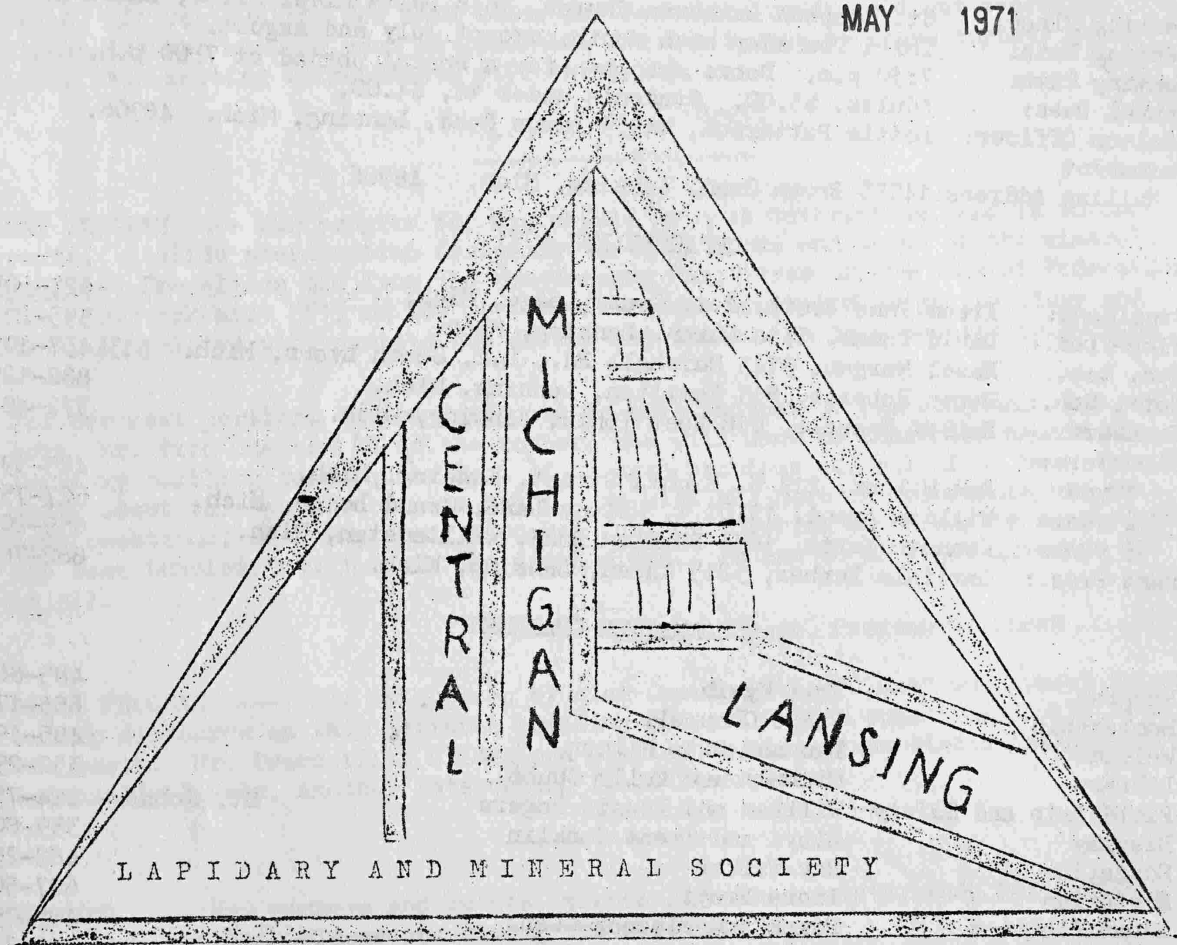


# ROCKHOUND NEWS

VOLUME 15  
NUMBER 5  
MAY 1971



## AFFILIATIONS

MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES  
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

# ROCKHOUND NEWS - 1971

This bulletin is the official publication of the Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society of Greater Lansing, Michigan, and 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 May, 1957.

