

CMLMS  
15785 Park Lake Road  
East Lansing, MI 48823

**TIME VALUE  
FIRST CLASS**

## **Rockhound News—February, 2017**

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

**Bring  
Quartz to  
Show!**



# 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 2017

President	Sue Casler	517-281-0692 casler5copper@gmail.com
Vice-President	Nate Krupp	517-626-1136 nathan.krupp1@gmail.com
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	Gaylord Brooks	517-394-7211 rockinme60@gmail.com
3 Year Director	Chuck Taricska	517-331-1737 chuck_taricska@yahoo.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	517-643-2301 3waverly@gmail.com
Field Trip	Dan Sine	517-763-2954 daniel.sine@opm.gov
Publications	Roni Sionakides	517-482-5986 rsionakide@yahoo.com
Display	VACANT	
Education	VACANT	
Outreach	Mary Gowans	517-351-6135 gowans@msu.edu
Library	Lee Laylin	517-349-3249 l.r.laylin@gmail.com
Finance	Milt Gere	517-669-8116 miltgere@aol.com
Show	Roger Laylin ( <i>pro tem</i> )	517-349-3249 l.r.laylin@gmail.com
Web Master	Lyle Laylin	www.michrocks.org

## Permanent Mailing Address

15785 Park Lake Rd.  
East Lansing, MI 48823

[www.michrocks.org](http://www.michrocks.org)

## 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 16, 2017**

**PROGRAM: Quartz! Quartz! Quartz!**

**REFRESHMENTS: Members with Initials A - L Please Bring Goodies**

**Location and Time:** The CMLMS membership meeting will be held on February 16, 2017, at 7:30 p.m., at the **Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Street, beautiful downtown Okemos.**

## **Calendar for Winter/Spring 2017**

February 16, 2017 - membership meeting, 7:30 p.m.

February 27, 2017 - **MONDAY, board meeting, 7 p.m., Okemos Library, please note change**

February 16, 2017 - membership meeting, 7:30 p.m.

March 2, 2017 - Bennett Woods Science Night, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

March 10, 2017 - Beagle Elementary School (Grand Ledge) Science Night, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

March 16, 2017 - membership meeting, 7:30 p.m., Silent Auction

April 6, 2017 - board meeting, 7 p.m., Okemos Library

[Editor's note: the deadline for the newsletter is the **Monday, 8 a.m.** after the board meeting.]

## **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

February 16, 2017 - Quartz varieties, bring samples to display and talk about

March 16, 2017 - Silent Auction

April 20, 2017 - TBA

May 18, 2017 - Annual Banquet

June 15, 2017 - Show work bee

## **NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!**

**Janice Goodell - Michigan Center, Michigan**

**Eileen M. Thomas-Knoop - Lansing, Michigan**

## **TRANSITIONS**

**ROBERT MOSHER, passed away on January 15, 2017**

From Sue Casler, President

Our year started on a sad note with the passing of club member, Dr. Robert "Bob" Mosher on January 15, 2017 at the age of 96 years. He is survived by his wife, Elaine Beane (club treasurer), and his family. A memorial service will be held in the spring.

Our recollections of Bob at rock club are in his later years and anybody that spoke with Bob knew he was knowledgeable in all things, curious, and a kind and gentle man.

The teacher-researcher in Bob continued as the “sand” man. Bob studied, analyzed and photographed sand samples that club members brought to him from various locations (and then you would get a report, too!)

We will certainly miss Bob’s presence and offer our heartfelt sympathy to Elaine and family.

## **Message from Roster Secretary Ernie Aughenbaugh Dues are now being collected for 2017**

Membership dues for 2017 are being collected through the end of April at which time, if unpaid, you will be removed from the list for the newsletter. If you are receiving a paper copy and have a red check on the label this will be your final issue. If you have not paid, please remember you will no longer have privileges for field trips. **YOU MUST BE A SOCIETY MEMBER TO GO WITH THE SOCIETY.** 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.**

### **SURVEY - PLEASE RESPOND**

**Attention CML&MS Members: we Need Your Input!!**

At the recent December club Board Meeting, the topic of demonstrations or classes relating to our several rock-related hobbies came up. We would like your comments about your desire for club learning sessions at meetings and related activities.

