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T H E



J A S P I L I T E

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
of the
ISHPEMING ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB

affiliated
with

MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL & GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
R.K. Richards
522 Iron St.
Negaunee, Mich.

VICE PRESIDENT
Robert Schenk
Route 1
Republic, Mich.

SECRETARY
C.R. Markert
107 W. Ridge St.
Ishpeming, Mich.

TREASURER
George Bamford
437 W. Empire St.
Ishpeming, Mich.

LIBRARIAN
William Locher
West Ishpeming
Michigan

EDITORS
C.R. Markert
Marian Markert
Irene Krebs

LIAISON OFFICER---R.K. Richards--522 Iron St. Negaunee, Mich.

COMING EVENTS

September 29, 1956.

Let's get together for a field trip on Saturday, Sept. 29, weather permitting. Those desiring to take part in it should meet at the firehall at 12:30 pm. Ideas as to locale of such a trip should be submitted to the officers of the club.

October 3, 1956

The first fall meeting of our club will be held at the Skimmuseum in Ishpeming, at 7:00 pm, on Oct. 3. A program is being planned. Come one, come all and-----

Bring a friend.



OUR MINERALS

Let's talk about a few of the minerals that are found in our neck of the woods.

Most of you members are acquainted with them and have a talking knowledge of these minerals, but on the off-chance, there may be a few who don't.

I would like to take one mineral per issue of the Jaspilite and describe it and tell where to look for it in our vicinity.

As a starter, let's talk about Siderite. That is the glassy brown stuff you find covering a chunk of Specular Hematite, Magnetite or Jasper on the Greenwood, Republic and Champion rockpiles. It is an ore of Iron, but is not found in sufficient quantity or purity to be mined commercially. Siderite, FeCO_3 has a hardness of 3.5-4 and a specific gravity of about 3.85. It's luster is vitreous to pearly, and streaks white, while being translucent to sub-translucent. It belongs to the Rhombohedral family of xls and fractures uneven or sub-conchoidal. The color runs from light to dark brown, some shades of red and gray. It is a common form of Iron, not too showy, but should be in your collection. I only mentioned three locations where I have found Siderite. How about you members contacting me and letting me know where you have found Siderite, so that they can be listed in the next issue.

Next issue I'll talk about Goethite, so members let me know where you have found Goethite. In this way, we will have a complete listing of the minerals as we go along and where to find them. We need the backing and co-operation of every member of our club to make the Jaspilite a success as a source of information. Also as a guidepost for visiting rockhounds that come to this area to visit, trade and collect specimens.

Bernie Dooley from Iron River hit the jackpot in selenite xls (described elsewhere in this issue). You members who don't have this in your collection and would like to have some, drop everything and take a run to Iron River with your best (and I do mean best) trading material, as Bernie has the best Selenite you will ever see. I traded him out of an Axe and Sledge hammer handle, all covered with Selenite xls that I'm really proud of. Also got a cluster of primary xls with secondary xls growing off the top of the primary xls. You just don't find this kind every day.

How many of you members would be interested in a field trip to the Ironwood district. Let's not just talk about it, let's do it. Contact any of the club officers and let's get the ball rolling before the snow flies.

That about winds this up. So till next we meet,

Good rockin'

Bob (Talus Canine) Schenk

VERDE ANTIQUE MARBLE

Julius Ropes prospected for gold in 1878 and found Verde Antique Marble, which compares with the finest Marble products of Greece and Italy. The marble was of great value because of its clarity and coloring. It varies in color from a deep greenish black to a pale greenish white. The darker green, often semi-translucent, forms the rich background of the polished surface which is beautifully mottled with delicate moss-like traces of lighter shades. This beautiful stone is found just 3 miles north of Ishpeming, Mich.

1956 CONVENTION NEWS

If you have never been to a Mineral Convention, you are missing half the fun of the hobby.

The Mineral displays of other clubs are really something to see, besides all the individual displays and dealers booths.

There is always something going on during each day. One day a "Rock hound" demonstrated the art of making spheres, John Mihelcic showed slides and talked on his collection and dealers were most eager for an audience before which to show his wares. Tumblers were in evidence at all dealers and tumbled stones seemed to be more popular than cabs. We brought back some beautiful slabs.

Between viewing exhibits and visiting with friends, the hours of each day flew by much too fast. We ran into Mr. & Mrs. Fred Baltz of Menominee quite often, they attended one of our club meetings last year. Also spent some time with our out-of-town members, Helen & Floyd Mortenson of Pontiac, Bob Pape of Utica, Jerry Hudechek of Jackson, and Art & Thelma Powell of Findlay Ohio. They all send their greetings to ~~all~~ you folks in Ishpeming.

