

Apr 78

T H E



J A S P I L I T E

Affiliated with the Midwest Federation
of Mineralogical and Geological Societies



FOURTH

ANNUAL UPPER PENINSULA

1978

ROCK SWAP

AUGUST 5

MARQUETTE TOURIST PARK

COUNTY ROAD 550

9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

ADMISSION TO SWAP:

Donations of Specimens to Silent Auction

FIELD TRIPS

AUGUST 6

HARD HATS & SAFETY GLASSES A MUST ON THE FIELD TRIPS!

SILENT AUCTION

DOOR PRIZES

REFRESHMENTS

 * FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: *
 * Mr. Ernest C. Johnson, Chairman *
 * 1978 Rock Swap *
 * Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club *
 * 1962 West Fair Avenue *
 * Marquette, MI 49855 *

"CRACKER BARREL"
SATURDAY EVENING

NO SELLING

ROCK SWAP

Saturday, August 5

9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

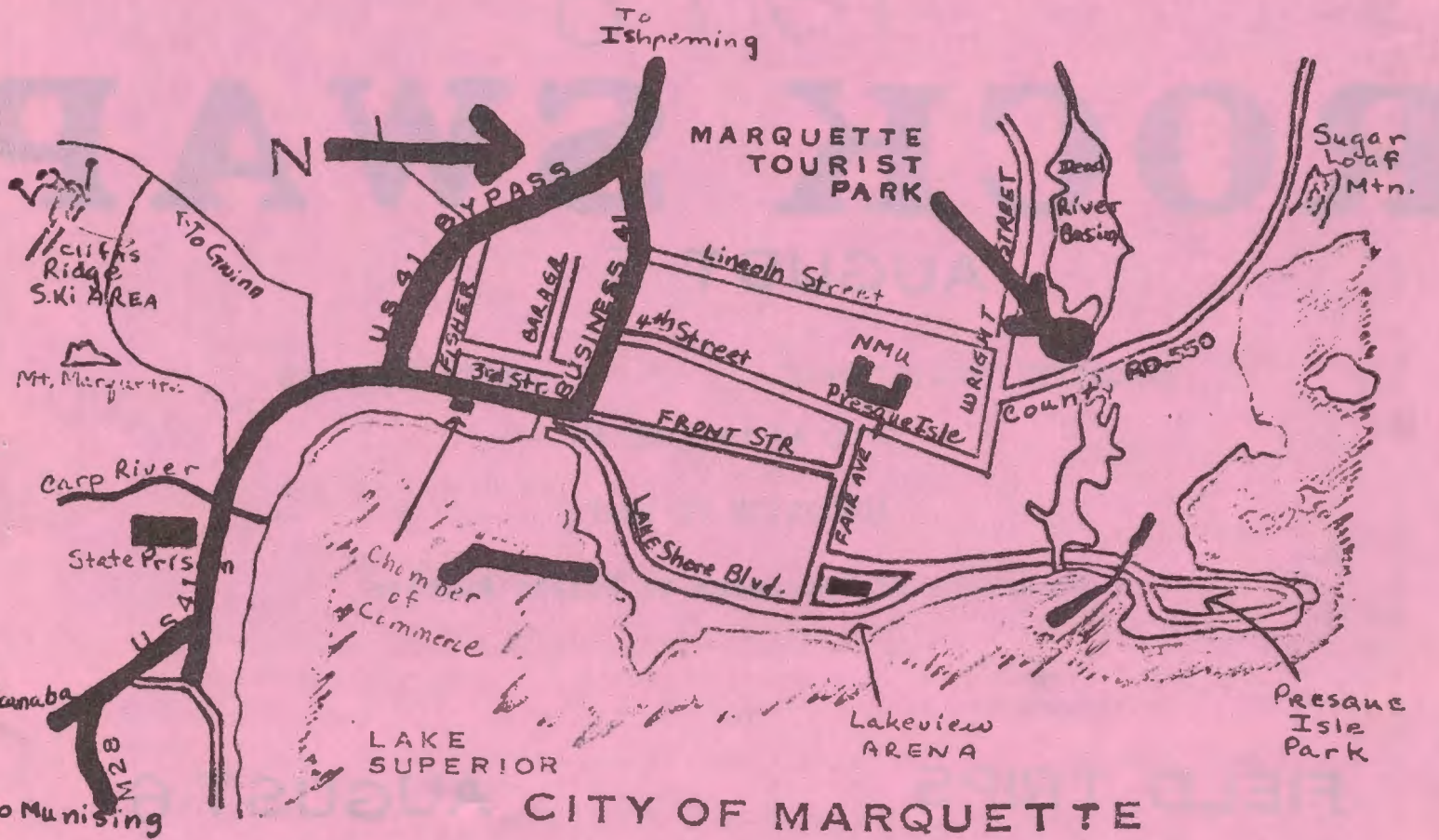
Set up your table, or swap from the trunk of your car.

CAMPING

Campsites available in the park - Fee Charged.

All PETS must be on a leash or confined to owner's quarters.

Motel accommodations available in nearby city of Marquette.



CITY OF MARQUETTE

Refreshment stand available from 9 to 6 for your convenience.

Exchange ideas -- Ask questions -- Meet fellow rockhounds -- Cracker Barrel Session on park grounds Saturday evening.

FIELD TRIPS

Field Trips will be held on Sunday, August 6, starting from the Marquette Tourist Park at noon. Collecting sites to be announced at Rock Swap. Sign up for Field Trip at Rock Swap on Saturday.

Midwest Federations NEWSLETTER



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 the Editor, Haydon Peterson, Parrot Printing, 2125 Forest Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50311

February 1978 - Issue No. 182

Silent auction planned to aid scholarship fund

by Paul Good, MWF President

At the 1978 Midwest Federation Show to be held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, all clubs in the MWF will be able to build their percentages of contributions in the AFMS Scholarship Fund. We hope that this new opportunity will be an annual affair at our future MWF Convention/Shows.

We need the help of each club in the MWF. A Silent Auction will be offered by the Federation during the show. All auction material should be donated by the member clubs. All monies will go to the AFMS Scholarship Fund and credit will be given to the donating club.

All material **MUST** be labeled as to what the material is, where it was found (if possible), and which club it is being donated by.

The materials should be anything relating to the Rock Hobby: rocks, minerals, fossils, books, etc. Finished jewelry usually brings the highest prices.

The materials will be brought to Cedar Rapids by the club delegates or some other representative. Individual donations will be accepted and credited to that person's club or if they are not members of a club, it will go to the club of that person's choice and thirdly, if no choice is made, the host club will receive the credit.

The auction will run for four to six hours for two or three days depending upon the amount of material received. The chairman will need some help to run the auction. A schedule will be made up of workers to help with the auction. They will be working probably two hour shifts.

All clubs donating will be notified by the Federation of the percentage points being credited to their Scholarship Fund account a few weeks following the show.

All Federation Clubs are encouraged to begin NOW to gather materials for this auction. BE sure to label all materials and put the NAME OF THE CLUB that is donating. It will be very important for this to be done.

1978 DIRECTORY IN PREPARATION

The 1978 Midwest Directory is now in preparation and Diane Dare, Directory Chairman, says it will be going to the printer in a matter of days.

Copies will be sent to all clubs when it is ready and additional copies will be available from the Directory of Supplies.

Silver anniversary

The Evansville Lapidary Society, Evansville, Indiana is celebrating its Silver Anniversary during 1978. The club was formed and joined the Midwest Federation 25 years ago.

Evansville Lapidary has planned special Silver Anniversary features throughout the year including it as their theme for their annual November show. Persons visiting the Evansville area are invited to attend their Monday night workshops and meetings on Monday evenings at the YWCA.

President during 1978's Anniversary year is Lloyd (Nelly) Owen.

Early reservations suggested for National show

If you are planning to attend the National Show and Convention in Pleasanton, California, July 27-30, early reservations are suggested. Every year many are disappointed by not reserving motel, hotel or camping space well in advance and having to take alternate accommodations or none at all.

Here are nine motels in the area. California 6 Motel, Howard Johnson's and El Rancho are closest to the Alameda County Fairgrounds, show location.

California 6 Motel, 415-462-2626, 76 Units, \$11.45 S, \$17.45 D, 5102 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton, California, 94566.

