

30th Anniversary Year

1953 - 1983

T H E



J A S P I L I T E

January 7, 1983

Affiliated with the Midwest Federation
of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

THE JASPILITE

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

Published Quarterly

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1983 Swap & Sell Chmn.	James Procunier	

MEETINGS: Business Meetings: 1st Friday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at Bothwell Middle School, Marquette (1st Thursday evening June-Sept.)
 Program & Activity Meetings: 3rd Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. at the Ishpeming Senior Citizens' Center, Pine & Division Sts., Ishpeming, October through 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 & Wife Annual Dues	3.00
Adult Annual Dues	2.00
Junior Annual Dues	1.00

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

Deadlines for JASPILITE: January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1
 Material in this bulletin may be copied provided full credit is given to the author and the bulletin. Send all exchange bulletins and related items to the Exchange Bulletin Editor.

Midwest Federations NEWSLETTER

Published monthly except July and August as a service to member clubs. All news and articles should be sent to the Editor, Mrs. Bette Smith, 10807 Mary Ann, Zeeland, MI 49464. All subscription orders should be sent to Parrot Printing Service, 2125 Forest Ave., Des Moines IA 50311.

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OCTOBER 1982.- Issue No. 227



THANK YOU
MIDWEST
FEDERATION

A hearty thanks to all of you in the Midwest Federation of Geological and Mineralogical Societies. It has been a pleasure serving you as President. The number of people who have helped me with the business of the Midwest Federation is limitless.

Special thanks to the Executive Board for their support and at times, good-natured goading. Also thanks to the Executive Committee for their hard work for you, the members of the Midwest Federation.

A Very Special Thank You to JEAN REYNOLDS, your Midwest Federation Secretary. She used her unlimited patience with me.

Last, but not least, a special thank you to my wife, JACQUE, for her support and help. Without her beside me and acting as the Executive Assistant, it would take a lot longer to accomplish whatever needed to be done.

I hope you support your new President, DIANE DARE, as you have supported me.

LARRY NAWOJSKI, MWF President

Stealing the Show

TROPHY WINNERS MWF SHOW 1982

- TROPHY III** - Thumbnail Minerals, William & Anne Cook, Mineralogical Society of Cleveland.
- TROPHY V** - Minerals, Junior, Carolyn Sharp, Mineralogical Society of Cleveland.
- TROPHY VII** - Cabochons, Thomas W. White, Independence Gem & Mineral Society.
- TROPHY IX** - Faceted Stones, Lawrence F. Murray, Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club.
- TROPHY X** - Lapidary, Junior, Marty W. Powell, Independence Gem & Mineral Society.
- TROPHY XII** - Fossils, George & Donna Guest, Chamberlain Gem & Mineral Society.
- TROPHY XIV** - Educational, Robert L. Mount, West Suburban Lapidary Club.
- TROPHY XV** - Society, New Ulm Gem & Mineral Club, Morgan, Minnesota.
- TROPHY XXIII** Open Division, Eleanor Scheribel, Esconi, & Des Plaines Valley Geological Society.

BULLETIN EDITORS CONTEST - MWF SHOW 1982 - AWARD WINNERS

Mini-Bulletin:

1st "Mastodon Tracks", Gertrude Larson, Editor. Badlands-Sandhills Earth Science Club, Mission, South Dakota.

Small Bulletin:

- 1st "Blue Ridge Gem", Alice Jacobs, Editor. Blue Ridge Gem & Mineral Society, Independence, Missouri.
- 2nd "Newsletter", Charles J. Walker, Editor. Peru Rocks & Mineral Club, Inc., Peru, Indiana.
- 3rd "The Rockfinder", Fred Niebauer, Editor. Michiana Rocks & Gem Club, South Bend, Indiana.
- 4th "Flint Flashes", Helen L. Smith, Editor. Licking County Rock & Mineral Society, Inc., Newark, Ohio.
- 5th "Rock Talk", Tanis Diehrichs, Editor. Black Hawk Gem & Mineral Society, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Large Bulletin:

- 1st "Rock Tablet", Carol Anderson, Editor. Neville Public Museum Geology Club, Green Bay, Wisconsin.
- 2nd "Sandscript", Catherine McFadden, Editor. Duneland Rock Club, Inc., Griffith, Indiana.
- 3rd "The Pyriter", Lyle Voas, Editor. Dallas County Rock Club, Inc., Minburn, Iowa.
- 4th "Worthen Worthy Notes", Irma W. Bradley, Editor. Worthen Earth Searchers of Hancock County, Carthage, Illinois.
- 5th "Pebble Pushers", John Boland, Editor. Coulees Rock Club, LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

Extra-Large Bulletin: Five Bulletins tied for First Place with Perfect Scores.

