

Sept 74

THE



J A S P I L I T E

Affiliated with the Midwest Federation
of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

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

Published quarterly

OFFICERS - 1974

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JASPILITE editors	Laurence and Olive Sain	Marquette

Deadlines: Jaspilite-- March 1, June 1, Sept.1, Dec. 1.

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

Initiation fee	\$1.50
Husband and wife annual dues	3.00
Adult annual dues	2.00
Junior annual dues	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.

CONTENTS

President's letter	2	Zeolites	14
Map - meeting site	3	MWF Newsletters	15-18
Secretary's minutes	4-5	Color in Minerals	19-20
Club Calendar & other Shows	5	Frosted glass	20
Report on MWF Convention	6-8	Selecting specimens	20
Report on Rock Swap	9	AFMS - Naming Minerals	21-22
Rockin' 'round	10-11	Jasper	22
Diminutive Delights	12-13	Preserving Minerals	23

Fellow Rockhounds:

Wow! Where has the summer gone? I think we all are asking this question; but here it is -- September and the start of another year.

The summer has been a very profitable one for those who took advantage of the scheduled field trips put on by the different members of the club. I thank all who worked as and with the field trip guides. They did a great job in developing and leading their trips.

The rock swap - silent auction and the field trips which we hosted in August were a great success and I thank all of you who helped with it.

The first two meetings of the year will be held at the Bothwell Middle School in Marquette (see map on the next page for directions on how to get there).*****

Your president,
Ernie Johnson

NEEDED: Specimens of local minerals

Ernie Johnson is setting up a permanent display for the Vandenberg School in Marquette Township. This display will be used by the teachers in the classrooms in connection with a mini-class on rocks and minerals. If you would like to donate, give Ernie a call.

Would you like to put a display in the Bothwell Middle School for a two or three-week period? If so, call Ernie Johnson. We are looking for a display of local minerals and/or fossils. (These are locked cases)

Your editors of your club bulletin would appreciate material for the next issue. If you are interested in a particular mineral or place to collect, research it in the local libraries and write it up to share with fellow club members. Or, how about telling us about some of your collecting trips; how you became interested in rocks; what branch of the hobby appeals to you; share some of your 'shop tips'; etc., etc.

Your editors will accept your contributions be they one line long to several pages. How about it?

Breathes there a Rockhound with aim so dead who never to himself has said, "#7\$ *? (%**\$#"***?** %\$\$\$#" &%\$#"***! As he missed the rock and hit thumb instead! (via The Geode)

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY'S MINUTES

(downtown Mgt.)

A motion was passed by the Board authorizing the Library Committee to purchase the new book Geology of Michigan for the club library in memory of Bill Armstrong.

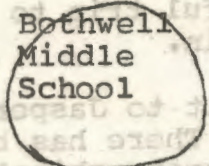
A report was made on the TV program on cutting and polishing stones presented by Don Dennis and his grandsons.

Lawrence Sain, club delegate, reported on the NWF meeting held in Lincoln, Nebraska. (His report is included as a separate article.)

Arnold Mulzer attended and reported on the Convention Awards Banquet which was attended by a group of people. Many awards were presented and the speaker, Lincoln Sain, told out the carving of the presidents on Mt. Rushmore. He said that the new project has been started there to carve a museum out of the mountain.

W-

U.S. 41
(West to Ishpeming)



Bothwell Middle School

Mesnard Street

Jackson Street

Beef-a-roo

U.S. 41 (south)

Altamont St.

Champion St.

S

Turn at the Beef-a-roo onto Jackson St and drive to Altamont St, then L. Turn R. on Mesnard St and drive to the school. Park in the back of the school. There will be signs to direct you to the meeting room.

The October and November meetings will be held at the Bothwell Middle School in Marquette.

(If you think you are going to have a problem finding the school, call one of the officers a few days before the meeting and perhaps you can meet at the member's home and drive to the meeting together. If this is your first trip to the school, do plan on coming well ahead of the meeting time.

Remember this is an opportunity for you to get instruction on cutting and polishing after the business meeting is over. Come prepared--wear washable clothes.

How about bringing 1 or 2 of the bragging stones you collected during the summer to show to all of us!

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Arnold Mulzer attended and reported on the Convention Awards Banquet which was attended by 780 people. Many awards were presented and the speaker, Lincoln Borghum, told about the carving of the presidents on Mt. Rushmore. He also said that a new project has been started there to carve a museum out of the mountain.

The field trip scheduled for Aug. 10th was postponed because of the illness of the leader, Bob Markert.

Laurence Sain complimented Bob Phillips on the successful trip to the Silver Lake area and hoped the Club could go there again.

Ernest Johnson and Frazier Tubbs reported on their visit to Jasper Knob to see the vandalism and to take pictures of it. There has been considerable damage to the Jaspilite outcropping by hammer, chisels and paint. C.C.I. gave permission for the club to place signs there but it was felt representatives from the club should meet with the Ishpeming City Commission about enforcement of the signs. This was tabled until fall.

Ray Anderson reported on the board members' visit to the Bothwell Middle School which revealed wonderful lapidary equipment consisting of grinding wheels, saw and tumbler. The school facilities were offered to the club for meetings. The services of club members were offered to the school for development of their lapidary program and instructing teachers in the use of the equipment. The school has four cases in the cafeteria in which they would like displays of rocks and minerals. A motion was passed to hold the October club meeting at the Bothwell Middle School.

Business about the Rock Swap:

A motion was passed to purchase a clock from George Bell to use as a raffle prize. Tickets to be 25¢ or 5 for \$1.00. The drawing to be made at the Cracker Barrel session.

There will be 6 tables for the silent auction and 1 table for the Pebble Pups. Money from the Pebble Pups table will be used for their projects. It will be put in the general fund under separate booking.

The waiver forms for the field trips will be at the registration table where they will be signed on Saturday. The Champion trip will leave at noon and the Lindberg-Palmer trip at 12:30 P.M.

.....secretary's minutes continued..

There will be no Board meeting in September but the next one will be held on Thursday, October 3 at Sains.

Dorothy Tubbs, Secretary

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*****PROGRAMS FOR IR&MC MEETINGS*****

Sunday, October 19th - 2:00 P.M. at the Bothwell Middle School in Marquette. This will be a work meeting where members will learn how to make cabachons. Equipment will be brought in by club members who will serve as instructors.

Sunday, November 17th - Program on Micromounts by Carl Gutman using the Midwest Federation's slide program on Micromounts (we hope).

Sunday, December 15th - Christmas Party with either a dinner or pot-luck meal. Program will consist of slides made at the club's various summer activities.

Frazier H. Tubbs, Program Chairman

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CALENDAR OF SHOWS AND SWAPS*****

- September 28-29: Gem Show, Livingston Gem & Mineral Soc., Rec. Center, 925 W. Grand River, Howell, Michigan
- October 4-6: Gem Show, Flint Rock & Gem Club, Williams Community Center, Flint, Michigan
- October 5-6: Gem Show, Racine Geological Society. Memorial Hall, 7th and Lake St., Racine, Wisconsin.
- October 11-13: Grand Traverse Area Rock and Mineral Club. Gem Show. NW Michigan College Gym, College Drive, Traverse City, Mich.
- October 11-13: Gem Show, Michigan Mineralogical Society, Light Guard Armory, 4400 E. 8 mile Rd., Detroit, Michigan.
- October 25-27: Gem Show, Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society, Mich. National Guard Armory, 2500 S. Washington, Lansing, Michigan. Also a supervised SWAP.
- November 2: Auction, Midwest Mineral & Lapidary Society, St. Paul Hall, Dearborn, Michigan.
- November 9-10: Gem Show, Museum Rock and Mineral Club, Park Plaza Center Mall, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

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From Gem and Minerals via Flint Rock & Gem Newsletter: A LAPIDARY TIP by Denese Wierzbicki, White Pine, Michigan: She discovered an easy way to store her extra cabachons and mountings. She purchased a set of plastic notebook leaves used by coin collectors. Each sheet has 20 individual compartments and can be kept in a regular notebook. The cabachons and mountings are easy to see and take up little space. (Sounds like a good idea don't you think?)

