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T H E



J A S P I L I T E

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of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
of the
ISHPEMING ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

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OFFICERS 1969

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Jaspilite--March 1, June 1, Sept. 1, and Dec. 1.

MEMBERSHIP: The Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club, Inc. is open to any one interested in the "Earth Sciences".

Initiation Fee	\$1.50
Husband and Wife	3.00
Adults	2.00
Junior	1.00

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OUR PURPOSE

To enjoy, to learn, to teach and to conserve
The rocks, the gems the fossils and ores

To collect, to admire, to brag and to show
The material we've found we'll trade for yours.

Season's
Greetings



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DON'T FORGET THE JANUARY 18th. meeting in the Gwinn High School!

WHAT IS IT ?

It's as old as man himself, yet as new as this moment or the next
 It's everchanging and somehow ever constant.
 It's stronger than any wall ever built.
 It overcomes politics and national barriers.
 It can't be blinded by strange customs or blocked by foreign languages.
 It has been written about and analyzed by wise men.
 Yet it never has been defined, and never will be.
 You can't see it or touch it, yet it is everywhere.
 It survives weakens and neglect, thrives on thoughtfulness.
 Its possibilities are infinite, its strength limitless.
 It's what makes man human, what makes life worth living.

IT'S FRIENDSHIP!!!

--The Triangle Tumbler



Sending Best Wishes

*All
Christmas*

The Season's heartiest greeting

with a wish

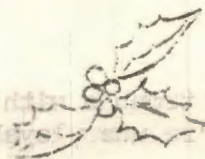
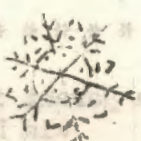
that's so sincere

Have a Merry Christmas

and many joys

in the coming year

*Bernice, Clara
and
Kare Smith*



The Irish Digest
The Irish Digest is a quarterly journal of Irish literature, history, and culture. It is published by the Irish Cultural Centre in New York City. The journal is a valuable resource for those interested in Irish culture and history. It features articles, poetry, and other works by Irish writers and artists. The Irish Digest is a must-read for anyone who loves Ireland.

YOUR PRESIDENT SPEAKS

As I sit here trying to decide what to write in this the last article as the President of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club, it is difficult to realize that two years have past since I was given the honor of directing the group. Many things pass through my mind, most of which give me a feeling of pride and satisfaction and a few of disappointment.

We have seen the beginning of the Annual Upper Peninsula Gem and Minerals shows, the first at Ishpeming and the second at Calumet. It is my sincere hope that these exhibits continue with each better than the last.

Our club has shown a healthy growth in membership and in variety of interests in the past two years. We have now a good number of younger people. They will be the foundation for further expansion and development of our group. We hope that in the future we can do more to develop their interest.

We have experienced many enjoyable and profitable field trips. Several new and different materials have been discovered and made available to our members, and we hope that more will appear in the future.

One of the disappointments of the past years has been the lack of development of our educational program. We have placed exhibits in many of the local schools and a few members have given talks to various groups, but I feel that more could be done. For instance, some more or less permanent displays to rotate at regular intervals among the schools and for use at other exhibits and perhaps a list of members available to talk on various subjects dealing with our hobby when requested. I also feel that we have neglected self-education, the opportunity for each of us to learn more about rocks and minerals and the techniques of collecting, cataloging and processing our material. Perhaps we should have discussion groups to investigate each phase depending on our special interests.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge of the friends that we have met and the new interests we have developed. Rocks and minerals are nice, but it is the warm friendships that are the real rewards of belonging to the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club.

I wish to thank everyone for their help in the past and hope that we can continue to give the same cooperation or even more to our new President Laurence Sain and the other officers of the club.

Bernie

The trouble with being a parent is that by the time you're experienced you're unemployable. via Hannah Lees in The Sat. Evening Post
(Readers Digest)

When you flee temptation, be sure you don't leave a forwarding address
--The Irish Digest via Readers Digest

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT ELECT

Dear Fellow Club Members:

Another year will soon be upon us and there is much to be done for the successful future of the Isipeming Rock and Mineral Club.

During the years that I have been a member of the Club, we have had presiding officers who have worked hard and faithfully for the benefit of the Club. Our present President and his supporting Officers have labored diligently to strengthen the club and have endeavored in every way to make the meetings interesting and educational. Every effort has been made to make the Jaspilite a valuable and worthwhile publication. They should be commended for these endeavors and for their achievements which are too numerous to mention. However each Club member should ask himself or herself, "What have I done to assist them?"

The only way that a Club can be successful is to have the active participation of its membership. We need ideas and suggestions and workers to see that they are carried to completion. Our Club can be no better than its membership desires!

There are a number of positions to be filled for the coming year. Please, don't let them go unfilled! Offer your services! BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER!

As your President for 1970 I pledge myself to do everything in my power to make our Club what our membership desires. In order to carry out such a pledge I need your assistance and whole-hearted support. In other words, WE NEED YOU!

My wife and I wish to extend our sincere best wishes to all of you for a Happy Holiday Season and a Successful and Enjoyable 1970.

Sincerely,

Laurence (Larry) W. Sain
President Elect for 1970

Do you know the difference between a SECTION and a LIMB CAST? It seems some people call a specimen by either name, not realizing there is a difference.

A LIMB CAST occurs when a limb decays or was destroyed, and the void filled with agate or some other material, but was cast in the form of the original limb.

A LIMB SECTION is simply a section of a limb that is either opalized or agatized, in other words, petrified.

---Mineralscoop via
The Crystal Gazette

"HELP WANTED"

by Edith Anderson

As our Club has been fortunate in having more people interested in joining, we are becoming aware of their interest in learning more of the basic facts about rocks and lapidary.

Many of our new members are young students and could be a nucleus of a Junior group. Haven't we some member who would enjoy guiding these young people in our hobby? The results could be very rewarding in knowing you have helped some young person become a better citizen because of the study and learning about the different rock and mineral formations.

Many of our not so young new members would also like help in collecting, identifying, cutting and polishing the rocks and minerals they have gathered.

Perhaps some of our older members would like to volunteer to meet with these interested people and help them to become better acquainted and receive information that will make them happy members. This can be termed as Education within our Club. Members would gain by their membership and being in a smaller group would ask questions and learn more about the hobby than can be done at a regular meeting. This information would benefit in many fields and would create a deeper interest in the club.

via - The Pyriter

Temper destroys more homes than termites.

Life started from a cell, and if justice is done a lot of it is going to end there.

Five minutes of constructive thinking will do more than a whole night of wishing.

via Rock Lore *****

A mistake at least proves somebody stopped talking long enough to do something.

If you clutter up your mind with little things, will there be any room left for the big things?

The Fossil hunters prayer:

Dear Lord,

Let me find a fossil so big, so perfect, and so rare that I will not have to exaggerate, but can stick strictly to the truth whenever I talk about it. Amen

Fulton Rockhounds

IR21D MEETING, Nov. 9, 1969--1:30 P.M., Neg. Grade School

37 members and 5 guests were present.

Guests were introduced and welcomed.

The minutes of the last board meeting were read and approved on motion by Ray Anderson, seconded by John Jacobson.

The treasurer's report was accepted on motion by Laurence Sain, seconded by Ray Anderson.

Standing committees:

Program:

The December meeting will be a Christams dinner and party.

Vernon Miljour and Pat Demis offered to show slides taken during their trip to South Dakota at one of our 1970 spring meetings.

Membership:

Discussion on involvement of K. I. Sawyer in our meetings--how can we interest them?

Kenneth Ivio, our newest member was introduced.

Budget and Finance:

Ray Anderson and Rufus Maynard were appointed to the auditing committee.

