

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer is almost upon us and this will be my last message until fall. I want to take this opportunity to extend my hope you will all have a very enjoyable summer. Sharon Davis has numerous field trips planned for the summer and hope you will participate in all of them possible.

As you make your way from one collecting area to another, adding to your collections, make notes so you can come back in the fall and share your experiences and prize collections with all of us. And you "Lapidarians", we hope to see the results of your summer labors and share in your experiences.

Don't forget the picnic at the Kurtz home June 13, 1976.

Have a nice summer and you all come back safe and sound.

Eva Whipple

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## PROGRAM - Wes Manley

The program June 10 (note that the meeting is one week earlier than usual) will be two films of geologic interest, "Rivers of the Sea," and "The Rise and Fall of the Great Lakes." Don't miss this last good program before summer.

A large number of members and visitors at the May 20 meeting enjoyed Rod Cranson's slide presentation of the LCC geology field trip to the Mexican volcanoes, Popocatapetl and Iztaccihuatl. The rigors of mountain climbing were very well portrayed in his pictures.

Life Memberships were presented to Fred and Ethel Gasche, Wayne Henderson, Grace Lester, Marie McElmurry, and Read Myers.

Bonds were presented to the CML&MS Youth Talent Award winners, Kenneth Amerman and Timothy Rose. A year's club membership was given to them, and also to the two Honorable Mention winners, Kris Wheeler and Carl Donakowski.

1976 MSU Scholarship winner Jon Reed spoke briefly, thanking the Society and expressing his interest in the activities of the group. With him was John Ansted, winner of last year's scholarship.

A highlight of the evening was the surprise appearance of Joe and Laura Kreps of Tucson, Arizona, who were on a brief visit to Michigan. Joe and Laura were leading spirits in the formation of the CML&MS, and were very active in it until they retired. They continue their mineral interests in the Tucson area, now their home.

Other visitors were Rose and Roy Huey with daughters Debbie and Sherry, Charlie and Onie Seegar, Charles Rathbun, Royal Woodhead, Margery Fahrenbach, George Mitchell, Dr. F. W. Cambray, and Pat Olds.

A refreshment table with cakes, punch, and coffee fittingly ended the evening.

## FIELD TRIPS - Sharon Davis

Remember - June 5, 10:00 am, the Jeffrey Limestone Quarry at Parma. See the May NEWS for directions.

Throughout the summer we hope to offer a number of field trips that will be of interest to both fossil and mineral collectors.

The Annual Picnic will start the summer activities. It will be held on Sunday, the 13th of June, at the home of Ken and Thea Mae Kurtz, 800 Frost Road, Williamston. Please bring your own table service and a dish to pass. We hope everyone can come and enjoy each other's friendship.

Saturday, June 26, will be a trip to the Medusa Cement Company at Charlevoix for fossils and Petoskey stones. Camping is available near the quarry in the Belle Bay State Forest Campground, which will be the meeting place. Time is 8:30 am. Bill Gardiner will lead this trip.

July 10, 7:00 am to 12:00 noon only, to Amherst Quarry, Amherstburg, Canada. Take 18S in Windsor, Canada, to Amherstburg. Turn left on Pike Road. The Quarry is one mile east from the turnoff on the right. Camping is available at Borrowman's Grove, one mile beyond the quarry on Pike Road. We will look for celestite, calcite, and fluorite.

July 20-25. Keokuk, Iowa, Sullivan, Missouri, and other sites in the area en route to the St. Louis Show, July 22-25. More details at the June meeting.

July 31, 10:00 am, Medusa Cement Company, Sylvania, Ohio. This trip is in search of fossils.

August 5, 8:00 am, Corydon Crushed Stone and Lime Company, Inc., Corydon, Indiana. 2½ miles NW of Corydon on the west side of Hwy 135. Dolomite, calcite, and fluorite may be found here. Quartz geode hunting is also available in the area. The Bedford Swap is August 6, 7, 8. More details at the June meeting.

August 21, 10:00 am, Pugh Quarry, McClure, Ohio. Calcite, fluorite, barite, and

pyrite are found here. Take 127 to Jackson, 223 to Adrian, 52 South into Ohio, which becomes 109 in Ohio. Cross the Maumee River and follow 110 to 6 into McClure. Turn south out of McClure on 65. There is a sign for Pugh Quarry on the left side of the road about 3 miles out of town. Turn left and the quarry is on the left, 3 miles from the turn.