Holiday Inn, 415-443-4950, 90 Units, \$25 S, \$30 D, Las Flores Rd. & Interstate 580, (Be certain to mention this show)

El Dorado, 415-447-2348, 22 Units, \$15-\$17 S, \$18-\$22 D, 3979 1st St., Livermore, California 94550.

Sands Motel, 415-447-6500, 25 Units, \$16 S, \$25 D, 3787 1st St., Livermore, California, 94550.

Town Motel, 415-447-1885, 9 Units, \$12 S, \$16 D, 3068 1st St., Livermore, California 94550.

Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge, 415-828-7750, 92 Units, \$22 S, \$30 D, 6680 Regional St., Dublin, California 94566.

Early Reservations... continued on back page

Continued from front page.....

El Rancho Motel, 415-846-2742, 34 Units, \$12 S, \$16 D, 2025 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton, California 94566.

Palace Motel, 415-447-1515, 15 Units, \$13-\$15 S, \$14-\$17 D, 1321 Portola Ave., Livermore, California, 94550.

Town House Motel, 415-447,3865, 22 Units, \$16.96 S, \$25.44 D, 1421 1st St., Livermore, California 94550.

For those wishing to camp there are three camping areas.

Camping Area 1: Unlimited spaces, no hook-ups. Fresh water, restrooms and showers are available. All vehicles must be self-contained.

Camping Area 2: Limited spaces. Electricity and water hook-ups, no sewers. Vehicles must be self-contained. First come, first serve, determined by postmark. You will be notified if selected.

Camping Area 3: Limited spaces. Full hook-ups. Spaces will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis, determined by postmark. You will be notified if selected.

All spaces carry a base rate of \$3.00. Camping Area 2 will be \$1.00 more per night. Camping Area 3 will be \$1.50 more per night. (Pay additional fee upon arrival.) Group camping will be available in Camping Area 1 if applications are submitted as one package.

ASK FOR COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES

Commemorative stamps are the ones most needed in the Stamps for Food Program which the Federation endorses and urges its member clubs to participate in. When you buy stamps for your letters or your club bulletin mailings, ask your post office for commemorative issues. Those receiving the bulletins and letters are urged to save them and take them to their club member in charge of the program in their club.

Gem of the month

FEBRUARY... AMETHYST GEM OF PERFECT BEAUTY

In Biblical lore, your February birthstone, the Amethyst, means perfection; and where beauty is concerned, the Amethyst is truly perfection.

Not so hard as the Diamond and in recent times far less expensive, the Amethyst still offers the qualities of transparency, lovely coloring and soft brilliance which brought it into popularity centuries before the Christian era.

WORN BY AARON

The Amethyst was the third stone in the third row in the jeweled breastplate containing twelve precious stones worn by Aaron, the high priest of the Hebrews. In the New Testament, these stones became the foundation stones of New Jerusalem described in Revelation. Each stone was identified with a prophet. The Amethyst stood for Matthias, who had the gift of tongues and was filled with the desire to please God.

DON'T LITTER!

CATASTROPHIC EXTINCTION THEORY IS DISCREDITED

Stephen M. Staley, a paleobiologist at Johns Hopkins University recently declared that a single catastrophic event can no longer explain the extinction of such animals as the dinosaurs.

The most massive extinctions came with the ends of the Permian and the Cretaceous periods. Staley notes that the large animals were the ones driven out, not the small animals, and not the plants. Alfred B. Fischer of Princeton points out that the major crisis in animal life in the past eras are associated with sea level drops. Dinosaur families declined as the shallow seas were drained. With the disappearance of the shallow sea environment large animals had to roam farther for food, and compete with many other species.

Ocean bottom cores raised by the Glomar Challenger show that at the time of the extinctions the oxygen in the receding seas appeared to have moved downwards allowing the survival of deep dwelling marine life, but not the surface life on which the large animals fed.

Other factors in extinctions are inbreeding, competing with other species, climatic changes due to disappearance of seas, and parasites. Numerous naturalist now believe that the dinosaurs were warm-blooded creatures, requiring great amounts of food because of high metabolism. The Ice Age was probably the crowning blow to these animals.

SPACE SCIENTIST HAVE AMBITIOUS PLANS

Space Scientists are talking about the possibility of landing a robot on Mars to dig deep and bring back 200 pounds of soil samples, in hopes of finding fossil evidence in the past of Mars. Previous studies have indicated that the atmosphere of Mars was once a lot different than now, and may have resembled Earth.

Scientist would also like to send a space vehicle to rendezvous with a comet and return with pieces of the comet's tail.

Other ideas are to put vehicles on Io and Callisto, two of Jupiter's moons. Scientist would also like to investigate Saturn's moon Titan, which has an atmosphere similar in density to that of Earth.

The reasons for these plans are to find the origins of the solar system and to find out about the evolution of life in the universe.

GREAT SALT PLAINS OF OKLAHOMA MAY YET BE SAVED

Elsie Matthews, Chairman of Save the Selenite Crystal Beds, reports that David Steele, US Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa Division, has said that there are seven suggested plans for the Chloride dams, which threatened destruction of the crystal beds. According to Steele, three of the plans would not disturb the crystal area at all, and one of them, number 7, would make them stronger.

Because of the 6,000 signatures collected by her committee, Dr. Naff was appointed to make a survey of the area. If nothing contrary to the Engineers plans is found in the Naff survey, the Engineers will present one of the three positive plans to their Washington, D. C. headquarters.

Mrs. Matthews says it is not too late to send more signatures to help save the selenite crystal beds. For more information, write her at 926 Sandstone, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

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March 1978 - Issue No. 183

Geology committee plans tour

By Don H. Clarke

The Midwest Federation Geology Committee is conducting a Geology and Mineral Collecting field trip in upper Michigan. The tour begins Monday, July 31, 1978 at Michigamme Shores Campground at Michigamme, Mich. We will be collecting both cutting material and mineral specimens from the Marquette Iron Range mines. A total of ten tours have been arranged for the week.

We will attend the Upper Peninsula Swap on Saturday and Sunday, August 5-6. Field trips are available from the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club during these days.

The second week of the field trip will be in Michigan's south copper range. We will camp at Twin Lakes State Park and visit mines from Houghton to White Pine. This is the first time we have offered a tour in this area. The tour ends Friday afternoon, August 11.

Hard hats, safety shoes and safety glasses will be required on the tour. Release forms must also be signed by all persons on the tour.

The cost of the tour is \$15 per adult for the two weeks tour. No charge is made for children under 18. The tour is limited to 50 adults and is expected to fill rapidly.

We have arranged for expert guides for the various locations. Tour is a first time offering for both locations.

For reservations and additional information write to Don H. Clarke, 1107 Maple Street, Essexville, Mich. 48732

WORKING FOR YOUR CLUB

WHAT has Your Federation done for you This Month? Selected Scholarship honor winners. Worked on the Directors. Admitted new members. Furnished judges for shows. Sent programs for shows and meetings. Met with BLM and other organizations to continue efforts at saving collecting areas. Received All American entries. Planned special attractions for conventions. Furnished information on many subjects. Worked on ideas about how to help clubs, how to improve communications, and how better to serve members. Represented the hobby at civic and government meetings. Answered dozens of letters from "How can we get a state stone?" to "How can we host a National (or Regional) Show?" Taken care of the business of the hobby, so you could have more time for the fun.

MARK 23rd ANNIVERSARY

January marked the 23rd anniversary of the organization and first meeting of the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, Lincoln, Neb. Howard Taylor, a past President of the Midwest has been named President of the club again for 1978 and has appointed a Steering Committee to begin preliminary work for the Midwest annual show and convention in Lincoln in 1980.

Are you going to have a show?

*By O. D. (Obie) Goss
AFMS Show Consultant*

Are you, a society, planning to put on a local show -- or a federation show? Shows have been my main interest for many years and when I was appointed Show Advisor by AFMS President Zahn and again by President Langston, I was hopeful I could be of help to any of you planning a show.

Location and physical facilities are important for a successful show, not only for the present show but interest as the years go on. It need not be in a huge building or a fancy one but must provide easy accessibility, good parking and camping within a reasonable distance. The interior should provide good ventilation, a sufficiency of tables, seating space, roomy aisles and, if a federation show, about a minimum of 80,000 square feet.