Delegate's Report: Midwest Federation Annual Council Meeting
and the National Gem and Mineral Show

The Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club was well represented at the National Gem and Mineral Show in Lincoln, Nebraska on June 13-16, 1974. The following club members were present: Bob and Marian Markert as Dealers, Ray Anderson as 1st alternate and wife Edith, Arnold Mulzer as 2nd alternate, Laurence Sain- delegate and wife Olive, Pat Elie, Bern and Christine Miljour, and former member Al Murray.

One of the highlights of the convention was the ceremony for the first day issue of four new U.S. 10¢ postage stamps honoring the nation's mineral heritage. The first day covers from Lincoln reveal a unique type of stamp in that they may be used as a diamond shape rather than the traditional square or rectangle. The stamps are beautiful and show precious gems from the United States-- Petrified wood, Amethyst, Tourmaline and Rhodochrosite.

It was stated at the convention that this was the largest show ever held, with over 600 competitive displays of rocks, minerals, fossils, jewelry, carvings, artifacts, etc. from all over the world. In addition there were demonstrations and programs by nationally known speakers on all phases of the lapidary arts and earth sciences. Lincoln Borglum, who completed the carving of Mt. Rushmore National Memorial in South Dakots, was the banquet speaker.

A large number of dealers were also an important part of the convention. Dealers were present from all parts of the U.S. with interesting rocks, minerals, gems, jewelry, books and equipment to aid the rock hound and lapidarist.

Swapping was also an important part of the show. This was conducted under a covered portion of the grandstand continuously. Believe me we have some avid swappers in our club. They were wheeling and dealing practically every moment that they could tear themselves away from the exhibits, lectures and dealers' displays. I am sure you will see some of their "treasures" at future club meetings.

The exhibits could only be described as fantastic, beautiful, creative and exquisite. One could not begin to see them all in a day or two. Everyone went back numerous times to view them. Among the state exhibits we felt that Michigan's did not have to take a back seat to any due to the efforts of Bud Nicholls and the generosity of many club members who loaned specimens (these people were identified in the case). We were pleased to see donors from our club, Frazer and Dorothy Tubbs, who had loaned minerals and gems from their own collection thus assuring the Upper Peninsula receiving recognition.

Your delegate accompanied by the 1st alternate attended the Midwest Delegates luncheon and meeting. The 2nd alternate attended the banquet. It was just about impossible to attend everything and yet have time available to viewing the show, attending lectures and demonstrations, visiting and swapping.

.....next page.....

.....Delegate's report, continued...

Following is a brief resume' of the MWF meeting on June 15th, 9 A. M.- 5 P.M.:

1. Merit presentations for Club Performance by June Zietner. The trophies were awarded at the banquet.
2. Presentation of a slide show with narrative of the 1972 Convention at Ishpeming; assembled and produced by Frazer and Dorothy Tubbs. Presented by your delegate and accepted by Mark Harris, president of the MWF.
3. Paul Good spoke on "Bulletin Editors News" a newsletter he puts out giving helpful suggestions to club editors.
4. Barney Farr commented on future MWF shows: Detroit- 1975? and St. Louis in 1976.
5. The delegates voted to accept Dayton, Ohio's bid for the 1977 Show.
6. The Environment committee report indicated that they are working on 'Field Trip Safety and Environmental Safety' and will soon have material ready for clubs.
7. The Mineralogy committee will have a booth at future shows manned by competent people to identify specimens.
8. The Program chairman stated that programs on 'Lapidary Arts' are needed for distribution. He also requested that clubs requesting a program write in at least 30 days prior to the date of use.
9. Safety and Field Trip committees are developing a manual for safety on field trips in conjunction with the Environment Com. They would appreciate help and suggestions.
10. Some corrections were announced concerning the 1973 supplement for competitive displays. These can be obtained from MWF headquarters.
11. Bud Nicholls presented an amendment to the Constitution permitting affiliation of club members between the United States and Canada. The amendment passed unanimously.
12. Announcement that this was the best attended Delegates' meeting with 210 delegates, alternates and officers plus 40 guests. 52% of the MWF clubs were represented.
13. The Detroit club will be requesting directories of every club for mailing information on the 1975 show.
14. A request for a dues increase by AFMS met with considerable opposition due to the lateness of the request. It was decided that the executive committee would study the request and seek more information before making a decision. They would then inform the various clubs explaining their decision.
15. A motion to appoint a committee to study ways of preventing the closing of collecting areas and the reopening of some already closed carried unanimously.
16. Bud Nicholls presented Mrs. Kellers' T.V. Program. It received unanimous backing from all the delegates and already has financial backing from the P.T.A.
17. A charter for a new club was presented to Grand Island Nebraska Gem and Mineral Club.
18. President Harris presented an agreement between the Rocky Mountain Federation and the Midwest Federation establishing the 100th meridian as the boundary line between the two federations and that it would not affect any club which had already affiliated with one or

.....next page..

.....Delegate's report, continued..

the other of the Federations. He requested permission to sign for the Midwest. Passed unanimously.

19. The final work of the Convention was the election of officers. The following were elected:

- President Terry Huizing
- First Vice-president . Howard Taylor
- Second Vice-president . Miss Hazel Kuntz
- Secretary Miss Jean Reynolds
- Treasurer Mrs. Bernice M^CCloskey
- Nominating Committee--3 yr. term--Mrs. Elsie Popejoy and Mr. Bernard (Barney) Parr
- Nominating Committee--1 yr. term to fill vacancy--Mr. Leonard (Bud) Nicholls

20. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Your delegate enjoyed the experience of representing you at the MWF Council meeting. All of us enjoyed the interesting and educational experience at the show besides meeting many new and friendly rockhounds.

The Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club should be highly commended for the excellent job the did in organizing and carrying out such a magnificent show and convention. It was a tremendous undertaking but extremely well organized and carried out from beginning to end.

Your MWF delegate, Laurence Sain

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SHOP HINTS

Need a backing for thin or irregularly shaped turquoise? Use Devcon Plastic Steel. Mix Devcon according to directions. Apply to bottom of potential cab or nugget. Turn stone over and place top side up on waxed paper or heavy plastic on a smooth surface. The Devcon will harden and can be easily removed from the waxed paper or plastic leaving a flat, smooth surface ready for dopping and needing no grinding. (rom Huaohua Mineral& Club 'Notes' via The Rock Box)

For slabbing irregular rocks, just glue the rock to a square piece of scrap lumber with automotive body repair compound. You can get it in gallon cans, and a little heat will remove the last thin butt. The wood and rock seal will hold firm with the wood held in the vise and the rock extended. Use new wood each time. (From The Napalite via The Geode)

Put a few drops of rubbing alcohol in the bottles of water in which you keep opals. It will keep them from turning black and the water from getting stagnant. (Gem City Rock News via The Geode)

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The development of a new product is a 3-step process; 1. an American firm announces an invention; 2. the Russians claim they made the same discovery 20 years ago; 3. the Japanese start exporting it! (via Pick & Shovel; Rear Trunk)

ROCK SWAP --- SILENT AUCTION

The Rock Swap which was held on August 17 was a great success. There were 124 registered individuals; but there actually were many more in attendance than registered. They came from nine different states: Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Florida, Illinois, Arkansas and Oklahoma.

The day turned out just right -- no rain and lots of sun. The ball-field worked out perfectly. The cars were parked inside the fence and along the outfield so they formed a semi-circle with the silent auction tables forming a line from third base to second base.

Rockhounds started arriving about 8:30 A.M. and they came and went all day long. Each registered participant was given a piece of Australian iron ore donated by Arnold Mulzer.

Ray Anderson started the first auction about 10 A.M. and continued until 3:30 P.M. with the only break for lunch. There were a couple hundred items for the auctions; and they were from all over the U. S.

As the auctions were going on and the swaps were being made, the door prizes were being drawn. There were seven prizes in all with four of them coming from the Frazier Tubbs' and the others coming from the auction tables.