August 29, 1:00 pm, Cheney Limestone Quarry, Bellevue, Michigan. M78 to Bellevue, turn left at light to Pease Road, just after the bridge. Turn right to the quarry, just a short distance. The working pit is on the right. Pyrite, marcasite, calcite, siderite, sphalerite, and fossils can be found.

Please review the code of ethics, and wear safety dress on all hunts. Hope you join us and have a wonderful summer.

Contact me (393-3020) before each field trip to make sure it is still scheduled.

## SAFETY - Errol Alvey

## Ledges and Steep Dumps

Even though your hard-hat provides essential protection for your head and even helps to shade your eyes while working in the sun, we should remember that it stops there.

When exposed to falling rocks a hard-hat protects only the wearer's head, leaving the shoulders exposed. Further, if you are bent over, your entire back and kidneys may be exposed to a heavy and angular rock.

To lessen these hazards, we should never walk or set to work on a ledge, quarry rim, or steep mine dump if there are any people or vehicles below. Conversely, do not stand or work when others are already above.

Surely these are simple precautions to prevent an injury due to a sudden tailings slump or a falling rock.

The man who removes a mountain begins by carrying away small stones.

Chinese Proverb, from  
The Petoskey Stone

## THE ALPENA FIELD TRIP - Sharon Davis

The Alpena Weekend was enjoyed by some twenty members of our club and more than fifty members from other clubs in Michigan. We were permitted to hunt at the Huron Cement Company where we found many fossils, and Dolomite, calcite and fluorite. Numerous fossils, Petoskey heads, and dolomite were found at Rockport. Some people visited the sinkholes, Mystery Valley, and Sunken Lake while everyone else collected marcasite, calcite, dolomite, sphalerite, and quartz at Paxton Quarry. The Saturday night program and Sunday dinner were enjoyed by all. Our thanks to Cal Loomis and the Alpena Earth Science Society for making it all possible.

Seventeen members collected carving alabaster and alabaster concretions at National City.

The weekend was wonderful experience for any rockhound and the memory will stay with us for a while as we sort, trim, clean, and try to make room for all our new rocks and fossils. Please remember the Children's Table as you do sort out your pieces.

## MEMBERSHIP - Ruth Hillis

I want to thank all the women that brought the delicious cakes for the May Anniversary. A special thanks to I. J. Brett, Sharon Davis, and Lorna Tripp for helping with the serving. All of you helped to make our anniversary meeting a success.

If you have ordered name badges, look for them at the welcome table. They come in quickly. Badges are here for George Heaton, Van and Irene McClintock, and may be picked up June 10.

## DISPLAY - Nancy Smith

Five displays went to the Kalamazoo Show from our club, including the club display. There are no nearby shows on the calendar until fall, but now is the time to plan a display to take to a neighboring show, and surely be ready for our own.

## LIBRARY - Preston Whipple

I would like to bring your attention to the May-June issue of Michigan Natural Resources Magazine. It contains an article on the Dowagiac Diamond written by one of our own members--Esther Middlewood. Esther did a lot of research in getting the material for this article and I am sure you will all find it interesting. Congratulations, Esther.

We have just received a new listing of books and material available at a discount through the library from the Mineral Library Center. I have made off some extra copies so if any of you want to take one home and examine the material available more closely please feel free to pick up one of the lists.

This being the last meeting for the summer, all material borrowed does not have to be returned until the September meeting. Once again, if there are any books you might want over the summer months, you are most welcome to pick them up at our home, or if you do want to return material for some reason, I will be glad to accept it. Maybe a phone call before coming to make sure someone is home might save you a trip.

SPECIAL DISPLAY AT SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND  
- Walt Davis

On May 27 the Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society participated in a special Bi-Centennial Day entitled "America, Our Yesteryears," at the Michigan School for the Blind, Lansing, Michigan. The display allowed our club the unique opportunity of sharing our hobby with a very special group. It is an exciting experience, watching blind individuals "see" the minerals, fossils, and jewelry pieces with their hands. We often forget that there is more to a mineral than visual beauty.

Our club was represented with four display cases, and with the several tables of material to be examined. There were fourteen club members who took part in this special display. A special note of thanks to each person who took part or supplied materials.