How many workers do you have in your society? How many potential workers? Have you considered having a list of the occupations of your members in a file? When you need specialized help this could be of great value. How do you plan for a show, bid for a federation show?

How do you choose your show chairman? Are you picking one who will be strong enough to face discontented members, varieties of opinions and also keep the group enthusiastic about the show?

How do you secure, control and protect you special displays? Do you pick your committees or wait for volunteers? What do you do about commitments on banquets, etc.? How about competitive exhibits? Judges? Rules?

Don't consider a question you have too unimportant to ask. I will be pleased to give you an answer which you may use or not. If I can help, please let me know. Address me O. D. (Obie) Goss, 20525 Deerfield Drive, Sonora, Ca. 95370 Phone 209-532-7294

**1978 MIDWEST SHOW AND CONVENTION
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA - AUG. 11-13**

Field trips planned for National Show

by June Zeitner

The Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley, host to Rockhound Rendezvous, the National show to be held in Pleasanton, California, July 27 to 30, has announced that field trips will be available for visitors from other Federations who come to California for the show.

The splendid field trip opportunities of California were well publicized last year when Vernon Korstad took a special MGSCV Rockhound Rendezvous showcase to major shows from coast to coast. Showing rough and cut first quality material, the case was accompanied by a map, showing where the materials all came from.

Post show field trips will be conducted to some of the great locations. In addition, manuals of self-guided field trips will be available at the show at a slight charge. Samples of materials to be found at the various locations will be on display.

California has been a leader in trying to keep localities open. Choice materials from 18 sites were in the travelling showcase. Some of these favorites are for agates (Valley Springs), marble (Sonora), jadeite (Clear Creek), opalized wood (Duck Lake), mariposite (Coulterville), verde antique (Lucerne Valley), and jasper (Lavic Siding).

There will be a field trip booth at the show for visitors, to get all the information they need and sign up for trips. A special trip has been arranged for a guided tour through the geothermal generating plants of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company near Geyserville. The all day trip will include a visit to a California winery. The trip will leave from Pleasanton and return in the late afternoon of the same day. Anyone interested must NOTIFY THE CHAIRMAN BEFORE MAY 1st 1978, AS NO MORE REQUEST CAN BE CONSIDERED AFTER THAT DATE. Write to Jack Burris, 1225 Hearn Ave., Santa Rosa, California, 95401.

And don't forget those reservations for camping, hotel and motel accommodations. Reserve early so you will not be disappointed.

RATTLESNAKE SAFETY HINT

Forest Rangers advise that after killing a rattlesnake you make certain that at least its head is buried. Wasps and yellow-jackets are meat eaters and when eating on the head of rattler may get the venom in their system. Then when they sting someone enough venom is in the sting to make people very ill, and it can become fatal.

LAST SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER PRODUCTIVE MONTHS AT CRATER OF DIAMONDS

September and October were unusually productive months, according to the Superintendent of the Crater of Diamonds State Park, near Murfreesboro, Arkansas. A total of 104 diamonds were found during these two months, with 340 diamonds found during these two months, with 340 diamonds found during the year 1977 through November.

The largest found during these two months was one weighing two carats, 75 points, and was yellow in color. In October a three carat, 13 point moccasin brown was found. Over 60,000 diamonds have been discovered there since 1906.

BOOKS



By Russell MacFall

Joel E. Arem is a young man who has a remarkable ability to make the intricacies of mineralogy and gemology as clear as the crystals he loves to write about. The latest manifestation of this ability appears in **COLOR ENCYCLOPEDIA OF GEMSTONES** (Van Nostrand-Reinhold, 1977, 147 pages), a large, profusely illustrated and detailed account of the scores of natural materials that have been used or can be used as gems. Of the 220 species discussed, 185 appear in color from photographs made by the author. Most of them would be unknown to a jeweler and some even unfamiliar to most mineralogists. So Arem may have some surprises and some delights for both.

The author has previously provided two highly useful paperback books that should be in the libraries of all persons interested in gems and minerals. **ROCKS AND MINERALS**, with photographs by Lee Boltin, appeared in 1973, published by Bantam Books. It is the kind of pocket-sized book that is detailed enough to be a useful for a quick reference and one that could well be used as a text for classes in mineralogy in rock clubs. **GEMS AND JEWELRY**, also Bantam, was published two years later and like its predecessor includes most of the essential material for basic understanding of such highly technical subjects as crystal structure, the effects of light, the synthetic gems, and gem testing, all discussed in 150 pages.

Arem, a Ph.D. from Harvard in mineralogy, was formerly on the Smithsonian Institution staff. He has been honored with the medal of the British Gemmological Association. As a photographer his work has appeared in the National Geographic and Smithsonian magazines. *(The AFMS Newsletter welcomes books for review. Send them to Russell MacFall, P.O. Box 309, Coronado, California, 92118)*

SUGGEST CHANNEL 7 BASE STATION FOR NATIONAL SHOW

Shirley Leeson, Editor of the *Pegmatite*, publication of the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society, suggests that the Castro Valley Show Committee of the Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley, host to the California Federation and AFMS National Show, July 27-30, in Pleasanton, Calif. establish a base station on CB channel 7 to help direct rockhounds to the show, camping, motel and hotel accommodations.

SHOW DATES SET BY CHICAGOLAND GEMS AND MINERALS

The Chicagoland Gems and Minerals Association have named Mrs. Russell Kemp, South Holland, Ill. as President of their association and General Show Chairman of their 1978 show. The annual combined show will be Memorial Day Weekend, May 27-29, DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, Ill.

A VERY UNPOPULAR PERSON.....
A LITTER BUG!!!!

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April 1978 - Issue No. 184

Spring meeting set

The Spring MWF Executive Meeting will be held on April 29, 1978 in Highland, Indiana. A room has been provided for the meeting to be held in the Highland High School, 9135 Erie St., Highland, Indiana (One block east of Kennedy Avenue).

The Calumet Gem and Mineral Society will host this meeting in connection with their annual show. Free admission will be provided to the MWF Executive Committee members to their Show. The club will also provide coffee and sweet rolls for the meeting.

Motel Reservations may be made at the following motels:
Holiday Inn, Bernice & Torrence, Lansing, Illinois, 312-474-6300, (about 4 miles west of Kennedy Ave);
Holiday Inn, 3840 - 179th St., Hammond, Indiana, 219-844-2140, (about 2 miles east of Kennedy Ave);
Howard Johnson Motor Lodge, 7813 Indianapolis Blvd., Hammond, Indiana, 219-844-7780, (One mile west of Kennedy Ave).

More information and maps will be mailed to all executive committee members shortly.

Plan to continue 'Hall of States'

Last year at the Midwest Federation convention and show in Dayton, Ohio a "Hall of States" display was inaugurated.

The popular response to this feature has prompted The Cedar Valley Rocks and Mineral Society to plan for continuing this feature at the Midwest Convention and show in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, August 10-13.

Midwest Federation State Directors are being asked by Truman Ramsel, State Director for Iowa and member of the host club, Cedar Valley Rocks and Mineral Society and coordinator of the feature to contact clubs in their state to insure a display from their state. Clubs in each state are being asked to work with their State Director in this show feature.

There were a few states missing from the 1977 show and it is hoped that 100% representation can be achieved this year.

Three new programs

Program Chairman Donald Stinnett announces the addition of three new slide programs to the library, all by members of the Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society of Dearborn (Michigan).

"Artistry in Wire" describes wire-wrap procedure by Ralph Goniea, Dearborn, Mich. a teacher of this work.

"Alpena County Fossils" by Bob and Pat Ruthowski, Taylor, Mich. Alpena County in Upper Michigan is well known for its fossils and Pat presents them beautifully and Bob's photography is excellent.

"Close-up Photography" by Norm Hanshu, Canton, Mich. Norm works in photography and has photographed his wife's minerals. Our library has had a need for a program on photography and we now have a fine one.

All of these programs are ready for immediate booking and clubs should order them from Donald Stinnett, Midwest Federation Film Library, 29462 Aspen Drive, Flat Rock, Mich. 48134. Be sure to include the name of your club, the exact name and address of the person to whom the program is to be shipped. Tell us the exact date the program is to be used, and include the \$2.00 service charge with your request for each program ordered.

