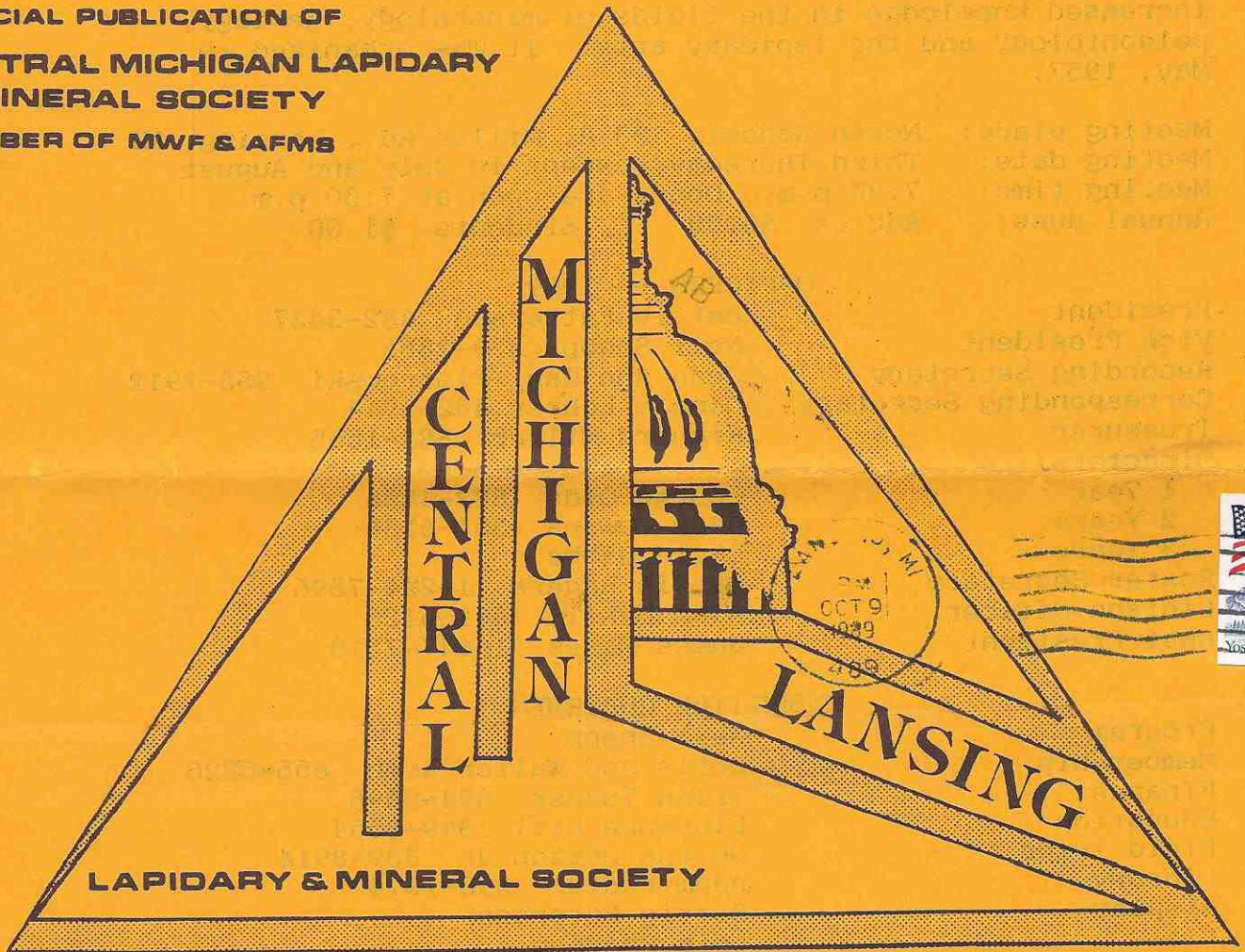


# ROCKHOUND NEWS

1989

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
CENTRAL MICHIGAN LAPIDARY  
& MINERAL SOCIETY  
MEMBER OF MWF & AFMS



RETURN TO:  
C.M.L. & M.S.  
15785 Park Lake Road  
East Lansing, Michigan 48823

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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, peletonology 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 p.m. Doors are open at 7:00 p.m.  
Annual dues: Adults \$3.00 Students \$1.00

### OFFICERS — 1989

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Vice President	Neil Snapp	339-2863
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Corresponding Secretary	Donald Lohrer	482-2914
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Finance	Irwin Turner 694-9596
Education	Florence Hill 349-3554
Field Trips	George Heaton Jr 339-8914
Library	Adam Foster 393-1374
Display	Bettie Paterson Lola Pearson

### Publication:

Editors	Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski Betty Tack 485-6768
Printer	Dona Lay 393-5418
Show	Alan Hukill

### PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:

15705 Park Lake Road  
East Lansing, MI 48823

### MEMBER OF:

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies  
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



Neil's Notes

SHOW TIME! We are only two weeks away from the major event of the year. This is our major fund raiser, and a great public relations opportunity - a time for education and club building.

Many members have been hard at work making preparations. There is still much to be done and many hands are needed. We want to set up the ramp Wednesday evening (10/25). The hall setup will be Thursday (10/26) 9 AM -? Friday is School Day. We need assistance in special places, then. Other areas requiring assistance include children's table, tickets, silent auction, decorations and raffle. Please volunteer or say "yes" if asked to help. This is a Club event and we need the participation of all our members.

We would encourage all of you to make displays of your interests. Applications were in the last issue - or call Jean Ann. If you are unable to participate in other ways, come and be in attendance. Wear your name tag so the public will know you are a member. Let us make this the BEST SHOW YET!

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## Show Committee Chairpersons

The following members are heading show activities. Contact them if you can help.

Publicity - Alan Hukill  
 Display - Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski  
 Demonstrations - Richard Miller  
 School Tours - Peter and Betty Tack  
 Hospitality - Bessie Rogers  
 Silent Auction - Gordon Lewis  
 Emcee - Milo Hillis  
 Raffle - Neil Snapp  
 Children's Table - George Heaton  
 Decorations - Mary Grosby  
 Swap Table - Mary McMahon  
 Tickets - Mary Gowans  
 Entry Display - Margaret Randolph

## Corresponding Secretary Report

Just after our last Newsletter went to press I learned that Alberta Manina suffered a painful fall while exploring an old mine dump last summer. Also Doris Aven and Al McCord had surgery this past summer. They are all much better at this time. This past month Larry Tripp and Alice Gardiner had surgery, Charlotte Munro had some cardiac problems and Clarence Morgan suffered from a very sore shoulder. We wish them all the very best and pray that they will have a speedy recovery.

Fall means football, apple cider and our annual show. All are abundant this month. The most important one, OUR SHOW, is the last weekend in October. Don't forget to volunteer your services and I'll see you there.

Respectfully,  
 Don Lohrer

## Education - Florence Hill

The mineral of this month will be cuprite, an oxide of copper. David Piotrowski will give the five minute talk at the meeting.

## Community Service - September

Margaret and Howard Randolph gave a talk on rocks and minerals at Mr. Cherrys's sixth grade class at the Beagle School, Grand Ledge.

Mary Gowans gave a talk on rock-hounding to two of Mrs. Marley's classes for the gifted at Lyons School, Lansing.

## Children's Table

Thank you! to Lola Pearson, Marge Potter, Gordon and Marie Lewis, Sally Barber and Howard and Margaret Randolph and all the others who have contributed materials for this Show project. It is much appreciated.



### September Field Trip Report from George Heaton

The field trip to the Irving Materials Quarry at Anderson, Indiana on Saturday, September 23rd attracted six of our members. The group included Neil and Connie Snepp, Iral and Donaline Nutt and George Heaton Jr. and Sr. The weather was sunny and cool - just right for pounding on rocks without getting hot and sweaty. The Nutts and Snepps found some of the nice amber colored calcites the quarry is noted for and all of us were able to collect some of the dark brown to almost black iridescent calcites that may be found there. Very few fossils were found.

The Children's Table work session at Grit Turner's place went well with a good amount of work completed, but there is still some left to be done and another session will have to be scheduled. Those participating in helping out the children's table were Dave and Jean Ann Piotrowski, Bill and Bessie Rogers, Neil and Connie Snepp, Florence Hill, Bill and Katie Henderson, Marie Lewis and George Heaton. I wish to thank all those who helped.

The field trip for October will be our Gem and Mineral Show October 27th-29th. I hope all of our members will be willing to participate in this event by working at one or more of the many jobs that must be done to put on a good show. The Children's Table will need lots of helpers, especially during the school tours on Friday morning. There will be another Children's Table Work Session on Saturday, October 21st starting at 10AM at Alice and Grit Turner's. I hope many of the members will be willing to come and help.

### 1990 DUES ARE DUE

I will take dues at Club meeting or you can send them to me. Please make your check out to:

C.M.L. & M.S.

Bessie Rogers

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### Amber - Golden Gem of the Ages

There are only two gems of vegetable origin, amber and diamond. Amber is a very ancient, fossilized resin that exuded from a species of pine trees that has been extinct for forty to sixty million years.

As the resin rolled down the trees and across the forest floor, it gathered many insects, flora and fauna, ants, roaches, gnats, frogs, birds and other creatures. These entombed insects and botanical matter are wonderfully preserved evidence of life in prehistoric times.

Amber was one of the first gems used by prehistoric man and was one of the preferred gems in ancient times.

Identification of amber is usually simple as it has a very low density and floats in salt water. When faceting amber, do not clean the stone with alcohol as it will etch the surface. Cont. Pg. 4  
from The Prospector 2/89

We have a member who was lucky enough to find an amber necklace at a garage sale - and snapped it up for 25¢. Good shopping!!! Ed.

Program

Thanks to all who took part in the September SHOW & TELL. For October we are planning a short slide show titled Bountiful Ohio: Minerals, Fossils, Rocks. This is a new show from the Midwest Federation and is rated as excellent.

Library

Vicki Jacobs has agreed to serve as librarian for the rest of the year. Please give her your cooperation in managing this fine resource.

Raffle

HELP! Due to a number of incidents, we only got the raffle tickets this week. Thus we have a very short time to sell the tickets. We have some very nice prizes. More are welcome. If you can sell tickets, pick them up at the club meeting or call Neil (339-2863) and he will mail them to you. A strong effort is needed by all hands to make this part of the show a success.

Calendar

October 19	Regular meeting at North School
October 27-29	Our Show
November 7	Board Meeting at Capitol Federal in Okemos

Treasurer's Report

Receipts		
, Show booth fee	160.00	160.00
Disbursements		
Publications	50.00	
Show	157.23	
Convention	120.50	
Library	38.00	
Misc.	10.00	375.73



Amber (continued)

Page 4

Amber is of varying shades of yellow, gold and brown. Amber worn as jewelry will darken as it picks up oil from the skin.

Room of Amber

Russia's Peter the Great was given an entire room of amber by the Prussian King Frederick William I in 1718..

The walls, ceiling and doors were a giant jigsaw puzzle of thousands of pieces of amber of different shades. The furnishings were amber: vases, candlesticks, dishes, even the handles of the knives and forks.

"When the sun shone through the windows, it was like standing in an open jewel box," went one report. The room disappeared some 70 years ago, dismantled and hidden for safekeeping during the Russian Revolution.

(from Carmel Valley Prospector, Osage Hills Gems, The Puget Sounder and others.)