CML&MS DISPLAY AT BUREAU OF MINES,  
Minneapolis, St. Paul, Minnesota  
- Walt Davis

In Late September we are going to send another shipment of Michigan minerals to the Bureau of Mines at Minneapolis. If you have anything you would like to donate, please let me know. We have already sent a number of specimens, and are now looking primarily for ore specimens from the various mines in Michigan.

SPECIAL GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP RECOMMENDED

The Board approved a motion to grant a special Graduate Tuition Scholarship at MSU of \$500 for the coming school year only. This will come before the meeting June 10.

SHOW - Walt Davis

We are still in need of materials for the Children's Table. If you have any specimens or fossils that you gathered at Alpena, or from any other locality, please bring them to the June meeting so the Children's Table committee can prepare them over the summer.

It's time to begin to think what you want to work on at Show time. Volunteer early and avoid the rush.

The building of new display cases is under way. Costs will run around \$20 for a case similar to those we have made in the past. If you want one, be sure to contact me.

Publicity - Flyers will be at the June 10 meeting for summer distribution. Flyers should be posted locally in the fall.

Will you please take some black and white pictures this summer of club members doing something exciting--not eating lunch, which is where the cameras usually come out--and get them to Florence Hill? Good pictures with a writeup help to get it in print.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - Eleanor Owens  
Eleanor, and Luella Stone are recovering following surgery.

ROSTER SECRETARY - Sally Barber

Please make these changes in your Directory:

Membership Renewal

John and Stella Hasford  
3506 Haslett Road  
Williamston, Mi 48895  
517-468-3641

MSU Scholarship Winners, membership

Jon Reed  
3343 Hughes  
Warren, Mi 48097

John Ansted  
1423 Casto Blvd.  
Burton, Mi 48519

Change of Address

Mr. and Mrs. J. Vernon Buerge  
1808 Gay Lane  
Lansing, Mi 48912  
374-8058

Add telephone number of Elmer and Ruth Eckhardt: 485-2457  
(Sorry I slipped, Elmer and Ruth. F.H.)

PUBLICATIONS - Florence Hill

Thanks to Lola Pearson and Nancy Smith, who finished up the stencils for me last May. And thanks to all the people who help Slim and Sally Barber assemble and mail the NEWS. I don't always know who you are.

N.B. Will all people who will want copies of material printed this summer (Show Chairmen in particular, and anyone else who may need forms) please have your copy in to me by July 1? State how many copies you want, and the date by which you want them. There will be just one printing night this summer.

DELEGATES TO ST. LOUIS MWF CONVENTION

Preston and Eva Whipple will be CML&MS delegates to the Midwest Federation Convention and Show at St. Louis July 22-25. Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Manley are alternates.

June 1976

ROCKHOUND NEWS

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FROM THE AMERICAN FEDERATION NEWSLETTER, May 1976

NATIONAL CONVENTION AT AUSTIN, TEXAS

The National "Gem Capers of '76" will be held at the Austin Municipal Auditorium and Convention Center on Town Lake in Austin, Texas from June 17th through the 20th.

There will be many special exhibits, seminars, lectures, and programs. Outstanding speakers will cover a variety of subjects in the rockhound's sphere of interests.

Many historic sites can be seen around the city of Austin.

For an advance registration packet, write Roberta Goldenberg, R. 3, Box 196G, Georgetown, Texas 78626.

THE METRIC SYSTEM

by Mrs. Charles Asher, from Crystal Lines, Peoria, Illinois.

Our country has been considering of late joining many other countries which use the Metric System of weights and measures. We inherited our present system from our forefathers who came from England. If the French explorers had gained the territory for France we would now be well acquainted with the Metric System.

The system used by many nations and the entire scientific world is also called the CGS System. This stands for Centigrade (Celsius), Gram, and Second. The first name measures temperature; the second, weight or mass; and the third, time. The Metric System is based on units of 10. The British System is based on units of 16. Remember: there are 16 ounces in a pound and 16 fluid ounces in a pint. The standard mile is 5280 feet. In the Metric System: 1 kilogram is 1000 grams, a liter is 1000 milliliters and a kilometer is 1000 meters.