Keep in mind the Midwest is always anxious to have new programs to add to its library. If your club would like to furnish a program contact Donald Stinnett.

Fossil club forming

The desire to form a strictly fossil club for the region prompted an invitation by Paleontology Chairman, Don Good, to attend a meeting at Augustana College in Rock Island, Saturday, February 4th at 2:00 o'clock.

The results were most gratifying. Eighteen adults belonging to 7 different clubs in 3 states attended (in spite of poor driving conditions). Decisions reached included: 1) To form a Midwest Paleontology Club, 2) To affiliate the club with the MWF, 3) To set up bi-laws for such a club, and 4) To have a second meeting, Saturday, March 4th at 2:00 o'clock in the Geology Building at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois.

Persons desiring additional information may contact Don by writing him at 410 N.W. 3rd Street, Aledo, Illinois 61231 or by calling AC 309- 582-5232.

1978 MIDWEST SHOW AND CONVENTION
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA - AUG. 11-13

Welcome new members

GREATER OAK LAWN DIGGERS
Mrs. Sandra Wallock, President
4637 W. 105th Place
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453
joined 2-19-78

FLAMBEAU GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY
Marting J. Tomczak, President
Rt. 1 - Box 1
Ladysmith, Wisconsin 54848
Joined 2-8-1978

ST. CROIX ROCKHOUNDS
Ray Damkaer, President
422 Pine Tree Trail
Stillwater, Minnesota 55082
joined 2-19-78

Explore need for group field insurance

Group Field insurance for those wishing to hunt has become a topic of much concern among rock clubs throughout the country. In the Eastern Federation News Digest the Eastern President, Wm. Maloney, writes "It is fast becoming apparent in this hobby that if clubs expect to continue to dig on private property and quarries they are going to have to carry insurance to protect the owner in case of damage to property or personnel. This is no more than fair. You should be willing to pay the premium in exchange for the privilege of collecting. Eastern has for several years had an Insurance

Committee. This committee advises that an insurance policy is going to be available to all Eastern clubs if enough participation is found. It is not know the number of Eastern clubs that already have some type of coverage. Perhaps your club has never felt the need and this may come as a surprise to you."

"The Insurance Committee indicates if enough participation can be secured a premium of between \$100 and \$200 per club per year depending upon club membership would provide \$500,000 bodily injury and \$100,000 property damage."

UNUSUAL FIELD TRIP PLANNED FOR NATIONAL SHOW

Castro Valley Mineral and Gem Society has planned an unusual field trip for a limited number of fortunate (that means early bird respondees) guests at the National Show and Convention in Pleasanton, California July 27-30.

As the host club, the Castro Valley show committee has made arrangements with Pacific Gas and Electric Company to visit The Geysers, its geothermal plant. Said to be the largest installation of its kind in the world, it is the only commercial operating geothermal plant in the United States.

PG&E is sending buses to the show site to pick up guests for the trip to the fields located 90 miles north of San Francisco. The date is July 31, the day following the close of the show. Since company rules permit only a limited number of visitors at The Geysers at one time, PG&E has scheduled a wine tasting tour as part of the outing. While one group is at the plant another will be entertained at one of Sonoma County's wineries which produces some of California's highly acclaimed wines.

The amount of steam now producing electricity at the geothermal plant has been estimated as the equivalent of 200 big, old-time steam engine locomotives operating in tandem 24 hours per day. Ultimately, the power company expects at least two million kilowatts of capacity will be available at The Geysers.

Actually, spokesmen point out, they are not "geysers," but fumaroles; the difference being that geysers send up jets of hot water and steam at intervals. Fumaroles are fissures which allow steam to be emitted steadily.

There is no cost for this outstanding trip. Jack Burris, field trip chairman, said however, that due to the expected demand for reservations, they must be made no later than

May 1.

The excursion will require most of the day, with guests being returned to the show site, Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton, in late afternoon.

AGATE TO BE KENTUCKY STATE ROCK?

From Frankfort, Kentucky comes word that the semi-precious Kentucky agate will become the official state rock if a bill introduced in the Kentucky House by Rep. Joe Clarke, D-Danville, is adopted by the General Assembly.

His bill notes the stone's similarity to the Commonwealth and states the stone "combines marvelous versatility and beauty, and that the agate has been known to millions of boys and girls in Kentucky and elsewhere as the highly regarded 'aggie', indispensable to the compleat marble shooter.

Kentucky could become the 34th state to have a state stone if the bill passes this session.

CHICAGOLAND GEMS AND MINERALS ANNOUNCE SIX PROGRAMS FOR ANNUAL SHOW

The Chicagoland Gems and Minerals Association have announced six programs scheduled for their Second Annual Show, Memorial Day weekend, May 27-29, DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, Illinois.

The six are: "Volcanos Building A New Island", by Irene Joyce; "The History and How To of Gemstone Engraving" by Ute Bernhardt; "Midwest Minerals, and the Legend and Lore of Gems" by June Zeitner; "Micromounting" by Don Behnke; "Intarsias and Mosaic Art Works" by Rus Kemp; and "Petrified Woods" by Doris Kemp.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

of the
ISHPEMING ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.
Published Quarterly

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN - 1978

President	Robert Phillips, 405 S. Rose	Ishpeming
First Vice President	Olive Sain, 818 W. Kaye	Marquette
Secretary	Laurence Sain, 818 W. Kaye	Marquette
Treasurer	Arnold Mulzer, 322 Rock	Marquette
Publicity	Dorothy Bowns	Negaunee
Finance	R. R. Anderson	Marquette
Field Trip	Joseph LaChance	Marquette
Safety	Leonard Bartelli	Marquette
Curator	C. R. Markert	Ishpeming
Scholarship	Marian Markert	Ishpeming
Hostesses	Ingrid Bartelli and Olive Sain	Marquette
Librarian	Ernie Johnson	Marquette
JASPILITE Editor	Sandra Phillips	Ishpeming
Publishers	Laurence & Olive Sain	Marquette
Liaison Officer	Carlton Gutman	Marquette

Deadlines: January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

Meetings: Business meeting: 1st Friday of the month, 7:30 p.m.
at Bothwell Middle School, Marquette
Program & activity meeting: 3rd Sunday of the month at
2:00 p.m., Bothwell Middle School, October-April.
Field Trips during the summer months.

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

Material in this bulletin may be copied provided full credit is given to the author and the bulletin.

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.
Bob and Marian Markert

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bob Phillips

As I arrived home from work tonight, the editor of the JASPILITE reminded me in no uncertain terms that her deadline would not wait for even me. I am, therefore, finally committed to sit and write my spring message.

Spring? What spring? I find this time of year most difficult to cope with as it is no longer definitely winter nor is it definitely spring. The weather is in transition. The Club also passed through a period of transition last January when I and the other new officers took their respective positions in the club structure. So far so good? I think so. We have found in Olive Sain a very capable and energetic program chairwoman who has provided our program meetings with a good measure of appeal. We are seeing new faces as well as the return of familiar ones. A growing membership? I hope so. Invite your friends. Follow up leads. Rockhounding is a natural so let it work. I've been very encouraged by the inquisitive comments from people who have been touched by program publicity. Let's keep it up.

We were all saddened by the loss of two of our members, Edith Anderson and Vern Miljour, last January. The Club will miss them.

Field trips are coming up. Our new chairman Tony LaChance has lined up some interesting trips. Find your gear. Clean out your sacks (preferably into the hands of the micromounters who can find something in anything). Remember your safety equipment, glasses, goggles, gloves, and hard hats. One injury ruins everyone's day.

One last thought. Several members of our Club live out of the state but may have things to contribute such as trip reports or other activity items. We would like to see your input in the JASPILITE, too.

I've said enough, for now.

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY'S MINUTES

By L. W. Sain

Meeting of January 6, 1978

A petty cash fund was established for the treasurer's use to purchase stamps, cards, and miscellaneous items.

Received a letter from R. Bond Perket, Assistant Supt. of Marquette Public Schools expressing appreciation for the Club's financial assistance to the lapidary workshop.

Announcement of the Midwest Federation Field Trip tour of the Marquette Iron Range, July 30 through August 6, and the Copper Range, August 7 through August 11. These trips organized and guided by Don Clarke of Essexville, Mich.

Joe "Tony" LaChance was appointed Field Trip Chairman.