At 7 P.M. the Cracker Barrel session was called to order by Frazier Tubbs. Everyone had to introduce himself and name the state he represented. A discussion was then held on MWF and just about anything else brought up. During the discussion, everyone enjoyed cheese and crackers, lemonade, koolaid and coffee which was provided by the club. The main door prizes (raffle) were drawn during the evening session. The prizes were thomsonite, Kona candleholders and a Kona clock. The winners were Joel Vicary, Clayton Chatters and Erwin Kufner.

The field trips on Sunday started and ended in a light rain; but the sun was very competitive off and on during the day. Seventy two signed up for the Kona and Jaspilite trip and twenty for the trip to the two Champion mines.

The overall feeling by everyone in attendance was that all had an enjoyable time.

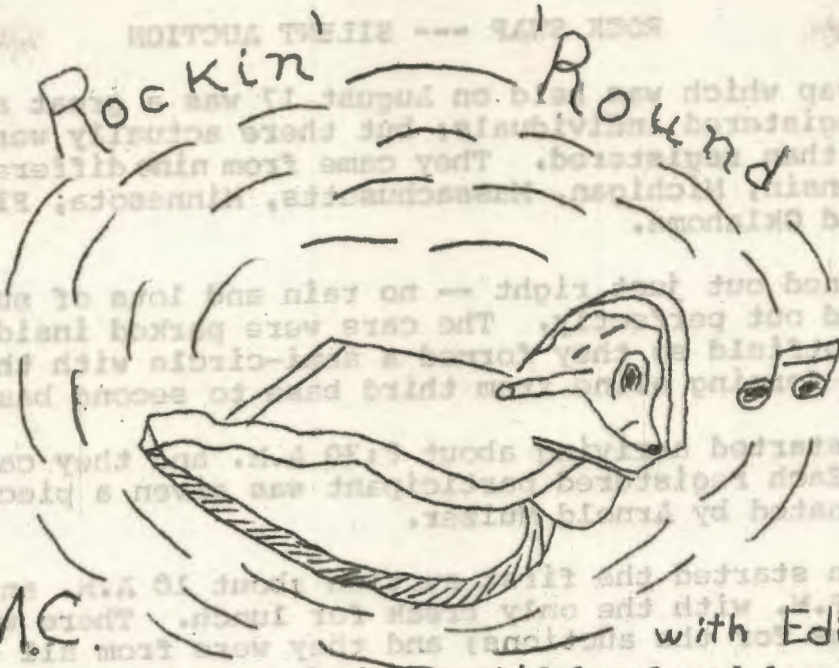
Ernie Johnson, chairman

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DOUBLE USE FOR A GLASS-TOPPED COFFEE TABLE: Make a shallow drawer to slide under the glass top in which you can display rock slabs, cabochons, or small specimens. It will make a good conversation piece as well as being a reminder of some of the wonderful trips you have had; collecting trips, swaps, work sessions, making new friends, tc.

" If you are not using your smile, you are like a man with a million dollars in the bank and no check book." (Pick & Chisel via The Geode)

Rockin' Round



J.R. & M.C.

with Edith Anderson

September is here, Autumn and the beautiful colored leaves after our first frost makes us all feel that rock trips are almost over, but we do have all those rocks collected on our many successful field trips and our first big Rock Swap waiting to be admired and sorted and cataloged to keep us busy during the winter. Try to save some for our silent auctions and small swaps and also for the young people we hope to help learn to enjoy working with rocks this winter.

Bob Markert has resigned as secretary of the Ishpeming Chamber of Commerce and has accepted the position as manager of the Ishpeming Holiday Travel Service Agency. We hope you will be happy with your new venture and have more time to devote to your rock hobby.

Ann Elie Dotson left for Turkey on Sept. 1, to join her husband who is serving with the U.S. Air Force. Her mother, Pat Elie accompanied her to New York City.

Michigan Department of Natural Resources has printed a new list of publications available from the Geological Survey. They can be had for free and up in price to \$3.00 a copy. A copy of this list will be placed in our library and you may buy these publications or find them at public libraries.

Ben DeSonia demonstrated and exhibited rock jewelry at the Senior Citizen's conference at the University. He also with his grandson Gene had a place at the Art Show at Presque Isle Park where they demonstrated their hobby and sold jewelry.

Bob Markert had his grinder and polisher at the Arts and Crafts sidewalk show in Ishpeming working with rocks and explaining the hobby.

Pat Elie arranged a display of copper at the K.I. Sawyer school showing native copper, smelter copper and articles made from copper.

.....next page....

.....rockin' 'round...continued

Ernie Johnson set up a rock exhibit at the Vandeenboom school.

Ray Anderson has a display of copper at the Bothwell Middle school.

These exhibits cover a large area and we hope it brings our hobby to many people who might be interested in joining our club.

A new book for the library has been purchased. "New Improved Methods Tumbling Gem Stones" by Gilman. The book gives good helpful knowledge about tumbling, sorting, rocks, grits and polishes and making simple jewelry. See Vern and Christine, our librarians about borrowing it.

Pat Elie was cited by the Marquette County 4-H Council for her volunteer work with the young people, especially as co-organizer of the first 4-H show at the Marquette Mall. She has been teaching rock cutting and polishing to some of the youth and they demonstrated at the Mall show.

To Luella Reidy, Bob Markert, Pat Elie and any others who spent time in the hospital we hope they are all at home again and enjoying good health.

Scott and Donna Markert were the proud parents of a baby boy born July 5, in Baltimore, Maryland. They named him Warren Scott. One more rockhound?

Jane Brunngraber and Steve Mileski were married in July and Ann Mulzer and H. J. LaHaie's marriage was in August.

If you are going to the Copper Country on U.S. 41 pay attention to the sign on the left as you come to Calumet. It shows a 9,393 pound copper boulder and has recently been dedicated to make it a part of the Copper-town display. The copper was found in 1970 beneath a foot of soil on the Emil Paulson farm about four miles southwest of Calumet. It was purchased for \$6,000. by the late J.A. Lizzadro, founder of the Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art in Elmhurst, Illinois and who decided it should remain in the copper country and therefore presented it to the Copper-town Development Corporation.

The Jaspilite, first published in October 1954 will be 20 years old next month.

The Jackson Mine Memorial honoring the discovery of iron in Marquette County has been moved to its new location in the small park in Negaunee on U.S. 41. A large boulder with a drill still embedded is displayed near the monument. A rustic information booth completes the new additions to this park which can be enjoyed daily by all who pass by.

Helen and Arne Nelson, former club members, visited with friends in the county and Arne attended his 50th class reunion in Escanaba. Since their return to Lake, Michigan, Helen suffered a heart attack and is hospitalized. We hope that her hospital stay will not be long.

Diminutive Delights: Life's Little Pleasures

On our recent Labor Day collecting trip to the Keweenaw Peninsula, I sensed a groundswell of interest in micro minerals from a significant minority of collectors. To fan this flickering flame of awareness, I propose to do a series of articles that hopefully will prepare all concerned for next year's attack on the area's poor rock piles.

In the 2nd issue of the Jaspilite of 1973 (April-June), I wrote an introduction to micro mineral collecting. If you can get past the purple prose, it is worth your efforts to refer back to this article as a lead-in to our present discourse. Supplementing the written work will also be some demonstrations on micro-mounting at future club meetings--mark your calendar for these exciting events!

Let's start in the comfort of your arm-chair within easy reach of racks and research library. The quest at hand is successfully securing those tiny crystals--intact--snuggled in a vug somewhere on a decrepit-looking rock rattling around under foot on one of those unnatural hillocks that you are gingerly traversing. Not just any minute crystalline mineral nor any dump. No, we are looking for a particular micro mineral in a specific rock pile. This is the basis, the root, the core. To go hunting, you must know the quarry.

There are a number of ways to approach this search. You could start with a mineral that you know occurs in a certain locale, then zero in on exactly where it was found. Or, you could determine the name and location of major mining activities and disclose what was unearthed at each place.

Either way, it will take some diligence on your part, but the research will be both fun and educational provided you take the attitude of wanting to learn more about your hobby. Certainly, there has been a surfeit of material generated on the classic mining--and collecting--locales. And we are rich in resources in both the Iron and Copper Countries that will assist you in your studies. Books, pamphlets, monographs, professional papers, mining reports et al repose in our fine municipal, university and historical society libraries. They are there for your use, so please do avail yourself of their services. Consider, too, club members as possible sources of knowledge what with their personal experience and libraries.

