

Affiliated with the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies 1st issue (January through March) 1973

THE TASPIT.TTE

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OFFICIAL FUELICATION of the ISHPEMING ROOT AND MINERAL CLUB, INC. Published quarterly OFFICERS - 1973 President Frasisr Tubbs Ishpeming 2nd Vice President Frasisr Tubbs Ishpeming 2nd Vice President Carlton Gutman Corres. Secretary Mildred Jahrlas Ishpeming Recording Secretary Mildred Jahrlas Ishpeming Publicity Pet Elis Curator Dorthy Tubbs Ishpeming Publicity Pat Elis Curator JASPILITE Olive and Laurence Sain Marquette DEADLIVES: Jaspilite March 1, June 1, Sept. 1, and Dac. 1. MEMEENSHIP: The Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club, Inc., is open to anyone interested in the Earth Sciences. Initiation fee	THE JASPILITE	lst issue	(January thro	ugh Manch) 1973
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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION of the

March, 1973

Dear Fellow Rockhounds and Club Members:

Another year has passed for the club; but what a year it was. It involved a lot of hard work by ALL; but I believe this effort which was put forth by you, the club members, will never be forgotten. It brought fellow members closer together to create something good and, in turn, it generated lasting memories for all who participated.

A lasting thank you goes to Pat Bemis, outgoing president, for a job well done in a very important year in the history of the IRMC. I'm sure all of our club members agree with me on this.

Now that the excitement has died down from the convention and everyone has relaxed and recuperated, we must look to the future. Plans must be made as to the direction our club will follow in the year(s) to come.

For a club to grow both in size and quality, each and every member must take an active part. It does not have to be a large one, but each and every part plays a very important role in the continuing growth of the club. If you are called upon to help in some way, respond with an enthusiastic "yes". In this way you aill be supporting your officers and your club for the benefit of all members.

Along with this, goes the attendance at meetings. The officers have tried to set up the meetings and programs so that they will be interesting to you, the member. It is very disappointing when less than 25% of the active members are in attendance. By attending the meetings, you can voice your ideas and concerns about club activities.

The programs for the next two meetings should prove to be very interesting to all. The March meeting will focus on faceting with Bob Schenk and Al Murray demonstrating the techniques each uses on their own equipment. In April, Mrs. Holly Aldrich will display some of her silver smithing along with some articles made by her students. This will give you an insight into design principles and techniques used in creating articles of beauty with silver.

Plans are in the making for field trips in May, June and July. NOTE THE ARTICLE BY DOROTHY AND FRAZIER TUBBS ON A SPECIAL HUNT AND SWAP IN THIS JASPILITE. If anyone is interested in developing a field trip for club members this summer or fall, please contact me or one of the other club officers.

I hope to see you all at the next regularly scheduled meeting, March 18, at the Marquette Community Center in Marquette at 2:00 p.m.

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Thank you, bas awork to clubedo2

Ernie Johnson, President

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ALT WARDEN

.....from the SECRETARY'S MINUTES.....

Christmas Party: 38 club members enjoyed a terrific Christmas party and annual banquet at the Wawanowin Golf Club in December.

Library: The IRMC now has a stamp to mark all their library materials. Edith Anderson has reported she now has a complete year's subscription to the Mineral Digest to be looved at and read by club members. Our subscription to this colorful magazine has been renewed for 1973.

The Earth Science Magazine donated a book entitled "Metamorphism of the Biwabik Formation" published by the Minnesota Press, to our club.

Junior Activities: Junior activities are being looved into and a new manual on this subject is due to be published by the Midwest Federation in late spring of this year.

Convention 1972: L. Sain closed the accounting records of the convention and presented his final financial report. He was happy to report both the Midwest Federation and our club netted 3552.07 from the convention. demyinds willelineed a been as their senility of a solitoost

Art on the Rocks: All club members were extended an invitation to exed of recemes hibit or sell at this year's Art on the Roc's held annually near the end of July at Presque Isle. Watch the local paper for information as the event nears. env your flabth por caused test last and eved por 11

Marquette County Harvest Festival: Premiums and ribbons will be award-ed the top three entries in each class for those of you rock and mineral collectors who enter exhibits as listed in the premium book. The 1973 books will be available by late August. The festival is the latter part of September. Bellan ed bloch and the antering toa short

Safety Deposit Box: The club now has a safety deposity box in which to weep its important papers and documents.

eriloous soleu Silant Auction: Our siliant auction in February natted \$78.40 for the Midwast Federation Scholarship Fund. Thanks to everyone for making it a success.

Bragging Tables: All members and guests are urged and encouraged to use our bragging tables to show off choice specimens or items they have mada.

Publicity: Our publicity chairman will try to obtain pictorial coverage to accompany announcements of programs for our meetings. eesesteel

Curator: Our curator has accepted the responsibility of compiling a list of the club's possessions and their locations. If anyone has some of the club's materials, equipment, specimens, etc., stored in their homas or othar buildings, please see that Arnold Mulzer receives a list for his file.

<u>Club's Paper Records</u>: A committee has been formed to go over all paper records of the club. Contact C. Gutman and L. Sain if you have club papers they should look over.

....next page

.....from the Secretary's Minutes ...continued.....

Future Silent Auctions: Proceeds from any more silent auctions held this year will be used toward purchasing a Dana System of Mineralogy book and/or other books for our club library. Such a reference is needed when preparing exhibits for shows.

<u>UOP in the Copper Country</u>: In August of 1972 several mining properties in the Copper Country wars closed to all rock hunting by Universal Oil Properties. The club is presently pursuing the availability of and the cost connected with insurance covering UOP; thereby hoping to obtain UOP's permission for our club to hun on their properties. At present three board members are looking into three different solutions. We will keep you informed of any developments at meetings and by newsletter.

in late soring of this year.

Urgently needed HOSPITALITY CHAIRMAN

As the recording secretary, I am beginning to sound repititious always reporting at meetings that we need a hospitality chairman for our club. But it's true, we do need someone to be chairman. I'm sure the board would appreciate having someone step forward at the next meeting and say "I'll be glad to serve as chairman for the year".

If you have been hesitant because you didn't know what the job consisted of, here are the few responsibilities which can often be handled by takephone:

 Obtain hostesses and donors of prizes for regular meetings. (This could be handled by preparing a calendar for the year and asking each member to sign for the month they can serve; those not present at the meeting could be called until the calendar is filled.) Hostesses are reembursed for cost of food out of lunch money.

2. Purchasing supplies such as coffee, sugar, cups, naprins, etc., when needed. A quick check of the storage cabinet or asking the hostesses at a meeting and you'll know what is needed.

3. Arriving at the meetings a little earlier to register members and guests for door prizes; and taking care of awarding the door prizes.

