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Neil & Connie Snepp 1325 Orlando Dr Haslett MI 48840

ROCKHOUND NEWS

December 2000



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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	Mary Kay Bean	351-1107
Vice President	Ed Drown	347-5097 EdDrown@aol.com
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	Alice Turner	694-9596
2 Year Director	Gail Hopkins	886-6047
3 Year Director	Beth Stinnett	521-3375 Dere 669-8116
Laison Officer	Bettie Patterson	347-8821
Past President	Larry Bourland	bourlal@cs.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program	Ed Drown	347-5097
Membership	Lila Stevens	616-693-2733
Finance	Gordon Lewis	349-2263
Education	Larry Bourland	bourlal@scnc.cps.k12.mi.us
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-Piotre	owski 616-948-9589 jawp2@voyager.net
Show	Larry Bourland V	bourlal@scnc.cps.k12.mi.us
3.00 mm a 3	Ed Drown	347-5097 EdDrown@aol.com

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:

4519 Seneca Dr.

Okemos MI 48864-1837

MEMBER OF:

DECEMBER 21 MEETING = HOLIDAY MUNCHY EXTRAVEGANZA! Each family please bring a plate of your favorite holiday treats, healthy or otherwise. Thanks

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the honor of serving as Society President for this past year. It is such a pleasure to be a part of this family that works so hard to share the joys of rockhounding with the greater community and each other. Thank you for your support, thank you for your friendship, and thank you for your dedication to our hobby.

I wish all of you a most blessed holiday season and a joyful new year, Mary Kay

PROGRAM - Ed Drown

First of all, a hearty THANK YOU! to all that chose to share your special interest with the club at November's meeting. Hopefully some of you found a new facet of rockhounding to explore. December is our holiday meeting so the program as such is "Cookies, Cake and Calories." Bring your favorite goodies so that after the installation of officers we may enjoy the dulcet tones of the "Copper Country Carolers."

SCIENCE DAY—SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE, JANUARY 20

Our society has been invited to display at the Okemos High School Science Day on January 20, 2001 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity to share your knowledge of and enthusiasm for our hobby. Student members are especially encouraged to "show their stuff!"

If you are willing to volunteer some time for this worthy cause, please contact Margaret Green (magre@webtv.net or 882-3637.)

2001 OFFICERS TO BE INSTALLED AT DECEMBER MEETING

The following slate of officers was elected at our November meeting:

President, Ed Drown

Vice President, Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski

Recording Secretary, Mary Gowans

Corresponding Secretary, Connie Snepp

Treasurer, Alan Hukill

3 Year Director, Alice Turner.

Gail Hopkins will continue to serve as Director for one more year. Milton Gere has been appointed by the board to fill the term of Beth Stinnet and will serve for two years. Roster Secretary, Wayne Zittel, and Laison Officer, Betty Patterson, will continue to serve in their appointed roles.

PLAN NOW FOR 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.

As of board meeting time, entertainment plans are not set. Do you have a video or slides of a favorite collecting trip that you would be willing to share? Any other entertainment ideas? (Yes, we can always fall back on ROCKO.) If so, please contact George Heaton at 339-8914.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS:

Martha Lee & Jordan Lee

6378 N. River Hwy

Grand Ledge MI 48837

622-5056; candmlee@earthlink.net

Martha's interests include archaeology, carving, fossils, geology, metalcraft, tumbling, wircraft, painting, beading and geneology.

Jordon is a student member who enjoys carving, fossils, geology, sculpture, guitar and sharks!

Cynthia Ricks

5802 Wise Rd.

Lansing MI 48911

887-6723; cynthiaricks@hotmail.com

Cynthia is a colleague of Larry Bourland. Her interests include fossils, geology and wirecraft.

A special welcome to student member **J.J.** (James J.) Moses, son of long time member and past-president, Jim Moses! J.J. is interested in fossils, mineralogy, bowling and swimming.