Anders Celsius was a Swedish astronomer (1701-17440. He described the Centigrade thermometer scale in 1742. It was later named for him. The Centigrade scale is based on a freezing point of 0 and a boiling point of 100. To convert Centigrade units to Fahrenheit units: multiply the degrees Centigrade by 1.8 and add 32. Thus 40

METRIC SYSTEM (continued)

degrees Centigrade is  $40 \times 1.8 = 72 + 32 = 104$  degrees Fahrenheit. To convert Fahrenheit units to Centigrade units: subtract 32 from the degrees Fahrenheit and multiply the remainder by the fraction  $5/9$ .....

When you do precision measuring and you want to measure a part of an inch, do you have trouble establishing which is an eighth, a sixteenth, or a thirty-second of an inch? This measure is made simple in the CGS System with the use of millimeters. There are approximately 2.5 centimeters or 25 millimeters to an inch. A part of an inch can be measured in whole numbers: 1/8 inch = 3.1 mm., 1/4 = 6.2 mm.

You can easily measure the size of cabochons in millimeters. In fact, the standard mounting sizes are 30 x 40 mm., 18 x 25 mm., etc. When you measure fossil forms of animals, you measure them in centimeters because of their larger size....For measuring objects in both systems, obtain a combination rule with centimeters on one side and inches on the other.

Now let's go to the supermarket and buy merchandise using the Metric System. First we are going to buy a sack of potatoes. They come in 5 Kg. sacks(11lbs.) and cost \$1.50. Now we are interested in buying a bottle of vinegar. The label on the bottle says: 1 liter, which is a trifle more than a quart. ....A small bottle of syrup is labelled one-half liter or 500 ml. This size is a little larger than a pint. We can buy milk in 1, 2, or 4 liter packages....we have packages slightly larger than quart, half-gallon and gallon. Butter would be sold by the kilogram or 500 gram portion. A dozen eggs will always be 12 eggs.

Time will still be measured in seconds, minutes and hours. We may wish to continue numbering the hours past 12 Noon instead of starting with 1. .... 1 P.M. would be 13, etc. until we arrived at 24 hours, midnight. This system is now used to measure Greenwich Mean Time.....

So---how about those signs on the Highway? Lansing 18 miles (29 km.) We learn.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

June 5, 10 am, Field Trip to Jeffrey Quarry, Parma, Michigan.  
June 10, 7:30 pm, Regular Meeting, Everett H. S. Cafeteria, Lansing.  
June 13, 1:00 pm, Picnic, home of Ken and Thea Mae Kurtz, 800 Frost Rd., Williamston, Mich.  
June 26, July 10, July 20-25, July 31, August 5, August 21, August 29, Field Trips.  
See Page 2 for details.  
Sept. 2, Board Meeting, home of Marshall and Arlene Davis, 3925 Barton Drive, Lansing, Mich.  
Sept. 9, Show Committee Meeting, home of Jim and Bettie Patterson, 14933 Brown Road, Lansing.

SHOWS AND SWAPS

June 5-6...State Line Gem & Min. Soc. Swap, Fulton Co. Fairgrounds, Wauseon, Ohio.  
June 12-13. West Central Ohio Rock Club Show, Allen Fairgrounds, Lima, Ohio.  
June 17-20. AFMS and SCF Convention and Show, Austin, Texas.  
July 9-11..Stonehead Lap. & Min. Club Show, Mineral River Plaza, White Pine, Michigan.  
July 11....Lapeer Co. Gem & Min. Soc. Swap, Crampton Park, Lapeer, Michigan.  
July 22-25. MWF Convention and Show, Show Center, 9785 St. Charles Rock Road, St. Louis Co.  
Missouri.  
Aug. 6-8...Ishpeming Club Show, Lakeview Arena, Marquette, Michigan.  
Aug. 6-8...Swap, Bedford, Indiana, 4-H Fairgrounds.  
Aug. 21-22 Kingston Lap. & Min. Club Show, Cook Youth Center, Kingston, Ontario.  
Sept. 11-12. Michiana Rock & Gem Club Show, Fairgrounds, South Bend, Indiana.  
Oct. 22-24. CML&MS "Minerals on the Move," Mich. Nat'l Guard Armory, Lansing, Michigan.

Happy Hunting this summer! Bring 'em back to show us next fall!



ROCKHOUND NEWS  
Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society  
14933 Brown Road  
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TIME VALUE

Ernest J. Fulton  
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Eaton Rapids, Mi 48827