Established the custom of presenting each speaker with a gift from the Club. The findings to be purchased by the Club and a member to polish and mount the stones.

Scholarships of \$100 each were established as the amount to be awarded annually to an NMU and MTU student.

Burton Boyum was the speaker at the January 16 meeting. He spoke and presented slides on the History and Development of Iron Mining in the Upper Peninsula.

Meeting of February 3, 1978

The librarian reported five books purchased as had been approved

Memorial Day weekend field trip set for the Keeweenaw Peninsula with headquarters at McLain Park.

Ernie Johnson accepted the summer Swap chairmanship and was granted a base budget of \$100.

Frazier Tubbs reported on his investigation for the purchase of a P. A. system. Purchase was authorized. We now have a portable P. A. system.

The Ninth Annual U. P. Gem and Mineral Show will be held at White Pine. Club members are encouraged to participate with exhibits and attendance.

The annual Silent Auction was the program for February 19. This was for the benefit of the Midwest and local scholarship funds. Successful as usual, due to good membership participation. Proceeds \$165.15.

Meeting of March 3, 1978

Leonard Bartelli reported on his investigation of a portable oxygen unit for the first aid kit. Purchase of same was authorized.

The brochure for the Swap is being prepared. Club members are urged by the chairman to help distribute these when on trips.

Dorothy Tubbs reported materials for the American Federation Merit Awards had been sent in.

Program meeting was held March 19 with a study table for cabochons, a bragging table, and a mini-auction table.

Dr. Fillmore Earney presented a slide program on iron mining and the environment around the Great Lakes.

Jessie H. Luttenton was the first recipient awarded a scholarship from our Club.

The coffee hour honored the birthday of a member.

BITS AND PIECES

By Arnold Mulzer

Since the last issue of the JASPILITE we have experienced a great loss in the death of two of our very active members, Edith Anderson and Vern Miljour. Both gave their all in everything they did for the Club. They are gone, but I feel they left a challenge to the rest of us. I know it will be a great effort to give the kind of service and enthusiasm that they gave.

Elsewhere in this JASPILITE you will find an article about an ancient forest that was uncovered near Palmer. I understand that a few members have seen some of this wood and am waiting to hear more about this geological discovery.

Another season for rockhounds is not far away and time for planning is now. For a quickie trip why not visit the world's largest gem stone, Jasper Knob in Ishpeming. No collecting, but the scenery is outstanding. From the top one can see the discovery site of Michigan's first ore body in 1844. Also there is a good view of the Mather Mine, one of two underground mines left in Michigan.

By this time Nelson and Marion Short should be back in Howell after a winter vacation in Arizona. Hope they come back to the U. P. Had a note from them which said they met Jim and Dorothy Bowns at the Quartzsite Pow Wow. Hope they took some snapshots.

Reading an exchange bulletin from the Flint Rock and Gem Club, I find that Anne Croner is their corresponding secretary and her husband Kenneth is their safety chairman. Both, along with their son Chris, are members of IRMC.

If you want a name badge, please get in touch with me. The Club also has decals and patches which can be picked up at any meeting.

Most all people have a hobby in addition to rockhounding. Some are very interesting, such as that of Dr. Fillmore Earney who addressed our Club on March 19. He is a long-distance runner and runs at least 15 miles per day. In the 26-mile marathon held in connection with the Lake States Timber Congress in Marquette last September, he came in first in his age group. In a 50-mile run at Copper Harbor last Labor Day, he placed 14th for all ages out of 26 that finished. I can remember when we wouldn't think of driving a horse that far.

If your name isn't on the membership list, one of two things happened. You did not pay your dues, or they were sent in and Uncle Sam's post offices fouled you up. Let's hope that the latter was the case. Our Club address is:

Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club
Box 102
Ishpeming, Michigan 49849

ROCKIN' AROUND

By Marian Markert

Annette Johnson, six-year-old daughter of Ernie and Helen Johnson underwent surgery on March 1. Everything went well and she didn't miss a mineral club meeting.

Sain's received a card from Jim and Dot Bowns from Phoenix, Arizona. They have collected fire agate, among other things, and had a trip planned with Nelson and Marion Short to hunt Apache tears. I'll bet they found a lot of them. They expect to be home in May.

Ken and Frances Hodgins spent the winter in Fredericksburg, Texas, but didn't do much collecting. They plan on arriving home in the spring, which should be soon. Spring, I mean!

At the March meeting we all enjoyed helping 'Chick' DePetro celebrate his birthday with a beautiful birthday cake. Congratulations, Chick, and may you have many more!

Bob Schenk wants to sell all his lapidary equipment and close out his rock shop business. He plans on concentrating on making those beautiful doll houses and that darling doll furniture.

Plans to restore the Carp River Forge are progressing. Our Club may have a future home for our Club display where the public will have a better chance to view it.

OBITUARIES

Vernon J. Miljour died in Port Huron Hospital on January 30, 1978. Vern was from Gwinn and was an active member of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club for many years.

Edith Anderson, also an active member of the Club, passed away on January 31, 1978. Edith was from Marquette and was a faithful contributor to the JASPILITE through her column "Rockin' Around."

Our sympathy goes out to the families of Vernon and Edith. They will be missed by us all. A memorial book will be placed in our Library for each of them.

Our sympathy also to Frazier and Dorothy Tubbs of Negaunee. Dorothy lost her mother, Mabel Locker, on February 1, 1978. Mrs. Locker was living in Bella Vista, Arkansas, but was formerly from our area.

1978 IRMC FIELD TRIPS

By Joe 'Tony' LaChance

This is the tentative list of field trips that have been outlined for the Club.

May

We will try to sneak in an early trip to the Ogden Pit on Cliffs Drive for banded magnetite and follow this up by collecting phenocryst later in the day. Laurence Sain will be in charge of this one, probably on May 13. Meeting time and place will be worked out by Laurence.

On May 27, 28, and 29, the Tubbs will act as coordinators for the Memorial Day weekend trip to Houghton County. The Tubbs and others will be staying at McLain State Park. Activities will start off at 9:00 a.m. Saturday. A good time should be had by all. This trip is the one formally extended to any Midwest and American Federation members.

June

Bob Phillips will make arrangements to go into the pit at Republic Mine again. Although it's not final, let's look at June 17 for this one. Meet at the M-95, US 41 junction (Koski Korner) by 9:00 a.m. in the restaurant parking lot.

July

I am hoping Bruce Spike will take us north of Ishpeming to a silver mine. In addition, perhaps we can also get to the east end of Silver Lake basin to the old dump up there. This will be an all-day trip, so bring plenty to eat and drink. No date yet.

August

I thought that an agate picking weekend might be nice. The Two Hearted River area north

of Newberry is good agate territory. An alternate to this would be a run down to Fayette.

September

I should be back from my trip out west and want to take you to the Danials Gold Mine north of Marquette. This is about a mile walk but under good conditions. There are quartz crystals and, who knows, someone may get lucky. On this same trip we can go to the Anderson Homestead. There are old log buildings still standing and the Bartellis claim that gold was mined around this homestead. Bring a lunch for this trip. September 9.

My only wish is to have more of the members in attendance at our field trips, not only for rockhounding but for visiting as well.

May you all have a wonderful summer.

4TH ANNUAL UPPER PENINSULA ROCK SWAP, AUGUST 5 AND 6, 1978

The Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club's 4th Annual Rock Swap and Field Trips will be held on August 5 and 6, 1978, at the Marquette Tourist Park. The Swap will again be divided into two days of activities.

A specimen or two will open the door to a full day of swapping on Saturday, starting at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 6:00 p.m. The specimens will be transferred to the silent auction tables where they will be auctioned off throughout the day for your enjoyment in adding to your collections.

Door prizes will be awarded at intervals throughout the day to the lucky registrants whose names are drawn.

continued. . . .

So that you won't have to leave the area, Boy Scout Troop 302 will again be on hand to provide you with pop, coffee, snacks, homemade cakes and cookies, hot dogs and sloppy joes. So for that early-morning coffee (9:00 a.m.), noon lunch, or afternoon snack, visit the Scouts.

This is an old-fashioned swap--no selling--no buying--just old-fashioned horse trading of rocks, minerals, and related items. So may the best man or woman come out on top.