1. Would you like and attend: (A) demonstrations at meetings, or (B) short classes at meetings, or (C) longer classes at another time and location. Some cost may be associated with the last option.
2. What topics would you like covered? We have members involved with many facets of our hobby. Members and others could provide information on: Rock & Mineral identification, fossil identification, lapidary work, tumbling rocks, faceting, wire wrapping, beading, metalsmithing, archaeology, setting up displays, field collecting and safety, enameling, etc. Please list your favorite topics.
3. Would you give a talk at a meeting, class, etc., on one of these or a related topic? If not you, who do you suggest for us to have as a speaker?
4. Any other suggestions for club meetings and related activities, educational or otherwise? Please explain.
5. Please list any off-site locations you think could be used free or rented for longer classes.

Thank you for your comments from your club board members.

Please send your answers, comments and suggestions to Milt Gere for compiling. Send by e-mail to [MiltGere@aol.com](mailto:MiltGere@aol.com) , please place SURVEY in the subject line.

Send by U.S. mail to my address in the Club Directory.  
Or hand deliver to Milt at the next club meeting.

## 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](mailto:gowans@msu.edu) or 517-351-6135.

March 2, 2017 - Bennett Woods Elementary School Science Night. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Setup at 5:30 p.m. Call Mary if interesting in participating.

March 10, 2017 - Beagle Elementary School (Grand Ledge) Science Night, 6 to 8 p.m., setup 5:30 p.m. Call Mary if interested in participating.

March 23, 2017 - Lansing Academy Science Night

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

### Field Trips!

There are no field trips planned at this time. Many of the quarries are no longer allowing rock hounds to have access to their premises for collecting purposes. If you know of any place that will allow enthusiasts to collect, please let Dan Sine or someone on the board know.

**PLACES TO GO AND THINGS TO DO—Check [www.amfed.org/mwf](http://www.amfed.org/mwf)  
or our website [www.michrocks.org](http://www.michrocks.org)**

## UPCOMING SHOWS

**March 3-4: RICHMOND, Indiana**, 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](mailto:jleeburton@woh.rr.com).

**March 4-5: LIVIONIA, Michigan**, The Roamin Club Silent Auction. Sat 11 am - 6 pm; Sun 12 - 6 pm. Schoolcraft Community College, 18600 Haggerty Rd., Livonia. Contact Clarence Sterling, [c.w.sterling@sbcglobal.net](mailto:c.w.sterling@sbcglobal.net)

**March 25: TAYLOR, Michigan**, Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society Rock Swap. Sat 10 am - 5 pm. St. John's Lutheran Church, 13115 Telegraph Rd., Taylor. Contact Lou Tally, (734) 837-8920; [ltally1970@gmail.com](mailto:ltally1970@gmail.com)

**April 6-8: WYOMING, Michigan**, Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show. Thurs & Fri 9:30 am - 9 pm; Sat 9:30 am - 8 pm. Roger's Plaza Town Center, 28th St. at Clyde Park, Wyoming. Contact Kreigh Tomaszewski, (616) 243-5851; [kreigh@gmail.com](mailto:kreigh@gmail.com)

## Midwest Federation Annual Meeting, May 2017

The 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual 2017 show of the Cuyuna Agate and Mineral Society from May 6 - 7m 2017. Show will be held at the Crow Wing County Fairgrounds. Each society affiliated with the MWF is entitled to 1 delegate and 1 alternative. CMLMS will sponsor a delegate with a grant of \$300.00 to help pay for banquet, travel milage,

etc. Please contact Sue Casler if interested in attending.

## **Field Trip to the Grand Rapids Senior Neighbors Center and to the Bruce Dice Mineralogical Museum at Calvin College**

by Dave Berquist, Captain of the Delta Force Scrabble Club and CMLMS member

Senior Neighbors Center is at 333 Division Avenue S, Suite 100, (616) 459-3040. Six members of the Delta Force Scrabble Team drove to the Center. The Grand Rapids club had three members to play. Two members of CMLMS (Lansing rock club) played as well. There were three tables. Delta Force provided cookies for the players. We were defeated 2 games to 1 game.

Calvin College, is at 3201 Burton Street, SE. The Bruce Dice Mineralogical Museum is in the Science Building, North Hall wing, 2nd floor. The space is about 50 by 50 feet and is beautifully lit. The specimens in cabinets and on pedestals are tastefully displayed. Professor Sparks discussed the collection and the rock from the moon. She played a video of the lunar landing to collect the rock. The displays had specimens from all over the world. Photography is permitted. Students and members of the public, including Kreigh Tomaszewski of the Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club, stopped in. Mr. T said his club appreciated being informed that the Museum was open.

### **Other Members' Doings**

Member Bob Reszka has written and published a book, *The Geology of Michigan Waterfalls*, that is a wonderful guide to Western Upper Peninsula waterfalls. This is exactly the type of guide book any good tourist would love, as well as any good rock hound! There are specific directions to finding the waterfalls with a rating on the path terrain, where to park, rock structure, etc. There are some good photos and examples of what he is describing in geological formations. I only wish more guides were this thorough. Call or check with Bob at our meetings if interested in this remarkable little book.

## **CMLMS MINUTES**

### **CMLMS, Membership Meeting, January 19, 2017**

**Call to Order:** Sue Casler called the meeting to order at 7:42pm at the Okemos Masonic Hall. Sue informed the membership about the passing of Dr. Robert (Bob) Mosher on Sunday, January 15. Bob was 96 years old and very active in CMLMS. He will be greatly missed.

**Welcome and Introduction of Guests/Visitors:** Welcome to Matt Hamley who is interested in learning to make cabs. He has recently purchased equipment to do so. Welcome to Clara Bratton who has been helping with the Children's Tour at our CMLMS show.

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Elaine Beane, absent.

**Announcements:** 1. Mary Gowans, Outreach: School Science Nights on March 2 at Bennet Woods Elementary and on March 10 at Beagle Elementary School in Grand Ledge. Another Grand Ledge school will have a Science Night in the spring. Contact Mary about display space. 2. Dave Berquist reminded members of the opportunity to tour the Dice Mineral Museum on January 23, 2017.

3. Bob Reszka spoke about his new book, available to purchase, *The Geology of Michigan Waterfalls*. He also agreed to speak about the topic at a membership meeting.

4. Nate Krupp announced the topic of the February Membership Meeting will be the varieties of Quartz. Members are invited to bring any variety of quartz to display at the meeting.

5. Milt Gere is accepting responses about interest areas of members, and of what they would like to learn so meetings or demonstrations could be built around those requests. He has had only two responses so far. Please let Milt know what you would like to learn.

6. John Crocket volunteered to help with the Club Memorial Display but was able to assist only if he could take it down prior to the 5 p.m. closing time at the Kalamazoo Show. Kalamazoo will not accommodate this request, but Ernie will check with the Jackson Club to see if they would accept the earlier time. Thanks, John!

7. Theresa Hubbard shared information about the question, Thompsonite or Prehnite? Bill McCracken supported her presentation with some specimens of each.

**Adjournment:** Mary Gowans made a **motion to adjourn the meeting**. The motion received a second by Diane Baclawski and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

**Program:** *Iceland, Land of Fire and Ice*, power point presentation by Doug Sjoquist about the trip he and Jan made there in July, 2016.

Respectfully Submitted, Jan Sjoquist, Recording Secretary.

### **CMLMS, Board Meeting, February 2, 2017**

**Board Members Present:** Ernie Augenbaugh, Elaine Beane, Sue Casler, Milt Gere, Theresa Hubbard, Alan Hukill, Nate Krupp, Roger Laylin, Lyle Laylin, Dan Sine, Jan Sjoquist, Roni Sionakides, Chuck Taricska.

**Board Members Absent:** Dave Berquist, Gaylord Brooks, Mary Gowans, Lee Laylin.

**Members Present:** None.

**President:** Sue Casler called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. at the Okemos Library. 1) Sue shared a correspondence from the Southern California Paleontology Society (SCPS) asking our club to sign on to their letter to preserve collecting on public lands. A short discussion was held and more information is needed before the decision is made.

2) In response to family wishes, Alan Hukill made a **motion to donate \$50 to the MSU Scholarship Fund in honor of Gordon Lewis**. Theresa Hubbard supported the motion and the motion was passed.

3) CMLMS received a thank you note from the Okemos Library for our donation.

**Vice-President:** Nate Krupp announced the topic of the February Membership Meeting is to be Quartz. Other programs are as previously announced.

**Treasurer:** Elaine Beane gave the report for the month of December 2016.

**Recording Secretary:** Janet Sjoquist has submitted the minutes of the January Membership Meeting for publication. Roni Sionakides has agreed to keep the minutes of the March Board Meeting that will be held in February.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Theresa Hubbard has sent a sympathy card to Elaine Beane on the loss of her husband Dr. Robert Mosher.

**Directors:** Chuck Taricska (3 yr.) nothing to report. Gaylord Brooks (2 yr.), absent, no report. Lyle Laylin (1yr.): He is researching the collecting parameters under the new rules of BLM per our discussion of the communication of the SCPS.

**Roster Secretary:** Ernie Augenbaugh, no report.

**Liaison Officer:** Alan Hukill, no report.

**Past President:** absent, no report.

**Membership:** Dave Berquist, absent. Sue Casler presented two membership applications for consideration. Theresa Hubbard made a **motion to accept Janet Goodell and Eileen Thomas-Knoop into membership**. Alan Hukill supported the motion, and the motion was carried. Welcome Janet and Eileen into CMLMS!

**Field Trip:** Dan Sine, no report

**Publications:** Roni Sionakdes: Newsletter deadline is at 8 a.m. on the Monday following the Board Meeting.

**Education:** Theresa Hubbard will do a newsletter article about the safety issues of working with quartz.

**Community Outreach:** Mary Gowans, absent, sent reminder about Science Nights at Bennett Woods on March 2, and Lansing Charter Academy on March 23.

**Library:** Lee Laylin, absent, no report.

**Display:** Jan Sjoquist received an offer to help with display by John Crockett. John needed to take the display down prior to the 5 p.m. times set by Kalamazoo Club and Jackson Club. Neither club would allow an earlier take down.

**Finance:** Milt Gere presented the proposed 2017 budget. Amendments were made. Alan Hukill made a **motion to accept the 2017 budget**. Dan Sine supported the motion, a vote was taken and the budget was accepted.

**Webmaster:** Lyle Laylin is working on numerous changes.

**Show:** Roger Laylin: dealer contracts are prepared. He has been unable to contact the table provider for payment. Treasurer Elaine Beane has requested four new cash drawers for show use. These will be purchased from the show budget. Roger has added 139 names to the postcard notification list.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Sue Casler asked Dan Sine to take care of tickets for the May 18 Banquet and she is considering speakers.

Lyle Laylin researched the issue on signing onto the Southern California Paleontology Society (SCPS) letter. After discussion, Lyle Laylin made a **motion to sign on the SCPS letter to preserve collecting on public lands**. Theresa Hubbard supported the motion and the motion was carried by vote of the Board.

**Adjournment:** Elaine Beane made a **motion to adjourn the meeting**. The motion received a second by Roni Sionakides and the meeting was adjourned at 8:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Janet Sjoquist, Recording Secretary.

