

CMLMS
P.O. Box 24202
Lansing, Michigan 48909

**TIME VALUE
FIRST CLASS**

Rockhound News—June 2022

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

**Silent
Auction!!**



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: 7:00 p.m., doors are open at 6:30 p.m.

Annual Dues: Adults \$10.00; Families \$15.00; Students under 18 \$2.00

Board meetings: First Thursday, except July and August; 7:00 p.m., Okemos Library

OFFICERS 2022

President	Nate Krupp	517-626-1136 nathan.krupp1@gmail.com
Vice-President	Steve Smith	517-896-6048 radssmith@radssmith.com
Recording Secretary	Jessica Clark	517-242-0554 clark.jess.leigh@gmail.com
Corresponding Secretary	Theresa Hubbard	517-203-9620 thrshubbard@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Fawn Dunbar	517-488-1992 fawn.l.dunbar@gmail.com
1 Year Director	Lyle Laylin	517-488-7908 lyle18@gmail.com
2 Year Director	Sally Hedin	517-281-0575 sallyhedin@yahoo.com
3 Year Director	Ruth Lehner	517-643-4406 geacie48@gmail.com
Roster Secretary	Robin J. Smith	517-290-4891 rsmith@radssmith.com
Liaison Officer	VACANT	
Past President	Sue Casler	517-582-2466 casler5copper@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2022

Membership	Robin J. Smith	517-290-4891 rsmith@radssmith.com
Field Trips	Carl Mennare	517-599-1882 cmenn@yahoo.com
Publications	Chuck Taricska	517-331-1737 chuck_taricska@yahoo.com
Display	VACANT	
Education and Outreach	Theresa Hubbard	517-203-9620 thrshubbard@yahoo.com
Library	Jessica Clark	517-242-0554 clark.jess.leigh@gmail.com
Finance	Milt Gere	517-669-8116 miltgere@aol.com
Show	Robin J. Smith	517-290-4891 rsmith@radssmith.com
Dealers and Demonstrators	Ruth Lehner	517-643-4406 geacie48@gmail.com
Web Master	Lyle Laylin	517-485-7908 lyle18@gmail.com

Permanent Mailing Address

CMLMS

P.O. Box 24202

Lansing, Michigan 48909

Club Website: <http://www.michrocks.org>

Please check out the website and Newsletter of our Affiliated club:

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies, <http://www.mwfed.org/>

ROCKHOUND NEWS

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, June 16, 2022 @ 7:00 pm

PROGRAM: Silent Auction.

REFRESHMENTS: Bring your own snacks/beverage

Location and Time: The CMLMS membership meeting will be held on June 16, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., at the **Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Street, beautiful downtown Okemos.**

Calendar for Summer 2022

June 2, 2022 – Board Meeting, 6:00pm, Okemos Library

June 16, 2022 - Membership meeting, 7:00 p.m., Masonic Center

July and August - Summer Break – Have a good summer

Sept.1, 2022 - Board meeting, 6:00 p.m. Okemos Library

Sept 15, 2022 - Membership meeting, 7:00 p.m., Masonic Center

[Editor's note: the deadline for the newsletter is **Wed, 6pm.** after the board meeting.]

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

June 16 – Silent Auction.

Sept. 15 – Show and Tell

June PROGRAM

This Month's club meeting will feature our annual Silent Auction. The Club has some special items that will be up for bid in the auction, some donated from Mary Gowans collection, along with some Lapidary items that should be of interest to members. Members are encouraged to bring items they wish to sell- this is a great time to auction off any extra specimens you have! I have attached bid sheets to the Newsletter and you can label your items. Don't forget to bring some small bills and some change to make it easy to cash out your winning bids.

CLUB NEWS

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED!

As our summer break approaches, please take some time to consider volunteering to fill an officer or board position next year. We are a fun group! Haven't been ousted from the Okemos Library yet! If interested, please let one of the board members know. Remember, without a board and officers, our society will cease to exist.

The Following positions will be needed for 2023:

President - Be the public face of the CML&MS, responding to e-mail and phone calls, Chair the Board of Directors meetings and bring pertinent items before the Board. Obtain the annual Banquet speaker and help organize it.

Vice President- in charge of membership meeting programming, except the Banquet, and temporarily takes over the President's duties when needed.

Directors at Large (need two)- Provide a fresh opinion and assist in making decisions for the good of the Club. Offer time and resources wherever needed.

Display Chair - Maintain the permanent display case, exhibiting on behalf of the Society at shows, notifying members of area shows and enlisting members to display at these functions, and the acquisition and care of display specimens belonging to the Society.

Liaison Officer- Maintains contacts and shares club info from similar groups around the state.

Outreach Committee: We are always in need of volunteers to help with school science fairs, talks and presentations at schools and other organizations, and educational opportunities. Contact Theresa Hubbard, thrshubbard@yahoo.com to lend a hand.

Field Trips:

Day trip to the Fossil Park in Sylvania, Ohio. – CANCELLED DUE TO CONSTRUCTION

We are working on rescheduling this field trip, but the repair work does not have an end date. More info to come as we find out a future date.