Please, don't wait to be asved. Volunteer! Hostesses Prizes Centerpiece Month

 1. Helen Johnson
 Ernie Johnson
 Becky Helt
 Merch

 2. Anna Foivula
?....
 April

 1. Luella Reidy
?....
 April

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Edith Anderson

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Lot's have sors one for estimator the "bragging table". Bring your sour roby.

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VOUT

Our very sincere sympathy is extended to Royal and Pat Elie for the loss of Pat's mother, Mrs. Mancy Holmes, in November; her brother's wife, Mrs. Robert Holmes, in January; and her youngest sister Mrs. Velma Chaput in February.

Our condolences are also expressed to Martin and Anna Foivula at the death of Anna's mother Mrs. Albertine Trondson aged 99 years; also to the Ernest and Helen Johnson family in the loss of Helen's grandmother.

The flu bug was real busy visiting a number of our members. It wept Mary and Bob Schenk home from the Christmas party and Pat Bemis from the silent auction. We widh them and all others who were ill good health and a return to our March meeting.

Joe Dunham has also been on the sick list. He's improving now and special medication kept him from a trip to Rochester. A card signed by the members present at the February meeting was sent to him to wish him well.

Vernon Miljour who suffered a massive heart attack in December is feeling much better now. His doctor ordered more exercise so now he is walking up to three miles a day. We are happy to hear the good news.

Chris Miljour had an attack of the flu and was down for a couple of weeks, but is feeling much better now. If you need a good remedy for the flu, she has it.

Mary Schaaf's parents have announced her engagement to Tom Fleming. Mary was one of our 4-H girls now attending M.T.U. She and Tom will be married on their graduation day. Best wishes to both.

Bob Schent showed a collection of miniature colonial furniture he had made at our February meeting. Very interesting and exciting to note

.....Rockin' 'Round.....continued.....

the perfection of construction on such a small scale. He even made special tools to carry out his plans. Small tooled brass cuspidors were part of the scene with the gambling tables and chairs.

Let's have more participation for the "bragging table". Bring your rocks, gems, minerals or crafts for us all to enjoy. Promote our hobby.

Our two remaining pebble pups regret there is no leader to guide them. So far they have made themselves very busy and useful. Each meeting they open with a short prayer, mate the centerpiece for the lunch table and have been registering the members and drawing for door prizes. They even helped a great deal with the auction.

About this time of year we know you are getting anxious to get out on the rockpiles and beaches. Express your desires of places to go and better yet, offer to lead a field trip to a new place or one you especially enjoy.

Had a nice telephone visit with Mamie Jarvi. Although she still uses a crutch or cane for support, she has been walking in the downtown area on nice days. Elmer is still working on his remodeling of their apartments but expects to be finished soon so they will be able to get to the club meetings again. We do miss them.

Two of our members, Lyndon and Frances Fallat, will be part of a group of ten from this area to spend a week diving in the historic Caicos Islands, British West Indies. The islands, located 600 miles southeast of Miami, were the original landing site of the first Columbus expedition and the final resting place for numerous shipwrecks dating to the l6th Century. Good luck to the entire party on this exciting adventure underwater amid a variety of gorgeous coral and sea life with the unexpected always around the next corner or emerging from a cave. Hope they share a story of their adventures with us and bring back some of the coral, etc.

lal medication want him from a tria to Sochratin. A card signed by the

WELCOME new members and returning past members. We're happy to have you join us in the limitless possibilities for exciting adventures as you delve into the mysteries of nature's handiwork through searching, studying and learning about rocks, minerals, etc.

If you have a collection; do offer to display them at one of our meetings. Or bring a few to display on the bragging table. If you have a particular shill or knowledge about some aspect of the hobby, please offer to do a program next fall. If you have ideas about what would make interesting programs, contact our first vice president.

TO THOSE OF YOU WHO PAID YOUR 1973 * If you neglected baying the 1973 DUES, THAN^V YOU. DOROTHY TUBBS * dues, please pay them this month. APPRECIATED YOUR USE OF THE FORM. * Use the form in the last Jaspilite.

Mary was one of our 4-K cirls now attanting M.T.U. She and Tom will sentied on their graduation day. Bast wishes to both.

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*****ATTENTION* Make plans NOW for a June "Swap and Hunt" **** *ATTENTION* Notify F. Tubbs be end of March.

The State Line Gem and Mineral Society will have their annual Rock Swap on June 2 and 3, 1973, at the Fulton County Fairgrounds located near Wauseon, Ohio. This is a popular swap where rock hounds enjoy adding to their collections by swapping with others and by buying specimens at a silent auction. People begin to arrive on Friday, June 1, and there is usually a program or get-together of some kind for the early arrivals. Swapping and the silent auction start on Saturday morning and continue throughout the day and on Sunday until the middle of the afternoon. A "Come and Go" show is held at the same time. Displays are brought when people come to the swap and are taken out when they leave. On Saturday evening there is a program and a Midwest Federation "Cracker Barrel" meeting. The auction and most of the swapping takes place under the grandstand so rain presents no problem. There is also a lunchroom where breakfasts and light lunches as well as snacks can be purchased. The price of admission to the swap is a donation of a couple of specimens for the silent auction. Secure Cuard Argory at Caluast,

Camping space is provided in the fairgrounds and the only cost for this is a nominal charge for the use of electricity. For those who prefer to stay in motels there are accomodations near the fairgrounds which are located near the Wauseon exit of the Ohio turnpive.

If you would like to attend this swap contact Frazier and Dorothy Tubbs as soon as possible.

If there is a group of Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club members who would like to make the trip we will see if the State Line Field Trip Chairman could arrange a trip for half a day while we are there, to one of the northern Ohio quarries where we could do some hunting.

word Minoral Dight Ist annual Show. MAVE AN EASEL the staff trom from res ad L DRAPERY HOOK asg fin reas may by charged ---snip off, discard. 0410 TOND Spread 2 wires back to hold easel up as legs. 2:13 Bend 2 wires into curves the bottom to hold the slab. atBy Walt Brenneman, via vorn vrib News. outes a laugh. Overlooking the valuable rooks at the senter, range we porrato, Michigan, the this snached a display cass and stole a glither

"Wisdom shows what to do; swill, how to do it; initiative, the will to do."