### **Safety Warning when working with the Quartz Varieties**

Since we are having a focused discussion on the quartz varieties at our February meeting, safe handling of the silicates in lapidary work is well worth taking the time to address. As noted on a blog at [samsilverhawk/lapidary.com](http://samsilverhawk/lapidary.com) : “Anyone who saws, sands, grinds or polishes rocks should be aware that the dust generated poses health hazards, yet I can’t begin to count how many times I have seen fellow lapidarists busy at their cabbing or faceting machines bare-faced. And thus unprotected. Grinding with water certainly helps, but that alone is not enough. Wet grinding still generates plenty of mist-borne silica dust, which can be inhaled or ingested. Inhalation of ground rock & many rock polishes, (think: microscopic razor blades), can put one at risk of developing silicosis, and believe me, you don’t ever want to go there! A **good quality mask is an absolute necessity**, even for hobbyists who only occasionally do lapidary work. (Some serpentines, as well as Arizona and California tigereyes (chrysotile), actually contain fibrous asbestos. If you must work with such materials, I recommend a respirator, and doing the work outdoors.) So lapidary work should be a fun and enjoyable endeavor, but clearly, what you don’t know CAN kill you!”

Ganoksin Jewelry Making Resources notes the hazards on their lapidary work safety precautions web page at [ganoksin.com/article/lapidary-work-safety-precautions](http://ganoksin.com/article/lapidary-work-safety-precautions).

### **Hazards**

Stone dusts as well as organic material dusts can be very hazardous, even deadly. Tver and

Anderson note silicosis and silicotuberculosis are noted as occupational disorders for people who cut and polish stones (169). Oils, lubricants, water, and soaps can foster dermatitis. The water in lapidary cutting systems often sits for periods of time and can grow fungus and molds. Lapidaries have even gotten Legionnaires' disease from this. Diamond-saw cutting of rough material can produce oil mists and chemical exposures. Oil mists from cutting gemstones can form aerosols that are breathed in and can cause severe lung injuries (Crumley 128).

### **Silicosis**

McCann lists the following stones as containing the free silica that causes silicosis: quartz (which is silica), granite, sandstone, brownstone, slate, jasper, opal, onyx, amethyst and soapstone. There may also be silica in diabase and serpentine. In addition, "soapstone, serpentine, and greenstone often contain asbestos as a contaminant. Inhalation of asbestos can cause lung cancer, mesothelioma (cancer of the lining of the chest and abdominal cavity), and asbestosis" (Health Hazards 41). Dusts. Flying chips can damage the eyes. "Electric tools produce large amounts of dust" but "hand tools can slip" (Rossol 251). Electrocution is a danger. Rossol notes the occurrence of "white fingers" disease or "vibration syndrome," caused by continued use of electric tools, which cuts off the blood supply to the hands (and possibly to the feet) (251).

### **Safety Precautions to Use**

Know the dangers of your materials and tools. Get MSDS sheets for products and look up the dangers of the stuff you are cutting. Change water frequently to prevent bacteria and mold build-up. Keep a tidy workshop. Wet-wipe surfaces where dust might form. Be especially careful of silicosis-causing dusts. Tver and Anderson recommend routine chest X-rays for lapidaries (Tver and Anderson 169). **So be sure to glove up, mask up, and keep your machines as clean as possible.**

### References

Crumley, Oran. "Shop Safety." Lapidary Journal April 1990.  
McCann, Michael. *Artist Beware!* Rev. ed. New York: Lyons and Burford, 1992.  
Health Hazards Manual for Artists. 4th rev. ed. New York: Lyons and Burford, 1994.  
Rossol, Monona. *The Artist's Complete Health and Safety Guide.* 2nd ed. New York: Allworth Press, 1994.  
Tver, David, and Kenneth Anderson. *Industrial Medicine Desk Reference.* New York: Chapman and Hall, 1986.

### **You Know You're a Rockhound If . . .**

A few funnies written by members of the gmeditors email swap group and with permission to reproduce given for nonprofit use.

- You think road cuts are built as tourist attractions.
- You describe your vacations by the rocks you brought home.
- The rock pile in your garage is over your head.
- Your PC screen saver features pictures of rocks.
- You find rocks when you empty your pockets at night.
- You went to a rock festival and have music.
- You gave rocks, tumblers, or rock tools for Christmas.
- When friends say they're going to Tucson, you assume it'll be in February.
- You can find Quartzite on a map in less than 5 minutes.