Saturday evening will find the Cracker Barrel Session starting at 7:00 p.m. and ending at dusk. A program, as yet not final, is being planned.

Don't forget to sign up on Saturday for our Sunday field trips. Sunday morning is yours to enjoy at your leisure. Marquette offers churches of all denominations for your Sunday morning worship or be a tourist and see our local attractions.

Field trips will leave the Tourist Park promptly at noon on Sunday. Members of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club will serve as your guides.

While accommodations are numerous in the Marquette area, please remember that August is the height of the tourist season in this area, and I would recommend that you make your motel reservations early. If you are camping in the Tourist Park, please know that all campsites are on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For additional information contact:

Mr. Ernie Johnson
1962 West Fair Avenue
Marquette, Michigan 49855

HOPE TO SEE YOU IN AUGUST!

CALENDAR OF IRMC MEETINGS

May 5 (Friday)--Business meeting, 7:30 p.m.

May 13 (Saturday)--TENTATIVE DATE
Field trip to the Ogden Pit to be led by Laurence Sain.

May 21 (Sunday)--BONUS OUTING
Tour of several rock exhibits in our area climaxed by a picnic lunch at Markert's home. Meet at the Ishpeming Armory at 1:45 p.m. and bring a sack lunch. (More details in separate article.)

May 27-29 (Memorial Day Weekend)--Copper Country field trip organized by Frazier and Dorothy Tubbs, McLain State Park, 9:00 a.m. Saturday.

June 1 (Thursday)--Business meeting, 7:30 p.m.

June 17 (Saturday)--TENTATIVE DATE
Field trip to Republic Mine to be led by Robert Phillips. Meet at Koski Korners at 9:00 a.m.

July 6 (Thursday)--Business meeting, 7:30 p.m.

July field trip will hopefully be to a silver mine to be led by Bruce Spike.

August 3 (Thursday)--Business meeting, 7:30 p.m.

DETAILS OF MAY 21 BONUS OUTING

The IRMC is planning to tour some of our local mineral exhibits on Sunday, May 21, 1978. Among them will be the Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company exhibit, the Club's exhibit at the Chamber of Commerce, and the kona dolomite altar in the Wesley United Methodist Church. This beautiful altar was polished

and constructed by Robert Markert. After viewing the exhibits, we are all invited out to the Markerts' home on the Dead River Basin to view their display.

Everyone bring a sack picnic and we can enjoy them together while we relax and visit. Coffee will be provided by the Markerts. This outing will be a wonderful opportunity to share our winter's experiences and plans for the summer.

All interested members meet at the Ishpeming Armory on US Highway 41 at 1:45 p.m. on Sunday, May 21, and we will proceed from there.

CLUB PRESENTS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

At the program meeting held on March 19, 1978, at the Bothwell Middle School, our Club presented its first local scholarship. It was presented to Jessie H. Luttenton, an Earth Science major at Northern Michigan University. She was unanimously selected by the Geography and Earth Science staff of the University as an outstanding student.

Another award will be made to a Michigan Technological University student at a future date as soon as a recommendation is received.

It is the intent of the IRMC members that these awards will be made annually to the two Upper Peninsula universities.

The Club has for a long time participated in a national scholarship fund, contributing a dollar or more per member each year. These scholarships have always been presented to the larger universities and a long way from home. It was felt by our local

Club that we would like to make some money available to students in our local universities.

The money for the scholarships is raised by holding an annual silent auction and monthly mini-auctions. The material for these auctions consists of various rocks, slabs, crystals, specimens, cabochons, and jewelry which are donated by Club members. They are purchased by visitors as well as members.

All of the Club meetings are open to the public, and visitors are always welcome.

Submitted by Laurence Sain

THE QUARTZSITE ANNUAL POW-WOW

By Nelson Short

This annual event is actually two shows in one. The first, called the Clouds Jamboree, starts the first weekend in February and goes for 10 days. This is located at the east end of Quartzsite and covers some 15 to 20 acres and has over 500 dealers.

It takes about three solid days to see these displays which consist of rough rocks to finished jewelry. Indian-styled jewelry predominates with its heavy silver and turquoise stone with some red coral to give added color. Bear claws and boars tusks are also used in necklaces and other items as part of the jewelry. For me this does not enhance the jewelry but they do charge a high price for them.

There are many colorful rocks displayed. The large pieces of rainbow obsidian are beautiful in the sun, the azurite and chrysocolla with its purple and blue are dazzling, and the fire agates imported from Mexico are vivid with fire in the bright sunlight. These are very

expensive this year, going as high as \$300 or \$400 a cab. Some, however, could be bought for \$20 and up depending on size and fire display. Fire agate could also be bought by the chunk with a face or window ground on one side showing the fire. These sold by the bag of 100 pieces at \$3 apiece. So the whole bag cost \$300--and you had to buy the whole bag. Cheaper pieces were available at \$3 a pound, but they were all just worth what you paid.

Turquoise was abundant, but the price was high for the good material. I saw some small chunks about 3/8" in diameter at \$15 a pound, but other pieces were \$150 to \$200 a pound, and some even higher.

Other displays included clocks from local stones, such as picture jaspers, lizard stone, banded sandstones, etc. Sphere displays were also present of the same materials. Cabochons, sold by the dozen, were also in abundance. Jewelry of all kinds was very profuse, and soon it seemed to all look alike there was so much to see.

On the following Thursday, the second phase or the Pow-Wow Proper was opened at the Q.I.A. (Quartzsite Improvement Association) building. This is located near the center of town and has a large space on the outside for 500 more dealers, much the same as at Clouds. Inside the building, however, are beautiful case displays and a few dealers. Here we met Don Faust, the book dealer from Adrian, Michigan. Some of you know him.

Displays of opals, fire agate, malachite, azurite, carved iron-wood figures, lace and banded

agates, carved turquoise, gold and silver jewelry were beautifully shown. For the rockhound who loves good material, the four days of the show were very short indeed.

And now for a lesson in economics. It seems that at the end of the shows some dealers, having come heavily loaded, are reluctant to reload their material and will sell at a good discount after the show. Now it so happened that we met Jim and Dorothy Bowns here and went rockhounding together. We were about to part company the day after the show closed. We decided to go and watch the dealers loading up their trucks. Many of them were Mexican dealers and were easy to deal with. As they threw their bags of rocks onto the trucks, some bags would break and new material that hadn't been picked over would scatter over the ground. If we saw a piece we fancied, we would take it to the dealer and dicker, usually getting the rock for a fraction of his former price.

Now here is a pointer to remember. Always give the rock you want to your wife and let her do the bargaining. Jim's wife Dorothy is good at this--I think it's because of her smile. Anyway, Jim would pick out a large piece of agate (all that Dorothy could lift) and give her \$1 or \$2, never more, and she would go up to the dealer, smile sweetly, hand him the money for a \$20 rock, and then quickly leave before he could change his mind. If this is not quite clear to you, ask Jim Bowns and he will be able to explain a little more clearly.

Anyway, the show was wonderful, we had a swell time, and if you ever have the opportunity, go to Quartzsite the first weekend in February to the Jamboree and Pow-Wow, it's getting bigger every year.

THE ARTICLE WORLD HISTORY OF GOLD WILL BE COMPLETED IN THE JULY JASPILITE.

ARE YOU READY?

By Laurence Sain

Ready for what? Are you ready for that first field trip as soon as Mother Nature sees fit to free this northern terrain of ice and snow?

What does it take to be ready?

I'm certain that most of us are more than ready mentally. We've been dreaming all winter of that special discovery or unusual specimen while we slabbed, polished, or mounted the treasures of last year's trips. We are eager to search those places that we've read about or heard of by way of mouth from other rock-hounds.

However, don't let your first trip be spoiled by not being ready physically or mechanically.

Physically--If you have been inactive over the winter months, don't expect to go out and work strenuously at your hobby. It would be advisable to do some hiking or exercising of some sort to get yourself in shape before you venture out. It would have been better if you had been snowshoeing, hiking, swimming or skiing throughout the long winter thereby keeping yourself in the pink. Remember, over-exertion can be detrimental to your health. Maybe we ought to have labels on our hobbies as on cigarette packages.