As a recommendation, I would heartily suggest making an inventory of the mines in your favorite collecting locale and index the minerals to be found at each site. This would make a superb club activity. A complement to your list would be a topographic map for determining terrain and natural plus man-made features, a plat book to disclose property ownership, and a current road map so that you can discover how to get to your destination.

For an organized field trip, I submit that a club/organization sponsoring the sojourn should present a program on the spots to be visited at a meeting preceeding the outing. Efforts should be made to give the historical background of the area, tips on collecting, obtain permission for trespass and collecting, learn the responsibilities of club

....next page..

.....Diminutive Delights continued...

and individual and display minerals that can realistically still be found.

The latter is of utmost importance. All too often we go plunging into a dump looking for exquisite, delicately crystalline specimens with the full expectation of finding exactly that. Sometimes it happens, but usually a battered sample is the response to our prospecting. Since we are concentrating on micro minerals, the fine example is still obtainable--, not, however, without much research and sweaty work.

Observing what the minerals look like that you are after, their associations and the host country rock/matrix is the best way to learn. Again, university, historical society, and club member collections are prime resources to draw upon. Familiarize yourself with this physical mineralogy, it will repay you on the piles.

Armed with the knowledge of the mining history of your selected collecting site, where the piles are, how to get there, what minerals can be found in the vicinity and what the minerals look like, you are now prepared to sally forth and blithely smash the rocks with aplomb. Our next episode will concern itself with collecting, paraphernalia, preservation of specimens on site and more homilies.

.....Carlton W. Gutman

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WARNING! WARNING! WARNING!

The consumer product safety commission is attempting to remove from the market thousands of tubes of SUPER GLUE. This glue was originally developed for use during surgery in place of stitches. These cyanocrylics are sold under many different brand names. The glue is so strong it can cement fingers and hands together, requiring medical help to free them. Along with being super stick, they are also speedy drying,

Some brands do not carry label warnings about this glue causing eye irritations. WASHING THE EYE WITH WATER, a common remedy, WOULD MAKE THIS GLUE SET FASTER!! Acetone can dissolve the glue, but acetone cannot be used in the eye! Many in our hobby have marveled at the drying speed and holding power of this type glue. It is sold in very, very small quantities, in plastic containers at about \$2.00. If you have this glue on hand and continue to use it, PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE COMMISSION'S CONCERN AND HEED THE WARNING!!!!

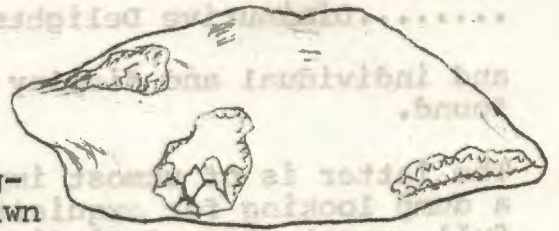
(From Rocky Echoes via The Pyriter..From The Federations)

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"Happiness is to be found along the way, not at the end of the road for then the journey is over." The Pyriter

"To make mistakes is human; to stumble is commonplace; to be able to laugh at yourself is maturity." The Viewer

THE ZEOLITES



Zeolites (from the Greek words, 'zein', meaning "to boil" and lithos, meaning "stone", because of the bubbling of fragments in the torch flame as water is drawn off) are a well defined group of closely related minerals, some 26 to 30 in number. They are hydrous silicates, in which aluminum is always present in a greater quantity than any other metal. All are white or colorless when free of impurities, but are sometimes stained by iron or other foreign mineral matter. Their luster is feeble, lacking any "fire" or brilliance and giving the crystals a delicate, ethereal quality. Their specific gravity is low, the average of 27 species is 2.2. All the zeolites can be scratched by the steel of a good knife.

The most striking property is their rapid dehydration or water loss, and the ability to reabsorb almost all the water again without change in crystal structure.

The home of the zeolites is in the basalts, fine-grained volcanic rocks, which are called traprocks. The traprock is formed by molten lava. As it reaches the surface the confining pressure is lost, and the water and volatile constituents that kept it molten escape rapidly. As these gasses bubble out, some are trapped by the quickly solidifying lava, producing rock that contains many cavities like swiss cheese. Heated waters rising from below and surface waters percolating downward along fractures and openings dissolve sodium, calcium, potassium, aluminum and silica from the traprock. In the cavities are then deposited new minerals from these solutions, the minerals of the traprock suite.

Some zeolites occur in vast quantities as alteration of volcanic glass. These are massive and have little appeal to the collector. But in their traprock home, the zeolites are usually found in beautifully formed crystals.

Some of the more common zeolites are: natrolite, stilbite, chabazite, mesolite, thomsonite, scolecite, heulandite, leumontite and analcine.

Zeolites are rarely found alone, other non-zeolite minerals are their characteristic and frequent associates. The entire suite of minerals so frequently occurs together that the association is called the traprock suite. Non-zeolite members found almost exclusively in traprock, are prehnite, datolite, apophyllite and pectolite. Other minerals such as amethyst, calcite, native copper, native silver, epidote, babingtonite, chlorite and quartz, although characteristic of the suite, are frequently found in other associations as well.

(By Joyce Hanschu in The Rockpile)

Reference: Minerals and Man by C.S. Hurlbut, Jr.
Getting Acquainted With Minerals by English

"Inflation has't ruined everything. A dime can still be used as a screwdriver."

Midwest Federation's NEWSLETTER

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Issue No. 147 - September 1974

Mark Harris reports on the Lincoln show

June 13-16, Lincoln, Nebraska, were the dates for one of the largest shows ever seen among the rockhounds in America. Hundreds of exhibits, both competitive and non-competitive, covered the space of the main exhibit hall and overflowed into the dealers hall. There were about fifty dealers on hand offering just about every kind of jewelry and cutting material and mineral specimens from many countries of the world. As great as the show was, there were more important things for some of us.

On June 12, the American Federation met. The most controversial item on the agenda was a dues increase voted. The new increase was five cents per member. It was understood at the time that it would not take effect until after all the regional federations had met and voted either to accept it or reject it. Later it was decided by the Board of Directors, Midwest delegation not being present, to hold a mail ballot to start it beginning in 1975. Your representatives, President and First Vice President, voted against the measure as had been advocated by the Advisory Committee and Long Range Planning Committee. I am sure that no club in the Midwest Federation would object to a moderate dues increase if it had been explained that all reasonable attempts had been made to cut some expenses not deemed necessary by your representatives. It was not apparent that any attempt had been made to cut what many believe to be unnecessary expenses.

On the same day, AFMS voted that the president appoint a committee consisting of one member from each federation under the chairmanship of Cliff Anthes of Tucson, Arizona. At this writing, a Midwest Federation member has not been appointed. It is hoped this will be done by the middle of July. This committee will look into the matter of the clubs which decide to join a federation outside its territory. The event which raised this question was the announcement that the 1977 National Show and Convention will be held in Ogden, Utah, a Northwestern Federation Club located in the Rocky Mountain Federation Territory. The same year about seven weeks earlier the Rocky Mountain Federation has scheduled its Federation Convention at Salt Lake City, about thirty miles from Ogden.