Our club display attracted many people and many compliments. Wish you could have been there to receive some of them.

Saturday morning we attended the Bulletin Editors breakfast, with 48 amateurs and 2 professionals. We hope when it's time to publish our paper, some of the tricks-of-the-trade will help to improve ours.

The banquet Sat. nite at the Lowry Hotel was well attended. Plenty of good food, good service, and good fun. The centerpieces on each table were "Rockhounds" fashioned from wire and styrofoam, each holding an agate.

Agates and Thomsonites were scattered across the tables. The mistress of ceremonies, Leone Knox was very clever and all talks were short and interesting and there was plenty of time to visit.

One of the field trips during the convention was an all day trip on Sunday by bus to the Osseo Pits north of St. Paul. The temperature that day, I believe, was 100 in the shade (no shade). There were some beautiful agates found and Markerts have two of them.

The Earth Science Club of Northern Ill. won the trophy for the best club exhibit. This club touched on every phase of the hobby in making a very educational and interesting display. Hats off to ESCONI for a lovely display.

The IMS had a terrific display that would have gone far if they had entered it in competition.

Have you ever seen so many agates and thompsonites? The Minn. members certainly have them.

We would like to take this time to CONGRATULATE the Minn. Mineral club for doing such a wonderful job on this convention. We won't enumerate on the various committees as each one did such a marvelous job. Thank you for making our stay so pleasant.

Marian Markert

OFFICERS OF THE MIDWEST FEDERATION 1956-57

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THE OCCURENCE OF SELENITE CRYSTALS
AT THE BRISTOL MINE, CRYSTAL FALLS
MICH.

About thirty years ago when the Bristol-Youngstown mine was shut-down, it was never thought that after it's re-opening it would be something to make a rock-hound drool.

It seems that there was an over-abundance of sulphates present in the ore, such as pyrite and gypsum which dissolved into the water which flooded the mine after it's shut-down. The super-saturation of the water caused a crystallization of selenite—a crystal form of gypsum throughout several levels of the mine. The selenite "grew" on almost everything, creating a fairyland of sparkling crystals such as few "rockhounds" ever have the opportunity to see. Even the floors of the drifts were covered with masses of crystals almost a foot long.

With such an abundance of crystals, one would think that every "rockhound" in the Upper Peninsula would have some, but such is not the case. Other than a few miners who took some home as curiosities and a few geologists who went down to inspect the mine and took some, very few specimens found their way into display cabinets. There were several reasons for this, of course. One being, that the mining company couldn't allow rockhounds free run of the place while mining operations were being carried on, due to the dangers existing in such places and another being the fact that the crystals are very fragile. They range in size from the size of a hair to almost an inch in width, with smaller size being the most spectacular and of course, the most desired. It is quite difficult to remove them from the walls, etc, without breaking them, and getting them out to the shaft and up to the surface is a very delicate operation.

The writer was allowed to spend a half day collecting down there and even with the very able help and co-operation of two of the shift-bosses, only a few specimens were brought to surface.

Most of the selenite is gone now and there probably will never be another occurrence such as this within my lifetime. Even though I'll never see it again, I'll always treasure the memory of my first sight of these crystals.

Bernard Dooley

MILLERITE FOUND IN
MARQUETTE COUNTY

MILLERITE, yes millerite has been found at Michigammee by Onnie Hutander of the Ishpeming Club. At first it was thought to be goethite, but Dr. Hahn of the C.C.I. Research Laboratory announces it is an ore of nickel. The crystals appear in radiating groups and are possibly about an eighth of an inch long or smaller, and as usual in the case of millerite there isn't an overabundance of the material.

Congratulations Onnie, for making this find and we hope that you have some on hand to answer the requests for trade, that we knew you will get.

Dr. Douglas Houghton was appointed the first Michigan state geologist in 1837 when Michigan was admitted to the Union.

"ROCKIN' AROUND"

Congratulations, BARBARA ENGSTROM. Your suggestion of "Rockin Around" is the best name submitted for this column. Hope you like the prize.

Our hats are off to BERNARD DOOLEY for his wonderful generosity and his unselfishness in sharing his find of selenite xls.

The club regrets to announce the death of it's newest and youngest member, "CHICO the fox" from the Gold Mine area. He had to be disposed of because of a broken leg (cause unknown). We shall miss this feature attraction of the Marble Quarry.

"THE JASPILITE" has received many favorable compliments at the National Convention. Help us keep up YOUR bulletin with comments for this column as well as feature stories on your "finds". Let us know in writing what you think about field trips, the bulletin, meetings, projects, etc., and all will be printed.

Mrs. DUNN, our newest member will spend the winter months on a trip around the world. She has promised an account of collecting in the areas she will visit. We are anxiously awaiting this.

Understand BOB SCHENK of the Witch Lake AGATE SHOP has made a pretty nice addition in the way of some verticle grinding wheels for his lapidary equipment. Bob reports a lot of people stopping at his shop. GOOD LUCK -----BOB.



We've seen the site of the Pre-Cambrian coal deposit, thanks to guide, BERNARD DOOLEY of Iron River. Course we almost didn't get there, did we Bernie?

EARL (CURLY) BRUNETT and daughter JILL, members from Grand Rapids, visited in July. Did a little collecting too.

FLOYD & HELEN MORTENSON continue to make news. They thought it would be nice to make a short cut to the North Shore of Lake Superior from the Mesabi Range. Guess they ended up in Finland. P.S. Contact Floyd or Helen on details of this short-cut for reference of where not to go to save time and mileage.

The ORVILLE FETHERS of ESCONI were Ishpeming visitors for a few days after the convention.

BUD BAMFORD has a real sturdy horizontal lap machine in the making. Better get a patent on it Bud. Looks real good.

MR. & MRS. C.M. STEPHENS and VAN VALKENBURGH of Northville, Mich. dropped in for a short visit on their way home from the convention. They were here on the MMS field trip in 1953.

Visited with Bill Blewett at the convention and Bill sends his greetings to his friends.

"ROCKIN ROUND" cont.

Enjoyed meeting ROSEMARY KLINKENBERG, editor of Rock Rustlers News, but didn't get to meet Hammerhead---shucks!

We bid welcome to our new members and we hope you enjoy our club. I guess probably ROY FITTS of Yarmouth, Maine, should take a prize as being the member farthest away. I understand Roy has some trading material.

Visited with AL HOLLER while in St. Paul and viewed his very nice display. NATE STUVETRO was a busy guy running between his Commercial booth and Fluorescent display, which was very interesting.

The 1956 LURE BOOK is carrying an article "Calling all Rockhounds" by Werner Vietzke. It is a very nice article, Werner.

Have you ween the CHERTY SIDERITE from the Volunteer Mine in Palmer? When cut some of it presents Senic views. This has wonderful prospects.

F L A S H ***BERNARD AND COLLEEN DOOLEY are rejoicing over the birth of a daughter, ERIN KATHLEEN, born Sept. 7, 1956. Rumors have it that proud papa is already starting a collection for her. Congratulations!

The Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club has donated a large group of minerals to the HIAVATHA SPORTSMEN CLUB at Engadine, Mich. to be used in their Nature study museum.

LEO GAYAN of Ironwood and CHARLIE MARKHAM of Houghton were very generous to offer the Ishp. Club the use of some of their specimens for the St. Paul display. Thanks a lot fellows.

Middle Aislers

WEDDING BELLS

Mrs. Irene Lutes, Associate editor of the Jaspilite and Mr. Charles R. Krebs, Field Consultant for Elkhart University, were recently married in Ish. Mr.&Mrs. Krebs will reside in Saginaw, Mich. However, we hope to see a lot of these twe in the future, as the U.P. is part of the territory in which Russ works. Good hunting on your many future trips Irene. We all join in wishing you two all the happiness in the world. We sure will miss you, especially when it's time to get out this paper.

Have \$150. OPENUS enlarger. #
Will consider trade for #
lapidary equipment. #
Bob Markert #

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MINERALS OF NORTHERN
MICHIGAN by THE
ISHPEMING ROCK &
MINERAL CLUB---
CLUB EXHIBIT



The Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Clubs display using Cliff Shaft Iron mine as a background for it's array of Northern Michigan minerals has been highly praised in the many club bulletins that have been published since the St. Paul convention.

Some clubs were of the opinion that this was a copper mine, which was an easy mistake to make, since we had both copper and iron specimen on display. We were careful not to use duplicates and only the best specimens were loaned to the committee by it's members.

Actual work on the display was done by R.K. Richards, Bob Schenk, Len Trebilcock, Len Stone, Bud Bamford, Champ Lemin, Bob & Marian Markert.

Minerals were donated by the above members as well as from the Hawes, Tapolas, Locher, Lutes, Gayan, Dooley, Judy Lemin, Dud Markert, Engstroms, Jenkins, Hytander, and our Museum.

The display was listed as one of the "most impressive" by the St. Paul Pioneer Press. It was set up in the window of the Mining Journal office in Ishpeming during the month of August, where it caused considerable comment and interest.

It shall be the topic of a feature story in "Cliffs News", a booklet published by the Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company.

ROCK AND MINERAL LORE
for 4 H CLUBS

The Marquette county 4 H leaders are attempting to include the study of rock and minerals in the program of these clubs and they would like to make it a state wide program.

It shall be necessary to start on a county level and the call is being made for help from members of local clubs such as our mineral club. Anyone desiring to render any assistance should contact Mel Nyquist of the Marq. County Agricultural Dept. at Marquette, Mich.

This is an excellent opportunity to help junior collectors in this and other areas.

OLD LANDMARK
in the Copper
Country destroyed
by fire.

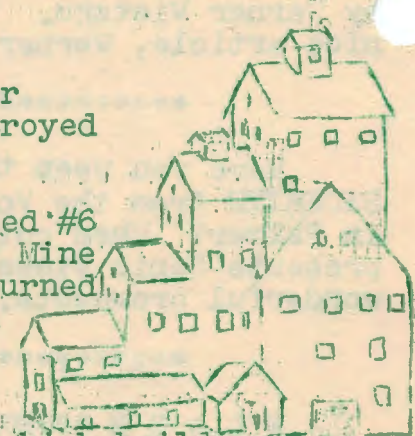
The many gabled #6
Quincy Copper Mine
shaft house burned
to the ground
this past
summer.

The 150' high building
resisted the efforts of 9 fire-
departments to save it.

The year 1956 brought to this
mine it's 100th anniversary.

The Quincy was an inclined
shaft mine dipping some 9,300'
almost 2 miles into the earth and
the Pewabic lode.

The Quincy was a popular
subject for all photographers
passing through this vicinity.



C. R. BAMFORD (Bud)
W. EMPIRE 437
Ishpeming, Mich.

FRED BENZIE, JR.
1837 Hewitt
Ishpeming, Mich.

EARL BRUNETT
Rt. 2
Grand Rapids, Mich.

JUDY BYE *
318 N. Sixth St.
Ishpeming, Mich.

FRANCES CALHOUN
313 High St.
Marquette, Mich.

EDWARD W. CAROLYN, Jr. *
110 W. Peck St.
Negaunee, Mich.

KEITH CAROLYN
110 W. Peck St.
Negaunee, Mich.

WILLIAM S. COOLEY
350 $\frac{1}{2}$ E. Ridge St.
Marquette, Mich.

ANGELA COOLEY
350 $\frac{1}{2}$ E. Ridge St.
Marquette, Mich.

GAIL DALLY *
425 W. Empire
Ishpeming, Mich.

BERNARD DOOLEY
218 Adams
Iron River, Mich.

MRS. CARL T. DUNN
9101 S. Damen Ave.
Chicago, 20, Ill.

ALBERT ENGSTROM
BARBARA ENGSTROM
2116 Jackson
Ishpeming, Mich.

ROY M. FITTS
39 E. Elm St.
Yarmouth, Maine

ROY FRANCAR
Box 115
Dale, Wisconsin

WALTER GRIES
411 E. Case St.
Negaunee, Mich.

MISS GLADYS HAMEY
511 N. Sixth St.
Ishpeming, Mich.

CHARLES HAWES
HETTIE HAWES
709 N. Main St.
Ishpeming, Mich.

ONNIE HUTANDER
537 Elm St.
Negaunee, Mich.

AUDUBON JENKINS
Deer Lake Loc.
Ishpeming, Mich.

IRENE KREBS
P.O. Box 432
Saginaw, Mich.

CARL LEMIN
JUDY LEMIN *
624 E. Division
Ishpeming, Mich.

PAUL LESAGE *
107 E. Euclid
Ishpeming, Mich.

WILLIAM LOCHER, Jr. *
West Ishpeming
Michigan

CHARLES R. MARKERT
MARIAN MARKERT
DUDLEY & SCOTT **
107 W. Ridge St.
Ishpeming, Mich.

SWANTE MERRILA
436 W. Empire
Ishpeming, Mich.

FLOYD MORTENSON
HELEN MORTENSON
69 West End
Pontiac, Mich.

ROBERT PAPE
7732 Auburn St.
Utica, Mich.

R.K. RICHARDS
522 Iron St.
Negaunee, Mich.

WILLIAM RICHARDS *
522 Iron
Negaunee, Mich.

ARTHUR ROBERTS
503 Snow St.
Negaunee, Mich.

ELIZABETH ROGERS
401 E. Vine St.
Ishpeming, Mich.

ROBERT SCHENK
MARY SCHENK
ROBERT SCHENK, Jr.*
Witch Lake, Mich.

CHARLES TAPOLA
Princeton, Mich.

LEWIS TREBILCOCK
LYLE TREBILCOCK
109 E. Division
Ishpeming, Mich.

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Treasurer, Bud
Bamford, would like
to be notified as
to any additions or
corrections to this
directory.

Charles R. Markert
107 W. Ridge St
I SHPEMING, MICH

William Richards
522 Iron St.
Negaunee, Mich.