Meeting Place: St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 3838 Delta River Drive, Lansing.  
 Meeting Date: Third Thursday each month, except July and August.  
 Meeting Time: 7:30 p.m. Doors are open for a social period at 7:00 p.m.  
 Annual Dues: Adults, \$3.00. Students under 18, \$1.00.  
 Liaison Officer: Bettie Patterson, 14933 Brown Road, Lansing, Mich. 48906.  
 Permanent

Mailing Address: 14933 Brown Road, Lansing, Mich. 48906

## OFFICERS FOR 1971

President:	Irene Jane Brett, R.1, Grand Ledge, Mich.	627-5058
Vice-Pres.:	David Toman, 3314 Karen, Lansing, Mich.	393-2247
Rec. Sec.:	Hazel Morgan, 9745 Marshall Rd., R.2, South Lyons, Mich.	313-437-1057
Corr. Sec.:	Bonna Roberts, 815 Hamilton, Lansing, Mich.	882-1257
Treasurer:	Harley Russell, 618 West Ionia, Lansing, Mich.	372-4818
Directors:		
1 year	Dan Wilcox, 219 S. Eighth Street, Lansing, Mich.	485-3926
2 years	William Arend, 13100 E. Melody Lane, Grand Ledge, Mich.	627-7563
3 years	Kenneth Kurtz, 1694 Burkley Road, Williamston, Mich.	655-2051
Past Pres.:	Carlisle Barber, 3215 Karen, Lansing, Mich.	882-7621

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Program	Read Myers	485-6686
Membership	Grace Chappell	655-1749
Welcome	Dan and Rita Wilcox	485-3926
Library	Michael and Holly Chubb	332-2970
Field Trip and Safety	William and Bessie Rogers	St. Johns - 224-7596
Display	Lloyd and Irene Conklin	339-8013
Education	Ray Walker	482-2529
Historian	Irene Brett	627-5058
Identification	Frank and Eleanor Owens	485-7965
Public Relations	Al Purtil	484-7196
Show	Loyd and Lola Pearson	655-2554
Editor	Florence Hill	349-3554
Publishers	John and Wilma Hopkins	372-2089

Material in this publication may be used by others, provided acknowledgment is made.

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Besides May flowers, this month brings our annual anniversary meeting, and petrified wood from Eaton County. The club has been fortunate to obtain some specimen material from the Lansing Board of Power and Light's new facility in Delta Township. As you probably know, the excavation for this plant has brought forth some very interesting petrified wood, dating back well over two million years. After May 22, club members may obtain a specimen of this material from the Loyd Pearsons or the Bretts. More details will be forthcoming at the meeting.

At this next meeting we will present life membership to all members who have reached the age of seventy and have been a member of the club for at least three years. If you qualify for this honor and haven't already told our secretary, please let her know as soon as possible. We don't want to leave anybody out. After this meeting refreshments will be served.

I. J. Brett

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MAY PROGRAM --- Our program for May should be most interesting, and is in two parts. A slide presentation featuring the many forms and types of the mineral, Calcite. The slides are from the programming facilities of the Midwest Federation. Mr. Elmer Eckhardt (#13 on the roster of our own Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society) will narrate the slides and comment on this popular collecting item.

For our next portion, we are fortunate to have another of our original club members, Mr. Fred Gasche (#5 on the roster) who will show us something new in the lapidary tumbling techniques. Most of us have problems and all of us have a curiosity about this portion of our hobby. We will all have an opportunity to ask many questions, so bring along a pocket full of material which may be tumbled or has been tumbled, and join in the discussions. It can be of great interest to us all.

Read A. Myers, Program Chairman

APRIL PROGRAM --- The talk given by Alan Overdorff on "Glass" was a most interesting discourse on this artistic building material which comes originally from the earth. Mr. Overdorff's slides and display showing glass window designs were especially lovely. Another interesting facet to explore!