Special committees:

Christmas dinner: Prices for smooorgasbord. were posted, as choice one, choice two, a pasty dinner with salads and desserts to be brought in, choice 3, a planned pot luck, and 4 was any other.

Those present were asked to write their 1st and 2nd choice along with their name on a slip of paper. These would be compiled and the wishes of the majority would be followed.

Old Business:

President Bernie Smith showed the group the plaque he accepted for the club at the recent Ishpeming Chamber of Commerce dinner given in appreciation to all local service clubs.

The slate of officers for 1970 were presented by Bob Richards and he moved that the slate be accepted as read, seconded by Bob Markert.

Elected were:

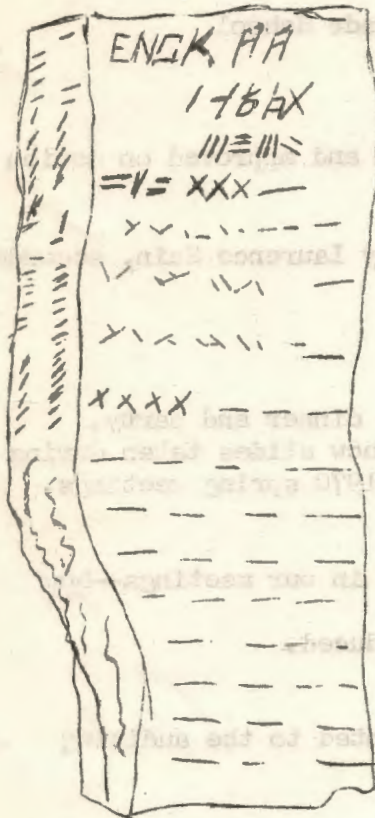
Pres.: L.W. Sain	Sec..... Pat Elie
1st V.P. V. Miljour	Cor. Sec....Mamie Jarvi
2nd V.P. O. Sain	Treas.....Doris Hughes

Librarian..Nelson's	Ed. of Jaspiliter.....
Ed.-Jaspelite..C. Smith	Curator.....
Co-ed..C. Miljour	Pub. Ch.....

E. Anderson
Bob Markert
Bob Richards

A round of applause was given the 1969 officers.

Meeting adjourned to enjoy a panel discussion by Bernie Smith, Bob Richards, Elmer Jarvi, and Bob Markert.



KENSINGTON RUNE STONE

A stone called the Kensington Rune Stone found in southwestern Minnesota, if genuine (and there seems strong likelihood that it is), was carved by warriors sent by the Swedish king Magnus Erickson in 1354 to find a Greenland Colony of his which, driven off by the Eskimos, had presumably moved west to the main continent of America. The translation of the stone reads--

"(We are) 8 Goths and 22 Norwegians on (an) exploration journey from Vinland through the west. We had camp (by a lake with) 2 skerries one day's journey north from this stone. We were (out) and fished one day. After we came home (we) found 10 men red with blood and dead. A V M save (us) from evil!"

On the edge of the stone was this added message: "We have 10 men by the sea to look after our ships, 14 days journey from this island. (In the) year (of our lord) 1362.

Above is a facsimile of the Kensington Rune Stone. It is 36 inches long, 15 inches wide, 5 1/2 inches thick and weighs 230 pounds. It was found by a Swedish farmer, Olaf Ohman, in 1898, on his farm in Kensington, Minnesota. The inscription is dated 1362 or 130 years before Columbus discovered America. Some scholars have regarded the stone a forgery, while others have defended it as genuine. The rune stone is still a subject of controversey. It is in the possession of the Alexandria, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. A replica appears on exhibit in the National Museum in Washington, D. C.

Domenica Carlyon

P.S. I have read recently where the scientists of the Smithsonian have verified the stone as being genuine.

CHRISTMAS WEALTH

Once more it is the time of year	Life brings us other wealth, that's
To send our greetings of good cheer.	true.
To pause and think as this year ends	Material gains both great and few.
How rich we are in wealth and friends.	Wealth of health and wealth of joy,
	And work, our talents to employ .

But all the wealth that life can give
 Would worthless be, unless we live
 And daily share the wealth life sends
 With the greatest wealth, "The Wealth of Friends".

Mrs. E.W. Carlyon, Jr.

Via---The Triangle Tumbler

A PLEASANT DAY ON THE ROCK PILES

by Mrs. Kenneth Albright

Remember when you first started rock collecting? How about the first time you guided others on their first rock hound adventure?

Desiring to show the relatives a good time without spending money our little family of my husband and I and our three daughters decided to take them rock hounding. Both sets of grandmas and grandpas were here from the big city and rock hounding sounded as exciting to them as looking at cement. Having been out twice before, we felt well qualified to take others out. We felt secure with a rock hound map from Marlert's Rock Shop and a Rocks and Minerals handbook.

We talked excitedly as we drove toward the Michigan Gold Mine ruins, yet somehow we ended up at the Blueberry Mine. (We learned to look at the map even if we think we know the way.) All the grandparents tried to sooth our disapointment as the girls complained. We did get to the Old Gold Mine though and enjoyed looking for the pyrite. The one with the biggest specimen was a winner. Two problems were very apparent. One was the mosquitoes trying to hoard the gold; the other, grandma on top of the pile afraid to come down. Each step was on loose gravel. I climbed up to her and firmly held her arm balancing us both and wondering what would happen if we both fell.

On to the Champion Mine. We told them this would be similar to Heaven and streets of gold, only this would be silver. When we arrived grandpa laughed softly for quite a while. I think he was experiencing a little of the joy of the bright shining, beautiful place Heaven must be as he looks forward to going there someday. We walked around and lost all track to time and just enjoyed the beautiful hematite, quartz and many more minerals we could not identify. Then we couldn't find one grandma and a child until we walked toward an old mine building. They were scurrying around picking up pieces of anything that looked interesting hoping at least something would be valuable antique. (I had at least hoped they would learn something about rocks!)

We went to Jasper Knob to enjoy the beautiful gemstone as well as the view of Ishpeming. We all made it up there except for the grandma who was still disapointed over leaving her antique collection behind.

We were slightly worn and hungry yet we all had a sense of awe and wonder over the days activities.

WANTED!!!

Betty Crocker Coupons for the Scholarship fund and Commemorative Stamps for "Food For the Hungry Children of the World! Bring them with you, give to Marion Markert at our next meeting.

"The World is full of Willing people--those who are willing to work and those who are willing to let them." via- The Beachcomber

MIDWEST FIELD TRIP CONVENTION - 1969 - MURDO, S.D.

by Vern and Chris Miljour

The trip actually began with our reading about the field trip convention in the Lapidary Journal and in the Jaspilite. Chris and I talked it over and became more and more enthusiastic. We mentioned our idea to Theresa and Pat Bemis and found that they were considering combining their California trip with the Murdo trip.

Since none of the older members of the club were planning to attend the convention, Pat and I were appointed official delegates to the convention. Chris and Theresa were appointed alternate delegates. When the trip started at 8:00 A.M., Sunday, June 8, there were seven in the party going to Murdo; the four adults plus Bill and Donna Bemis, and Dave Miljour.

We arrived in Moose Lake, Minn. at 4:00 P.M. and set up camp in the town park. The facilities available were: electrical and sewer hookup, hot water, hot showers (.25), swimming and rock hunting. We hunted agates shortly after and found some. Bright and early Monday we were again out looking for agates. We looked in 5 different places and had poor to good luck. In all we collected 15 to 20 lbs. of agate.

The next day, Tuesday, June 10, we were on our way again. We made one very interesting stop at Rockville, Minn. to view the Rockville Granite Quarry. This Quarry has been in operation about 40 years. The security at the quarry is rather loose so we were able to observe the operation from a near vantage point.