The Midwest Federation met on June 15th. Fifty-two per cent of the clubs were represented by delegates or alternates. Minutes of the meeting will be published by the secretary. A few of the highlights were a discussion of the dues increase and a report that Rocky Mountain Federation had selected a representative to negotiate with Midwest on a boundary dispute which has been in the minds of the federation officers for about twelve to fourteen years. The Council Members voted to appoint the
Report...please turn to page 2

Welcome new members

- Baraga County Gem and Lapidary Club, Bernard O. Brockett, President - Aura Road, L'Anse, Michigan 49946
- Mineralogical Society of Cleveland, Paul C. Clifford, President - 2955 Berkshire Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118
- Hiawatha Gem and Mineral Society, Herman E. Lacy, President - 433 Draper Road, McHenry, Illinois
- Belvidere Gem and Mineral Society, Howard A. Curry, President - Route #1, Box 139, Belvidere, Illinois 61108
- Heights Gem and Mineral Society, Mari Poss, President - 3565 Lytel Road, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122
- Michigan Geology and Gemcraft Society, Lee M. Kirby, President - 3660 Embracadero, Drayton Plains, Michigan 48020
- Lea Area Petra (Rock) Society, Charles O. Ehlert, President - 151 - 5th Street S.E., Glenville, Minnesota 56036
- Edwards River Earth Science Club, Robert Hoffman, President - 509 N.E. 5th Avenue, Aledo, Illinois 61231

New slide program

We would like to announce that we have a new program - "1972 Ispeming Convention and Field Trip" - 100 slides. At this time, we are retiring the "1962 Des Moines Exposition" program. As you know, "Stones in Religion" is retired due to age and "Field Trip to Tri-State Area" was lost in the mail. Very recently we discovered that half a program is lost. Anyone who has seen "Life Revealed in the Rocks", we need the other half. Check your projector. The slides may be in there.

We have gained one program but lost three. How about a club project to give the federation a program? We'd like it.

* * * * *

Please note! All requests for programs should be sent directly to the Program Chairman Donald Stinnett, 29462 Aspen Drive, Flat Rock, Michigan 48134. Please be sure to include the program fee and the exact and complete address to which you want the program shipped. Also, give a choice of programs and alternate dates so that you will be sure to have a program for your meeting. Order at least 30 days in advance as programs are popular and are booked well in advance.

Fall Executive Committee meeting planned for Nov. 2

The Midwest Federation will hold the annual fall meeting of the Executive Committee on Saturday, Nov. 2 at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge, Hammond, Ind.

Those planning to attend are urged to make reservations early. Special room discounts will be available at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge.

Welcome New Members

Stone Head Lapidary and Mineral Club, Leslie Baker, Pres., Lakeview Drive, Ontonagon, Mich.

Bloomington Gem and Mineral Society, Ms. Kathryn Lott, Pres., 3141 Kingsley Drive, Bloomington, Ind. 47401

Anoka County Gem and Mineral Club, R. C. Dunn, Pres., 6417 Georgia Ave. No., Minneapolis, Minn 55428

Sales will benefit Scholarship Foundation Fund

Specimen file cards available

Frank Sadelik, a long time member of Central Iowa Mineral Society, Des Moines, Iowa, died some months ago in his early nineties.

For many years Frank had been associated with a local printing and stationary firm and had originated a specimen file card of which he sold hundreds throughout the nation through advertisements in various newspapers and magazines.

The administrator of his estate discovered a quantity of the cards and contacted some Des Moines rock and mineral collectors to determine what disposition should be made of them. It was suggested that they be sold to rock and mineral collectors and that the money from the sales be contributed to the American Scholarship Foundation fund in Frank's name. The administrator approved the suggestion and turned them over to the Midwest Federation for the sale.

The cards will be sold in lots of 100 at a cost of \$1.75 postpaid anywhere in the United States. When placing an order, include check made payable to the Midwest Federation, complete name and address to where the cards are to be mailed. Send your order to Clinton Heckert, Midwest Federation Director of Supplies, 725 Stewart Street, Elgin, Ill. 60102

Specimen Name	Specimen Number
From What Location	General Description
Obtained From	Hardness
For Tech. Information See	Spec. Gravity
Duplicate Specimen No.	Color
Ignome	Luster
Chemical Content	Fracture
Remarks	Streak approx. (")
	Weight approx.
	Fluorescent
	Est. Value
	Cost in Code

Card shown 2/3 actual size. Full size of card is 4x6

Scholarship award

1974 is the tenth year it has been possible for the Scholarship Foundation to grant earth science scholarships. From a modest beginning in 1965 when one \$300 scholarship was offered for two years of graduate study, the Foundation is now in its third year of granting six - one in each of the six Regionals of the American Federation.



The Honorary Plaque winner in the Midwest Federation was Dr. Paul Edwin Potter, Professor of Geology, University of Cincinnati. Dr. Potter is a native of Springfield, Ohio and received his degrees in geology at the University of Chicago. He was professor of geology at Indiana University and has been professor of geology at Cincinnati since 1971. An outstanding authority on sedimentary geology, he has co-authored a number of books, several of which are widely used in college

courses.

Dr. Potter has selected Wayne R. Goodman to receive the grant. Goodman was born Oct. 10, 1951 in Elyria, Ohio. He received his B.S. degree at Ashland College in 1972 with nearly straight A's. Since the fall of 1972 he has been at the University of Cincinnati working on his Ph. D.

JUNIOR MEMBERS

from Diane Dare
chairman, MWF Junior Activities Committee

Where will your future members come from? The active involvement of Junior Members depends on the activities of your club, but if the youngsters are involved NOW, when they "graduate" and become adult members, they will remain active and involved. The Juniors are your club's lifeline!

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Issue No. 148 - October, 1974

What about 1980?... and 79?

by B. F. Parr

Back in 1968, the National Show at Normal had been over less than two months when the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club made a firm bid for 1974. Those of you who were at Lincoln in June saw what almost six years of planning and work can produce. What club would like to make a name for itself by hosting the next American Federation Convention and National Show in the Midwest in 1980? We hope some clubs have been thinking about it. Sure, there is a lot of work involved but it is a real challenge and can be a great unifying and strengthening force to a club.

We will also need a host for the 1979 Midwest Federation Convention and Show. Cedar Rapids, Iowa is, at present, the only bidder for 1978 and this will be decided at the 1975 Council Meeting in Detroit during the show there October 9-12. St. Louis is host in 1976 on July 22-25 and we will be in Dayton, Ohio in 1977 with the dates not fixed as yet.

It has been customary to select the MWF Convention and Show site three years in advance. However, a bid for the AFMS Convention and National Show, if suitable, may be approved earlier due to the larger size and extra features. The Convention and Show Advisory Committee will answer questions and furnish information to any club interested in either a Federation show or the big one in 1980. Write to the Chairman - B. F. Parr, 1488 Marion Avenue Road, Mansfield, Ohio 44906.

Announce 1975 bulletin contest

For the 1975 MWF Bulletin Contest, two issues will be used for judging. It will be necessary to send three copies of each of the issues chosen. It has been suggested by many of the MWF editors that two copies be used in judging. This, I believe, will be a more fair way to judge because what is left out in one issue may be printed in the second one. This should give a better "overall picture" of what the editor has printed, by using the two issues.

May I suggest that you save now three copies of each issue printed from March 1974 to Dec. 1974. It seems that so many editors do not save a copy and put it into a folder to keep for the contest. Several editors who entered the 1974 contest had to "dig some up" from members in their club. This seems very strange to me that the editors do not print extra copies of their bulletin. I always print at least 25 extra copies of each issue published. The cost is very small, and it saves a lot of time and trouble. Quite often, someone will write and desire a copy of Vol. ___ No. ___. I am still receiving subscriptions to the BEN., asking for the first issue of Vol. 2.

The issues to be judged will be announced later this year. One issue will be picked from the months of March, April or May 1974, and one from September, October, November and December, 1974.

- Paul Good

New fossil list available

A new manual, the "Approved Reference List of Classifications and Common Names for Fossils" is now available. In April 1974, each Club, State Director, Assistant Director and chairmen of all MWF committees were mailed a copy. This new booklet is a must for anyone who collects and exhibits fossils.

It is available from the Director of Supplies, Clinton Heckert, 725 Stewart St., Elgin, Ill. 60120. Price is 50 cents per copy plus 20 cents for postage and handling.

11 of 21 MWF trophies awarded in Regional competition

by B. F. Parr

Eleven of the twenty-one available Midwest Federation Trophies were awarded for exhibits in Regional Competition at the National Gem and Mineral Show, Lincoln, Nebraska June 13-16. This is rather disappointing to the Uniform Rules Committee but one reason, perhaps, is that many regular exhibitors have already qualified for direct entry into AFMS competition. There were no entries for six trophies and the one entry for another trophy had to be disqualified because the exhibitor's name was left in the case. There were 151 competitive exhibits and 48 of these were for Direct Entry in AFMS Trophy Competition. These winners were presented with their trophies by Barney Parr, MWF Uniform Rules Chairman, at the banquet, Saturday, June 15. They are to be congratulated as competition was tough.