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WELCOME --- New members and guests, please sign the register when you arrive so our president can welcome you during the meeting.

If you wish to have a name badge by show time, order soon because it will be two months or longer before they will arrive. The price is \$1.85.

There were no suggestions in the suggestion box last month. We welcome your ideas and you need not sign your name. Let us hear from you.

Remember to bring your ads and clippings so they may be posted on the bulletin board. Harold Stuck will be in charge of it.

WELCOME (continued) A table will be set at 7:00 for displaying interesting specimens. Label your rock and bring it along to share with other members.

Rita Wilcox, Welcome Chairman

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FIELD TRIP --- Well, we had our field trip to Sylvania, Ohio. I took over as Red was in the hospital.

I got up Sunday morning at 6:00 a.m., fixed my breakfast and packed a lunch, then left for Florence Hill's. Got there about 7:30. We left there about ten to eight. Drove to Sylvania and I went over to the office and got the release papers, then back to the gate. There was already a bunch there, waiting to sign. Everyone did, and went in. Florence stayed with me at the truck so I would not be alone (and I am glad she did). At 11:15 we took the papers back to the office and then we went back and got our tools out and went in.

We worked our way in a ways and found a few brachiopods. Didn't see too many of our group as they were way down in. We went back for lunch and emptied our stuff and started out again. This time we went all the way down and saw some of the group. There were at least 150 to 200 people there that day so you had to look to find some of your own gang.

Well, we ran into a boy from Detroit who had three beautiful trilobites. Then I ran into Michael Chubb. As usual they were doing all right. I went to their place Monday night and saw some of their prizes. I'll tell you one thing -- Sara Lee doesn't need her glasses changed. She found 5 or 6 crinoid heads, one with the stem on -- a beauty. I am going to have to go back down there myself and hunt and see if I can find some of those. Holly found 6 large brachiopods in one place, and like a trilobite. Sara found a baby that is a beauty. Virginia Sterrett and David found a lot of small brachiopods. Don't know what the others found as I did not see them. Had a good turnout though. Signed in 35, and when we were leaving at 4:00 another couple showed up.

Got back to Florence's and had a bite to eat, and then to the hospital to report to the Boss. He was happy that we had a good turnout, and that everyone found something.

Bessie Rogers, Assistant Field Trip Chairman

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As most everyone in the club knows, I spent a week and one day in the hospital about a week ago. Being in with high blood sugar means that most of the time you aren't very sick, just in there getting tests and controlling the sugar with diet and insulin. And I am sure that you know the hospital is no place to be when you aren't sick, and time passes very slow. But when you have as many friends visit you as I had, and get as many cards as I got (some were very cute) it sure makes a fellow feel very good and helps make the time pass a lot faster.

I want to thank everyone very much. Just didn't know I had so many friends, and I am very sure that those that couldn't visit me were wishing me well.

William Rogers

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Lila Stevens says please bring Petoskey stones and other pieces for the children's table (Silica and Bellevue material) to the May meeting.



TRIP TO ALPENA --- Hi folks. Well, as you know it's getting near the 21-22-23 of May. This is when we are planning one of the best field trips of the year to the Alpena area. As you know we had one up there and we all had a wonderful time and got a lot of nice material for tumbling, cutting, and specimens.

This trip is arranged through the kindness of Wayne Henderson and his Geology class. As soon as he spoke of a Geology field trip to Alpena, I asked him about opening it to the whole club and he said it would be fine. He got in touch with Cal Loomis in Alpena to make plans, and I saw Cal at the Jackson show and talked it over with him. Wayne says that Cal has a big time planned. I have asked members of some of the local clubs to join us, and we expect to have a grand old time.

While you are looking for fossils and specimens think about our show coming up this fall and get a few extra things for the children's table for Irene Brett and Holly Chubb, and maybe a piece or two for the auction table, please.

We will be able to park in the fairgrounds if you want to go up Friday the 21st. We will leave from there about 8:00 Saturday morning. We will need a hammer, chisel, maybe a pry bar, and a short handled shovel for digging on the hill for Petoskey stones, corals, and brachs. If you wish information, contact the Hendersons.

William Rogers, Field Trip Chairman  
and my helper, Bessie Rogers

ITINERARY FOR THE ALPENA TRIP -- The whole club to go on this geology class field trip. Camping facilities will be available somewhere, maybe the fairgrounds.

May 22, Saturday, 8:30 a.m., meet at the fairgrounds, north central part of Alpena. Visit the shale pits in the morning. Lunch in the field, so carry your nosebag. Afternoon -- Tour of the sinkholes and other geological features, conducted by Cal Loomis.

Evening -- Program at the Museum.

May 23, Sunday, 8:30 a.m., meet at the fairgrounds. Fossil hunting on the hills, and at the beach for favosites.

Noon -- The Senior Citizens may have a luncheon, but this is not definite.

Wayne Henderson

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SHOW -- Contracts are out to most of the dealers.

DISPLAY -- Six couples displayed at the Jackson Show.

MEMBERSHIP -- New members approved at the Board meeting May 6 are these:

746 McMahon, E. W.

747 " Mrs. Mary Ann

2410 Leon Avenue, Lansing, Mich.

489-4640

48906

We will welcome Mr. and Mrs. McMahon at the May meeting.

Members renewing are:

Donald and Mary Tickner, 3206 Jerree, Lansing, 48910, telephone 882-9642

Bill Arend, soon to be of Bryan, Ohio, but with family at Grand Ledge until June.

Apologies are due to Jack Thompson and son Jack W., of 1323 Roselawn, Lansing, 48915, telephone 489-2383, whose dues were renewed November 19, but whose names somehow were omitted from the directory.

LIBRARY -- Attention: All members who subscribe to magazines. New subscriptions and renewals alike help you and the club. Ask Lola Pearson for details. (She will be at the library table to take subscriptions at the end of our regular meeting)

Rock and Gem: We have now received information regarding their club discount policy.

1. The special rate to anyone ordering through the club will be \$3.50 (instead of \$4.50). This is for 6 issues, this being a bimonthly publication.

2. The club then may retain \$1.00 for club use.

Add this information to the other statement of magazine policies in last month's club newsletter for handy reference.

Two new purchases have been received for the library. The first book is Index Fossils of North America which is now on loan to the club Fossil Study Group, and which apparently is supplying them with much needed information. This book will not be in circulation while the Fossil Study Group meets but can be borrowed during the "off months" by interested individuals.

The second purchase is a book which should keenly interest anyone who loves opal. It is called Australian Opals and describes the various opal fields in Australia, the types of Australian opal and what it is and how to work it. This was chosen as a memorial book for Mr. Hiram Morris.

Holly Chubb, Librarian

SOMETHING ABOUT SAFETY -- Since most everybody in the club is going on the field trip to Alpena (I hope!) I will mention a few things about safety. First I would like to mention this thing about burrs on your chisels and hammer heads. As you know, if you hit your chisel and there is a burr knocked off, it could go into your leg or hand or eyes, and you are using the last pair of eyes you are going to get for a while. Or you could hit a vein or nerve and it could cause a lot of pain and inconvenience. So please grind off those burrs and sharpen up those chisels; they will work a lot better and it might mean the difference between getting or not getting a nice specimen.

And whatever you do, watch your driving between here and Alpena. As you probably have found out you have to drive your own car and everyone else's, too. We want you all back bragging about the nice time you had and all the nice material you collected on your trip.

Remember this, if you are not the first one there. Enough material can be found in this area to supply all the rockhounds in Michigan for a good many years.

So don't run, WALK.

Your Safety Chairman,  
William Rogers  
and my helper Bessie Rogers

CAPITOL DISPLAY -- On the recommendation of the board, the display of Michigan rocks arranged by Lloyd and Irene Conklin will be left in the Capitol lower lobby longer than usual for the benefit of school groups and tourists. It seems quite fitting that visitors to our state Capitol Building should see Michigan specimens.

BETTY CROCKER COUPONS -- Keep them coming in to Sally Barber.

## IDENTIFICATION -- LUSTER

The third mineral property that concerns the contact of light with a mineral is luster. This indicates how a mineral reflects light. There are two main types of luster--metallic and non-metallic.

If a specimen is shiny and looks like it is made of metal, its luster is metallic. Among the metallic group are the native ores, such as gold, silver, and copper. Some others are compounds like pyrite, galena, and molybdenite.

All of the other minerals that are not metallic in luster are classed together as non-metallic, but there are many different types of non-metallic luster. Some of the common ones are vitreous, adamantine, resinous, silky, pearly, and dull.

The word vitreous means "glassy" so it applies to those minerals, such as transparent quartz, which look like glass.

Adamantine luster refers to a brilliant but somewhat oily look, such as diamond, zircon, and corundum have.

Resinous luster indicates a waxy-looking surface as found in chalcedony or amber.

A fibrous surface, such as satin spar and tiger-eye display, is known as a silky luster.

Pearly luster derives its name from its resemblance to the sheen of mother-of-pearl. Mica has this type of luster.

A specimen which has no shine and looks earthy is said to have dull luster. Chert and kaolin are examples of this.

Frank and Eleanor Owens

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EDUCATION -- Ray Walker is spending most of his time up at Sheridan (Area 517, phone 291-3378) now, but many club members have been busy sharing our interest with groups. Information has come in about these instances. Ray may have more.

Virginia Sterrett talked to an eighth grade science group at Otto Junior High School on April 22.

Virginia Sterrett and Irene Brett presented a program to the second grade at Maple Hill School on April 23.

Wayne Henderson talked to Mrs. Warner's Earth Science classes at Williamston High School on May 6. He gave them a brief overview of geological history to create an interest in their subject.

The Randolphs have all been spreading the word. On April 21 they held an open house for a troop of Grand Ledge Brownies -- fourteen girls and three leaders. Randy talked on tumbling at the Sycamore Valley Club on April 10. Janice taught a unit on geology in her environmental wildlife class at Grand Ledge High School. She had two big showcases of specimens on display at the High School, and was responsible for the work of three class sections for ten days. Janice also came back from her trip to Spain loaded with souvenir rocks. And all this in between taking care of two new colts -- and most important of all, planning for Nancy's marriage to Dennis Fleming on June 12. Keep going, folks! Good for you!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## AMONG OURSELVES

- May 15 . . Paleontology class, the Rickerds. 7:30 p.m.  
 May 20 . . Regular Meeting, St. Stephen Lutheran Church. 7:30 p.m.  
 May 21-23. Geology Field Trip to Alpena. Meet at Fairgrounds May 22, 8:30 a.m.

## SHOWS AND SWAPS

- May 15-16 . . Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society, County Center Building,  
 Fairgrounds, Lake St., Kalamazoo, Mich.  
 May 21-23 . . Muskegon County Rock and Mineral Association Swap and Sell,  
 Pioneer Park, Muskegon, Mich.  
 June 5-6. . . State Line Gem and Mineral Society Rock Swap, Fulton County  
 Fairgrounds, Wauseon, Ohio  
 June 5-6. . . Miami Valley Society, Fairburn, Ohio  
 July 18 . . . Lapeer County Gem & Mineral Society Rock Swap and Flea Market,  
 Cramton Park, Lapeer, Mich.  
 July 22-25. . Midwest Federation Convention and Show, Richland County Fairgrounds,  
 Mansfield, Ohio.

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Let's all do some particular thing to make Michigan Week have a special meaning!

May 16-22 is the time!

## ROCKHOUND NEWS

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## TIME VALUE