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	** SCHEDULE OF SHOWS and general news
No. 1	** <u>1973 MWF Show will be presented by The Cincinnati Mineral Society in the Cincinnati Convention Center July 26,27,28,29. Delegates will be busy at meetings much of the time but during off hours they can join with the others in SWAPPING, viewing COMPETITIVE and NON-COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS, sitting in on perts of continuous FILM FISTIVAL, picking up information on SELF GUIDED FIELD TRIPS, admiring and buying from 32 RETAIL DEALERS from all sections of the country, 12 WHOLESALE DEALERS and 6 EQUIPMENT DEALERS, or watching DEMONSTRATIONS. How about a 4 hour Ohio River cruise and buffet supper followed by music and dancing!</u>
	of the alternoon. A "Gome and Go" show is bild at the same time.
	For information write to Show Chairman <u>Terry E. Huizing 5341 Thrasher</u> Drive, <u>Cincinnati</u> , <u>Ohio 45239</u> .
-	Foderation "Graceer Barrel" meating. The suction and most of the sum
22	inere is also a innohrbon where brairfasts and light lunched as well's
-	6th Annual Michigan Upper Peninsula Gem and Mineral Show will be hosted by the COPPER COUNTRY CLUB. It will be held August 9,10 and 11 in the National Guard Armory at Calumet.
-	to rot see a line and big structures.
-	June 2-3. Central Canadian Federation of Mineralogical Societies Annual Show hosted by the Niagara Peninsula Geological Society. Brock Univer- sity St., St. Catherines, Ontario.
	April 13-15. Michigan Gem & Mineral Society11th annual show. Nation- al Guard Armory, 100 Armory Court, Jackson, Michigan.
(May 5-6. Blue Water Lapidary Society4th annual show. Wagenseil Gym Community Center, 2300 Totem Trail, Port Huron, Michigan.
]	May 12-13. Valamazoo Geological & Mineral Society. Show. County Rec- reation Center, 2900 Lake St., Fairgrounds, Valamazoo, Michigan.
	May 12-13. Brampton Rock and Mineral Club. 1st annual Show. Brampton, Ontatio.
	the GOLDEN EAGLE PASSPORT will be on sale for 1973 at all National Park areas. Cost \$10. It will admit the driver and all passengers in the car to all National Park areas and any U.S. Forest Service National Recreation area where entrance fees may be charged. In addition, the free Golden Age Passport will admite persons 62 years old or older to all Federal recreation fee areas, plus a 50% discount
(on daily campground fees.
(EXPLORE, an illustrated booklet describing America's 187 million acres of national forests and grasslands may be obtained for 35¢ from the Supt. of Do., U.S. Govt., Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.
	THIEF'S CHOICE LOO'S FOOLISH: A thief who broke into a Michigan travel Information center made a mistake that would have given old prospectors

information center made a mistake that would have given old prospectors quite a laugh. Overlooking the valuable rocks at the center, near New Buffalo, Michigan, the thief smashed a display case and stole a glittering nugget of iron pyrite. Called "fool's gold", it was worth about \$3.00.

".vcol vill a svomer of noos flos elitit a svil soldros. more dor.".

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ROAD CODE: Did you know there's a method to the madness of Interstate highway numbers? Here's a great little guide to weep handy (tape it to your sun visor or glove compartment). It will explain what some of the numbers mean at a glance .: of meet aboow off blain bha uninue

Three digit signs 474 First digit even: route through or around city.

One and two digit signs 4 Even numbers are East-West routes. (Through routes) 25 Odd numbers are North-South routes.

besument trine during this sameon of the year. EVEN NOV IT AFMS NEWSLETTER: Many club bulletins carry on the cover or elsewhere a statement that the club is an "affiliate" of the AFMS and the regional federation. The word "affiliate" means, according to the dictionary, an associate. Now the clubs are not associates of the federations: THEY ARE THE FEDERATION. They are members, not only affiliates; they are the substance, not the frosting on the federations. watch means that we need quite a warlety

COLLECTING SITES ARE BEING CLOSED in other areas as well as in the Upper Peninsula. For example Gray Quarry, Hamilton, H1., where many of the finest geodes have been found is closed. Mr. Blackledge, quarry manager explained that they were forced to close because of the large humbers of people involved and the burden and expense of liability involved. With this happening in various areas, it would be well for rockhounds to inquire during the planning stages of their vacations whether certain collecting sites they had planned to visit would be open to collecting so they wouldn't be disappointed learning about the closures during the trip. oldesid has sleved near . and bor . aroun 'old .old

BEWARE...the Tick Season Battle ... with the BUGS olde and lores banners and olde. Implad the Before the next bulletin is out Oranges: Eat the orange, rub the many of you will be out collecting, peel on the skin. The oil acts often walking through grassy and live oil of citronella and repels brushy areas. Be prepared for the mosquitos, blac'-flies, bees and .vewCoor add mowasps.rd avoner of wes has Judajan TICVS.

Purchase Sulphur and Cream of Ter- CUTTERS: purchased in hardware tar Lozenges put out by Mcvesson stores in foam or liquid form is Co. and start taking 3 a day for much better than other formulas 3 days before going into tick coun- available for many years. try. Continue taking them at the same dosage while in the area. STETER-STAT: A new gadget to try

act differently for each person. Too many may cause the "runs".

color and with a smooth surface. some for this spring. You can see them easier and they thead and they the set of the set

DO remove all clothing on returning for clothing. home and check yourself for ticks. Avoid sweet smelling cosmetics. Also comb your hair with a fine com b. eep CALAMINE LOTION on hand for

out this year. It oparates on Use them with caution, they may re- Penn light batteries, good for 100 hours and is supposed to keep flies and mosquitoes from 3 to 8 feet Also wear clothing that is light in A local hardware store is ordering

can't hang on slick surfaces. Light colors ... blue, green, white, und yrange a sedt yroedt add dil yellow or orange are good choices

bites.

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of dieded) vonan died it will soon be FIELD TRIP time Bld HOAD CODE: hitter numbers?

The rains this month and the disappearing snow turn our thoughts to Spring and field trips. The woods seem to hang on to the snow a little longer than the fields so you still have time to finish up your latest project and get your collecting paraphernalia checked over, repaired, painted, replaced or whatever before the back-roads are clear and dry enough to drive over to your favorite hunting grounds.

Many ambitious rock and mineral clubs are putting on shows, swaps and basement trips during this season of the year. If you have been housebound longer than you can stand and can't wait to "chase after" some elusive prize, plan on traveling to a swap one of these weekends. The word "strillivis" seens, according MOISETELE' Lanois 601 03

There are four of us who travel in a Jeep Wagoneer for week end trips and pulling a 21 foot Airstream for some weavenders and the longer trips. We like to work the poor rock piles and walk the shores of Lake Superior which means that we need quite a variety of equipment and clothing for every trip and in order to have some room for what we collect, we have to pack carefully. (Everything is shipshape when we leave but unlass the "trail boss" puts his foot down, the back and of the Jeep looks live a hurricane passed through.) We each have a box of our own which sit side by side across the back of the Jeep so we can reach in through the back window to get at them. These boxes contain rainwear, wet suits for the beach, tennis shoes, rubber gloves and other gloves, mosquito net hood, extra sweaters and jachets, head wear, safety glasses, hard hat, extra socks, heavy duty boots, rock hammer, chisel, etc. Back packs, rock bags, paper towels and plastic bags are included.

Next to the wheel wells we store rock scoops, trench shovels, trench pick and large hammers and pick. Behind the back seat is stored a good supply of water and food packed in cooler bags for each couple. A well stocked safety kit is kept under the front seat(luckily we haven't had to use it -- but it's there and it gets checked over every year). A wit of tools, a hatchet and a saw are handy to have , especially the hatchet and saw to remove trees from the roadway.

Most every trip finds us using some type of spray to ward off black flies, mosquitos, etc. Last year we tried Cutters and found it better than the other brands we had. We understand the army has a kind of spray even better but it isn't available on the market.

Each of us has a few specialties in our pochets such as a pochet compass, pocket lens, nail clipper, pocket knife, magnet, matches, candy bar, orange, "leanex, atc. Each individual doesn't have everyone of these but generally do so by couples. Too sony kay dours the "rang".

JR MIND

Although the list sounds lengthy, it doesn't take us long to get ready for a trip. If the weather report on a Thursday night sounds favorable for the weekend we are ready, trailer and all, to leave Friday afternnon. For a day trip, we hardly have to sleep on the idea. We do keep our boxes more or less packed. As for food, we keep it simple but do we eat! We don't go along with the theory that a "hungry hound hunts best". hunts best". . anindola tol hong and chack yourself for blovs.

Jymaco salliene deewa blovA We are "champing at the bit". How about you? .863.10

Midwest Federation's NEWSLETTER

Published monthly except July and August as a service to member clubs All news, articles, subscription orders and requests for information concerning publication FEDERATION should be sent to P.O. Box 1130, Des Moines, Iowa 50311

AND

Issue No. 131 - January 1973

New edition of AFMS Uniform Rules

At the Uniform Rules Committee meeting at Anaheim, several changes and additions were made in the Uniform Rules. A new edition of the rules book is now in preparation and is scheduled to be ready for distribution in January. This will supercede the red book issued in 1970 and the pink revisions folder of 1971. The revised rules are to be used at all Federation shows in 1973. The more important changes are summarized below to give advance help to exhibitors planning to enter at Charlotte or Cincinnati.

Add to the approved list of mineral references: Michael Fleischer's Glossary of Mineral Species, 1971 with subsequent revisions.

For all classes that have size limitations in reference to a cube, it is now stated: it is intended that this cube, when placed over the specimen as displayed, must rest parallel to the display surface.

The number requirement of 50 specimens for Thumbnails, both minerals and fossils, is reinstated. For Micromounts, both mineral and fossils, the number requirement of 50 for adults and 30 for juinors is reinstated.

A new Subdivision BU has been established for Fluorescent Minerals and present class A-5 is deleted.

For Faceted Stones the spread in number of pieces is eliminated. New requirements are: Master – 40, Advanced – 30, Novice – 20, and Junior – 20.

New Class F-11, Fossils, specialized is added. Exhibit is limited to one category from each of these groups: One Classification Unit AND one Locality, or Time Unit, or Rock Unit.

Thumbnail and Micromount Fossils Classes were added as follows: FT-1 Thumbnail and FM-1 Micromount, General Classes - equivalent to these classes: F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5, and F-9. FT-2 and FM-2 cover restricted classes equivalent to F-6, F-7, F-8, F-10, and F-11.

Two new AFMS trophies are approved for Minerals Personally collected in the Field by Exhibitor – one for adults and one for juniors. BEST WISHES for the Holiday Season and the coming year

NOTES FROM OUR PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

"The World of the Rockhound," a 37 minute 16MM movie, is back in business. Mr. Norman Hanschu repaired this program for the MWF at no charge but much work. May I warn people who order this. This movie can only be used with a magnetic sound tract projector. Please remember this!

Many, many times the program a club is using is not to be returned to me but to be sent on to next user. The extra card is in the box all labeled and ready to mail. On back of 1st users card is instructions. Please watch for this and do as instructed. If they come back to me, I may not have time to get program to 2nd user. Please help me!

* * * * * *

* * * * * * I appreciate very much your program chairmen telling me

if a slide is missing or needs repaired. That's my way of finding out as I don't have time to check all the time.

* * * * * *

There was a new programs aid manual distributed to each club last summer. If your program chairmen do not have it maybe your president or liason officer does. There are very good film sources other than MWF listed.

When the new book is ready, each club will receive a copy and announcement made as to individual orders. READ THE RULES CAREFULLY. The summary above is not intended to substitute for the complete book. If you have any questions on the rules write to the MWF Uniform Rules Chairman -

> B.F. Parr 1488 Marion Ave. Road Mansfield, Ohio 44906

Liaison Officers

THE PROBLEM OF COMMUNICATION

-Reprinted from Issue No. 109 - November 1970.

At every meeting of the Midwest Federation, officers or club delegates, the problem of communication is brought up. It was brought up by Armin Steinhauser, chairman of the Federation convention show in Minneapolis this year, who described his difficulty of getting preregistration blanks and convention information to the clubs. Additional mailings at heavy expense were required because of an apparent breakdown of communication that prevented club members from getting this information.

The Federation some years ago set up a system of liaison officers for clubs that wished to make use of it. The liaison officer is the person in the club who receives all Federation mailings for the sole purpose of bringing them to the attention of the club members at meetings. The subject may be a change in Federationclub relations, some opportunity open to members, some award for which the club may compete, some new book or magazine of interest, some new officers in the Federation with whom the club may do business.

But if the liaison officer does not report on all communications at board and general club meetings; if the liaison officers report is not a regularly scheduled part of the business of such meetings, there is a gap in communication between the club and the Federation. This operates to the disadvantage of both and especially to the disadvantage of the club member, who is thereby deprived of his contact with the hobby as a whole.

The liaison officer has an important role in club affairs and should be an honored officer who carries out his duties with a deep sense of responsibility. If he does not, it should be the duty of the club officers to replace him with a more energetic member.

WELCOME NEW CLUBS

LOUP VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL SQCIETY George R. Cihacek, President Schuyler, Nebraska 68661

FORT BUTLER ROCK AND GEM CLUB Mrs. Maida McGrew, President Beacon View Gretna, Nebraska 68028



Earth Science magazine, long the official MWF magazine, has been sold to Richard M. Pearl who will become the new editor and publisher effective with the January-February issue.

The former editors, Mary Cornwell and her staff, wish to sincerely thank the many Midwest Federation clubs and individual members who during their tenure have helped the magazine with their subscriptions, articles, space at shows, and general good will.

NEW STATE DIRECTOR APPOINTMENTS

Three new State Directors have been appointed. They are: Hazel Kuntz, Illinois; "Bud" Nicholls, Michigan; and Milford Sharp, Ohio.

Mrs. Elsie Popjoy has been named an Assistant Direcdor for Illinois. Gerald Nugent has been named Director of Information and B. F. (Barney) Parr has been named to the Uniform Rules Committee.

The search is still going on for willing workers to fill a number of vacancies that still exist in the Executive Committee and it would be appreciated if any club in the Midwest has any suggestions as to possible candidates for appointment to Executive Committee posts. It is very difficult for your President to know or even hope to know all the potential workers that are lurking in the membership of every club in our vast MWF. The only qualification for membership in the Executive Committee is the willingness to do a job and meet people and everyone knows how nice it is to meet other rockhounds. If you have any persons so qualified please contact your President, Lee Kirby 3660 Embarcadero, Drayton Plains, Mich. 48020.



Midwest Federation's NEWSLETTE

Published monthly except July and August as a service to members clubs. All news, articles, subscription orders and requests for information concerning publication should be sent to P. O. Box 1130, Des Moines, Iowa 50311



Issue No. 132 - February 1973

MIDWEST FOSSIL FINDERS HONOR ROLL

Are you, or do you know someone, who has had a new species of fossil named in their honor? If so, we need your help to create a unique display which the Midwest Federation can utilize for future conventions and shows.

This permanent display will honor all the individuals from midwest clubs who have had a new genus or species of fossil named for them. It will probably utilize photographic enlargements and reconstructed drawings as well as copies of the publications in which the type specimens were named.

If you are or know of such a person, we need as much of the following information as you have: name and address of the individual for whom the fossil was named (if deceased please state); full generic and specific name of the fossil; title and author of the publication and name and date of journal or series in which it appeared; address of the naming author if available. Also, if you have an extra copy of the naming publication, it would greatly facilitate the project if you could donate it to us. If you personally have any extra, enlarged, or reconstructed photographs or drawings, please notify the chairman so that arrangements might be made for copies.

Please send any such information to the chairman: Cecilia E. Duluk, 6700 Amboy, Dearborn Heights, Michigan 48127. Please don't delay. Since it may be necessary to contact originating authors, as much advance notification as possible is needed. Even fragmentary information will give the chairman a lead to start checking. Hopefully, we want to honor ALL the fine fossil collecting amateurs whose helpfulness has added to the professional knowledge of paleontology. Aurora, III. Last Oct. 28

Canadian Federation Head Speaks at MWF Meeting

A significant sign of the maturity of our hobby and the widening interest in it was the presence at a Midwest Federation executive committee meeting in late October of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Brownlie. He is a director of the Central Canadian Federation of Mineralogical Societies. In his talk before the committee he said:

"It is our hope that this will be the first of many international meetings between our federations....Our federation is now four years old and administers to 25 clubs whose 3,000 members are spread throughout the provinces of Ontario and Quebec." As the liaison officer between the Central Canadian and the American federations, I would like to make you aware of some of the services we offer the Midwest.

"Our federation directory lists members of our clubs...who are willing to arrange guided field trips or exchange specimens for visitors in their areas. Many of our members have taken on the task of being hosts at locations in their immediate vicinities by arranging dates for field trips for other clubs so that there will be no overcrowding of the site and by being on hand to point out what minerals are available and to discuss local safety procedures....Our federation will welcome the participation of any American club or individual in our annual Federation show as well as our Federation field trips. I would like on behalf of the Central Canadian Federation invite all present to attend our 1973 annual show at Brock University in St. Catherines, Ontario, on June 2 and 3... I trust that this meeting will have served as a cornerstone towards international relations between the Midwest and Central Canadian Federations." The Brownlies live at 1120 Roselawn Dr., Windsor, Ontario.

Work With Federal Agencies for Conservation

By Leslie Darling

Members of the gem and mineral collectors hobby are going to face uncertain obstacles in 1973. May we suggest you get involved with every movement wherever you are that involves the use of the public lands. Bear in mind that we are a tax-exempt organization based upon the Educational aspect of our hobby, and we must not endanger that tax exemption. With the present mood of the governmental agencies inviting us to attend their called public meetings we do not have to be militant lobbyists to bring our opinions to their attention.

With the coming of the new Congress in January we are going to have new laws, new interpretations, and new faces with which to deal. Ken Zahn, AFMS Regional Vice-President, is also our watchdog in the halls of Congress at Washington, D. C. He is well know there by the men who work at making laws and is respected by them. Let us follow his reports and try to live up to his image in our Nation's Capital.

We will face in the western part of the country the pressure of other outdoor recreationalists competing for the use of public lands, as well as the pressure of the extremist preservationist groups who would bar us from all public lands. The time has come when we must realize that the nation's public lands. The time has come when we must realize that the nation's public lands must be conserved for the future generations and at the same time be used properly by us who live today.

In a magazine sent to me by Elsie Matthews, our committee representative in the Rocky Mountain region, is an article telling of the overuse of back packing trails in the Great Smokies. Currently action is being taken to restrict human density in some of the national parks across the nation. So the problem is everywhere in the U.S.

The closer we work with governmental Agencies across this great nation the better we will fare in keeping open our collecting fields. They are a great bunch of people just as we should be. They need us and our opinions, and we need to "TREASURES OF THE EARTH"

The theme of the 1973 Midwest Federation Gem and Mineral show will be "Treasures of the Earth". The show ill be held July 26 thru 29 in Cincinnati, Ohio at the Cincinnati Convention Center.

Let's Teach Our Kids How to Collect

One day this past summer we were at the Cheney Limestone Quarry in Bellevue, Mich. We found a pocket of crystals about 10 to 12 inches across. They were about one inch in size and had a blue cast. They were the most beautiful crystals I have ever found. We did not take them as we did not have the right tools, so we left them for someone else or another time, rather than take the chance of breaking them. We went about our collecting, and as we were about to leave the quarry we went back for another look at the crystals. When we got there, we saw a youngster about ten years old smashing them with a hammer. He was with another mineral club.

I wonder what some people teach their children. A beautiful specimen lost forever because some youngster smashed it with his hammer.

Let's teach our children how to collect and NOT destroy. – Bill Helferich in

The Geologein

know them. Our future rests with what we do today...Are you ready to do your part?

(Mr. Darling is chairman of the AFMS committee on public relations and conservation)



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Issue No. 133 - March 1973

Send Your Delegate

Every Club Should Be Represented

by Mark Harris, 1st Vice President

Why should a club send a delegate to the annual meeting.

First, the club then has a vote, and a voice in the matters of policy of the Federation. Like last July, thirty eight percent of the clubs in the Federation were represented at the annual meeting. A small dues increase was voted. The vote was almost unanimous among those present, but if your club was not represented you had no voice in the decision. So do not complain when dues paying time arrives – and it has arrived – and you have to shell out that extra dime per member.

Next, a common complaint is heard by the state directors that communication between the Federation and the clubs is poor. Perhaps it is, with some clubs. If you have trouble in communication have your representative where he can do a lot of good by personal contact with the officers and committee chairmen. They will listen to you. The officers are dedicated people who want to help you iron out any troubles if they can.

Some clubs have committee chairmen among their members. You may say he can cast our vote. No, he or she cannot. Only one vote per person is permitted. His vote would be as committee chairman - not representing the club. He may vote the same way on a question that the representative would, but some measure might fail or pass - by a single vote when the club would like the opposite just because the club failed to

Spring Meeting

The Spring Meeting of the Executive Committee will be held in conjunction with the Chicago Rocks and Minerals Society Show, April 7th – 8th, 1973. Further details will be sent out as soon as the final arrangements have been made.

All Committee Chairmen are requested to send their reports of their Committee activities to Jean Reynolds as soon as possible so that they may be included in the printed reports. This will help to expedite the meeting and will hopefully result in more time to enjoy the show.

send a delegate.

Your delegate would always see a worthwhile show and possibly bring home pictures and ideas that will help your own show.

Time is about here for you to decide on your delegate. Every club will have some member who would like to go to the annual meeting but who is hesitant to volunteer. It may cost the club nothing. At least, a small amount toward expenses may do the trick. Another point, actual expenses of your delegate less any financial aid is deductable from taxable income of the delegate in U. S. tax.

SEE YOUR DELEGATE IN CINCINNATI

1973 Bulletin Contest

Again this year the Annual MWF Bulletin Editors' Contest for 1973 will be held in conjunction with the MWF convention, which is to be in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Editors breakfest is tentatively set for Fri. July 27. All editors are encouraged to attend the breakfast and to enter your bulletins in the contest this year.

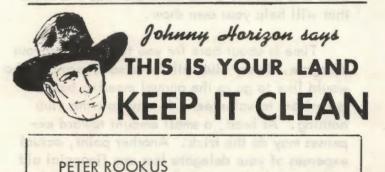
Categories to be judged will be (1) Bulletins three pages and over, and (2) One and Two page bulletins.

Awards will be given to the top ten winners of the three and over page bulletins and the top threee of the one and two page bulletins. These winners will also be entered into the AFMS contest.

The December 1972 issue is the one to be judged. Mr. and Mrs. John Burress from the Eastern Federation will serve as our judges.

Send one copy of your Dec. 1972 issue to Mr. and Mrs. John Burress, 37 Haven Terrace, Parlin, New Jersey 08859. Also send one copy of your Dec. issue to Paul W. Good, Bulletin Chairman, 118 N. Lindbergh Ave., Griffith, Ind. 46319. The copy sent to Paul Good will be placed on display throughout the 1973 MWF Convention and show in Cincinnati.

Your entries must be postmarked not later than March 25, 1973 to be eligible for the contest.



303 E. Vermont Street, Bay City, Michigan 48706 has been appointed Anti-Litter chairman for the Midwest.

Another Mine Closed to Collectors

The following notice has been received by persons who held passes to hunt in mines of the Universal Oil Products Company. This effects persons mainly in the Ishpeming, Mich. area... the Copper Country.

This again points up the problem facing the rockhound. What can be done about it? A letter to MWF President Lee Kirby from Mr. and Mrs. Frazier Tubbs of Ishpeming, Mich., who brought this notice to our attention, will be published in next month's Newsletter. (We regret it could not be published this month due to space limitations.)

No. 133-125	UOP
August 18, 1972	Notice

Effective July 18, 1972, permits to explore rock piles owned by Universal Oil Products Company are no longer being issued.

This action is being taken for two reasons: 1) the drastic increase in vandalism that has occurred in buildings near various rock piles owned by the Company; 2) the hazards that these rock piles pose to the safety of persons climbing on them.

We regret that we must discontinue the practice of issuing permits but unfortunately the actions of a few persons who have caused destruction and vandalism have necessitated our taking this step in order to protect our interests.

- R. W. Johnson, President, UOP Realty Development Co., 10 Algonquin Rd., Des Plaines, 111. 60016.

"TREASURES OF THE EARTH"... is the theme of the 1973 Midwest Federation Gem and Mineral show. The show will be held July 26 thru 29 in Cincinnati, Ohio at the Cincinnati Convention Center.

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<u>COLLECTING CRYSTALS</u>

.....By -- Paul Doggett, Mineral Chairman; Dallas Co. Rock Clubos

One of the most fascinating phases of the rockhound hobby is the collecting of minerals, and especially, minerals in their crystal form. There are approximately 2000 known minerals, and most of these are crystalized if conditions are favorable at the time they were being formed. Crystals, with their many and intricate faces and forms and wide variation in coloring, are truly marvels of nature. Many hundreds more are joining the ranks every day.

This is being written for those who have just started to collect crystals or are thinking about doing so. Nature must have had the collector in mind when she made crystals, for they occur in a wide variety of color, form and size, ranging from some so small a microscope is necessary to identify them, to others up to eight feet in diameter and more than forty feet in length. A beginner naturally wonders just what kind of crystals to collect, how to obtain them, and how to display them.

Many collectors collect specimens of various sizes and these make very interesting displays. Others specialize in some size or type. Crystals are available to suit every pocketbook and display space. Many collect micromounts; very small specimens which will fit in a 7/8 by 7/8" box. A large collection may be housed in a few trays but this type requires magnification. However, nature has a habit of putting some of her choice specimens in small packages and some of them are truly magnificant.

The next group collect thumbnails, which are one inch or less in diemeter. Most of these do not require magnification and may be displayed in small individual boxes. Miniatures form the next group, approximately 2 x 2 inches in size. Then comes the cabinet specimens from 2 to about 6 inches in diameter, and finally the museum pieces; crystals of unusual size and beauty. These groups progressively cost more and require more space to display. The collector may be governed accordingly.

There are many interesting variations in addition to those mentioned. Many collect crystals of family groups such as the copper minerals. The beautiful forms and colors of the various copper minerals make this group ideal for display. Or, the various colors and types of just one mineral may be collected, such as wulfenite as they come in many crystal shapes and colors.

In order to properly classify minerals they are divided into six major crystal systems. An interesting diversion is the collecting of as many crystals as possible belonging to one particular system. The opportunity to collect and add your own personal touch in this type of collecting is almost infinite.

Many may wonder just where to obtain crystals. It is possible, if a person is fortunate to live in such an area, to collect a number of different crystals personally and many have built up excellent collections in this way. But usually, the specimens in any given area are limited to a few varieties and if the collection is to be representative, they must be obtained from other sources as well. Perhaps the best and most

....next page

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THE JASPILITE

· · · · · 09 20 - 7080 - · · · ·

.....COLLECTING CRYSTALS continued...

economical way is to buy from reputable dealers. These people sither visit personally or have other sources of supply from mineral localities, not only in our own country but from all over the world. They offer the best material available at reasonable prices. They make it possible to obtain rare and beautiful specimens which would be impossible to collect in any other way. Visit some of the shows and see some of the fine material they have to offer or stop in at their places of business. One of the most important things to remember,...buy the top quality material. The natural tendency for a person beginning a collection is to get as many specimens as possible, even though some of them are mediocre quality. As your collection grows all of these will eventually be discarded. It is far better to buy only the best quality in the first place in whatever size you select even though the collection grows more slowly.

If you have an opportunity to buy five mediocre specimens for one dollar each, or a really good one for five dollars, buy the best one. Purely from a mercenary standpoint, you will be money ahead to say nothing of the satisfaction of having a top quality specimen. Good quality crystals are constantly increasing in value. Every quality collection is now worth much more than the owner paid for it a few years ago. If you are in doubt as to the quality of a crystal, as' someone you know who collects them. All collectors are happy to help others.

Another favorite method of building a collection is to trade with other collactors. Even though your specific area may not offer a great varisty of materials, it frequently offers a quantity of one or more species. Good specimens from your locality can be traded with other collectors who have different materials in their locality. Often you can also trade gem cutting material for crystals or specimens with a person who has minerals in his area but no cutting material. The swap tables at the shows are also wonderful places to trade what you have available for what the other fellow has. Many large collections have been built up in this way. There are a number of special things to look for. A crystal with inclusions of other minerals or a drop of water has much greater value because of its rarity. Generally speaking, crystals, especially singles, make better specimens if they are in metrix (the material in which they were found). Sometimes a combination of several minerals will add to its beauty and value. THE DOT LOD

Always catalog your specimens and begin with the first one. All dealers usually furnish information on cards with each specimen giving its name and location. To this may be added the chemical composition and crystal system. You will be amazed how much can be learned about minerals by doing this.

Crystals may be displayed almost anywhere in the house (if the family doesn't object). Try some for table decorations or on the mantle or TV. As a collection grows suitable display space should be provided in cases or shelves. But wherever they are displayed, be sure to have adequate lighting. Nothing enhances the beauty of a crystal as much as good lighting.

These are a few pointers that may be of value to a beginning collector. Just a final word of warning! You are almost certain to contract a

.....next page

.....COLLECTING CRYSTALS continued

disease known as "crystalitis". It has never proven fatal to anyone but no one has ever been known to recover from it, either. You will know you have it when you see a beautiful specimen which costs twice as much as you feel you can afford to spend for it. You will walk past a few times, admiring its beauty and crystal structure. Finally, you can't resist it any longer -- and you buy it. And the strange part of it is that you are always glad you did.

Crystal collecting is one case where you can "have your cake and eat it too". You and your friends will not only enjoy these wonders of nature, but if you collect only the best, they will increase in value as the years go by. Surely, no hobby can offer more than this.

THE POLISHED SURFACE

It is obvious that sharp, abrasive particles act as cutting agents which as they become successively smaller or finer, yield finer grooves. They will develop a very fine finish. According to a Mr. Bielby, polishing is a very different proposition. He believed that during the polishing process a melted or softened solid is wiped over the surface where it quickly hardens. This is known as the Bielby layer.

About this time electron diffraction was discovered. Electrons do not penetrate too deeply into the material so that it could be used to study the polished surface. Bielby was right, polished surfaces do flow.

The next question was, why do some polishing agents polish and not another? It was discovered that the melting point of the polishing agent as compared to the melting point of the specimen qas the answer, not their hardness. Now the ideal polishing agent would be one that is - brittle, with a melting point above and a hardness below that of the material to be polished.

have clearance between ground if you don't

The melting point is not the only factor as evidenced by the fact graphite has a melting point of 3527° C., but the nature of its slippery substance makes it useless as a polishing agent. It must be a brittle sub-stance. Wylon fish leader is excellent to fasten

Quartz changes to Cristobalite whose melting point is 1710°C. Zinc ox-ide will polish quartz, which is much harder but its melting point is 1800°C. The melting point of a diamond is slightly above 3500°C. Zirconium oxide will polish a diamond much better and faster than diamond powder because its melting point is 3532°C. On this basis diamond powder is unsatisfactory for polishing a diamond; tin oxide less efficient than zinc oxide for quartz, and cerium oxide unsatisfactory for many types of glass.

Any knowledge of polishing is not of much use unless the material to be polished is properly prepared in the cutting. hardest and most critical step in gem cutting.from- Mineralogist Magazine, 1948. Via Rockhound Tales polished is properly prepared in the pre-polish stage. Sanding is the

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the second rate of the second state of the second s Thinly slabbed translucent and colorbestal Dog ful agates or other rocks can be put together into an attractive conversation piece and decorative item for your home. gant as command to the malting moin

About this fime electron diffraction was

Use a brass rod and put a toggle on every connection, so that each stone turns individually as well as in groups. Take care to have clearance between groups if you don't want wind shimes. I don it dollar anities an

its has a malting point of 35 Use bell caps and chain links on edge of slabs to fasten the slabs to the toggle. Nylon fish leader is excellent to fasten toggle to the brass rod (This permits sliding slabs along rod until each unit balances). to talog said les ser

contus orida will politab a dimmond much Put all sections together and slide along the main rod until you find the center of balance. Glue each nylon fastening to the brass rod. Lypas of glass.

Anyone who has worked with mobiles of other not faireten kinds will create his own version of the ndd II spilas mobile described above. Think of the hours of

fun in planning, selecting material, cutting and polishing and then the assembling. Suddenly, the project is finished! Beautiful!

..... VCCL Club

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A REPORT ON ULTRASONIC CLEANERS THEIR USE AND THE RESULTS

Late in 1970 one of the members of the Micromounting Study Group became interested in the possibilities of an ultrasonic cleaner for use in cleaning the dust and debris from his tiny specimens in order to improve their appearance. This is quite a problem in micromounting since every small particle of dirt is magnified, and most specimens are either too fragile or have crevices impossible to reach with a brush or jet of water. Several specimens were cleaned in an ultrasonic cleaner which was used by one of the members for cleaning watches, and the results were quite encouraging.

As a result we made a survey of cleaners on the market in a size and at a price that would be of interest to members of our group, and after the holiday seasnon, we were able to obtain one for demonstrations at our Micromounting, Mineralogy, Lapidary and Paleontology Study Group Meetings. We had been unable to find anything in literature to help us, and the company that supplied the ultrasonic cleaner had no experience with the use of the units for our purposes. While ultrasonic cleaners are widely used in industrial and commercial applications, apparently they have not been used enough on minerals and fossils for any publication of use and results.

Based upon the encouraging results of the study group demonstrations, twelve ESCONI members ordered ultrasonic cleaners, all with a cleaning tank 6" x 5 3/8" x 4" deep and with output power of 35 watts, and with a minimum of information on how to use them, we decided to proceed with caution and pool our information learned by experience. The following is a report on the results to date.

SOLUTIONS: Although we each received with our cleaners two sample bottles, one general purpose and the other ammoniated, it was agreed that in the interest of economy it would be well to try homemade solutions as well, One suggested solution was two ounces of baking soda and two ounces of automatic dishwasher detergent in one gallon of water. Several have used this with good results. Others have used plain water, dish washing detergent in small quantities to avoid suds, Mr. Clean, Quartenary O or other low suds general purpose detergents. Everyone was well pleased with what they used and felt no need to change.

TEMPERATURES: We had information that results would be better with warm solutions that with cold, but not to let the solution get hotter than comfortable to the hands. Everyone reported they started out with cold solutions and had good results. Only one person had tried letting the solution get hotter than the hands found comfortable (probably about 130°F.), and at the higher temperature the results were slower, which was as had been predicted. When the solution gets hot from the operation of the cleaner, it should be poured into a container to cool for reuse and cool solution poured into the tank.

SPECIMEN SIZE: Items to be cleaned are generally placed into the tank, but many interesting experiences have been reported. Very small items can be placed in the plastic micromounting boxes, small bottles, plastic pill bottles or 35mm film cans, which are partly filled with the cleaning solution and then dropped or placed into the solution in the

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.....ULTRASONIC CLEANERS continued....

tank. The items clean just as well as they would if placed directly into the tank, and there is no danger of losing them or any loss of time in recovering. Other methods that have worked well for small items is the use of tea strainers, beavers and available ring trays made of plastic or stainless steel. It has been found unsatisfactory to place too many small items directly into the tank, that is for example walnut size in quantities to form more than just a partial single layer. For fist size specimens it is advisable to place the item on a plastic sponge or other cushion-like material to avoid the weight of the specimen from resisting the action of the transducer on the bottom of the tank or suspend the specimen from above with a string or cord. Items much too large to fit into the tank can be cleaned in this manner providing all surfaces can be immersed by turning the item as it is being cleaned. For example, a bottle shaped live an inverted cone, 24" high and 6" diameter at the bottom was cleaned on the entire inside surface by filling with solution and immersing only part of the bottom into the tank. The ultrasonic action could be felt all the way up to the neck of the bottle. oltablicas feiorendob bas fortabhol of been yiebly era they have not been used anough on sinerals and foreils

TIME: Many items are cleaned in about 10 to 20 seconds, and it is well to try very short periods of time for the first trial on each type of material since there is no advantage in taving more time than is needed, and too much time on some soft materials or water soluble materials can cause damage. More about this under later headings on minerals and fossils. It is well to remember that the primary purpose of ultrasonic cleaners is to remove dirt that could be easily removed if you could get to it without damaging the item. It is not intended to remove hard or insoluble coatings which cannot be removed easily when readily accessible. However, many specimens will require much more than one minute, and it is satisfactory to tave all the time required as long as trial pieces are used first to mave certain there will be no damage to prized items. The ultrsonic cleaners can be used for hours at a time without damage providing the solutions are changed when they become too hot.

<u>MINERALS</u>: A great variety of minerals have been cleaned with very good results. One member has cleaned millerite without damage. The very fragile blades of wulfenite and the long needle crystals of marcasite have also been cleaned without damage. Quartz crystals and adamite crystals which had discolorations between crystals, which could not be reached with a brush or any other method, were very quickly completely cleaned with the ultraconic cleaner. One member is going through his entire collection of minerals, which is very extensive, and has had no damage and reports very good results on all items to date. Another member has cleaned many types of micro specimens and has had only one bad result. That was boleite, which was supposed to be not water soluble according to Dana. (It pays to experiment on an unimportant specimen first.)

FOSSILS: One very impressive effect on cleaning fossils is that often pattern, which does not show up with other types of cleaning, shows up plainly after ultrasonic cleaning, and often micro fossils show up on large fossils after ultrasonic cleaning. Very good results have been

.....ULTRASONIC CLEANERS continued.....

reported especially on fossils from southern Indiana and Iowa. One member reported that our local fern fossils showed some loss of pattern when the time in the cleaner was much longer than necessary to remove the type of dirt an ultrasonic cleaner is expected to remove. If the specimen is left in long enough to remove "aolinite, it will remove part of the impression. One other member reported damage to small crinoid stems when left in for too long a time. They agreed it would be better to try a very short time period first. For some reason they found that a small container with about 25 specimens had shown no damage in the same cleaning period that caused the damage in a container with only eight specimens, and 25 had cleaned very well indicating the time could have been shortened. Also, one member mentioned that the trilobites from Silica, Ohio are a thin hard shell of matrix, which is somewhat water soluble; so he suggests watching the time carefully to avoid damaging the matrix after the shell is clean.

OTHER APPLICATIONS: It has been aspecially interesting to note the many unexpected applications to which the ultrasonic cleaners have been put to use. The accumulated dirt between lenses and fromes of glasses as well as the bridge pads are cleaned in a matter of a few seconds. Hair combs are quickly cleaned, but remove the excess hair first. One member had a piece of antique glass that had a crack between the handle and the body into which dirt had accumulated over the years detracting from the appearance. Nothing had been found to get the dirt out, but a minute or two in the ultrasonic cleaner did a perfect job. Another member has a lettering pen with a fine capillary tube, which has always been a problam to clean until he tried the ultrasonic cleaner. Another member has found the cleaner very useful on jewelry that contains many small stones or intricate patterns. Many small household items such as bottles, vases, glass tubing, salt and pepper shavers, etc., have been cleaned very quickly and impressively. One member uses his to remove investment casting material.

TYPICAL COMMENTS: The most enthusiastic comments have come from those who have made the most use of their ultrasonic cleaners. "Have used it on everything possible and well satisfied on everything", "More than happy", "Disappointed only when trying to remove hard coatings", "A big time saver", "Have gotten a years use out of it (in only seven months) already and well satisfied with the results on everything".

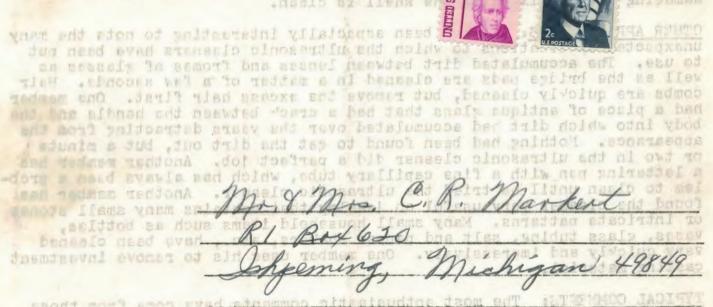
SUMMARY: Although this report is submitted primarily to gather together the experiences of each person, who has been using an ultrasonic cleaner, for the benefit of the entire group, it is expected it will be of interest to others who have not heard of the advantages of this equipment over other methods of cleaning. One field of use not covered above, only because none of those with ultrasonic cleaners have done lapidary work lately, is their well known ability to remove grinding, sanding and polishing debris from lapidary work. Buffing, lapping and other compounds such as rouge and tripoli are quickly and easily removed from all crevices and joints. Hard and soft solder fluxes, casting sands and investment casting materials are all removed from lapidary work in commercial shops. We also learned that many museums in Europe have ultrasonic cleaners for cleaning fossils and other museum pieces.John Ade.....via Earth Science News

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