1. Minerals - Glenn R. Bolick, Hickory, North Carolina - Catawba Valley Gem and Mineral Club
3. Thumbnail Minerals - Kathleen Bolick, Hickory, North Carolina - Catawba Valley Gem and Mineral Club
5. Minerals, Junior Group - Ernest A. Holloway, Jr., Wichita Falls, Texas - North Texas Gem and Mineral Society
6. Lapidary - A. S. Bryant, Hanland, Kansas - Southwest Kansas Gem and Mineral Society
7. Cabochons - Kenneth A. Boulter, Glen Burnis, Maryland - Chesapeake Gem and Mineral Society
8. Specialized Lapidary - Raymond A. Karr, Warren, Ohio - East Ohio Lapidary Club
11. Fossils - Bessie G. Hall, Sarasota, Florida - Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club, Inc.
13. Jewelry and Metalcraft - Marion J. Packer, Sparks, Nevada - Reno Gem and Mineral Society
14. Educational - Harold J. Harder, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin - Wisconsin Geological Society
15. Educational, Junior Group - Bruce Lauer, Villa Park, Illinois - Earth Science Club of Northern Illinois
18. Archaeology - Dr. A. H. Schoondemark, Fort Collins, Colorado - Cheyenne Mineral and Gem Society

All American Merit Award winners

by June Zeitner

Congratulations to the Midwest Merit and AFMS All American winners, and thanks to the 58 active Midwest Clubs which entered making our federation tops on the list of participants. With almost a quarter of our clubs participating and all of the entries so well done, our judges, the Verne Montgomerys and Earl Cornwells had a difficult, though interesting task. We are indebted to them for the time and effort they spent on this.

Topping our honors list for AFMS is the number one All American Club, the Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The Midwest Special Merit Award for the most outstanding service project went to West River Earth Science Society of Murdo, South Dakota. Runner up for this award was the Michigan Gem and Mineral Society of Jackson.

Certificates were presented at the Midwest Council Meeting in Lincoln by June Zeitner, Chairman and Mark Harris, Midwest President. La Docia Ellis, AFMS Education Chairman congratulated the enthusiastic Midwest clubs. Trophies were presented at the Awards banquet by Mrs. Ellis for AFMS and Mrs. Zeitner for Midwest, assisted by Dorothy Lee and Mark Harris respectively.

As usual the Midwest winners were cited for specific achievements as well as being judged all around All American Clubs. Following are the winners and the judges comments. Thanks again to all who entered. We are proud of these winners. (Except for Cedar Valley there is no significance in the order.)

CEDAR VALLEY ROCKS AND MINERALS, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Presentation somewhat rambling, but a careful perusal revealed that this club has apparently earned itself an excellent reputation in its community by the various services it has rendered, namely devoting show proceeds to geology scholarships at the University of Iowa; presenting magazine subscriptions in our field to 8 schools and 2 libraries; giving demonstrations, specimens, and field trips for children and short courses for adults. The club showed good will towards other clubs by initiating a program to eliminate duplication of show and swap dates in Iowa. Diversity of authorship among bulletin items testifies to the high degree of membership participation.

BLOOMINGTON MINERAL CLUB, Bloomington, Minnesota. The presentation was well organized. Judges rated the club's cooperation with the St. Paul Science Museum highly from the standpoint of furthering earth science education. Services to Gillett Children's Hospital not only spread knowledge of gemstones among the children but nurtured the selfless giving without which a club fails to achieve its highest potential in the AFMS tradition.

WEST RIVER EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY, Murdo, S. Dakota. Presentation admirably succinct. Services performed by this club are maximized by the smallness of membership, only twenty. By its contacts and cooperation with the South Dakota Geological Survey and the U. S. Forest Service, the club has helped to establish an image of rockhounds as serious responsible hobbyists. Erection of the sign on the National Grasslands advising fellow collectors where and what to collect legally was a novel and valuable contribution. Services to schools were also commendable.

MIDWEST MINERALOGICAL AND LAPIDARY SOCIETY

Report ...continued from page 1.

president to negotiate with Rocky Mountain representative on the matter and to place the final vote on the dues increase in the hands of the Board of Directors and the five elected officers. A study will be made of ways to reduce AFMS expenses.

The president reports that progress is being made in the negotiation of the boundary between RMF and MWF.

President elect Terry Huizing is attempting to work out a solution with South Central Federation concerning Midwest Clubs located in Arkansas.

The following slate of officers was elected. President,

of DEARBORN, Dearborn, Michigan. Despite a tendency towards over-statement in presentation, this club demonstrated very real achievements, notable gifts of mineral kits of the great Lakes region to twenty schools; displays at libraries and public places, establishment of study groups, wide participation in federation shows and activities. The intellectual curiosity fostered by the club has resulted in a high degree of versatility among members interest and accomplishments.

CENTRAL MICHIGAN LAPIDARY AND MINERAL SOCIETY Lansing, Michigan. Presentation well organized, with strong supporting data. Under the direction of a central education chairman, members expert in a particular branch of lapidary or earth science taught groups of other members on a regularly scheduled basis. The club underwrote one half of the tuition fee for members who enrolled in a special geology course at Michigan State. Support of education was further demonstrated by gifts of scholarships to M.S.U. and Lansing Community College. A novel and imaginative item in the clubs service program was rock and mineral specimen gifts sent to host families in foreign countries by Youth for Understanding students.

HONORABLE MENTIONS: Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, Lincoln, Nebr.; McDonnell Douglas Gem and Mineral Soc. St. Louis, Mo.; Michigan Gem and Mineral Society, Jackson, Mich.; Ozark Earth Science Club, Mountain Home, Arkansas; Pike County Mineral and Gem Club, Bowling Green, Mo.; Northwest Wisconsin Gem and Mineral Club, Rice Lake, Wis.

Midwest Federation Merit Award: **WEST RIVER EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY**, Murdo, South Dakota. The club showed its zeal to help other collectors and the public find minerals and gems within the framework of federal regulations by erecting a regulation Forest Service sign on National Grasslands advising what materials may legally be collected there. The club officers and members also provided field guidance and information for the National Geographic article "The Glittering World of Rockhounds" which gave favorable publicity to the hobby of rock and fossil collecting by amateurs.

Runner up: **MICHIGAN GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY**, Jackson, Michigan. Although the '73 activities of the club did not include any dramatic or novel project, the judges were impressed by the extraordinary energy and time which members expended in lecturing and demonstrating to schools, hospitals, museums, scouts and other organizations and groups. A great and coordinated educational effort.

Holotype fossils

Thanks to Cecilia Duluk and her committee, the Midwest Federation now owns a permanent display of holotype fossils, each one of which was named for a member of the Midwest Federation.

The holotype display is composed of 9 marlite panels, aluminum framed, easily detachable, and each 32" x 42".

This holotype display is under the jurisdiction of the Special Display committee and may be borrowed for display at shows by clubs by contacting the new committee member, Richard T. Johannesen, Curator of Holotype Display, 1508 W. 38th St., Davenport, Iowa 52806 and by paying the freight both ways. We do hope clubs will make use of it. - Mary McNamar, Special Displays Chairman

Terry Huizing, Cincinnati, Ohio; 1st Vice President, Howard J. Taylor, Lincoln, Nebraska; 2nd Vice President, Miss Hazel Kuntz, Quincy, Illinois; Secretary, Miss Jean Reynolds, Clarendon Hills, Illinois; Treasurer, Mrs. Joseph McCloskey, Elm Grove, Wisconsin.

President elect Huizing will be seeking committee chairmen to fill vacancies that will occur. Also three or four state directors are to be appointed due to expiration of terms and resignations. If Terry calls on any of you to fill one of these jobs, please consider very carefully the call to serve your hobby to the extent of your ability. If you have been selected, it is sure that someone has nominated you because he or she feels that you can do that job.