Mechanically--This has to do with your equipment. First approach it from the safety angle. Do you have your hard hat, safety glasses, gloves, sturdy boots,

insect repellent, and a properly equipped first aid kit. Next let's take a look at our tools. Do we have what we need for the type of rock collecting that we intend to do. If you are going to collect in rock shops, all you need is a well-filled pocketbook. However, remember that the dollar just "ain't" worth what it used to be even here in the good old U.S.A.

If you are searching for metal or mineral specimens, be sure to check over your metal detector as weak batteries can make a trip very disappointing. Check it out to see if it is working properly. Repairs made now help to insure success and the keeping of an amiable disposition.

Check over all of your chisels. Are they properly ground? Are the heads of any of them mushroomed? If they are, be sure to grind and bevel them properly as some of those pieces can fly like the projectile from a gun as many people have learned through experience. Remember: "Experience is a dear teacher but fools will learn in no other." And I like to add, I have scars to prove it.

How about your rock hammers? Are the heads badly nicked or the picks badly blunted. If they are, have them repaired or replaced. Are all the handles on your picks and sledges in good shape with no cracks or splinters to injure your hands.

How about bags or boxes to store your specimens in once you have selected them. Improper storage often results in junk when you start unpacking at home. Well-wrapped and packaged samples always pays. This is especially true for micromount collectors.

If you have laid out and inspected

all your equipment, now pack it up in an efficient way so that it easily transports and is available. Planning ahead saves a lot of valuable time as well as disappointments and frustration.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 14-16 SHOW** 16th Annual Gem and Mineral Show, Michigan Gem and Mineral Society, National Guard Armory, 100 Armory Court, Jackson, Michigan.
- April 22-23 SHOW** 15th Annual--1978 Gem Show, Mesabi Rock and Mineral Club, Hibbing Memorial Building, Hibbing, Minnesota.
- April 22-23 SHOW** Mount Clemens Gem and Lapidary Society, Seminole School, Mount Clemens, Michigan.
- April 23-24 SHOW** Wisconsin Geological Society, Red Carpet Expo. Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- April 30- May 1 SHOW** Blue Water Lapidary Society, Wagenseil Community Center, 2300 Totem Trail, Port Huron, Michigan
- May 13-14 SHOW** Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society, Fairgrounds, County Center Building, 2900 Lake Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan.
- May 15-20 SHOW** C.A.I. Family Lapidary Club, Pontiac Mall, Pontiac, Michigan.
- May 20-21 FIELD TRIP** All-Michigan Field Trip, Alpena, Michigan.
- May 19-21 SHOW** Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society, Dearborn Youth Center, Dearborn, Michigan.
- May 27-29 FIELD TRIP** Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club, Copper Country Field Trips, headquarters McLain State Park, open to Midwest and American Federation members. For information contact Frazier Tubbs, 2 County Road 510, Negaunee, Michigan, 49866, or call 475-4954.
- May 27-29 SHOW** Chicagoland Gems and Minerals Association, DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, Illinois
- June 3-4 SWAP** State Line Gem and Mineral Society, Fulton County Fairgrounds, Wauseon, Ohio.
- June 24-25 SEMINAR** Michigan Geology and Gemcraft Society (MGAGS), Mid-Michigan Community College, Harrison, Michigan.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS CONTINUED

July 7-9	SHOW	Upper Peninsula Gem and Mineral Show, Mineral River Plaza, White Pine, Michigan.
July 15-16	SHOW	9th Annual Moose Lake Agate Days, Carlton County Gem and Mineral Club, Moose Lake High School Auditorium, Carlton, Minnesota.
August 5-6	SWAP	Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club, Marquette City Tourist Park, Marquette, Michigan.
August 10-13	SHOW CONVENTION	Midwest Federation Show and Convention, Hawkeye Downs, Highway 218 South, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

HAIL UP DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT FOREST

From the Milwaukee Sentinel
Wednesday, March 15, 1978

Marquette, Mich. -- Two Northern Michigan University professors have termed the discovery of an ancient spruce or tamarack forest near here "one of the outstanding geological discoveries of the century."

The trees, estimated to be about 9,950 years old, were uncovered recently about 15 miles southwest of this Upper Peninsula city by workers at the Cleveland Cliffs Iron Co.

The workers, using large earth moving equipment, reported striking trees 25 to 30 feet below the surface. The workers were excavating the area for expanded mining operations.

W. James Merry, botanist, and John Hughes, earth scientist, said the Gribben Basin forest discovery, buried by glacial activity, is one of only two such forests discovered in the United States in the 1900s.

"This find gives us information that requires a substantial revision of our theories about

glacial activity in the upper Great Lakes region," Hughes said.

Previously, it was believed that about 12,000 years ago a glacier briefly advanced as far south as Valders, Wis., near Manitowoc, then retreated rapidly to an area well to the north of Lake Superior and never returned to the Great Lakes.

"Because the trees in the Gribben Basin were buried beneath materials carried by waters from a melting glacier, we now know that the Valders ice, after possibly receding to the north shore of Lake Superior, readvanced across the present site of the city of Marquette," Hughes said.

"It also was believed that as long ago as the Valders glacial advance, 12,000 years ago, glacial ice filled only the Lake Superior basin east of the Keweenaw Peninsula.

"Now, with the Gribben Basin discovery, coupled with isolated pieces of buried trees of the same age found in the Ironwood (Mich.) and Ashland (Wis.) areas, we know that as recently as 10,000 years ago, glacial ice filled almost all if not the entire Superior basin."

(Continued on Page 20)

MINERAL CHANGES DUE TO WEATHERING

The surface changes that affect ores are very important. Most minerals will change when left to the action of weather. Pyrite changes slowly to limonite, and chalcopryite changes to limonite and malachite. Sometimes the variable minerals are entirely dissolved at the surface and the rock is left barren. This is particularly true of copper ores, though usually some traces of copper will be left at the surface. Here is a list of some of the weathering changes of most common occurrence and of greatest interest.

Feldspar changes to clay.

Olivine and hornblende change to serpentine or chlorite rocks.

Impure limestone may dissolve and leave clay.

Pyrite changes to limonite and hematite.

Copper-sulphide minerals change to malachite, azurite, cuprite, or metallic copper, or may be dissolved entirely. Some copper minerals become partly limonite.

Silver minerals change to horn silver (cerargyrite) or dissolve.

Rhodochrosite and rhodonite change to psilomelane or pyrolusite (manganese minerals).

Calcite dissolves.

Gold may dissolve if manganese is in the rock.

Quartz, fluorite, apatite, barite, and tourmaline are not likely to change.

From Rockester News, Rochester, N. Y., via The American Federation Newsletter.

BOOK REVIEW

The American Geological Institute has again come up with a handbook of value to the rockhound or

mineral collector. MAPS AND GEOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES: A LAYMAN'S GUIDE provides an excellent listing of maps and various publications available by state. Included are publications on caves, general geology, mineral resources, rocks, minerals, fossils, and other resources. In addition are lists of guidebooks, maps, and teachers' aids. A complete list of publishers has been added so that publications can be ordered. Many of the books and pamphlets described are free, and this is stated when the information was available. The book can be ordered by sending \$3.00 to American Geological Institute, 5205 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, Virginia 22041.

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF MICHIGAN IN 1977

For the first time in six years, the value of Michigan's raw mineral output failed to set a record in 1977, according to the Bureau of Mines, U. S. Department of the Interior. Preliminary data indicate that the value of \$1.51 billion was 2.1 percent less than the record established in 1976. Record production of oil and gas was offset by a 31 percent drop in iron ore production. Crude petroleum was the leading commodity in terms of value, followed by iron ore, cement, natural gas, stone, and sand and gravel.

Nonmetallic mineral production continued its upward trend for the second consecutive year. The climb reflected continued improvement in the performance of the construction industry where many of the materials notably gypsum, sand and gravel, and cement, are used. Nonmetals accounted for \$607.5 million, or 40.2 percent of the State's total mineral value in 1977. Nationally,

Michigan remained a major producer of construction materials, natural salines, lime, salt, and peat.

Mineral fuels (natural gas, natural gas liquids, and petroleum) were valued at \$534.9 million, or 35.4 percent of the total value. Preliminary estimates indicate that over 33 million barrels of crude oil and 124 billion cubic feet of natural gas were produced in 1977. This is the third year in a row for a new high to be reached in crude production, and the fifth consecutive year for record gas sales.