We arrived in Pipestone, Minn and set up camp in a private campground. Shortly after, we went to the Pipestone National Monument. We took the self-guided tour and at two places the Indians are still working the ground for catlinite; the material used in making peace pipes. The Indians have to remove about 10 feet of quartzite to get at an 18 in. seam of catlinite.

During the night, it rained and then the wind blew. The morning brought clearing weather, and we were on our way by 9:40 A.M. Wednesday. We made stops at the Corn Palace at Mitchell, S.D. and at the Old West Museum, Chamberlain, S.D. There were petrified wood chips to be found in the Museum parking lot. We arrived at Murdo at 5:30 P.M. and were given a campsite on the school lawn. Pat and I had been told to contact Mr. Leo Yanasak who is in charge of Conventions for the Midwest Federation. We could not locate Mr. Yanasak after several trips to his motel. After several attempts, we finally picked up our registration. Thursday morning brought good weather, meetings, rock trading and rock hunting. Pat and I met several Federation officers, including June Zaitner, and finally met Leo Yanasak. We attended the business meeting which was attended by some 130 delegates and officers from at least 12 states.

At the meeting, we presented the official invitation of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club to host the 1972 Field Trip Convention. Several delegates spoke in favor of our hosting the convention and our invitation was accepted without opposition. cont.--

Murdo-S.D.

While delegates were attending the business meeting, the non-delegates had the opportunity to go on a field trip to one of the local ranches. They were successful and came back with some interesting items, including some sharks teeth found by Billy Bemis.

Friday, June 13, began cold and nasty, at 7:00 A.M., we boarded one of 40 school buses used to transport rock hounds to the hunting areas. We were taken to the Interior beds because road conditions made it impossible to hunt the Weta beds. Our guides were a very fine couple, George and Lillian Fuchs, from Mitchell, S. D. This field trip turned out rather badly because the cold rain got serious and we returned to Murdo in the rain with as many pounds of "gumbo" as we had rocks. Our bus driver was, a first for me, a woman. None of the jokes about a woman driver applied to her. In Murdo everyone congregated in the gym and trading was started.

The weather cleared by 4:00 P.M. and everything was wonderful for the outdoor barbeque. The guests of honor were Governor and Mrs. Farrar, of South Dakota. The Murdo Lions Club served the 3000 guests in about one hour. 1200 lbs. of beef were served.

The official rock swap began immediately after everyone was through eating. Tables were set up in the gym and each one displayed his wares. I traded away some pieces of kona, jaspilite and banded magnetite and received several nice pieces.

Saturday broke cold and clear. We boarded a different bus and found the Fuchs again as our guides. We found the Interior beds messy but huntable. We found many beautiful pieces of prairie agate, various jaspers, bubble gum agate, petrified wood, pudding stone, and Fairburn agates. Billy Bemis found two Fairburns, Pat Bemis found 3 and I found two. One of mine was a bragging piece. A Mr. Monroe found a small but beautiful Fairburn. The evening was spent with a live and a silent auction. My donation was a piece of phenocryst which went for over \$2.00. I bid on several pieces but came out with nothing of any consequence.

One sidelight on the silent auction was a small boy who wanted a nice Lake Superior Agate. He made the initial bid of .25 on the agate and each time somebody would jump bid the stone he would erase the new bid. In the end he picked up the agate and waited for the bidding to end and then paid his quarter.

Sunday, June 15 broke as a beautiful day. The Bemis and Miljours went their separate ways. We went to Teepee Canon which is located on U. S. 16 about 8 miles east of the Wyoming border. There was a collection fee for this area. The owners (two men from Custer, S. D.) had two bulldozers operating to expose the layer of agate which was under several feet of overburden. We collected several pieces, then checked out and left.

MurdO, S.D

On our return trip we collected mica and quartz near Keystone, S. D.; Jaspers near Farmingdale, S. D.; interesting rocks near Ironton, Minn. and agates near Cloquet, Minn. We arrived home at 7:00 P.M. Wednesday, June 18, knowing full well that we were going on a longer trip thru the west beginning on July 14. More about the second trip at a later date.

The locations of the various places we visited are as follows:
Interior Beds: Starting at the town of Interior, S. D., go west on S. D. 40 for about 2 miles to the end of the blacktop, continue along S. D. 40 for 5 more miles. The beds are on the right. They extend for about a mile along the highway. There are three pairs of outhouses on the beds. The left (south) side is private property.

Farmingdale Beds: Continuing on U.S. 40 from Interior Beds for about 45 miles to a public road which runs directly south. The sign on the road says Flier Hereford Ranch. Take this road for 7 miles plus or minus one tenth mile and park off the road just after making a sharp right turn. Hunt north and west of the parking area. An alternate route would be to start at Rapid City and go Southwest on S. D. 40 for about 25 miles. A sign along the railroad tells you that you are in Farmingdale. Continue for about 2 more miles and you come to the Flier Hereford Ranch sign.

DID YOU KNOW THAT

In Florida, there is a most unique monument? It is made up of over fifteen-hundred different kinds of stones from every one of our United States and twenty-one foreign countries. It took two years to build, and it is beautiful display of outstanding rocks, minerals, and fossils. The monument was dedicated on March 28, 1943. The civic and community organizations pooled their efforts, abilities, and finances to make this a thing of beauty. It is called the "MONUMENT OF STONES," and is located in Lake Front Park, Kissimmee, Florida.

Mable Watrous
via The Red Skins Stone News

A SHORT COURSE IN GOOD HUMAN RELATIONS....from the Saginaw Hub

- The six most important words are: "I admit I made a mistake."
- The five most important words are: "I am proud of you."
- The four most important words are: "What is your opinion?"
- The three most important words are: "If you please."
- The two most important words are: "Thank you."
- The least important word is: "I"
- The most important word is: "We" via Mich. Gem News

If your efforts are criticized, you must have done something worth while.

LETTER FROM JIM AND FERN WHITE

(We had to share this wonderful letter with you)

I am writing you to tell you that I failed to get my article done in time for this issue.

It may be that some of the events of our trip may compensate for my tardiness.

We left Marquette on Nov. the 8th, as planned. We drove to Plainfield, Ill. the first day. When we were settled in our motel we called our friends in Joliet, Ill. They came over and took us on a tour of Joliet. We were thoroughly surprised at the size of that city. It was beautiful at night. We ended up with pie and coffee.

We left the next morning in lovely weather. We stopped in Lubbock, Texas to visit our grand-daughters. As Fern wasn't feeling too well, we stayed there for 2 1/2 days.

Our next stop was a twenty six mile drive through the painted desert and petrified forest national parks. This was a rewarding detour. The painted desert is a vast expanse of multi colored sand, waste land, gullies and mounds. It was flanked in the far background by a range of snow capped mountains. While standing on the edge of this vast desert, looking at the many colored sands doing their bit in the great formations, I felt minutely small. I thought "How great Thou Art".

The petrified forest is equally appalling. It may be more so to rock hounds. The many pieces of petrified logs, trees and stumps, that had turned to jasper, agate and quartz.

We saw a hill formation, that erosion had shaped to look like a battleship. It was called Battle Ship Hill. The petrified logs sticking out made it very realistic. We had our binoculars, so we looked down one valley of petrified wood, and could see practically any color of stone you could imagine.

A rock hound heaven, well I guess, but you couldn't pick up a piece in the park. It sure was a temptation to Fern.