Junior activities

reported by Diane Dare, Junior Activities Chairman

A pat on the back from the Junior Activities Committee to: Jane Arney and Sandra DeNudt of State Line Gem and Mineral Society of Michigan who arranged for a special Children's Table at their club's big annual swap. Bidding was open only to those 12 and under to "give younger ones a chance to learn how to bid and find out what fun it is getting into a Silent Auction".

Edward Wilder, Junior Advisor for Racine (Wisc) Geological Society, Instructor of Lapidary at Wustum Museum of Fine Arts, conducted enrichment classes in lapidary for a group of eleven-year-old inner city students. He provided portable equipment and directed classes during which children cut and polished several stones in different shapes and materials.

A new Junior Activities Manual is now available. Copies will be sent to all clubs with junior members listed in the Directory. If you or your club would like a copy and have not received one, contact Clinton Heckert, Director of Supplies, 725 Stewart Street, Elgin, Illinois 60120. The first copy is free, additional ones \$1.50. Resource lists, program and project suggestions, sample agenda, etc. are given.

Bulletin winners

At the National Show in Lincoln, Nebraska, the Midwest Federation announced thirteen winners in their annual bulletin contest.

1. THE GEODE, Willis D. Smith, Editor - McDonnell-Douglas Gem & Mineral Society, St. Louis, Mo.
2. MAGMA, Mrs. Eleanor Losiewicz, Editor - Lake Erie Gem and Geological Society, Lorain, Ohio
3. THE PYRITER, Willard Lamb, Editor - Dallas County Rock Club, Adel, Iowa
4. S.I.E.S. CLUB NEWS, Diane Dare, Editor - Southern Illinois Earth Science Club, Benton, Illinois
5. FLINT ROCK & GEM CLUB NEWSLETTER, Betty Fought, Editor - Flint Rock & Gem Club, Flint, Michigan
6. OZARK EARTH SCIENCE NEWS, Bernice Rexin, Editor - Ozark Earth Science Club, Mountain Home, Arkansas
7. GEM CITY ROCK NEWS, Rita C. Hagerbaumer, Editor - Gem City Rock Club, Quincy, Illinois
8. THE GLACIAL DRIFTER, Arthur A. Ferguson, Editor - Grand Rapids Mineral Society, Grand Rapids, Michigan
9. THE ROCKPILE, Joyce Hanschu, Editor - Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society of Dearborn, Dearborn, Mich.
10. TULIP CITY CONGLOMERATE, Bette Smith, Editor - Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club, Holland, Michigan

1. FLINT CHIPS, Peg Crow, Editor - West Central Ohio Rock Club, Lima, Ohio
2. PICK 'N' POLISH NEWS, Roberta L. Smith, Editor - Pick 'N' Polish Club, Houghton Lake, Michigan
3. FACETS, John Larsen, Editor - Huron Hills Lapidary & Mineral Society, Ypsilanti, Michigan

Walter H. Steinbrenner

It is with deep regret that we note the passing of Walter H. Steinbrenner in this issue. "Walt" was the husband of Katharine Steinbrenner, a past president of the AFMS and well known to hundreds of rockhounds throughout the country.

Services were held on May 16 at Merle Hay Funeral Home in Des Moines, Iowa.

Walt will be sorely missed by his numberless friends.

Mrs. Helen Greer

We express our deepest sympathy to Russell Greer, former state director of Michigan, on the loss of his wife. Mrs. Helen M. Greer, former secretary of the federation, passed away on June 23rd and was buried on June 27th.

COLOR IN MINERALS

Minerals are colored because certain wave lengths of light are absorbed, and the color results from a combination of those wave lengths that reach the eye. If the light suffers no absorption, the mineral is colorless. Some minerals have characteristic colors which are always the same because the light-absorbing atoms are the principal constituents of their structure. Other minerals exhibit a range of colors caused by impurities, structural defects and variation in chemical composition.

For those minerals with characteristic color, that color serves as an important means of identification. Non-metallic minerals with characteristic colors are: BLUE - azurite, chalcantite, lazurite, lazulite and linarite; GREEN - malachite, antlerite and diopside; YELLOW - sulfur, orpiment and cinnabar; ORANGE-RED - crocoite and realgar; RED - cuprite and cinnabar.

The color of most metallic minerals is also characteristic: chalcopyrite - DEEP, BRASS-YELLOW; marcasite and pyrite - PALE BRASS-YELLOW; pyrrhotite - BRONZE; copper and nicolite - COPPER-RED; silver and mercury - SILVER.

On the other hand, quartz may be transparent and colorless, also PINK, RED, BLUE, GREEN, VIOLET, PURPLE, YELLOW-BROWN or BLACK. Fluorite, calcite, beryl, apatite, sphalerite, corundum and the tourmaline group of minerals are some others which occur in a range of color.

In some cases the color is directly related to the amount of iron, or other such element that has a strong pigmenting power. Sphalerite, $(Zn,Fe)_2S$, ranges from almost colorless or pale yellow when pure through brown, reddish brown to black as ferrous iron partially replaces zinc in its structure. As the iron content rises, the color deepens. Another example is tremolite, $Ca_2Mg_5(Si_8O_{22})(OH)_2$, which is white when pure, but as Fe_2 substitutes for Mg, the mineral changes from pale to dark green to nearly black.



Iron is responsible for red, green and brown coloring in many species of minerals. Other elements which cause color are chromium, manganese, cobalt, nickel, copper and vanadium. The deep green of emerald results from small amounts of chromium in beryl and the purple of amethyst is caused by trace amounts of iron in quartz. Zoisite, normally white or gray, was found in 1967 in gem quality crystals of a rich sapphire blue due to the presence of vanadium.

Color in minerals with structural defects may be changed or introduced by heat or by exposure to high energy radiation. X-radiation turns some colorless quartz smoky, but heating it to $400^{\circ}C$ will return it to its colorless state. Not all colorless quartz reacts this way. Colorless diamonds

.....next page.....

.....Color in Minerals.....

exposed to the proper radiation can be colored either green or blue, and green diamond will turn yellow with heat.

In general, the simpler the crystal structure, the less light is likely to be absorbed. Therefore many isometric minerals such as fluorite, halite and others, where very symmetrical arrangements are the rule, tend to be colorless. Some elements such as aluminum, barium, calcium, potassium, sodium and lithium tend to be colorless also.

(by Joyce Hanschu in The Rockpile)

References: Mineralogy for Amateurs by Sinkankas and Dana's Manual of Mineralogy by Hurlbut.

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FROSTED GLASS

A simple way to decorate a glass, vase or window for a holiday or other occasion -

Add epsom salts to a saucepan holding two cupfuls of boiling water until no more of the salts will dissolve. In other words, you will have a saturated solution. Add a few drops of liquid glue to help make the "frost" adhere to the glass.

With a brush apply the mixture to the outside of the glass, vase or window in whatever design you like. You can make all-over frosting, holly leaves, flowers, animals, initials or whatever you like. The liquid will begin to evaporate almost at once, and the crystals of the salts will look just like frost, but can be washed off.

(From The Napalite via The Geode)

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SELECTING SPECIMENS and THE VALUE OF SPECIMENS

(May 1974-MAGMA..from A. Love's talk)

.....The first thing to look for in a specimen is its overall pleasing appearance with no fractures or broken crystals. However, sometimes a broken crystal point may be excusable if the mineral itself is rare or has some very unusual quality.

A specimen does not always have to be large to be of value. If it is very rare its size does not matter.

Even some of our very common minerals such as fluorite, calcite, or quartz may be valuable because of their coloring, crystal formation, or occurrence in a locality not usually associated with them.

The more different minerals found in a given specimen increase its value. When a locality for mineral specimens is worked out, the specimens from that locality increase in value."

(The above quote should encourage us to be more selective in the field, to protect crystals from damage and to catalog the choice specimens not only naming the specimen but also where it was found.)

From the AMERICAN FEDERATION Newsletter

Pete Dunn of the U.S. Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institute, came up with a new mineral discovered in a bag of material from a trip at Loudville, Massachusetts lead mine. One little blue crystal that didn't look familiar started the long process of identification and steps that must be taken legally to qualify the naming of a new mineral. The following is a resume of a talk given by John White of the Mineralogical Record on this very subject.