Nearly 375 million years ago, northwest Ohio was a great sea teeming with life. Now, Fossil Park is rich in fossilized brachiopods, coral and more than 200 species of prehistoric life. You're going to dig exploring for these buried treasures, and the best part is, you get to keep whatever you find!

Fossil Park's 5-acre, ADA accessible rock quarry allows you to search for world-renowned fossils in a safe, controlled environment. The fossils come from Hanson Aggregate Midwest's large working quarries, located just a mile south of Fossil Park. The specimens are already in

shale that is soft enough to break with your bare hands, making this an activity nearly anyone can enjoy.

<https://www.olanderpark.com/olanderpark/fossil-park/>

If you have been on any trips and would like to pass along field trip ideas or good locations, please email Carl so he can put together a list of future field trip spots.

Cell phone **517-599-1882** or cmenn@yahoo.com. Please contact him if interested in getting emails as field trips are set up.

UPCOMING SHOWS

June 11: GRAND RAPIDS, MI, Mid Ohio Mineral and Fossil Club Annual Show, 9am-12pm
Woodland Drive-In Church, 2600 Breton Rd SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546, Contact: Kreigh
Tomaszewski, (616) 243-5851; kreigh@gmail.com; www.indianmoundsrockclub.com

June 11-12: MANSFIELD, OH Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club Rock Swap, 10am-6pm
Fairhaven Hall, Richland County Fairgrounds, 750 N Home, Mansfield, OH,
Contact: Tom Kottyan, themineralhouse@netzero.net;

Aug 12-14: HOUGHTON, MI, Copper Country Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show,
Houghton Elementary School, 203 W Jacker Ave, Houghton, MI 49931,
Contact: George Schriver, (906) 236-4716; pres@ccrmc

Sept. 9-11: TOLEDO, OH Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club Annual Show, 10am-6pm
Wood County Fairgrounds, 13800 W Poe Rd, Bowling Green, OH 43402,
Contact: Jerri Heer; (419-344-9999;

Geology of Leonardo's *Virgin of the Rocks*

By Steven Wade Veatch

Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519), considered to be one of the greatest painters of all time, used his knowledge of geology to inform his art. Leonardo was also noted for his work in sculpture, anatomy, mathematics, architecture, and engineering during the Italian Renaissance (about 1330 to 1450).

From a geological perspective, Leonardo da Vinci's paintings present a realistic portrayal of nature. In his *Virgin of the Rocks* (1483-1486), on display in the Louvre in Paris, the geological accuracy is striking (Pizzorusso, 1996). The painting's subject is both the Virgin and the rocks. The Virgin sits in front of a grotto or cave. Various aspects of the grotto, according to geologist Ann Pizzorusso (1996), "are rendered with astounding geological accuracy. Leonardo has painted a rich earthscape of rock eroded and sculpted by the active geological forces of wind and water. Most of the rock formations . . . are weathered sandstone, a sedimentary rock." What looks like basalt, an extrusive igneous rock formed by the cooling of lava, appears above Mary's head and at the top right of the picture. Leonardo even painted the columnar joints formed by the cooling of the rocks. Also, just above her head is a precisely painted seam between the sandstone and igneous formations, and a rock joint runs horizontally to the right of her head. Art historians believe that the landscape in this painting is not an actual place, but one conjured up by Leonardo's experience, understanding of geology, and observation (Issacson, 2017).

A second version of the painting, also called the *Virgin of the Rocks* (1495-1508), is exhibited in the National Gallery in London. This painting fails to depict such a faithful rendering of geology as the one in Paris. Despite decades of analysis by scholars, there are doubts that it is an authentic da Vinci painting, but rather a copy of the original painting by another artist.



Leonardo da Vinci's *Virgin of the Rocks* (1483-1486). From his studies of geology, Leonardo learned how the Earth works and improved the realism of his paintings. Location: Louvre, Paris. Oil on panel transferred to canvas. Height: 199 cm (78.3 in). Width: 122 cm (48 in).

Leonardo da Vinci was ahead of his time in his understanding of geology, and he meticulously recorded his observations in notebooks and journals (Bressan, 2014). After his death, his notebooks ended up on the bookshelves in libraries and private collections throughout Europe, while other notebooks disappeared into history (Waggoner, 1996).

Da Vinci wrote in one of his notebooks, the *Codex Leicester*, about the fossils he found as he walked the countryside. Da Vinci recognized that fossils were the remains of once-living organisms and relics of former times and other worlds—traces of a past hidden to other thinkers of the time. Da Vinci also observed that distinct layers of rocks and fossils covered large areas, and the layers were formed at separate times—not in the single biblical flood (Issacson, 2017). And centuries before Darwin, Leonardo conjectured through his understanding of rocks, fossils, and the slow processes of erosion and deposition that the world is much older than what church fathers proclaimed (Jones, 2011).

Leonardo da Vinci's observations of fossils found on the tops of mountains wore a path through his thoughts. Since fossils are found in the mountains, the surface of the Earth, Leonardo posited, has changed over time. For example, an ancient sea is now dry land (Jones, 2011). Leonardo concluded that as mountains formed, they lifted marine sediments—carrying fossil-bearing rocks skyward to become mountain peaks. Today, geologists know that tectonic plates and other geological processes form mountains.