CENTRAL MICHIGAN LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY TREASURER'S REPORT NOVEMBER 1, 2000 - NOVEMBER 30, 2000	ANCE ON HAND(11-01-00) CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT(7-16-01) \$12236.87 COMERICA BANK SAVINGS 13776.43 COMERICA BANK CHECKING 2955.85 TOTAL \$28969.15	20.00 7.00 23.40 50.40	1351.90 143.56 18.34 19.87 1533.67	11-30-00) DEPOSIT(7-16-01) \$12236.87 SAVINGS 13776.43 CHECKING \$27485.88	MITTED, URER
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ALAN HUKILL CML&MS TREASURER

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<u>Safety First</u> by <u>Bill Klose, EFMLS Safety Chairman</u> from EFMLS News, March, 2000; AFMS 6/00

Safety First by Bill Klose, EFMLS Safety Chairman from EFMLS News, March, 2000; AFMS 6/00 Hammers used by rock hounds come in every size, type and construction, and include rock hammers, bricklayer's or mason's hammers, blacksmith's or sledge hammers, machinist's peen hammers, jeweler's hammers, setting hammers, soft face hammers, lead or copper faced hammers, trimmer's and welder's hammer's, as well as a variety of mallets, such as rawhide, rubber, and tinner's. I have even seen napping hammers (a 3 pound high carbon steel hammer with tapering faces used for forming stones during road construction or similar stone work) and railroad track mauls (used for driving railroad spikes). As it is hard to anticipate what a rockhounds "favorite weapon" will be, I though I would present a list of general hammer safety practices followed by the proper use of some of the more common hammer types.

- 1. Always select the proper type, size, and weight of hammer for the job.
- 2. Always wear eye protection.
- 3. Always strike a hammer blow squarely, avoiding glancing blows and over and under strikes. The hammers striking face should be parallel with the surface being struck.
- 4. When striking a chisel, punch, or wedge, the striking face of the hammer should be 3/8" larger than the struck face of the tool. Both the striking hammers face and the struck face of the tool should be free of oil.
- 5. Do not strike another hammer with a hammer.
- 6. Do not strike a harder surface with a hard surface hammer.
- 7. Never use a hammer with dents, cracks, chips, mushrooming, or excessive wear. Replace the hammer-redressing is not recommended.
- 8. Replace worn or damaged handles. A qualified individual should replace hammer handles. Most hardware stores will replace hammer handles for a nominal fee. They can also provide a rubber sleeve for sledge hammers, which will prevent handle damage just above the head.

Bricklayer's or mason's hammers are designed for setting or splitting bricks, masonry tile, and concrete blocks. Never use them to strike metal or drive tools such as chisels. The blade of a bricklayer's hammer should be kept sharp by redressing at a 40 degree angle with a bench grinder. Keep the metal cool while grinding by quenching often in water to protect the metals tempering.

Hand drilling hammers are used with chisels, star drills, punches, and hardened nails. Never use common nail (claw) hammers for striking metal, such as chisels, as they are designed for driving unhardened nails and their shape, depth of face, and balance make them unsuitable for this use.

Machinist's peen hammers (ball, cross, or straight) are designed for striking chisels and punches and riveting, straightening and shaping metal.

Blacksmith's or sledge hammers are designed for striking wood, metal, concrete, or stone, depending on size, weight, and shape.

When using a hammer, grip the handle near the end where it is designed for gripping and will give you the best control and impact with the least effort. Watch your hands, shins, and feet. It may be advisable to wear gloves, long sleeve shirts, and high lacing safety shoes to protect from flying debris and sharp shards if the situation warrants it.

When storing hammers for a period of time, lightly lubricate metal parts, but wipe any oil or grease from rubber mallets or rubber handle grips to prevent damage to the rubber.

So get out there and hammer up a storm, safely.

Loud & Clear by George Loud AFMS Newsletter 6/00

While attending the Rochester Mineral Symposium this April, David Kords of Walworth, NY brought to my attention new regulations of the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) which were published as final rules in the "Federal Register" issue of September 30, 1999 and which become effective October 2nd of this year. Unknown to me at that time, Mr. Dave Hennessey, Field Trip Chair of a local club to which I belong, had been denied a request for a field trip by quarry management who cited the new MSHA Part 46 regulations as reason for the denial. What then are these new MSHA regulations and how do they effect us?

New section 30 CFR Part 46 sets forth mandatory requirements for safety training and retraining of miners and other persons working in or entering operating areas of surface mines. Most surface mines have previously been exempt from mandatory requirements for safety training. The new Part 46 mandatory requirements for safety training apply to all "shell dredging, sand, gravel, surface stone, surface clay, collodial phosphate and surface limestone mines." By way of example, operations that produce marble, granite, sandstone, shale, traprock, kaolin, cement, feldspar, and limeŒ are specifically mentioned. 40 CFR Part 48 "remains in effect at all underground metal and non-metal mines, all surface metal mines and a few surface non-metal mines, such as surface boron and talc mines." Thus, the new regulations of 30 CFR part 46 would apply to limestone, traprock and other quarries frequented by mineral collectors.

The new 30 CFR Part 46 mandates five (5) types of safety training for "miners":

New miner training; Newly hired experienced miner training; New task training; Annual refresher training; and Site-specific hazard awareness training.

It is important to note that the five (5) types of training enumerated above are required only for minersŒ, which term is defined in the regulations in such a manner that it would not apply to hobbyist mineral collectors entering a quarry solely for the purpose of collecting. Quoting from page 53094 of the "Federal Register" notice of September 30th, "we intend that the definition of 'miners' include persons who are engaged in activities related to day-to-day mining operations." The definition set forth in 30 CFR 46.2(g)(1) reads "miner' means: any person, including any operator or supervisor, who works at a mine and who is engaged in mining operations." 30 CFR 46.2(g)(2) states "The definition of 'miner' does not include scientific workers, delivery workers, customers (including commercial over-the-road truck drivers), vendors or visitors." I emphasize "scientific workers" and "visitors" in the foregoing quotation because Mr. Richard E. Wood, Assistant Regional Manager for the Eastern Field Office of MSHA has stated in telephone conversation that mineral collectors would fall into either or both of these categories. It is important to understand that mineral collectors are not "miners" within the meaning of the regulations and therefore not subject to the training requirements for "miners".

However, the new regulations of 30 CFR Part 46 do impose a burden on quarry owners regarding the safety of "scientific workers", "visitors" and others who would not be "miners" as that term is defined in

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the regulations. The obligations of the quarry operator to mineral collectors and other parties entering the quarry who are not miners, are set forth in 30 CFR 46.11 "site-specific hazard awareness training." This regulation gives a quarry owner two options for providing for the safety of non-miners entering the quarry. One option is provision of site-specific hazard awareness training. 30 CFR 46.11(e) states:

You may provide site-specific hazard awareness training through the use of written hazard warnings, oral instruction, signs and posted warnings, walkaround training, or other appropriate means that alert persons to site-specific hazards in the mine.

Quoting from page 53127 of the "Federal Register" notice, "depending on the circumstances and the type of degree of the person's exposure to mine hazards, you may provide hazard awareness training through informal but informative conversations." My understanding is that the "site-specific hazard awareness training" required by section 46.11 could suitably be the usual group briefing of the type mineral clubs in this area often receive from quarry management prior to leaving the office area and entering the operating area of the quarry. It is important to note that, while the quarry management is required to keep records of "site-specific hazard awareness training" given to "miners", there is no record-keeping requirement for such "training" given to "scientific workers" and "visitors." See pages 53122 and 53128 of the "Federal Register" notice. Accordingly, my understanding is that the new regulations would not impose any burden on quarry management beyond the briefings typically given to club groups prior to entering a quarry.

Section 46.11(f) provides the quarry operators with an alternative to site-specific hazard awareness training as a means of compliance with the regulations as they apply to mineral collectors and other visitors to the quarry. Section 46.11(f) reads:

Site-specific hazard awareness training is not required for any person who is accompanied at all times by an experienced miner who is familiar with hazards specific to the mine site.

In the traprock and limestone quarries of Maryland and Virginia where I collect, one or more members of quarry management often accompany and stay with the club group while in the quarry. If quarry management elects to fulfill its obligation to mineral collectors under section 46.11(f), it is important that club members stay with the group so that they are "accompanied at all times by an experienced miner", as required to satisfy this section of the regulations.

If management of a quarry does not want to allow organized field trips by mineral collectors, they need no excuse to deny access. However, I recommend that club field trip chairpersons familiarize themselves with these new Part 46 regulations so that they will be able to allay any new fears on the part of quarry management which might be created by an improper reading of these new regulations. When I first moved to the Washington, D.C. area in 1968, I could collect in any of the local quarries on Saturday morning simply by signing a waiver in the quarry office. Unfortunately, now we consider ourselves fortunate to get into some of the local quarries, as a club, once every several years. The evolution of our tort law toward a negligence standard of strict liability and the increasing willingness of individuals to sue for any and all injuries, are responsible in large part for the change in attitude of quarry management toward mineral collectors. We can only hope that these new regulations do not make the situation worse.

Information and a copy of the new MSHA regulations can be obtained at <www.msha.gov> or by telephoning Carol J. Jones at (703) 235-1910, e-mail: <mailto:cjones@msha.gov>.

George Loud 9709 Layminster Lane Vienna, VA 22182