After leaving the petrified forest, we detoured 12 miles to the Great Meteor Crater, which is on the way to Flagstaff. We didn't realize what a gigantic thing it was. The hole was 4150 feet across. There was enough room on the floor of the crater to play 20 foot ball games. The crater stood alone in 1930's as the only site on earth known to have been caused by celestial collision. The earth is now known to be scarred by many impact collision sites. This crater has been of value to our astronauts and astrogeologists in their preparation of landing on the moon. Of course, I couldn't write about this great phenomenon without mentioning the superstitious connected with it. It is said that Navajo and Hopi Indians believed it to be some sort of a god or Meteorite God. We may say, this theory seems to be supported by two things-- First, although the Indians lived and hunted on the crater for many

cont.

LETTER cont.

years there is no evidence that they ever used meteorite fragments from which excellent weapons could have been fashioned. Secondly, Meteorites have been found in special cists throughout the entire area, along with known religious items. Even today the Hopi Indians travel many extra miles to gather white sand from the bottom of this crater to be used in religious purposes.

The meteoritic mass that struck, forming the Great Meteor Crater was 9 o/o iron, 7 o/o nickel and 1 o/o trace elements.

We could have spent much more time here, but it was getting late and we didn't have a place to sleep yet. Maybe I should say that the place closed up also. We stayed at Flagstaff that night and went into Calif. the next day.

When we arrived at Barstow, Fern saw the Calico Ghost town sign so in we went. It has a very interesting history also; It was an old silver mine in the 1800's. We were so interested that we again had to stay at a town called Mojave in the desert, afterwards we were glad we did. It was a suprise and a pleasant contrast to what we expected.

The above is a quick synopsis of our trip and the reason I didn't get my article finished.

Give our regards to the Club and keep a share for you and Bernie.

Jim and Fern White.

HELPFUL TIPS

For field tripper in areas with no water, carry a can of shaving cream (push button type) for cleaning hands. A squirt, washing notion of the hands and wipe off. Presto. Clean hands.

To tell the difference between Amber and plastic---place the stone in a saturated salt solution. Amber floats.

via the Crystal Gazette and
crystall Cluster

A lump of amber found in Cliftwood, N. J. contains the worlds oldest ants. They have been described as 'the real missing link' in the evolution of insects. The ants are a hundred million years old; 40 million years older than any previously known.

-The Rockette, via the Triangel Tumbler

To make sure that jewelry displayed in a case does not tarnish, display it on a cloth or paper that has been sprayed with chlorophyll.

---via Triangel Tumbler

A WEEK IN KEWEENAW LAND
(A Rockhound's Paradise) by - L. Sain

After a summer which brought our Granddaughter to us for a long awaited visit which we enjoyed very much, but which was marred by the fact that there was much illness in the family and we were unable to spend much time indoctrinating her into the fun of rockhounding, Olive and I finally set out with our trailer on August 25th for a week of rockhounding in the Keweenaw Peninsula.

We parked our trailer on the side of the road on the way to the Gratiot River mouth and after a quick lunch were off with the Jeep for the beach. When we arrived on the beach we discovered some fellow rockhounds from downstate in difficulty. When they had changed clothes to allow them to wade the surf in search of agates, thomsonites, and other beauties, they had inadvertently locked the keys to their car in the trunk. Having had a similar experience sometime previously we were able to assist them by going through the back seat to retrieve them. Needless to say they were very appreciative of our efforts and soon they as well as we were on the beach enjoying ourselves.

After an enjoyable afternoon of picking, choosing, and selecting we returned to the trailer with a considerable amount of loot, nothing spectacular but beautiful agates and thomsonites. When we returned to the trailer we discovered that some of our lights weren't working and neither was the refrigerator. After numerous attempts to remedy the situation to no avail we purchased ice to preserve our food and decided to drive to Hurley, Wisconsin the following day for repairs. We arrived in Hurley about noon and spent most of the day waiting to have repairs made. Some were made ourselves while waiting for a repairman, mainly because of a woman's inquisitiveness and intuition.

We left Hurley about five o'clock expecting to stay at the Porcupine Mountain State Park. As it was filled with vacationers we parked in a Trailer Court at Union River Camp Grounds which was a very pleasant place to stay. After a hurried evening meal we went down to the beach to try our luck but due to the accessibility of the beach and the falling light we were unsuccessful here at Union Bay. In spite of the darkness falling we drove to the end of the road on top of the mountain and then back to camp for the night.

After a peaceful night's sleep with everything working we again headed into the Keweenaw Peninsula and hit the beach again that afternoon at the Gratiot River Mouth. The lake was extremely rough but Olive was able to find some very nice agates and I also found a few. These were larger than the ones found the day before. It seems that when the lake is rough it is more difficult to find thomsonites, as a result we found very few of them that afternoon.

During the week we also spent two days on the beach at High Rock Bay where we picked many of the small round agates which had been washed out of the matrix. They vary in size from that of a very small pea up to a good sized marble. They also vary in color from almost a translucent chalcedony through milky white to a deep red. I even found one that

cont.

A Week in Keweenaw Land---

was lavender. Each has eyes on it and seem to stand out against the other rocks thus making it easy to recognize them. They make beautiful tie tacks and bracelets when tumble polished because of their daintiness, some looking like small pearls. Most of them require very little tumbling.

Another day was spent at the Delaware Mine dump and Lookout Mountain. We met a very interesting character at the Delaware. He was formerly a resident of the area having left the Copper Country in 1917 to seek his fortune in the Detroit area. He comes back in the summers to live in one of the old mining houses at the foot of the dump. He is a musician and said, "Believe it or not but I've got a piano in that old shack down there." He appeared to be very elderly with long white hair and a full white beard. He talked about the Copper Country in the days of his youth. He told of the strife that occurred during the great Copper Country Strike during the early 1900's. Now he spends most of his time searching the mine dump for datolite and copper and playing his piano. His daughter checks up on him regularly and takes him back to Detroit for the winter, but he still has the Copper Country in his blood.

While here we visited Jackson's Rock Shop across the highway from the mine dump in one of the old mining homes. Here we were treated to the opportunity to view one of the most beautiful collections of datolite that one could ask to see anywhere. Mr. Jackson also showed us some specimens that he had found this summer that when they are cut and polished will be added to his collection. He had several nodules the size of hen's eggs plus one that weighed about two pounds. They were all beautiful but the large piece appeared to have several colors and copper in it. He has not decided as yet as to how it should be cut.

At Lookout Mountain we discovered much evidence that many rock hounds had been searching for thomsonites. The area was scarred in many places. We did some highgrading and some digging and brought back quite a few thomsonite nodules. Most of them were small we were quite pleased with our day's loot which included some nice copper and prehenite specimens from the Delaware as well.

Olive is not only a rockhound but a berry picker as well. While I had been searching the dump she discovered beautiful Choke Cherries and picked about six or eight quarts to be brought home to be made into jelly. Sometimes it is difficult to tell which she likes to do best.

We also stopped at Bill-Laes Rock Shop in Mohawk where he showed us a beautiful specimen of Mohawkite. He said that it was a piece from a six hundred pound specimen that he had found that summer. He plans that it shall have a prominent setting in his rock shop in the near future.

We returned home on Labor Day after a very enjoyable week with memories that we can treasure throughout the winter while we cut and polish the rocks that we brought back and dream of the future trips next summer.

cont.--

A Week in Keweenaw Land----

We did miss our friends, Edith and Ray Anderson, who usually accompany us on such trips. This time they were unable to go as Ray was in the hospital and Edith was recuperating from major surgery several months previously.

HOSTESSES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Jan. Claris Smith

Feb. Luella Reidy
Helen Nelson

March Edith Anderson

April Teresa Benis

May Momie Jarvi

Refreshments may be bought or homemade. All Expenses are paid to the hostesses from the collection plate, remaining cash to be given to Doris Hughes, Club Treasurer.