In another of his notebooks, the *Codex Arundel*, now housed in the British Library, Leonardo describes graded bedding in layers of sedimentary rocks (Pedretti, 1998). He also had a basic understanding of the superposition of rock strata, where the oldest rocks in a sequence of sedimentary rocks are at the bottom. This concept would not be recognized until the second half of the 17th century when Danish geologist Nicolas Steno, carrying the light of learning, took up the subject in 1669, laying the foundation for modern stratigraphy and geological mapping (Capra, 2013).

Da Vinci never published his theories. He only wrote his observations in his notebooks, which ended up scattered or lost. For more than three hundred years, his notes were not part of the progression of science. It was left for future scientists to rediscover Leonardo's observations on the vastness of geological time, sedimentary layering, and the significance of fossils, and to make these discoveries part of science.

Leonardo da Vinci's endless curiosity and boundless creativity made him the quintessential Renaissance man. He was a keen observer of nature whose interest led him to paint nature not only beautifully, but accurately.

Works Cited

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Capra, F. (2013). *Learning from Leonardo: Decoding the Notebooks of a Genius*. New York: Berrett-Koehler.

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Jones, J. (2011, November 23). *Leonardo da Vinci's earth-shattering insights about geology*. Retrieved from The Guardian:

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CMLMS MINUTES

CMLMS, May 5th, 2022, Board Meeting

Board Members Present: Milt Gere, Theresa Hubbard, Nate Krupp, Roger Laylin, Carl Mennare, Fay Mennare, Robin Smith, Steve Smith, Chuck Taricska, Fawn Dunbar

Board Members absent: Excused: Sue Casler, Jessica Clark, Ruth Lehner

Members Present: Dan Sine and Kate Wilcox Leigh (new member)

President: Nate Krupp called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. at the Okemos Public Library. President's items: Kalamazoo Show was last weekend: Nate volunteered Friday and Sunday; Fay and Carl Mennare and Lyle Laylin on Saturday; Banquet will be talked about in old business.

Nate will follow up with the speaker.

Vice-President: Steve Smith

There will be a silent auction for the June meeting. No June work bee needed. Please remember to bring small bills, bid sheets, pencils, etc.

Treasurer: Fawn Dunbar

Needs to reschedule a visit with Nate and Sue. Deposits were made. She needs to get statements from Sue Casler. She still has no electronic access on the CDs. Both scholarship checks have cleared.

Recording Secretary: Jessica Clark, absent

Approval of the April 7th and April 2st 2022 meeting draft minutes. Motion to accept by Fawn Dunbar. Seconded by Steve Smith.

Corresponding Secretary: Theresa Hubbard

We received a thank you letter from Bennett Woods. Theresa and Fawn demonstrated at their science night. No other known. Request for a virtual summer crystal class with the Midland Chemical Society. Theresa has accepted the challenge. Six guests from other clubs are coming to our Banquet.

Director 1: Lyle Laylin, absent, no report

Director 2: Sally Hedin, absent, no report

Director 3: Ruth Lehner, absent, no report

Director 1: Lyle Laylin, absent, no report

Director 2: Sally Hedin, absent, no report

Director 3: Ruth Lehner, absent, no report

Show: Robin Smith

Working with a draftsman on more exact SF and table layouts. Ruth is still communicating with dealers, website listings, prices, free sites. Ingham County Fairgrounds may offer free tickets to the kids for their pumpkin event. Roger brought photos from the 1st show in 1968.

Roster Secretary/Membership: Robin Smith

No new membership applications.

Liaison Officer: Vacant position

Past-President: Sue Casler-absent, no report

Field Trips: Carl Mennare

There are still camping spots open on Fisherman's Island State Park. Discussion ion a July/August trip. May 14 from 10-4pm. There are pay tickets for a paleontologist talk at Rockport State Park.

Dave Berquist has been researching gravel pits for us. Caledonia mine ore piles.

Publications: Chuck Taricska

Needs to add "bring hor d'oeuvres" to Banquet for the social hour. Wednesday is the deadline for the newsletter.

Education and Community Outreach: Theresa Hubbard

See earlier note under corresponding secretary.

Library: Jessica Clark-absent, no report

Display: Vacant position.

Finance: Milt Gere-no report.

Webmaster: Lyle Laylin

There are still problems with links/emails on website not going through to officers.

Old business: The Banquet final details. 47 attendees so far. Theresa will do a thank you note to the speaker. Nate will confirm the speaker and have a program description by Wednesday.

Is Elaine A. doing grace? Roger and Lee with be doing flower centerpieces for the table. There will be member displays on MI geology.

New Business:

This month's MWF has 8 "Rockhound of the Month" notices listed and should we nominate someone. Nate plans to submit someone. It would be good visibility for our club. MWF also has VHS and DVDs we can borrow for programming.

Adjournment: Carl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion received a second by Robin and the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Have a great Summer! We hope you explore new places and make great memories.

- See you in September!