Metallic minerals represented \$368.7 million, or 24.4 percent of the total. A labor dispute resulted in a 113-day strike beginning on August 1 at the major iron ore producer. Consequently, iron ore shipments and value declined 31 and 29 percent, respectively. Copper output, the only other metallic mineral produced in Michigan, decreased 11 percent, reflecting the continued depressed copper market.

The contribution to Michigan's total economy by the mining and related mineral processing industries is significant. Current estimates indicate that over \$15 billion is contributed. About \$11 billion of this value involved primary metal and nonmetallic products, and the remaining \$4 billion were petroleum goods. Every dollar of mineral production brings the State about ten dollars of manufactured and processed goods.

From the Bureau of Mines
Liaison Office, Lansing,
Michigan. Prepared
January 23, 1978.

GREAT SALT PLAINS OF OKLAHOMA MAY YET BE SAVED

Elsie Matthews, Chairman of Save the Selenite Crystal Beds, reports that David Steele, US Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa Division, has said that there are seven suggested plans for the Chloride dams, which threatened destruction of the crystal beds. According to Steele, three of the plans would not disturb the crystal area at all, and one of them, number 7, would make them stronger.

Because of the 6,000 signatures collected by her committee, Dr. Naff was appointed to make a survey of the area. If nothing contrary to the Engineers plans is found in the Naff survey, the Engineers will present one of the three positive plans to their Washington, D. C. headquarters.

Mrs. Matthews says it is not too late to send more signatures to help save the selenite crystal beds. For more information, write her at 926 Sandstone, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

From the Midwest Federations
Newsletter, February, 1978.

"TOTE BOARD" PROVIDES INSTANT MINERAL INFORMATION

A "tote board" providing viewers with instant readout information on six key mineral and energy resources of the Nation is now on exhibit at the U. S. Geological Survey's National Center, Reston, Virginia.

The board, consisting of six pedestal-type modules, each about six feet high, shows past, present, and future consumption, and information on uses and resources of iron, aluminum, copper, sand and

gravel, mineral fuels (oil, gas, coal, etc., combined and expressed in barrels of crude oil equivalent), and water.

A cumulative tally of estimated domestic consumption since January 1 of these commodities is shown in lights with odometer-type readout units.

The exhibit, emphasizing the stress and strain being placed on the Nation's environment and natural resources, reveals that during the lifetimes of persons now living -- assuming no change in the present per capita rate of consumption -- the Nation will use more resources than in all of its previous history.

The display is the fourth model of the mineral resources tote board. Previous models were exhibited at the New York World's Fair in 1964 and 1965, at Spokane (Washington) Expo-1974, and at the U. S. Bicentennial Exposition of Science and Technology, Cape Canaveral, Florida 1976.

The ideas and plans for the original tote board resulted from long study, reviews, and conferences by representatives of the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines. Resource specialists of the two agencies said that three major challenges are posed by information shown on the tote board: the urgent need to locate and develop the resources necessary to meet demand; the need to reasonably protect the environment from possible damages resulting from production; and the need to prevent waste and extravagant use of nonrenewable resources.

From a Department of the Interior News Release,
February 15, 1978.

SOME POINTERS ON LAPIDARY COMPETITION

By Howard Shipp appearing in Stone Age, December, 1972.

At a recent show I had the chance to work as a clerk for the team of judges scoring the cases entered in the cabochon class. As I accompanied them and recorded their comments, I had the opportunity to gain some insight into their methods of judging. Since I am of such a generous nature, I am willing to part with some of the keys to successful competition--without charge

KEY NUMBER ONE is to know the rules of competition for your class. They come in two little booklets every exhibitor should have: REGIONAL AND LOCAL UNIFORM RULES AND NATIONAL TROPHY RULES and EXHIBITORS' MANUAL (both published by the American Federation and both available from your Federation for a few cents). The rules are simple, but they are firm. For example, if the rules say that you may have no more than five cabochons mounted in settings and you enter 33 mounted cabs, the judges will promptly subtract two points for each cab over the limit of five. That's called "out of class" officially, but called stupidity by me--when all else fails, read the rules!

KEY NUMBER TWO is to work on the case itself (the liners and risers that will make to enhance your display). The judges that I worked with were willing to believe that a lot of dirt will fall down through the holes where the lights shine in, but not one of them believed that wrinkles in the liners got in through the same source. The cracks between liner sections look more like something got out, rather than in, but still will cost you points.

continued. . . .

KEY NUMBER THREE is material. The judges want to know whether you can work on something besides agate. They check to see that you started with good quality material. They also want an appealing case with some flash to it. Put in a color variety, and put in some color that will catch the visitor's eye. Have a variety in both hue (color and tone) and intensity.

KEY NUMBER FOUR is to do a wide variety of good work. The judges will look to see if you can work on both large stones and small stones. Believe it or not, they can and will evaluate the polish you get, even through the front of that glass case. Throw away the template and include a free form or two, but put in a variety of standard forms as well. If you make a matching set, make it match.

KEY NUMBER FIVE is to score 98 or 99 points, using Keys 1 to 4. This sounds impossible, but I saw it done. In addition, the lowest scoring of the eight cases I saw judged in this event scored 80, and I'm here to tell you that he didn't pay enough attention to Keys 1 to 4.

From AFMS via The Michigan Gem News

HINTS FOR SETTING UP AN EXHIBIT

When setting up an exhibit, you need a box with all the odds and ends to aid you in presenting a practically perfect display. Following is a quick list:

1. Extra light bulbs
2. Extension cord, 2-way light bulb (and be sure it is 3 pronged)
3. Single and double-faced tape

4. All kinds of pins
5. Thumb tacks
6. Soft brush
7. Scissors
8. Screwdriver and small hammer
9. White cotton gloves--saves extra wiping, no fingerprints
10. Silicone papers (eye glass cleaners give nice polish)
11. Styrofoam and knife to cut it
12. Paper towels
13. Glass cleaner
14. Extra labels and exhibiting materials
15. An apron with pockets is handy.
16. Extra screws for case
17. Don't forget to take along the box after you've packed it.

Via The Living Stones

HANDY HINTS

OXALIC ACID dissolved in water and worked into a felt buff or added to your polishing paste works wonders on agates. A piece of corduroy glued to soft rubber makes fine, inexpensive polishing material.

From the G. I. Nugget via The Oshkosh Quarrier

To remove grit from the polishing cloth, hold a strip of plywood or balsa wood firmly against the wheel while it is in motion. Grit penetrates the wood, leaving the cloth clean.

From Smoke Signals via The Oshkosh Quarrier

To determine the hardness of a stone, mark it with an aluminum pencil. The fainter the mark, the harder the stone. No aluminum mark can be made on a stone harder than 7.

From Rockhound Tales via The Oshkosh Quarrier

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HOW TO MAKE A DOPSTICK HOLDER

To make an egg carton into a dopstick holder, put some sand in the carton, then glue the top and bottom edges together. Turn the carton upside down and punch a hole in each of the upturned egg pockets. Push dopsticks down through the holes. The sand will serve as a weight, and will hold the dopsticks straight.

From International Club Digest via The Tully

HAIL UP DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT FOREST (continued)

Growth rings in some of the trees in the Gribben Basin indicated they were "at least 150 years old" at the time of the glaciers, Merry said.

Their tops were worn off by gravel in rapidly flowing water in front of the glacier.

Hughes said the only discovery comparable to the Gribben Basin forest was a glacial forest buried at Two Creeks, Wis., north of Manitowoc, and discovered about 50 years ago.

The area where the forest near Lake Superior was uncovered is located 2½ miles east of the mining community of Palmer, where

* * * * *

From the Editor: I was very pleased with the number of articles that were submitted by Club members this month. Nelson and Marion Short submitted two articles, one of which I am saving for the next edition. Because of the membership list, I had less space than usual for articles. Everyone made an effort to get them in by the deadline, too. I really appreciate this. Thanks a lot!

Cleveland Cliffs operates the Empire mine and pellet plant.

Stubs of the trees are 12 to 15 feet in diameter. Merry said the wood was "remarkably well preserved."

Carbon dating was used to determine the age of the wood.

Cleveland Cliffs provided a grant of more than \$16,000 for Merry and Hughes to conduct their study. This was supplemented by a \$2,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.

Submitted by Arnold Mulzer

THIRD CLASS

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