Nov. 11, 1969
Mnastique

Dear Mr. White:

Janet and I enjoyed reading your article on the stone. I'm sure the rest of the Sini family will enjoy it as well. Keep up the good work. I'm sure you will find enjoyment in gathering information on Silver and Limestone Mts.

Yours truly
Erwin Sini

(Ed. note: I'm sure all of us enjoyed Jim's article and we are looking forward to his next article in the March issue, if he has time to finish and still have fun on his vacation. A sincere thank you for all your contributions! Claris)

DON'T FORGET --- DUES ARE DUE-----APRIL 1.

Psychiatry is the art of teaching people how to stand on their own feet while reclining on couches.

RUNES

From--- Merit Students Encyclopedia

by Mario A. Pei

Sent in by Mrs. Carlyon Jr.

The characters used in an ancient Germanic system of writing found mainly in Scandinavia and England. The name comes from an old English word meaning secret or mystery. The original runic alphabet had 24 letters, consisting mostly of straight lines arranged in various patterns. It was especially suitable for carving on wood. The runic alphabet was often called futhork or futhorc, after its first 6 letters, which are f, u, th, a (or O), r, and k (or c). It was increased to 33 letters in England, but was decreased to 16 letters in Scandinavia. Runic inscriptions have been found not only on stones, but also on many everyday objects, including, arms, coins, and pieces of jewelry.

Runes were in existence by the 2nd or 3rd century a.d. They were probably developed by Teutonic peoples from a version of the Etruscan alphabet used in the eastern Alps. The form of the letters of the runic alphabet was influenced by the handwritten forms of the Greek and Latin alphabets. The oldest surviving runic inscriptions were found in Denmark and date from the middle of the 3rd century a.d. The Goths were using runes by the beginning of the 4th century a.d.

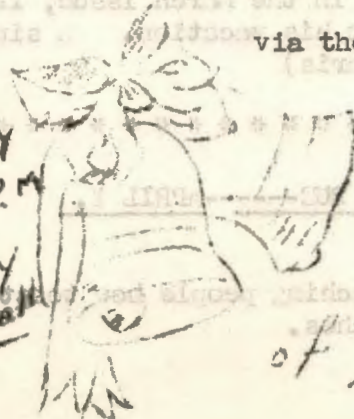
The runic alphabet spread rapidly throughout Western Europe, and runic manuscripts have been found in both England and Scandinavia. Runes were believed to possess magical powers. According to an old Norse legend, the god Odin rejuvenated himself by lifting stones containing runic inscriptions. Because of its magical connotations the runic system of writing was opposed by Christian missionaries, who regarded it as a mark of paganism. It had generally disappeared from use by the end of the Middle Ages, although some areas in rural Sweden continued to employ it almost until modern times.

TIPS ON SAWING GEODES---or agate filled nodules, first look for the largest dome on the specimen. This dome is the upright position when the specimen is forming. Saw through this largest dome and it is likely you will expose the best "picture" or surface. If the specimen is elongated or egg shaped, saw lengthwise in order to obtain the best exposure.

via the Rocklicker

See you at
the Christmas
dinner and party
Dec. 14, 4 P.M.

chocolay
town hall



Happy New
Year
of good collecting.

BLUE QUARTZ

-by Edith Anderson

On October 12, fifteen cars lined up at the meeting place on the corner of 480 and 35 and at 1 o'clock, followed our leader Bob Markert thru Palmer and out into what was new country to some of us. Part of this drive led through the acres of land used by the Empire Mine for their waste water reclamation. High ridges are built up for roads and the spaces below are used to fill with water and tailings.

It was on one of those ridges we parked by a large rock formation, containing blue quartz and feldspar.

It didn't take these hardy rockhounds long to pile out of their cars and get started. It was a cold, nasty, wet day, but thank goodness for raincoats and boots. The hill was soon ringing with the sound of hammers and picks plus the good-natured laughter and fun only a crew of rockhounds can make.

The rock was easy to pick up loose also, so everyone filled their bags and cars, as we were told that this was the one and only trip, as this area would be off limits after this date.

We were fortunate that our leader had some of the rock cut and polished and mounted so we knew it was really worthwhile.

It came in shades of blue from the very dark to light and had some wavy, spotted inclusions. The very lucky collectors had some with pink and orange shades.

It was a good trip and we thank our leader and hope he has some more goodies to explore next spring. Sorry our President had to miss the trip.

"THE ISHPEMING ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB AND V. F. W. PROJECT"

The IshpeMING Rock and Mineral Club, Inc. has joined the V. F. W. on a project of interest for Veterans in the Veterans Hospital in Iron Mountain, Michigan.

The club learned that certain rehabilitation programs involving lapidary was being started at the Veterans Hospital under the guidance of a former IshpeMING resident, Lawrence Robare, who is chief of Recreation at the Hospital.

An urgent plea for cutting material (gemstones) was sounded at one of the Rock and Mineral Club's meetings.

Many club members responded to the plea with about 20 pounds of slabbed gem material and 80 pounds of rough gem material being donated.

The material collected for V. A. Hospital was Kona Dolomite, Jaspilite, Banded Magnetite, Blue Quartz, Jasper Bacon-from Marquette County and the following material from out of State. Moss agate from Montana (cont.)

The Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club and V. F. W. Project,--cont.

and Mexico, Plum Agate from Oregon and Mexico, Tiger Eye from Africa, Obsidian from Utah and Mexico, Turritella Agate from Wyoming, and Petrified Wood from many locations.

These gemstones were delivered to Mr. Robare of the Veterans Hospital in Iron Mountain by Mr. William Johnson, Deputy V. A. V. S. Representative V. F. W. James Dawson, V. A. Volunteer Service Representative V. F. W., and Audobon Jenkins of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club, Inc.

--by Bob Markert

CHRYSOPRASE

VIA Rock Riva Gem and Mineral Soc.

Chryso-prase is a green chalcedony, one of the quartz group, often used as a semiprecious gemstone. Once upon a time, it was highly prized as a gem by Queen Victoria of England. Its beauty is best shown when it is cut and polished as a cabochon. A cabochon has a smoothly rounded top (no points or facets) on a flat base, round or oval, so that it fits into a ring, brooch, or pendant.

Chryso-prase was called mother-of-emerald, at one time, since it was supposed (wrongly) to be the mother rock of this green, precious stone.

Chryso-prase is found chiefly in California and in Germany. In chryso-prase, the chalcedony is colored its beautiful green by nickel oxide. The name is a greek word meaning golden-green.

You may not have heard of chryso-prase before. Its name may sound difficult and strange to you. Yet it has been held in high regard for centuries as is shown by the fact that it is listed in the Bible with other precious stones in the description of the heavenly city of gold, the New Jerusalem.

The true color of a mineral is sometimes not seen until it is reduced to a powder. The most familiar example is hematite, which when powdered, becomes a typical Indian red color. So called because the American Indian used it to obtain material for his war paint.

via Niagara Ledger

From the Blue Ridge Gem:

"Thinking", said the little boy, "is when your mouth stays shut and your head keeps on talking."

BIG SUMMER ISLAND SCIENCE CAMP

BY Luella M. Reidy

I spent over two weeks working as a cook on Big Summer Island this past July. Big Summer Island is in Lake Michigan, three miles south from State Park, Fayette, Michigan and twenty miles east from Escanaba.

I traveled by car from Ishpeming to Fairport, Mich. where an old Navy Carrier boat was docked waiting to take us to the island. It was a beautiful, hot, sunny, Sunday afternoon on July, 13th. The ride across was very smooth and interesting. In no time we docked at the island which is very rocky and full of boulders. Camp Director, Dan Stevens was there to meet me.