"Minerals down through the ages have been named in a rather hit-or-miss fashion. There have been no guidelines for naming minerals. Most were named for some obvious property they possessed, the place where they were found, or for a noted mineralogist of the time. The name 'pyrite' comes from the Latin word for 'fire', 'apatite' from the Greek word for 'to deceive', the two roots of the name 'orthoclase' mean 'square' and 'cleavage', while 'franklinite' is named for the place of origin."

A Russian mineralogist, A.S. Povarenkh, has proposed an entirely new system of rational nomenclature whereby each name would be an acronym of the elements contained in that mineral. It would involve throwing out nearly all of the names we now use and does not appear to stand much chance for adoption. Some of the suggested new names include calcibistitophyllite, stibstibioxide and dimagalsilitilite!! All the reader has to do is figure out where they belong!

There is no complete agreement among the experts as to the definition of a mineral which, in most earth science texts, includes the phrase "inorganically produced". If this is applied, many familiar minerals would not qualify. Most sulfur, for example, has been produced through the action of bacteria. A brand new species was found in the ash of a burned tree. Pannikins lost in the James River, when recovered, were covered with an oxidized material which became two new species. Another new species was found in a drawer in a museum which had come about because of a reaction between another mineral in the drawer and the oak wood of the drawer.

This, of course, opens up all kinds of possibilities, so there has been a general agreement that these new species are not to be something that man deliberately tried to bring about. They are not recognized if man's deliberate intervention caused them to form. We are not to confuse species with specimen. All specimens of a species may not satisfy the definition. Goethite, for example, is a widespread mineral of unquestioned natural origin, but the rust on your car is also goethite. Just because the latter is not really a mineral, we cannot dispute the status of all goethite.

Synthetics have in the past been distinguishable from the naturally-formed gems largely because of the imperfections in the natural. Now the growers of the synthetics are including imperfections in them to "cloud the issue".

In 1973 there were some 65 new species designated. This was a record year for new species and even some varieties have crept into the liter-

.....next page...

.....AFNewsletter continued.....

ature. Tanzanite is not a new mineral species. It is simply a new gem variety of zoisite.

There have been so many discoveries because there are more people looking for new species with much better equipment and in totally new environments. The electron microprobe, for example, does not destroy the specimen. A tiny grain of a mineral can be chemically analyzed and not destroyed in the process.

There is quite a complicated and thorough process that a discoverer of a new mineral must go through before the mineral is accepted. This is adhered to by most mineralogists all over the world and is coordinated through the International Mineralogical Association. The I.M.A. once received two reports of the same mineral on the same day from two different countries, Russia and the United States. In this case, the Russians deferred to the Americans who came up with a Polish name--posnjakite.

One discoverer wanted to name his mineral for a favorite professor, D. Jerome Fisher. Since there already was a "fisherite", he came up with "djerfisherite". The same situation existed for a man named Joseph Smith -- that one came out "joesmithite". The manganese analog of "adamite" was named "eveite" as a kind of gag.

(May-June 1974 --AFMS Newsletter)

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JASPER.....(via Rockatier)

A good test for jasper is to wet it. If it absorbs water and dries rapidly, throw it away, it will no polish. If it stays wet and does not dry right away, it contains a high amount of chalcedony (quartz) and will take a good polish.

Like agate, jasper comes in a variety of patterns.

ORBICULAR..is any jasper showing round spots or circular patterns in contrasting colors. Sometimes called 'Peanut' jasper.

RIBBON .. jasper, as the name suggests is striped or banded with coarse bands of contrasting colors.

PASTELLITE .. is a name given to a delicately hued variety of jasper from southern California and Arizona. The Arizona variety is found in the vicinity of Burro Creek.

MOSS .. is a jasper containing a dendrite pattern.

JASPILITE .. is a mixture of hematite and jasper in thin bands, found in the iron regions of Minnesota and Michigan.

(Many jaspers are named by locality, people, etc: Sunrise, Mary Ellen, Biggs Canyon, Morrison, Tennessee and Owahee are but a few.)

PRESERVATION OF PYRITE AND MARCASITE

Marcasite is probably the hardest sulphide to keep. Some specimens will be all right for years without any special care while others begin to deteriorate as soon as removed from the earth, and will continue to break down despite any treatment. Probably this difference is tied up with the atomic structure of the mineral.

The decay of marcasite is the result of oxidation which reduces the iron disulphide to a grayish-white fuzz of ferrous sulphate (Melanterite) crystals. The decay is accompanied by the formation of both sulphuric acid and sulphur dioxide gas. The former of these turns labels brown and brittle while the latter is noticeable as a sharp acid smell. This decay is speeded up by moisture, so marcasite should never be washed; dry brushing is the only safe method. After dry brushing the specimen, if it does not show an acid reaction when tested with litmus paper, it may be covered with a protective dry coating such as lacquer or plastic. The specimen should be examined every month to see if the coating is intact or if decay is proceeding in spite of the coating.

If the specimen is badly decomposed, it and its container should be thrown away to avoid contamination of other specimens. If the specimen does show a trace of acid when tested with litmus paper, and it is one you want very much to save, try the following:

1. Immerse in 1 part concentrated ammonia to 20 parts of water for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.
2. Wash in running water, dry with a towel.
3. Bathe in alcohol to remove the water.
4. Dry with a towel and put in an oven for 1 hour at 150° - 170° .
5. Apply a protective coating thoroughly.

Pyrite will also decompose if moistened frequently, so do not wash often. Both minerals can be made bright by soaking overnight in a solution of oxalic acid, using two ounces of oxalic acid crystals to a quart of water. The specimen should then be washed in running water, dried carefully, and then given a protective coating.

The protective coating is used to keep the air from contacting the mineral. To further prolong its life, it can be put in a sealed container to keep out both air and moisture.

Marcasite and Pyrite should never be stored in white paper or boxes because of chemicals used in its manufacture. Brown paper or boxes should be used.

(From Earth Science News, via The Fox Rox News)

If you are wondering what to do with oxalic or muriatic acid you have finished using instead of pouring it down the drain pour it in a plastic pail or an earthenware crock. Add a chunk or two of limestone to the acid. The limestone will neutralize the acid so it can be poured down the drain and almost anywhere without causing pollution.

BE ECOLOGY MINDED..... HELP PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

PRESERVATION OF ERYTITE AND MARCASITE

Marcasite is probably the hardest sulphide to keep. Some specimens will be all right for years without any special care while others begin to deteriorate as soon as removed from their protective coating. To break down despite any treatment. Probably this difference is tied up with the atomic structure of the mineral.

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3rd issue, 1974

JASPILITE

Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club, Inc.

Laurence and Olive Sain, editors

818 West Kaye Avenue

Marquette, Michigan 49855

The decay of marcasite is the iron disulphide to a grayish-white mass of ferrous sulphate (Melanconite) crystals. The decay is accompanied by the evolution of sulphuric acid and sulphur dioxide gas. The former is brown and brittle while the latter is a soft, greasy mass. This decay is speeded up by moisture, so marcasite should never be washed; dry brushing is the only safe method. After dry brushing the specimen, it does not show any acid reaction when tested with litmus paper, it may be covered with a protective dry coating such as lacquer or plastic. The specimen should be examined every month to see if the coating is intact or if decay is proceeding in spite of the coating.

If the specimen is badly decomposed, it and its container should be thrown away to avoid contamination of other specimens. If the specimen shows a trace of acid when tested with litmus paper, and it is one you want very much to save, try the following:

Soak in 1 part concentrated ammonia to 20 parts of water for 24 hours. Rinse with running water, dry with a towel. Wash in alcohol to remove the water. Dry with a towel and put in an oven for 1 hour at 150° - 170°. Apply a protective coating thoroughly.



Mr. & Mrs. C. Robert Markert

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49849

(From Earth Science News, via The Fox News)

If you are wondering what to do with oxalic or uric acid you have finished using instead of pouring it down the drain pour it in a glass jar or an earthenware crock. Add a chunk or two of limestone to the acid. The limestone will neutralize the acid so it can be poured down the drain and almost anywhere without causing pollution. BE ECOLOGY MINDED..... HELP PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT