500.00
EDUCATION	36.67
LIAISON	4.77
RENT(ALAIEDON)	75.00
PUBLICATIONS	127.86



MINERALS ON THE MOVE, MISNAMED, AND OLDER THAN DIRT - Ed Drown

A relatively recently assembled mineral collection was put up for auction in early January at Sotheby's in New York. The "Freilich Collection" was an attempt to gather world-class specimens under one roof. The specimen from Michigan that stood out was the copper (no surprise, eh?) that was pictured on the cover of the "Michigan's Copper Country" edition of the Mineralogical Record (it's in the CML&MS library) that was once owned by B.S. Butler (noted researcher on the region). For a mere $55,375 the specimen has a new home, time to dig out the metal detector and head up north.
Reference: Sotheby's web site, Auction NY7586, Lot #24.

A report on the state of middle school science textbooks found them "riddled with errors". One example cited was a picture of Linda Ronstadt labeled as a "silicon crystal" - obviously it should have been a picture of Crystal Gayle.
Reference: http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/011501/textbook_errors.sml

Finally, the oldest known crystal was found in rocks from the Jack Hills section of northwestern Australia. The crystal of zircon was about the width of a human hair and was independently dated by two teams as 4.3 and 4.4 billion years old. How did they determine its age? The crystal contained uranium when it formed, over time uranium decays into lead at a fixed rate, the "half-life". By measuring the ratio of uranium to lead and knowing the half-life they were able to calculate the age. The oldest known rocks are in northwestern Canada and are a sprightly 3.96 billion years old.
Reference: http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/011001/crystal_fox.sml

ALTERNATIVE SITES FOR BOARD OR GENERAL MEETINGS - Ed Drown

On occasion we lose the use of our usual meeting places and scramble to find another to bridge the interruption. To reduce the number of hairs that I may lose (and I have few to spare) in trying to find another meeting place, I would like you to suggest possible sites in the Lansing area; churches, schools, township halls, etc... Just fill out as much of the information as you can and pass the form to me.

Location: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____

Capacity of Room: _____

Rent ($): _____

Any Conditions Attached to Obtaining the Room: _____