

CMLMS  
15785 Park Lake Road  
East Lansing, MI 48823

**TIME VALUE  
FIRST CLASS**

## **Rockhound News—June, 2016**

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

# **Summer Issue**



# 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 2016

President	Sue Casler	517-694-1233 caslers@michigan.gov
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Membership	Dave Berquist	517-321-7752 3waverly@gmail.com
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## 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, June 16, 2016**

**PROGRAM: Work Bee for Show**

**REFRESHMENTS: Members with Initials M - Z Please Bring Goodies**

**Location and Time:** The CMLMS membership meeting will be held on June 16, 2016, at 5:30 p.m., at the **Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Street, beautiful downtown Okemos.**

**Calendar for Summer 2016** and later

June 16, 2016 - 7:30 p.m., membership meeting, work bee

July & August - off for summer

September 2016 - Board Meeting, To Be Announced

[Editor's note: the deadline for the newsletter is now the Sunday after the board meeting]

## ORANGE BARREL ALERT!!!

Okemos Road where the humpback bridge crosses the Red Cedar River has been undergoing repairs since last year. It is now open **southbound only** from Hamilton to Mt. Hope; northbound is completely closed. Plan to travel to the Masonic Center using routes other than Okemos Road between Hamilton and Mount Hope. The detour is via Hagedorn north to Grand River. Okemos Road is open both ways north of Hamilton. Latest update: a northbound lane will be opening up in a couple weeks.

## BANQUET WRAP-UP

Thank you to everyone who participated in our May banquet evening. We had approximately 60 folks in attendance, enjoyed a great chicken dinner with homemade pies for dessert prepared by the Okemos Masons, and a most informative and interesting talk by Sallie Labadie on mastodons. I especially want to thank: Dan “the ticket man”, we have the best looking “rock club” tickets of anyone! Ernie for selling tickets and checking folks in at the door. Elaine A. for hospitality set-up, always special with her artistic flair! Roni for our programs, Lee for our floral table displays, Roger for coordinating with the Masons for dinner. Your contributions of time and effort were very much appreciated. Thank you, Sue Casler, President

## LIBRARY NEWS

Please return checked out books or verify possession if you desire to retain over the Summer. The Library will again be moved to the Laylin's for the summer. If you desire to check out a book, phone the Librarian to arrange for check out.

Lee or Roger

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**The Vice-President's position is vacant. Let President, Sue Casler, or a board member know if you have any ideas for speakers, or other programs.**

June 16, 2016 - Show work bee, mineral beryl, variety emerald for May and moonstone for June  
September 15, 2016 - to be announced

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR VARIOUS CHAIRS

**Webmaster**, Lyle Laylin, needs an assistant to update the website and to monitor the *Facebook* page. Looking **immediately** for a person with some computer knowledge (can turn on computer without fainting!) who can spend a few minutes a month to keep the CMLMS web page updated.

## NOMINATIONS FOR 2017 SOCIETY OFFICERS

**Please consider volunteering for one of the following positions that will need to be filled for 2017-18: President, Vice President, Three-year Director.**

## SUMMER WORK DAYS FOR THE FALL SHOW

Show Chairman Roger Laylin

IN ADDITION to the work session in connection with the June meeting there will be two work days at the Laylin's Rock Barn.

At the June meeting we will prepare the egg cartons for Specimen Kits and perhaps work on Exit Gifts.

**Saturday June 25** - help is needed to finish sorting the remaining donations from Neil's Estate and straighten the mess in the Barn so we can put the Specimen Kits together at the next meeting. The Barn at 1770 Sandhill Road will open at 10 AM, work can continue till order is restored. If there are many hands the work should not take long. You could also look for your prized specimen in the many buckets.

**Saturday July 16** - at 9:30 AM the Specimen Kits will be assembled along with the Exit Gifts and Petoskey Polish Kits and what ever else needs completion. We will break for a PICNIC POT LUCK at about noon so bring a dish to pass. Ice tea and lemonade will be provided, if you prefer another beverage, byo. Work will continue after lunch until finished, if necessary.

Please put these dates on your calendar and plan to come as MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!! And you can get to know your fellow club members.

## 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.

Thanks to all the members of the Outreach Team for their volunteering to attend the 5 elementary school science fairs. I hope that you enjoyed your visits and will continue next year to volunteer again. These fairs give us the chance to let the elementary students and their parents learn that our

rock shows will not damage our ears but open up the wonderful world of rocks, minerals and fossils. Thanks again.

Mary  
Outreach Chair

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

**Field Trips!**

Duff and Paulding quarries have closed to collectors. Paulding has opened up a Fossil Park for hunting. Members are encouraged to visit the parks or road cuts on their own or with a small group.

At this time Graymont, Ohio still being considered. See Dan Sine to sign up and for more information. Cell phone 517-316-5713 or [daniel.sine@opm.gov](mailto:daniel.sine@opm.gov). Please contact him if interested in getting emails as field trips are set up.

Minimum age for a quarry is 12. No children under 12 will be allowed at the quarries (their rule). Trips to other collecting sites may have no minimum, or maximum, age requirement. Safety rules in the **Field Trip Guide** are posted at the society website. They should be reviewed, printed out and **taken to every field trip**. Also, insurance coverage for the field trips by the Federation is very limited. It provides only for damage that members might do on-site. There is no personal injury coverage; no coverage underground. Coverage is only for members, so our policy is that field trips are only for members. Members should review this insurance information on our website. Let Dan know of any other locations and contact information that you may know about and would like to visit. Dan does a fabulous job getting these field trips lined up for club members so please take a moment to thank him personally for all his work.

**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)**

**Check out our website for items for sale. There are links to eBay and Craig's List.**

Great Lakes Logging & Indian Culture Museum, Saginaw. The owner/curator is knowledgeable and a long-time collector. Contact info: Mike Slasinski, 7201 Danny Drive, Saginaw, MI 48609, by appointment, 989 781-1152; [slasinski@charteri.net](mailto:slasinski@charteri.net)

**UPCOMING SHOWS**

June 4-5: MANSFIELD, Ohio, Richland Lithic & Lapidary Society Annual Show. Arts & Crafts Building, Richland County Fairground, Mansfield. Sat 10-6; Sun 11-5. Contact Tom Kottyan, (419) 562-1152; [themineralhouse@netzero.net](mailto:themineralhouse@netzero.net).

June 11: WYOMING, Michigan, Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club Tailgate Sale. Wesley Park United Methodist Church, 1150 - 32nd St., Wyoming. 9 - Noon. Contact Gordon Spalenka, (616) 249-0513; [gnspalenka@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gnspalenka@sbcglobal.net) [www.indianmoundsrockclub.com](http://www.indianmoundsrockclub.com).

June 24-26: BEDFORD, Indiana, Lawrence County Rock Club Annual Show. Lawrence County Fairgrounds, US Hwy 50, Bedford. Fri 10-6:30; Sat 9-6:30; Sun 10-4. Contact Dave Treffinger, (812) 295-3463 [www.lawrencecountyrockclub.org](http://www.lawrencecountyrockclub.org).

August 6: ISPEMING, Michigan, Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show. Ishpeming Elks Club Hall, 597 Lakeshore Dr., Ishpeming. 9:30 - 4:30. Contact Ernie Johnson, (906) 228-9422; [ejohnson@nmu.edu](mailto:ejohnson@nmu.edu) [www.ishpemingrocks.org](http://www.ishpemingrocks.org).

August 9-11: TOLEDO, Ohio, Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club Annual Show. Stranahan Theatre & Great Hall, 4645 Heatherdowns Blvd, Toledo. Fri 2-8; Sat 10-6; Sun 11-5. Contact John Capuano, (419) 882-1733 or (419) 690-6606; [jscapuano@yahoo.com](mailto:jscapuano@yahoo.com).

August 9-13: KEWEENAW PENINSULA, Michigan, Copper Country Rock & Mineral Club, KEWEENAW WEEK 2016. Field Trips, Guest Speaker, Banquet & Benefit Auction, Open House. Pre-registration necessary: Steve Whelan; [kweek2016@up.net](mailto:kweek2016@up.net) [www.ccrmc.info](http://www.ccrmc.info).

August 12-14: GRAND RAPIDS, Michigan, Midwest Faceters Guild Seminar. Tallmadge Township Hall, 01451 Leonard St. NW, Grand Rapids. Fri 5 pm; Sat 8-5; Sun 8-4. Contact Barbara Yost, (616) 453-9498, [barbandben@gmail.com](mailto:barbandben@gmail.com).

August 12-14: HOUGHTON, Michigan, Copper Country Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show and Daily Silent Auction. Houghton Elementary School, 302 N. Jacker Ave, Houghton. Fri 1-8; Sat 10-6; Sun 11-3. Contact Norm Gruber, (906) 228-6764; [pres@ccrmc.info](mailto:pres@ccrmc.info) [www.ccrmc.info](http://www.ccrmc.info).

August 13,: CLIO, Michigan, Flint Rock and Gem Club rock, craft and rummage sale. 11350 N. Saginaw. Sat. 9-4. Contact Bill Wendling, 810-638-5796; [flintrockandgem.org](http://flintrockandgem.org).

August 13: HOLLAND, Michigan, Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club Annual Tailgate Swap-N-Sell. Sam's Club parking lot, 2190 N. park Drive, Holland. Sat. 9-4. Contact Rance Westover 616-754-7093; [tulipcity.weebly.com](http://tulipcity.weebly.com).

August 17-18: HOWELL, Michigan, Livingston Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show. Hartland Consolidated Schools, 9525 Highland Rd., Howell. Sat 10-6; Sun 10-4. Contact Ed Oller, (810) 241-8801; [www.livingstongemandmineralsociety.com](http://www.livingstongemandmineralsociety.com).

August 19-21: SOUTH BEND, Indiana, Michiana Gem and Mineral Society. **MWF Convention**. St. Joseph County 4\_H Fairgrounds, 5117 S. Ironwood Road, South Bend. Fri. 12-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5. Contact John Davis 574-232-8823; [www.michianagms.org](http://www.michianagms.org).

August 24-25: TRAVERSE CITY, Michigan, Grand Traverse Area Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show. Carnegie Building (Former History Center of Traverse City) at 322 Sixth St. in Traverse City. Sat 10-5; Sun 11-4. Contact Lauren Vaughn, (231) 276-6150; [maple2b@aol.com](mailto:maple2b@aol.com), [www.tcrockhounds.com](http://www.tcrockhounds.com).

September 9-11: TOLEDO, Ohio, Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club. Stranahan Theatre Complex, 4645 Heatherdowns, Toledo. Fri. 2-8, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5. Contact John Capuano 419-882-1733; [jscapuano@yahoo.com](mailto:jscapuano@yahoo.com).

## CMLMS MINUTES

### CMLMS, Membership Meeting, May 19, 2016

Annual banquet, no business meeting.

### CMLMS, Board Meeting, June 2, 2016

**Board Members Present:** Ernie Augenbaugh, Dave Berquist, Sue Casler, Theresa Hubbard, Alan Hukill, Roger Laylin, Lyle Laylin, Milt Gere, Dan Sine, Roni Sionakides.

**Board Members Absent:** Elaine Angstman, Elaine Beane, Gaylord Brooks, Mary Gowans, Nate Krupp, Lee Laylin, Jan Sjoquist.

**Members Present:** None.

**President:** Sue Casler called the meeting to order at 7:11pm at the Okemos Library. She made these announcements:

1. Banquet attendance was good - about 60 tickets sold.
2. June meeting will be a work bee for the show putting labels on the egg cartons and working on exit gifts.
3. Mineral of the Month: emerald (May) and moonstone (June).

**Treasurer:** Absent - no report.

**Recording Secretary:** Absent - no report. Roni Sionakides was acting secretary.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Theresa Hubbard, no contacts. Request for a note or card be sent to Mary Gowans who is still in rehabilitation.

**Directors:** Gaylord Brooks (3 yr.) absent, no report. Lyle Laylin (2 yr): no report. Nate Krupp (1yr) absent, no report.

**Roster Secretary:** Ernie Augenbaugh said about 20 members have not signed up and paid dues for 2016.

**Liaison Officer:** Alan Hukill, no report. Sue reviewed MWF convention held in City of South Bend, Indiana. Alan said he may attend.

**Past President:** Elaine Angstman, absent - no report.

**Membership:** Dave Berquist has no pending applicants. The new application form is not on the website as yet.

**Field Trips:** Dan Sine said Paulding, Ohio no longer will let collectors into the quarry but has established a Fossil Park. Their website does not talk about restrictions such as age and use of tools. Dave Berquist did receive 1 response for his trip to Sylvania, Ohio trip. The person who called may not be a member. Theresa Hubbard said Paleo Joe who is out of Port Huron is taking collectors to Rockport. Graymont has not responded. Duff closed to collectors. LaFarge in Alpena is not closed yet. Gypsum mine in Grand Rapids is closing to collectors.

**Publications:** Roni Sionakides: Newsletter deadline is the Monday evening following the board meeting.

**Education:** Theresa Hubbard: no report.

**Community Outreach:** Mary Gowans, absent, report by Roni Sionakides: She sent a note she wants printed in the newsletter to thank those who participated in the science nights at 5 schools this year.

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

**Display:** Jan Sjoquist absent, no report.

**Finance:** Milt Gere, no report.

**Web Master:** Lyle Laylin , no report.

**Show:** Roger Laylin - June meeting will put labels on egg cartons and work on exit gifts; June 25 work bee at Laylin's home sorting specimens beginning 10 am; July 16 or 23 at

9:30 am assemble egg cartons, exit gifts, potluck picnic. October meeting will be at fairgrounds and show setup.

Ernie Aughenbaugh - 1. Wendy Rosier created ideas for new flyers for show. Sue said cost needed to be analyzed and went over what was presented to board earlier. Discussion of number of flyers (8,000) and cost. Ernie will get cost estimates for color. 2. Ernie also talked to Sally Hoskins about how the Jackson show attracted 500 more people to their show. The local papers were there, put advertising on website and Facebook page. She will be willing to do same for our show. Lyle set up a Facebook page for CMLMS but no one has done anything with it.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Sue Casler discussed nominations for 2017.

**Adjournment:** Alan Hukill made a **motion to adjourn the meeting**. The motion received a second by Milt Gere and the meeting was adjourned at 8:43pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Roni Sionakides, Acting Recording Secretary.

## **BERYL: GRASS GREEN VARIETY EMERALD - MAY**

Word origin by Roni Sionakides

Emerald comes from French *emeraude*, Old French *esmeraude* [note modern French uses an acute accent over the first vowel, dropping the ‘s’], Latin *esmaraldus*, Old Latin *smaragdus*, Greek *smaragdos*, Sanskrit *asma* meaning stone and *marakata* meaning emerald [*An Etymological Dictionary of Modern English*]. The Greek word means simply a precious stone of a green color, given to both emerald and malachite. Early examples of precious stones can be vague in meaning.

From Theresa Hubbard

Sources *Wikipedia* and *National Geographic* - “The \$400 Million Dollar Emerald”

Most people can recognize an emerald, the birthstone of May, based on its signature “emerald” cut and the deep, green color. In fact the term emerald comes from the Greek word “smaragdus” which basically translates to mean “green.” Emeralds come in a vast range of natural colors and shades of green produced by elements of chromium in the crystal structure. Yellow and blue are the normal secondary hues found in emeralds. Only gems that are medium to dark in tone are considered emerald; light-toned gems are known instead by the species name *green beryl*. With a typical hexagonal, prismatic crystal structure and a hardness on the Mohs scale of 7.5-8 emerald -  $\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_3)_6$  - is one of the four precious gems along with diamond, sapphire and ruby.

Emeralds were introduced to the world about 4,000 years ago, by the Egyptians. Mummies were often buried with emeralds and the gems were popular in ancient Rome.

Most emeralds have fissures and inclusions. It is extremely rare to find a natural emerald without flaws. That is why a top-quality natural emerald will often be worth more than a top-quality diamond of the same weight. As part of the post-lapidary process, most emeralds have been oiled in order to fill in surface-reaching cracks, improving their clarity and stability, with either Cedar oil, or other liquids, such as synthetic oils and polymers with refractive indexes close to that of emerald such as *Opticon*. These treatments are typically applied in a vacuum chamber under mild heat, to open the pores of the stone and allow the fracture-filling agent to be absorbed more effectively. The U.S. Federal Trade Commission requires the disclosure of this treatment when an oil treated emerald is sold. The use of oil is traditional and largely accepted by the gem trade, although oil treated emeralds are worth much less than un-treated emeralds of similar quality.

Emeralds occur all over the world including the U.S., Brazil, Afghanistan, Spain, South Africa, Switzerland, Cambodia, and China. Although you can find emeralds virtually anywhere, Colombia is the world's largest producer of this gem and accounts for more than half of the world's gemstone production. Zambia is the world's second biggest producer, with its Kafubu River area deposits (Kagem Mines) responsible for 20% of the world's production of gem quality stones in 2004. In the first half of 2011 the Kagem mines produced 3.74 tons of emeralds. So far, emeralds have been found in five states in the U.S.: Montana, Connecticut, Nevada, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

Emeralds aren't usually found by themselves. In many locations, you can also find emeralds near large deposits of quartz. In Brazil and Colombia emerald occurs in veins of calcite that run through shale, a sedimentary rock. They occur randomly so emerald mining is a process of looking for veins of calcite and following them until they get larger than 4 fingers thick. The methods are somewhat crude and unscientific, using dynamite to blast and deciding which way to follow a vein by instinct without the help of geologists. Above ground hundreds of people sift through the mine tailings and river banks looking for gems that have been missed by the miners. The lure of emeralds is very strong as finding a small one could pay for a car, finding a larger one could pay for a house. Unfortunately emeralds, along with drugs have funded the revolutions and corruption in Colombia leading to many gruesome deaths there.

The largest emerald ever found is the Bahia Emerald which is worth a reported \$400 million. It was found in a Brazilian Mine in 2001. At 180 thousand carats, one of the protruding crystals is as thick as a man's thigh. Since it was unearthed it has traveled a trail fit for a movie and it is now housed in a U.S. Police Department vault as evidence for a civil suit that has no less than 4 people claiming it belongs to them.

In the 1960s, the American jewelry industry changed the definition of "emerald" to include the green vanadium-bearing beryl as emerald. As a result, *vanadium emeralds* purchased as emeralds in the United States are not recognized as such in the U.K. and Europe. In America, the distinction between traditional emeralds and the new vanadium kind is often reflected in the use of terms such as "Colombian Emerald."

## MOONSTONE –JUNE BIRTHSTONE

Word origin by Roni Sionakides

Moon comes from Greek *mene* [the 'e' is an eta in Greek letters and in modern European transliteration would be spelled mini]. Month comes from the same root. The cognitive word, lunar, comes from the Latin *luna*, also one of the old roman moon goddesses. Moonstruck and lunatic mean the same. [An Etymological Dictionary of Modern English.]

From Theresa Hubbard

Sources *Wikipedia*, *The American Gem Society* and *eHow*

The American Gem Society treats moonstone as the third birthstone for June behind Alexandrite (too rare and expensive for the general public) and Pearl (not a gem). It was given its name by the Roman natural historian Pliny, who wrote that moonstone's appearance altered with the phases of the moon — a belief that held until well after the sixteenth century. The Romans admired moonstone, as they believed it was born from solidified rays of the moon. Both the Romans and Greeks associated Moonstone with their lunar deities [Greek - Phoebe, Artemis, Selene, Hecate; Roman - Luna, Trivia, Diana]. In more recent history, the moonstone became popular during the Art

Nouveau period; French goldsmith René Lalique and many others created a large quantity of jewelry using this stone.

Considered a sacred stone in India, moonstones often are displayed on a background of yellow (a sacred color) and are believed to encapsulate within the stone a spirit whose purpose is to bring good fortune. Part of the family of minerals called *feldspar*, moonstone occurs in many igneous and metamorphic rocks and comes in a variety of colors such as green, blue, peach, and champagne.

The most prized moonstones are from Sri Lanka; India, Australia, United States, Mayanmar, and Madagascar are also sources along with deposits occurring in Armenia (mainly from Lake Sevan), the Austrian Alps, Mexico, Norway and Poland.

Moonstone is a sodium potassium aluminium silicate, with the chemical formula  $(\text{Na},\text{K})\text{AlSi}_3\text{O}_8$ . Its name is derived from a visual effect, or sheen, caused by light diffraction within a microstructure consisting of a regular succession of feldspar layers. It is composed of two feldspar species, orthoclase and albite. The two species are intermingled. Then, as the newly formed mineral cools, the intergrowth of orthoclase and albite separates into stacked, alternating layers. When light falls between these thin, flat layers, it scatters in many directions producing the phenomenon called adularescence.

The most common moonstone is of the mineral adularia, named for an early mining site near Mt. Adular in Switzerland, now the town of St. Gotthard. The plagioclase feldspar oligoclase also produces moonstone specimens. Moonstone is feldspar with a pearly and opalescent schiller. An alternative name is *hecatolite* [from Greek goddess Hecate].

The moonstone is currently the Florida State Gemstone; it was designated as such to commemorate the Moon landings, which took off from Kennedy Space Center. Despite it being the Florida State Gemstone, it does not naturally occur in the state.

Fortunately, finding a moonstone isn't difficult at all because of all the high concentration of feldspar minerals found on Earth.

1. Look for areas where older mountain chains, and mines, are prevalent. The Appalachian mountains in the U.S., particularly in the mountainous region of North Carolina, is a heavily mined area, and a prime location to find moonstone.
2. Look for moonstones in areas where feldspar is significantly mined. Feldspar minerals comprise nearly 60 percent of the Earth's crust and contain varieties of minerals including moonstone. The feldspar region in the United States is mined out of North Carolina and Virginia.
3. Search for moonstone in areas with a high concentration of albite. Albite is a feldspar variety, containing moonstone in a high quantity. Albite minerals also contain some of the rarest forms of moonstone. These locations can be found around the country in areas such as Southern California, Maine, North Carolina, and Virginia.

# HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!