The camp consists of a large kitchen and dining hall combined, called Stevens Hall. There are two dorm halls for the students. A large laboratory, a large work shop for the electric plant and for repair men and several cottages for college professors and high school teachers, who teach the students all the fields of Science. The students are all high school students. The youngest high school student was twelve years old and he was studying the weather. He was very wise, I learned a lot from him. The professors and teachers were from the Lower Peninsula, Wisconsin, Ohio and Iowa. I had to cook for 50 or 60 people. There were 20 students, ten teachers, and the wives and families of these professors and teachers. There were always some guests and extra help.

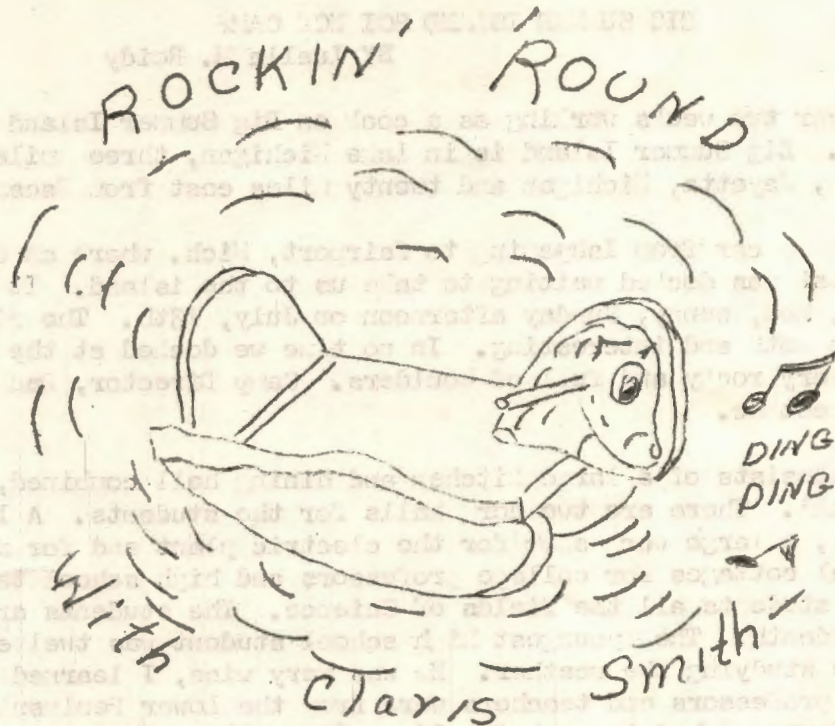
This camp started on a shoe string two years ago. It is growing larger each year. Kresge Foundation gave a big donation this year, so a new mess hall, visitors lodge and meeting hall were in the process of being built. The new kitchen will have all the new modern conveniences, not the make-shift kind that I had to contend with. It was all fun though.

There were students of all races and creeds. They were learning the science of wildlife, vegetation, soil, weather, air, minerals and gems, insects, animals, plant life and trees.

We had visitors from several colleges. One in particular was the head professor from Mich. Tech. They were very interested in the work carried on at the Island. So this coming summer they are going to send a professor and students, besides giving a large donation.

It was a good experience for me and very interesting. The work was hard but worth it in every way. I did all the baking and cooking with help of two high school students, who were very good. We never knew how many we would have for a meal but we were prepared. What really got me is when the fungus got in my cookies or cake. When I went to bed at night, I was all in, but I surely could sleep good, with all the fresh air and was up at 6:30 A. M., ready to go again. I would have stayed all summer, but I fell on a rock and hit my head.

The space agency is already scheduling more missions to the moon -- or, as they say in Houston, back to the old rock pile. via the Geode



Our thoughts will be with Doris Hughes and her son Mike who will be spending their Christmas vacation in Arizona with her daughter, Mary Jane Coffee. Have a wonderful trip and bring lots of Arizona rocks back with you!

We were told that Irene Lutes spent Thanksgiving with her sister in Florida.

Fern and Jim White are now in Pismo Beach after a very enjoyable trip through the South West.

Our son Stephen was home from school for the Thanksgiving vacation. It was so quiet and lonesome around here when he had to go back to school.

* **ATTENTION:** The January Club meeting will be held in the Gwinn High school. Jan. 18; Use the largest parking lot and the entrance furthest from the road. Hope to see a lot of you there!

Vernon J. Miljour and his wife received a scholarship last August to attend the farm-city conference in which he participated at Philmont Scout training center in Cimarron, N. M.

Mr. Miljour was given the scholarship for his leadership in Scouting, church, civic and other community activities.

Miljour, a teacher in the Gwinn public school system, has been Scoutmaster of Troop 314 -- sponsored by the Parents-Teacher Association -- for 10 years.

Rocking Round----

Virginia L. Long, 355 E. Hewitt Ave., Marq. was among 1560 students who received undergraduate and graduate degrees this fall as the result of their final scholastic work during the 1969 summer session of the University of Wisconsin.

Mrs. Long received her master of science degree in curriculum and instruction.

This space reserved to welcome the new members of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club. We are pleased to have you with us----

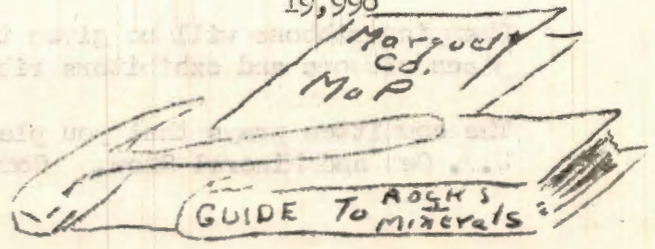
- Oscar Strand
- Kenneth Ivio
- Douglas Baribe
- William Meljour
- Clifford H. Tooker, Jr.

The number of articles received for the Jaspilite have been very encouraging and it was a pleasure to type them!

My most sincere thank you to all contributors, but don't stop now, we have another deadline for the March Bulletin. Keep your articles coming in, and I will do my best with the help of Bernard and the new co-editors. Claris

YOU AND I

Population of U. S.	153,000,000
Those over 65	41,000,000
Left to do the Work	112,000,000
Those under 21	54,000,000
Left to do the Work	58,000,000
Government Employed	25,000,000
Left to do the Work	33,000,000
In the armed forces	10,000,000
Left to do the Work	23,000,000
In state or city work	19,000,000
Left to do the Work	4,000,000
In hospitals or asylums	3,300,000
Left to do the Work	200,000
Burns who want work	19,998
Left to do the Work	
You and I -- and I'm getting tired.	



1970 U.P. Gem and Mineral Show

(We are sorry this came in too late to be in the front of this bulletin)

The Bay de Noc Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. at their last meeting voted to host the third annual U.P. Gem and Mineral show in Escanaba next summer.

The show will be held for 3 days, July 31 and August 1st and 2nd, 1970 in the 4 H exhibit building at the U.P. State Fair grounds, in Escanaba. It will be similar to the first two U.P. Shows.

Dealers for the show will be selected so that the materials in which they specialize will include rough and cut gemstones, minerals, fossils and supplies and will be as complete as possible.

There will be both competitive and non competitive exhibits of gems, minerals, fossils and jewelry. Other exhibits will include an avenue of giant specimens, fluorescent displays, and the economic minerals of the U.P.

There will also be working exhibits where the shaping and polishing of stones may be both watched and participated in.

Field trips are planned to local areas for fossils and minerals. Swappers will have a large area in which to swap rocks. Movies and slide programs will show gem cutting and mineral collecting for beginners and advanced hobbyists.

Refreshments will be served and door prizes will be given away.

The annual U.P. gem show was originated in 1967 when the then 7 clubs of the U.P. met at Ishpeming and decided that a large show which would be hosted by a different club each year would be good for the hobby and give the public a better opportunity to see some of the wonderful gems, minerals, fossils and jewelry.

The first show was held in 1968 at the St. John's school and was hosted by the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club Inc. There were many exhibits and working demonstrations, and six dealers from as far as Missouri were at the show to provide gems, minerals and related material to the rock hobbyists.

In 1969 the U.P. Show was held in the Armory at Calumet, being hosted by the Copper Country Club. There were nine dealers, many exhibits, and swapping and field trips were part of the show.

Champion ribbons will be given to the best of each class as well as place ribbons and exhibitors ribbons.

The committee prays that you plan to attend and participate in the 1970 U.P. Gem and Mineral Show. Committee names: Chairman --Al. H. Murray

Thomas Hughson
Albert H. Murray

Midwest Federation's NEWSLETTER



Published monthly except July & August as a Service to Member Clubs
Editor: Haydon Peterson, Route 5 - Box 229, Des Moines, Ia. 50317

Issue No. 99 - November 1969

"THANK YOU" from June Zeitner

It has been a privilege to work with the fine people who are doing such good work for the Federation and its members. It has been wonderful to see the accomplishments of the clubs, to read their bulletins, to see their shows, and to visit with the members who make these clubs real and vital. Naturally there is much I wished to do for the Federation, which could not be accomplished in one short year, but the clubs and the Executive Committee's great efforts have made us ready for the seventies.

When I accepted the Jade gavel I said our greatest need is to learn to understand each other through better communication. This is still our big problem. So this year instead of griping or criticizing workers in the hobby, the opposing sides on any issue should get all the facts. Instead of postponing answering communications, we should be prompt. Instead of being jealous of leaders, we should help them. The Federation is a family and we must get to know all its members.

In retrospect the many hours of work I have devoted to the Midwest Federation this year are more than offset by the wonderful friends I have made, and by the opportunity to be a part of the history of the finest hobby organization the world has known. Thank you all.

June Culp Zeitner

A Message From Our New President Russell MacFall

'Conservation' 1970 Theme

Dear Fellow Members:

A custom has grown up in the Midwest Federation of establishing a slogan or theme for each new president's term of office. There is merit in this because it focuses attention on the fundamentals of our association as a federation and on some of the ideals that motivate our programs. In conformity with this custom, therefore, I wish to proclaim "Conservation" as our theme for 1970.

Conservation means many things. It is basically an attitude toward preserving the good things of this world, and our federation is one of them. As a federation we have much worth conserving. We have the well organized and efficient structure through which it serves its member clubs; the strength and prestige which it enjoys as the public representative of the hobby itself, and, most precious of all, the comradeship in working together which makes working for the federation worthwhile. This spirit of fellowship animated the federation in its early years when it was small and its work was highly personal. To a remarkable degree, it has been preserved despite the great growth of the federation itself.

I feel fortunate in having had Mrs. June Zeitner as my predecessor. Under her leadership, the federation has enlarged its services and has taken major strides in modernizing its structure. Her contributions are worthy of being preserved and augmented in the year ahead so that the federation can continue to undergird and strengthen the work of the clubs. The federation exists to give its clubs unity in public affairs, to help them to become better informed about the hobby which unites us, and to educate the gen-

-please turn to page 2

COMING TO ALL CLUBS SOON
THE SPECIAL DISPLAYS DIRECTORY

EARTH SCIENCE MAGAZINE

In the November-December issue you will read "To Yucatan - With Love", the story of the Iowa clubs' gift to Iowa's sister state in Mexico. Bruce Whitney concludes his "Trilobites of the Grafton Area", and Dr. Eugene Richardson tells how the long-sought conodont animal burst upon the paleontological scene.

THE SPECIAL DISPLAY LIST

The Special Display List of the Midwest Federation, soon to be mailed to all clubs, was assembled by Mrs. Miriam Pierce, Mrs. Hazel Tarcza, and Mrs. Bertha Boehm. Clubs will find that not only will these varied displays live up their shows, but often the display owner has a demonstration of program to accompany the display, which would be good to use at a club meeting. We have wonderful collections and exceptional talents in the Midwest, and this is our first attempt to list them in an organized way which might be of benefit to club officers and show chairmen. Please see that your show chairman sees this list and knows where it is when he needs it. If you know of any other displays which have not been listed, please see that the committee gets their names this year. If you wish to get any of these displays communicate directly with the owners. My thanks to Miriam and her co-workers for a job well done. - June Culp Zeitner

conservation 1970 theme ... continued from page 1

eral public by such common efforts as conventions and mineral shows. It is the strong voice of nearly 220 clubs and 15,000 individuals.

The federation's obligation to conserve what is good in itself is its paramount duty. That does not mean that it will not also serve the cause of making this a cleaner and more wholesome and beautiful world through encouraging the wise use of natural resources. Our anti-litter drives and our educational activities are two means by which we join our strength with like-minded organizations to protect natural wealth and natural beauty. Thus our task of conservation in the new year is twofold. Let us keep conservation always in mind as we enter a new decade which must win the battle for conservation or lose it forever. -Russell P. MacFall

CORRECTION

In the October Newsletter two incorrect dates were given for future Federation shows. The next Field Trip Convention will be in 1972 in Michigan. The 1973 show is up for bids. If your club would like to host the Midwest Convention in 1973 please write to Leo Yanasak, 3421 S.W. 14th Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

PLAN AHEAD

Program chairmen are urged to look over the listings of programs available from the MWF Library and send in their booking request as early as possible always giving more than one choice of date for each program requested. Programs in the library are in heavy demand and early booking with choice of dates enables our Program Chairman to get a program to you for your meeting. Send all your program requests to Mary Anderson, Route 3 - Box 241 E, Kokomo, Indiana. Be sure to include the name of your club, the name to which the program is to be sent, your complete address and don't forget your zip code.

A WORD FROM OUR RETIRING PRESIDENT JUNE ZEITNER

Being president of a Federation of over 200 widely scattered clubs is work. It seems too bad that such a job is so time consuming, so full of detailed paper work, especially since this is for most of the members, a hobby. There are several reasons why this job will never be easy. The officers try to economize on expenditures because the money belongs to the Federation and should be spent on the Federation. Each club has different problems, and each committee has different problems, and the president is obliged to try to handle each problem as if it were the only problem.

Each club has a certain amount of work, and often a number of members are not interested in the work, but accuse those who do the work, of doing everything wrong. Also on the Federation level certain people are always ready to do a job, and others are ready to criticize.

I have tried to involve more people and more clubs in Federation work by doubling the size of the Executive Committee. Since there is so much to be done to keep all of our clubs moving forward together, we need more people willing to devote their time and talent to the good of the many members of the Federation. I have created new committees to serve the clubs in new ways. I consider the new Public Relations and Safety Committees, and the office of Supplies and Information, especially important to all clubs. Another way I tried to help the clubs is by having the Newsletter doubled in size.

A new committee, Special Displays has come up with a wonderful help for shows. The Anti-litter committee keeps us reminded of our duties to society. A Courtesy and Protocol committee is helping us establish gracious customs and meaningful traditions. The rules committee now has an expert in each of our hobby fields. Our Nomenclature committee is responsible for the excellent new AFMS Gem List. The Directory is one of the finest we have ever had. In short the Federation has accomplished much this year.

SOME "DO'S" FOR THE PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

-From Mary Anderson, Program Chairman

DO treat your speaker as you would wish to be treated if coming to a new group of members to speak. Send someone to meet and greet the speaker and introduce him to other members.

A short, but impressive introduction always paves the way for the speaker... sometimes just a bit of humor will break the ice.

Always send a nice "Thank You" letter from the club for the privilege of having this person visit your club.

DO step forward and tell the speaker how much you enjoyed the talk or demonstration. Encourage other members to do the same.

If the speaker has to stay over night, be sure reservations have been made in advance.

DO have someone of your members, if not yourself, help bring in the slide projector, specimens, or other props needed.

Should your meeting be cancelled for any reason be sure you remember to contact your speaker.

REMEMBER THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND
SAVE BETTY CROCKER COUPONS !

Midwest Federation's NEWSLETTER

Published monthly except July & August as a Service to Member Clubs
Editor: Haydon Peterson, Route 5 - Box 229, Des Moines, Ia. 50317



Issue No. 100 - December 1969

FORMS FOR REPORTING MEMBERSHIP ON THE WAY

Forms for reporting membership and for providing a list of officers and other information for inclusion in the 1970 Midwest Federation Directory have gone out to the clubs. By completing the single form, club officers can supply membership statistics for paying annual dues to the Federation treasurer and can provide the necessary information for listing their clubs in the Directory. Both the treasurer and the Directory chairman will get copies of the reports. The form asks for membership as of December 31, but it is due in the hands of the Federation secretary, Miss Jean Reynolds, 107 Tuttle Avenue, Clarendon Hills, Ill. 60514, by January 10. Consequently prompt return of the form at a busy season will be necessary to ease the work of the busy Federation officers concerned. Or, to put it briefly and to the point.... DO IT NOW!

FOR FOOD SAVE AND USE COMMERATIVE STAMPS

The MWF is collecting used stamps in its Stamps for Food program. You can help by saving all of the stamps from your mail, especially the commerative issues. And you can help others to save them by using commerative issues on your mail. Next time you buy stamps at the postoffice ask the clerk for a commerative issue, they usually have some on hand.

IF YOU MOVE....

will you please send your new address to the Newsletter Editor and to the Midwest Secretary, Miss Jean Reynolds. Thank you!

RESUME OF THE NOVEMBER FEDERATION MEETING

The Michigan Mineralogical Society was host to the fall meeting of the MWF which was held at the Sheraton Motor Inn on Saturday, November 1st in Detroit, Michigan.

Treasurer B. G. Dahlberg reported a balance of \$8,300.72 in the treasury. With the addition of three new clubs, the total membership in the Midwest is up to 217 clubs, with some 15,000 members. This is an increase of approximately 1000 members in the past year. Michigan with 39 clubs is the most energetic contributor to the MWF, with Illinois (31 clubs) a fairly close second. There are approximately 25 individual members, mostly of those who are in areas with no rock club available. Several new clubs have requested membership kits from the MWF, including one in London, England.

Through the efforts of June Zeitner, the phone company has included an article about rockhounding in their Tele-Briefs of most of the MWF states. Some 12 million people have read about the hobby in this way. A printing magazine in Minnesota featured the Lake Superior agate on their cover.

Harriet George reported the completion of a fine gemstone list, now being printed. The list is an exhaustive report on the acceptable gemstone names for exhibiting, along with a long list of unacceptable names.

The days of the MWF field trip convention may be numbered. There are not enough areas left in the Midwest that can handle three or four thousand rockhounds at the same time. Leo Yanasak reported that there is one more trip scheduled in 1972 to Ishpeming, Michigan, and that may be the last one. There was discussion about what will take -turn to page 2

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE NEEDS HELP

The Archives Committee has been cataloging hundreds of club bulletins and Federation Newsletters filed in the Federation archives in the Field Museum. We had a difficult time trying to figure out the dates of some of the bulletins and other material. We looked at postmarks (a lot of them did not give a date when cancelled) and read through the entire contents trying to date the material. A lot of it was in excellent shape as a result of Russell MacFall's work as Historian. Archive material is of very little value unless dates. It would be appreciated if club bulletins would contain, preferably on the cover or first page, the name of the bulletin, where it is published, the name of the club, volume number, issue number and date.

Some of the files of club bulletins are quite complete. Others have many issues missing. Where we have duplications we are considering writing the club and offering to return them or dispose of them. Where we are missing a number of issues we expect to write the club to see if it has extra copies. Both of these ideas will require further study to determine whether or not they are feasible.

We would urge all clubs to send copies of their bulletins, constitutions, by-laws and histories to the Archives Committee. If we can build up an extensive file of constitutions and by-laws of clubs, we could be of service to new clubs and existing clubs who are reviewing their by-laws.

We already have a wealth of material in the Archives, and we hope by adding to this material we can be of service to our membership. -Elmer R. Priggie, chairman, 6919 W. 31st Street, Berwyn, Illinois 60402

AFMS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Many thanks for the generous check from the Cuyahoga County Gem and Mineral show committee. They had a wishing well at their show for the benefit of the scholarship fund. What an excellent way to inform the public as to our worthwhile projects. Not only does this benefit our treasury with cash and coupons but it also improves our public image. This is a good idea for all club shows.

Congratulations to the following clubs for their success in reaching their goal:

Des Plaines Valley Geological Society, 100%
Dallas County Rock Club, 200%
Lake County Gem and Mineral Society, 300%
Michiana Rock and Gem Club, 700%

Our thanks to all of you for your support and to the many other clubs that send in regular donations. Wish we had space to print every gift of coupons or checks as received but our space only permits us to list clubs as they attain a higher percentage.

The new Christmas Tree Snow Flocking Kit has a Betty Crocker coupon on it worth 20 points. This is well worth saving. If you or your friends flock your own tree be sure and save that coupon.

Thanks a million for all your wonderful support.

-Katharine Steinbrenner

november meeting... continued from page 1

the place of the field trip convention... another standard convention or perhaps a large rock swap.

June Zeitner reported some of the humor that arose from the Murdo convention.

Verne Montgomery announced a plan of Earth Science magazine to possibly publish a book written by ESCONI that will be of benefit to juniors and junior clubs. The book is a compilation of lectures given to the ESCONI juniors. Verne also announced that many of the books printed by the MWF as a service to its members are sold at a loss. For instance, the directory that is sold for 50¢ costs over a dollar to print. The Newsletter, sent to clubs for their bulletins, is sold to the clubs at less than cost.

A new special committee has been added, headed by Mrs. Pat Yoblin from Wisconsin. This committee will work with the junior clubs, providing information for them and helping clubs form junior groups.

The new Paleontology Division chairman, Dr. Katherine Nelson of Milwaukee, was introduced.

Over 150 ballots were returned to the MWF, reflecting much concern by member clubs over the proposed constitutional changes. The majority of replies favored complete passage of the changes. The changes were approved and passed. There was a great deal of comment about the short time available for completion of the ballots, and all effort will be made in the future to allow more time.

The new changes include aiding a second vice president and the formation of a continuing nominating committee to give a long-term balance to the nomination of elected officers. To start this new system, a temporary group of six people appointed by the board will appoint a temporary nominating committee, who in turn will nominate the officers for this coming year as well as candidates for the long-term nominating committee. If this sounds confusing, it is, but was the system agreed upon by the members present at the meeting.

Cal George gave an important report about the tax status of the federation and of member rock clubs. There are four categories of tax-exempt status into which a club may fit, but only one of these offers the bonus of allowing members to deduct their expenses in traveling to meetings or while on club business. Clubs in this category (C-3) cannot do any lobbying. Cal promises to make this information available to clubs who are confused about tax status.

Much other business was discussed during the seven hour meeting, including reports from the state vice presidents (now called directors after the constitutional changes), division chairmen, and other committee chairmen. After the meeting, everyone attended the very fine gem and mineral show of the Michigan Mineralogical Society held at the Armory.

ESCONI

is celebrating its 20th anniversary. Congratulations to this large and active club, which is such a leader in our field.