- "The Beachcomber", Susan B. Turner, Editor. Lake County Gem & Mineral Society, Gurnee, Illinois.
- "The Tully", Betty Van Erder, Editor. Park Forest Earth Science Club, Park Forest, Illinois.
- "The Opal", Lois McMahon, Editor. West Suburban Lapidary Club, Lombard, Illinois.
- "Gem City Rock News", Rita C. Hagerbaumer, Editor. Gem City Rock Club, Quincy, Illinois.
- "Serendipity Gems", Luella Bond, Editor. Evansville Lapidary Society, Boonville, Indiana.

New Bulletin Editors:

- 1st "The Conglomerate", Paul and Marilyn Rempes, Editors. Michigan Mineralogical Society, Royal Oak, Michigan.
- 2nd "The Crystal Clusters", Mary Ann Gaydos, Editor. Des Plaines Valley Geological Society, Niles, Illinois.
- 3rd "The Gemrock", Kathy Elliott, Editor. Independence Gem & Mineral Society, Kansas City, Missouri.
- 4th "Rock Rustler's News", Susan Pruet, Editor. Minnesota Mineral Club, Shoreview, Minnesota.
- 5th "The Pick and Shovel", Vera Lyman, Editor. Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Special Publications:

- 1st "Famous Fossil Locations", Ralph L. Minnis, Jr., Author. Des Plaines Valley Geological Society, Des Plaines, Illinois.
- 2nd "Come With Me to Missouri", Vivian Gilbert, Author. McDonnell Douglas Gem & Mineral Society, St. Louis, Missouri.
- 3rd "The 25th Anniversary of Dallas County Rock Club", Lyle Voas, Author. Dallas County Rock Club, Minburn, Iowa.

Original Article (Adult Division)

- 1st "Some Minerals Collected in Mines at Rush, Arkansas", Paul Harris, Author. Ozark Earth Science Club, Mountain Home, Arkansas.
- 2nd "The Enchanted Place", Catherine McFadden, Author. Duneland Rock Club, Inc., Griffith, Indiana.
- 3rd "Painless Silver Picking Well, Almost Painless)", Ray Lambert, Author. Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Lincoln, Nebraska.
- 4th "Uncovering The Moon's Secrets", Joan Bucinski, Author. The Calumet Gem & Mineral Society, Highland, Indiana.
- 5th "Stage at Fort Wilkins (1980)", Chester Smith, Author. Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club, Holland, Michigan.

Original Article (Junior Division)

- "All American Collector", Joey Boehning, Age 11, Author. Park Forest Earth Science Club, Park Forest, Illinois.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE OFFICERS OF THE
MIDWEST FEDERATION:

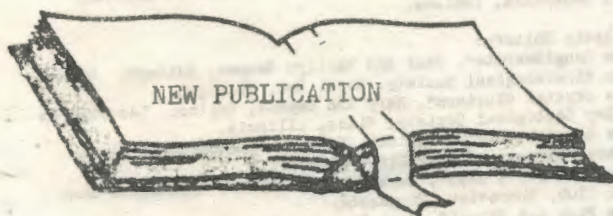
I came across an article in the March, 1982, issue of the "Midwest Federation Newsletter" titled "Child Protection" which troubles me a great deal.

First, I am a little unclear about just how the political opinions contained in this article relate to geology in general and rockhounding in particular.

Second, I am also a little confused as to whether those opinions are the personal political beliefs of HELEN NEUMANN or if they are official policy of the Midwest Federation. (I would be very relieved to discover that they are only HELEN'S personal opinions because I personally cannot continue my membership in the Midwest Federation with a clear conscience if we are sanctioning this kind of murderous legislation!)

Third, I emphatically disagree with the thesis of this article! Infant and child restraints may be desirable in most cases but in some cases they can CAUSE death (by trapping and/or crushing the child, for example). Those who, through legislation, forced the use of restraints in such cases would be guilty of murder! Persuasion is the answer to issues of this kind, NOT murderous coercion!

RICHARD W. SMITH, member of the Eastern
Indiana Gem & Geological Society



"Geologic History of Ash Hollow Park" by ROBERT F. DIFFENDAL, JR., ROGER K PABIAN, and J. R. THOMASSON is an educational circular. Ash Hollow State Historical Park is administered by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. It has been the site of human activity for about 9,000 years. The geologic history of the rocks exposed in the park goes back about 30 million years. This pamphlet details this history for us. Copies may be obtained from Conservation & Survey Division-IANR, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0517 for \$2.00.

Submitted by ROGER K. PABIAN

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to the families of:

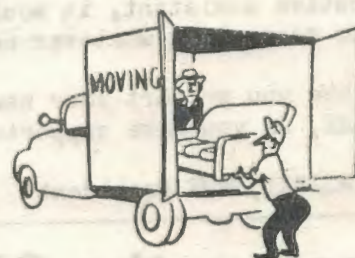
MAYBELLE WILCOX of Winner, South Dakota, who passed away Sunday May 2nd. MAYBELLE had served as State Director and held all the offices in her own club, the Rosebud Geological Society. During her term as State Director the South Dakota clubs won several awards and "Points of Interest", of which MAYBELLE was co-editor was a trophy winner.

TRUDY HOUSER of Cincinnati, Ohio, who died May 16th at her home. TRUDY was active in many organizations, including the MWF. Her outstanding mineral and fossil collections have been donated to the Smithsonian Institution.

FAYE O. KING, Liaison Officer for the Wabash Valley Gem & Mineral Society of Lafayette, Indiana. FAYE was one of the old timers of the club and a great loss to the rock hobby.

FALL EXECUTIVE MEETING

The Fall executive meeting will be held November 6, 1982 at Park Forest, Illinois. The host will be the Park Forest Earth Science Club. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Park Forest Earth Science Club's 14th annual show.



IF YOU MOVE...

please send us your new address so that your copy of the Newsletter may be sent to the correct address. And when you write, please give us your OLD address as well as your complete NEW address so we may make the proper change on our mailing labels. Be sure to include your zip code as this is most important, and necessary, to insure delivery. Allow 60 days for the change to be effective.

If you have any questions regarding your copy of the Newsletter, write to us at 2125 Forest Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50311.

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NOVEMBER 1982 - Issue No. 228

Your new Midwest President says...

DIANE DARE

Four hundred and ninety years ago, Columbus discovered a New World. You can also find "new worlds" when you Discover, Appreciate, Recognize and Experience all the areas of earth Science!

DARE

COMMUNICATION

In 1818, BENJAMIN SILLIMAN, an American Chemist, founded the "American Journal of Science and Arts" to aid the development of American sciences. Swedish chemist JOHN JAKOB BERZELIUS (1779-1848) developed the system of letter-symbols for the elements, based on Latin names, that is now the international language of chemistry. Town physician in a German mining center, GEORGIUS ARGRICOLA, compiled "De Re Metallica" (1556) which summarized all the practical knowledge of the miners. LORENZ OCKENFUSS (1779-1851), a German naturalist, not only founded a biological journal to publish papers on biology, he also advocated annual meetings of biologists, physicians and natural historians so views on life sciences could be made public and shared.

Communication, sharing of information and ideas, is an important part of the Midwest Federation, offered through:

- the Newsletter - BETTE SMITH, Editor, 10607 Mary Ann St., Zeeland, MI 49464
 - the Directory & Calendar of Events - BETTY MYERS, Chairperson, 455 Tomahawk St., Park Forest, IL 60466
 - the Bulletin Editor's Aids Committee - RITA HAGERBAUMER, Chairperson, 1537 Manor Hill Dr., Quincy, IL 62301
 - the Director of Supplies & Information - CLINTON HECKERT, Chairperson, 725 Stewart Ave., Elgin, IL 60120
- and all of the State Directors and their assistants.
We'd like to hear from YOU - as clubs and as individuals!

BEWARE OF CAVE-INS

HELEN R. NEUMANN

Each year lives are lost on construction sites because workers failed to observe simple precautions while working in trenches and ditches. Any trench, ditch, or excavation should be considered a potential killer. Even at waist height, when you bend over while working in an excavated area, the walls plus the removed dirt (spoil) can be well over your head. Make sure the spoil cannot slide into the trench because it is too close to the edges. Before you enter into a ditch or trench, make sure it is properly shored.

Work as a team, or tell someone that you are working in the trench and make sure they keep an eye on you. Have an escape ladder close by for a quick exit. (UA Journal, 1982)

Obviously this can be applied to rockhounds who love to dig for rocks in quarries, outcrops and mines like the Emerald Mine in North Carolina. Had these rules been applied those killed there a couple years ago would still be with us.

CLINTON HECKERT, Director of Supplies announces:

Price change in the MWF Environment Patch; \$2.25 plus postage. Postage for 1 or 2 is \$0.20; 3 or 4 is \$0.37. Larger quantities the unit cost for postage goes less. Orders shipped first class mail.

NEW...MWF Patch, same design and color as the pins. Size is 3 x 3½ inches. \$1.50 each, postage paid any quantity. Orders shipped by first class mail.

Both patches are colorful, well made and attractive in design. A beautiful addition to those eye catching vests that are becoming so popular to our hobby.

WHAT DOES THE FEDERATION DO FOR YOU?

Before there were federations, there were no shows, few shops, few books, etc. They have popularized the hobby. Federation representatives can be called on for programs, speakers and information.

AGATE DAYS HONORARIUM

FLOYD and GLADYS CLARK, long time members of the Carlton County Gem & Mineral Club, were honored for their long and enthusiastic efforts at the Clubs annual Agate Days at Moose Lake, Minnesota, July 17. The couple were presented with an engraved plaque commemorating fourteen effort filled years of organizing, promoting and programing the yearly Agate Days Show - and for their work in developing the Agate Stampede which has become such a popular event.

The CLARKS were instrumental in organizing the Agate Days Show in the late 1960's when the show was held in a rented tent at Moose Lake. FLOYD recalls one of those early shows when a tornado brought the tent down around their heads and their displays early Sunday afternoon. This may have provided the motivation to move the event to the Moose Lake High School auditorium for the two day show.

FLOYD was also one of the originators of the Agate Stampede which has become a principal attraction of the Agate Days celebration. For the Agate Stampede a dump truck loaded with several hundred pounds of agates and \$50 worth of quarters is spread on the street in downtown Moose Lake. At the sound of a cannon shot the spectators leap in and begin searching the gravel for the agates and the quarters. The event has achieved such popularity that the Midwest Federation Show at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds invited the club to stage the Stampede for their event.

Submitted by JAN OLSEN, Bulletin Editor, Carlton County Gem & Mineral Club

HOWARD TAYLOR

HOWARD TAYLOR, Past-President of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies passed away September 7, 1982. He had been President in 1975-76 and at the time of death was Chairman of the Convention and Show Advisory Committee and had just completed arrangements for all the Midwest Conventions through 1986. HOWARD was Chairman of the American-Midwest Federation Show in Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1980 and did a lot of work on the national show there in 1974. He was a member of the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Society and the Nebraska State Association. Our condolences to his wife MARIE and his children.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

DIANE BARE has announced the following new appointments for 1983.
 DR. KATHERINE NELSON as the Education Chairperson
 JOHN BOLAND will be Environment Chairperson
 PAUL GOOD as the Scholarship Award Selector Appointee (joining FLORENCE HILL who was named to it by the Nominating Committee, and REX WEBB as Chairperson - REX is also our new MWF Director of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation since he is 1st Vice-President)
 BILL MYERS as Illinois State Director
 MILES SMITH will chair a new Special Committee on Swapping (similar to the Auction Committee - to set up rules, guidelines, etc.)
 RITA HAGERBAUMER will be the new Bulletin Editor Aids Chairperson. She is Editor of the Gem City Rock News of Quincy, Illinois.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN MWF

At the MWF Show in St. Paul, Minnesota, CLINT and MILDRED HECKERT were given Honorary Membership in the Midwest Federation. This reward recognizes the ten years dedicated service they have given as Director of Supplies. They have acquired and sent out all supplies necessary for the efficient running of the Federation. All new publications are handled through the Director of Supplies. The HECKERTS are residents of Elgin, Illinois, and are very active members of the Elgin Rocks & Mineral Society.

CONGRATULATIONS CLINT and MILDRED.

The awards for the All American Club Award Winners and the Midwest Club Award winners were presented at the annual award banquet of the federation on June 26, 1982. Thirty-five clubs of the Midwest submitted applications and the committee picked twelve.

The committee consisted of five representatives, four clubs and three states. The committee members consisted of FERN FENNER, Peru, Indiana; WILMA JOELMER, Terre Haute, Indiana; LUCILLE BISHOP, St. Louis, Missouri; KEITH ANDERSON, Flint, Michigan; and BENJAMIN MOULTON, Terre Haute, Indiana, as Chairperson.

The decisions were very difficult to make. The most disturbing weaknesses obvious to the committee in reading these experiences was in the lack of organization in some reports that made it difficult to evaluate them. The other factor was to make sure the report represents the activities of the whole club and not just a few members. The committee was much pleased by the variety and quantity of activities presented in the reports.

The winners are:

AMERICAN FEDERATION CLUB AWARDS

Evansville Lapidary - This club extends its activities to three cities and yet has a strong nucleus in Evansville with a well developed work shop as a nucleus. In the business world we would call it a "combine". The annual show attracts large numbers and the membership participates in many Midwest activities.

Gem City - A small club in a small community doing lots of things. A report that emphasizes attitudes and philosophy toward the organization as a group and relating its activities across to each other. An avid supporter of the Midwest. An outstanding informative monthly report. The club gets excellent publicity in local newspapers. The monthly meetings are varied and informative.

Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club - A small club with a giant size program. A club with total membership club projects resulting in such features as "The Windmill". This club enjoys its local effort and yet extends its good spirit to the Midwest through active members in the Midwest. It shares its resources with library, park and community programs.

Michiana Rock and Gem Club, Inc. - A club that in the medium size range sponsors a significant show each year and in addition sponsored a successful Midwest show in 1981. The club has the capability of operating with a spectacular flare. Programs through the years are varied and informative. The monthly newsletters encompasses all activities.

Wisconsin Geological Society - A club for all ages for all activities for all purposes conceivable in a club. Fruitful in every approach from membership interest to education and community service. A medium size club with a giant size program. A masterful piece of organization in the final organization.

McDonnell Douglas - One of the two clubs in the evaluation that received a score of 100 by at least one reader. This club that caters to all and services all. Something for everybody with hobby interests topmost. However, interest in the environment, energy and the welfare of the earth are actively pursued. A broad participation by all members of the club in one or more activities.

MIDWEST CLUB AWARDS

Peru Rock & Minerals - This small club has an amazingly active program in all phases of our interests. Several members participate actively in state and regional affairs of the Midwest. Singularly it is the highest percentages contributor to the AFMS Scholarship fund of any club in the Midwest. At the time of reading the application it was a whopping 3700% on the "Richter" Scale.

Mineralogical Society of Cleveland - An extremely small club with the least formal organization of any reviewed and a unity among members that apparently is enviable. The club has no newsletter or several other conventional features of a club. In its uniqueness is perhaps the single common interest that might well be a source of more fundamental mineral information than one would expect from a dozen large clubs. It is a Cul de sac of potential.

Desplaines Valley Geological Society - Although making an outstanding contribution of planning 30 programs a year and other activities, part and parcel of an active club outstanding was the club's interest in environmental conservation and wild life conservation. It expressed strong interests in a "Save the Eagle" program and in problems of solid waste disposal.

Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club - This club of less than 100 members and twenty nine years old should be recognized as "Host for the Upper Peninsula" it has co-operated with so many clubs on field trips into the rich area. (Evan Canadian Clubs). Its long continued publication the Jaspellite is "the complete rockhound" for those that peruse its pages.

Blackhawk Gem & Mineral Club - A medium size club with a varied program encompassing the arts of the hobby. They have developed excellent publicity channels and have dispersed their knowledge from colleges to kindergarden in a variety of ways. Scholarship support in several categories is high.

Ozark Earth Science Club - If any doubt the potential of Senior Citizens to activate a club let doubts be removed by reviewing the activities of this club. This club is made up of 90% senior citizen members. The Midwest recognizes this unusual situation by noting their efforts. They represent a good model club.

BENJAMIN MOULTON, Chairperson Merit Awards

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DECEMBER 1982 - Issue No. 229

Mr. Program Chairman!



YOUR
PRESIDENT - DIANE DARE

The Midwest Federation has a film library. All programs are 35mm slides and free to all Midwest clubs. Try to order 60 days in advance, give three choices and try to return UPS. If that is not possible use a piece of strapping tape all the way around. Uncle Sam's sorting machines are rough on cloth tape.

The American astronomer ANDREW ELLICOTT DOUGLAS (1867-1962) had an interest in the sun, which led to an interest in climate, which in turn led to a study of tree ring patterns in Arizona petrified woods. Wherever your interest in earth sciences leads you, these committees can help.

We have two new programs for you:

#121 - Cahokia Prehistoric Legacy. A new archaeology program on the Cahokia "Dig". Cahokia is in southern Illinois, and is the largest prehistoric Indian site in North America. These 74 slides gives us an interesting history of life in our land just before the white man. This program was produced by Cahokia Mound Branch of Illinois Department of Conservation and edited by DICK ADE, our own Federation Archaeology Chairman.

- Archaeology - GLEN R. HANNING, R.R., Huntsville, IL 62344
- Paleontology - PAUL CAPONERA, 2330 Collins Street, Blue Island, IL 60406
- Mineralogy - WILLIAM COOK, 684 Quilliams Rd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44121
- Geology - ARMIN STEINHAUSER, 1397 Chelmsford St., St. Paul, MN 55108
- Lapidary Arts - LARRY CASEY, P.O. Box 146, Batavia, IL 60510
- Micromounts - DAN BEHNKE, 2981 Landwehr Rd., Northbrook, IL 60062
- South Dakota State Director - ASHTON WILSON, 1017 N. Walts Ave., Sioux Falls, S.D. 57104
- Wisconsin State Director - MARY BOLAND, 2211 Valley Road, Lacrosse, WI 54601

#122 - New Zealand Adventure. Pack up your bags and join LUCILLE BISHOP, Missouri State Director in her adventure in New Zealand. Keep your business meetings short to save time for these 165 slides about rock-hunting and sight seeing in this interesting country.

These Chairmen, and their assistants, have an interest in your interest!

LOUISE STINNETT, MWF Program Chairman

NEW PROGRAM AIDS MANUAL

NEW INDIANA ASSISTANT STATE DIRECTOR

JOSEPH A PLYMATE
P.O. Box 247
Fairland, Indiana 46126

It has been years since we published a new Program Aids Manual. A new one is now in the process. All our programs will be described, and, with your cooperation a list of available speakers. If we do not hear from you as to a speakers list, it will not be published! We have made attempts to get help in this effort, with very little response. If you don't help us, we can not help you. Please send any information on speakers...next page - second column

Convention News

CAMPING - Near all activities. Dumping station, ice and bottled gas will be available on the premises. On grass, with shade trees. Water and electrical hookups.

FOOD SERVICE - Full service meals, breakfast, lunch and dinner. Real ice cream, cones and sundaes. Pop corn wagon. Sandwich and snack wagon. Open-pit chicken barbecue and square dance.

MOTELS - Discounts for Show and Convention guests at 7 nearby motels when reservations are made on the "Mineralogical Housing Bureau" form which will be in the show packet.

HEADQUARTERS MOTEL - Holiday Inn Expressway.

SUNDAY MORNING - Old-fashioned hymn sing.

SHOW PACKETS - Available after January 1, 1983.

GROUNDS - Kalamazoo County Center and Fairgrounds, easily accessible from I-94.

HOSPITALITY ROOM - For sitting and visiting, informal get-togethers, information on Kalamazoo attractions, malls, restaurants, winery tours and general sight seeing.

SHIRLEY CARROLL, Publicity Chairman MWF Show and Convention (1983)

ENVIRONMENTALLY SPEAKING

Conservation is the wise use of our natural resources. Two important elements for good quality of life are clean air and clean water. Laws written in the early 1970's are being revised this year by Congress. Increased knowledge on the part of Federation members about air pollutants, acid rain, water contaminants, and toxic waste disposal will make us all informed citizens. Other legislation to be acted on this year includes rights for mineral and oil exploration in our western park lands and use of off-road vehicles in these areas. Become informed and write your congressman on your views.

JOHN BOLAND, Environmental Committeeman

FIELD TRIP: An impossible trip, to an inaccessible place, for non-existent specimens. via Chips & Facets

ers or program material outside the Federation framework to:

ARTHUR MILLARD, 10298 Ford, Zion IL 60097 or:
JOAN RUCCINSKI, 6741 Alcott, Hammond, IN 46223
These two people will be doing the hard part of assembling material for what could prove to be very helpful to all clubs.

Submitted by LOUISE STINETT

DID YOU KNOW????? FACTS ABOUT THE MWF...

MWF members include adult societies (which may include juniors), junior societies (must have an adult sponsor), and individual members.

Official Magazine of the Midwest Federation is ROCKS AND MINERALS, a first-class bi-monthly publication. Subscription information is in the Directory.

The Lapidary Arts Committee promotes lapidary aspects of the hobby and seeks to upgrade the lapidary work of the members.

The Geology Committee acts as liaison between the hobbyist and the professional geologist.

The Program Committee has the responsibility of caring for slide programs and distributing them to authorized users. This committee works closely with the Education Committee, who reviews and approves all new programs.

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me,
Twelve tumblers tumbling, eleven perfect spear points,
Ten diamond saw blades..... nine crystal clusters,
Eight agate nodules, seven sheets of silver,
Six sapphire "star" stones, five golden rings.
Four fluorescent lamps, three gem books, two trilobites,
AND A BRANCH FROM A PETRIFIED TREE!

..via Chips & Facets, bulletin of the Miami Mineral & Gem Society

ACCORDING TO SCRIBE...

How to acknowledge Exchange bulletin articles, that is when several bulletins have been listed, or when it comes from the Lapidary Journal.

Say "from the First Bulletin" via "The last Bulletin". Also "From Many Bulletins" is being used a lot.

Editor, Fall issue - RUBY MEYER, Oxnard, CA

Merry Christmas

Midwest Federations NEWSLETTER

Published monthly except July and August as a service to member clubs. All news and articles should be sent to the Editor, Mrs. Bette Smith, 10607 Mary Ann, Zealand, MI 49464. All subscription orders should be sent to Parrot Printing Service, 2125 Forest Avenue., Des Moines, IA 50311.



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HAPPY NEW YEAR

JANUARY 1983.- Issue No. 230

HAPPY NEW YEAR

GEMSTONE PACIFICA - TOUR OF NEW ZEALAND

Plans are underway for a Rockhound's trip to New Zealand, starting February 22nd, 1984, and lasting 22 days. John and Gwyneth Cooke of Hamilton, New Zealand, will host this tour which will be made by motor coach in New Zealand. An exciting highlight will be that on 'Day 3', we will attend the first international Gem Show, Gemstone Pacifica, in Auckland. This show will have displays of all the South Pacific Islands.

The tour will also be hosted at three Mineral Clubs of New Zealand for a get together and rock swap. Other features will be trips to favorite hunting spots, Rock Shops, viewing private collections along the way, scenic visit to Te Anu and the famous Milford Sound boat trip, Christchurch and the gold mines, The Paua Shell factory, Museums, Jade shops at Hokitato, famous Waimaito Glow Worm caves, formal flower gardens, and many other places.

This trip will be limited to thirty persons and while age is no hindrance, it will be nice if the travelers are interested in the earth sciences.

For further information, your contact in the U.S.A. is LUCILLE BISHOP, Missouri State Director of MWF, 2465 Mullanphy Lane, Florissant, MO 63031 phone (314) 921-2557

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ..FROM DIANE DARE

The magician DOUG HENNING says, "The art of a magician is to create wonder. If we live with a sense of wonder our lives will be filled with joy." And JOEL VANCE wrote in Missouri Conservationist, "There is much fragile, almost hidden beauty in the outdoors, if only we will trouble to look for it."

In our hobby, there is so much to look at, to wonder about, to learn. Where does one begin? Many of our Committees can help, such as:

- Program Requests - LOUISE STINNETT, 29462 Aspen Drive, Flat Rock, MI 48134
- Education - KATHERINE NELSON, Dept. of Geo. Sciences, U. of WI, Milwaukee, WI 53201
- Library - BERNICE MCCLOSKEY, Box 527, Elm next column please...

Grove, WI 53122

Special Displays - ART MILLARD, 1512 Ford, Zion, IL 60099

A change in Committee Chairman - ARMIN STEIN - HAUSER has resigned from the Geology Committee and ROGER PABIAN will assume the job of Chairman.

HELEN NEUMANN has been reappointed to the AFMS Safety Committee as the Midwest Representative.

Remember, Discover, Appreciate, Recognize and Experience this hobby!

5 ARRESTED IN ST. JOHNS, ARIZONA, FOR THEFT OF INDIAN ARTIFACTS

In May 1982 it was reported in a newspaper in Arizona that five people were arrested in April for digging in ancient Indian ruins and removing artifacts. Evidently, if the ruins are on private property the apprehended cannot be tried on the state and federal antiquities laws but if the ruins are on state or federal land they can be prosecuted under the antiquities laws. Part of the above five people were on private land and part on land owned by the state. No dates has been set for the trials.

LEO LEARNED, Assistant State Director from Ohio, voiced his opinion as such: If the material is collected on a Sacred or Holy place or site, it should not be disturbed. But how do we know if it is a special place, it could be a garbage dump, of which I've ran across a number of these in my hunts. My beef is, if not picked up for collections, and educational value, they can become destroyed by the elements, by plowing by the farmers, and in many places the cattle can destroy the pottery, as in three places I've collected. These are some of my thoughts and observations over the years as a collector.

DID YOU KNOW!!! FACTS ABOUT THE MWF

The Membership Committee handles all correspondence necessary to assist new societies in becoming Federation members.

The Bulletin Editor's Aids Committee encourages clubs to publish bulletins, helps editors produce better bulletins and has charge of an annual bulletin contest.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The Sunday Scholarship Auction held during the St. Paul 1982 Show and Convention netted \$1189.15 for the Scholarship Foundation. 38 Midwest Clubs participated and one club from California. Credit has been recorded for these clubs in our Midwest record book and the California Federation notified. Participation in the Scholarship Auction is truly an easy way for a club to donate to the Foundation and at the same time advance their Scholarship Status.

Since my report at St. Paul we have received over \$3190 (including the Auction receipts) for the Foundation. The following clubs have advanced their status as follows:

Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club	1000%
Calumet Gem & Mineral Society	1600% - 1700%
Peru Rocks & Minerals Club	4000% - 5400%
Minnowa Rock & Gem Club	3600% - 3800%
Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society	1800%
Lincoln Gem & Mineral Society	1700%
Central Michigan Mineral & Lapidary Society	600%
Duneland Rock Club	1800% - 2100%
Coulee Rock Club	1200%
Des Moines Lapidary Society	1100%
Little Crow Lapidary Society	200% - 500%
*Gem City Rock Club	1900%
*Duneland Rock Club	2200%
*Minnowa Rock Club	3900%
*Des Moines Lapidary Society	1200%
*Lake Agassiz Rock Club	800%
*Park Forest Earth Science Club	500%
*Minnesota Mineral Club	500% - 600%
*Bay de Noc Gem & Mineral Club	300% - 500%
*Esconi	600%
*Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club	600% - 700%

* From Scholarship Auction

A Special Thank You to the Good Earth Mineral Society for when they disbanded they gave the Balance in their Treasury to the Scholarship Foundation. Also a thank you to all the Midwest Clubs for supporting the Scholarship Foundation.

KATIE STEINBRENNER, Mwf Scholarship Chairman

TOLSON RADLOFF

TOLSON RADLOFF, 83 years young, of Lincoln Park, MI, died on October 10, 1982 after a long bout with cancer. He was born in Detroit and developed an interest in the mineral hobby and became an expert in lapidary and silver smithing.

For many years TOLSON was the Rules Chairman of the Midwest Federation. He had an important part in establishing the rules for competitive judging and was a judge at shows all over the country. In 1965, TOLSON was awarded an Honorary Membership in the MWF.

He was a giant in our hobby and was always willing to share his knowledge and expertise. TOLSON RADLOFF will be missed by a great many of us.

NEW PUBLICATION:

A new one time magazine is being considered. The first issue is planned for April 1983, and will include collecting sites, museums, etc, in different states. If you have any items, suggestions, photos, etc, contact: RICHARD DAY, 822 S. Galena Ave., Dixon, IL 61021

TO 1982 CLUB PRESIDENTS AND TREASURERS:

The 1983-84 Directory of the MWF is now being prepared and the up-to-date listing for your club or society is needed. Your dues are also payable on December 31, 1982.

The forms are being distributed through the combined efforts of your State Directors and the Assistant Directors for your state. Please completely fill out these forms and return promptly. The information provided to us by this form is utilized in many ways by the Midwest Federation.

The April issue of the Lapidary Journal will contain a list of clubs. Please indicate on the form how you want your club listed.

PUBLIC IMAGE & COURTESY:

In keeping with the Public Image & Courtesy Committee recommendation, MRS. RUTH MOGG, Chairman, the Show Committee for the Central Iowa Mineral Society will stress this at their May 14-15, 1983 show which will include the All Iowa Round Up and Swap in its program, so it is something that should benefit the image of rock and mineral club's all over the state of Iowa. This represents an effort to forward this worthy and commendable project. The show will be held at the United Workers' Hall, 245 Broadway on the North side of Des Moines, Iowa.

Submitted by JOSEPH H. BROWN

A man with a green thumb is a gardener...but one with a purple thumb is a near-sighted rockhound.
..via Chips and Facets

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IRMC MEETINGS & EVENTS

Sunday, January 16	2:00 p.m.	Program Meeting at Ishpeming Senior Citizens' Center, Ishpeming. "Historical Highlights of Yesterday" by Clyde Steele.
Friday, February 4	7:30 p.m.	Business Meeting at Bothwell Middle School, Marquette. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME.
Sunday, February 20	2:00 p.m.	Program Meeting at Ishpeming Senior Citizens' Center, Ishpeming. Annual Silent Auction.
Friday, March 4	7:30 p.m.	Business Meeting at Bothwell Middle School, Marquette. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME.
Sunday, March 20	2:00 p.m.	Program Meeting at Ishpeming Senior Citizens' Center, Ishpeming. Program to be announced.
** Friday, April 8	7:30 p.m.	Business Meeting at Bothwell Middle School, Marquette. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME.
Sunday, April 17	2:00 p.m.	Program Meeting at Ishpeming Senior Citizens' Center, Ishpeming. Program to be announced.

** NOTE CHANGE OF MEETING DATE! Original date fell on Good Friday.

This being our 30th anniversary year, I wanted to make the bulletin "special" all year long. Our JASPILITE deadline being New Year's Day and with everyone having been so busy with the holidays, illnesses, etc., my plea for special articles in our January issue would not be met -- or, so I thought. All the "regulars" came through with their articles; and they were joined by others who have helped fill up the pages of this issue with all "original" articles.

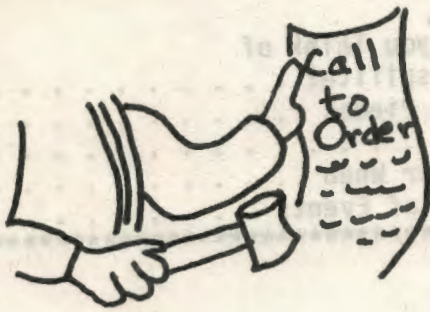


In reading the exchange bulletins, I ran across a short article by Florence Hill entitled "It's Up To You". While Florence was actually discussing participation in all club activities, I felt her opening words of "I wish our club would..." and her closing words of "Let's not just wish. Let's act." could just as well pertain to writing articles for our bulletin.

Then, I really began to think about it. "How can I encourage, and even expect, others to contribute articles to the bulletin if I myself don't?" So, here goes! "I Remember When ...", my contribution to IRMC's 30th anniversary year, appears elsewhere in this bulletin. Does the article start you "remembering"? If it does, we would really like to have your article for the next issue of the JASPILITE.

Won't each and every one of you follow suit and help us to make 1983 a year worth remembering?

DUES ARE DUE!



The President's Message

by Bruce Spike

The year 1982 has come to a close. A new year has begun. Time continues on, never ending. 1982 was a good year, all our scheduled events were successful. The silent auction in February, while not spectacular, did clear plenty for our Midwest Scholarship Fund. The annual Swap in August was one of the best ever. And the Christmas party was exceptionally good.

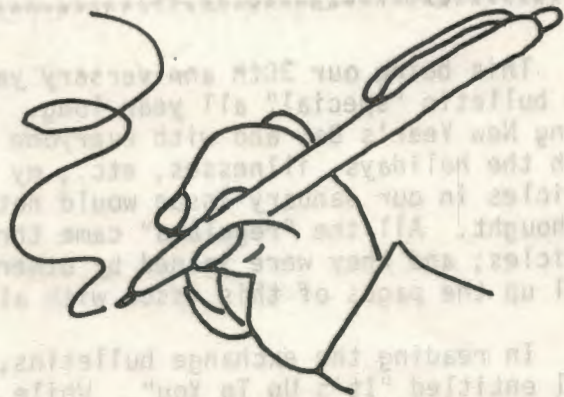
The field trips were very interesting, educational and worth repeating. Attendance was light but those who could and did attend -- enjoyed, learned and could brag a little.

1983 will be a special year in the history of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club -- our 30th anniversary year. This will be a year to do something special, a year to celebrate. We will be having some special events in which all members can participate. Let me urge you to attend all meetings if at all possible and watch your JASPILITE for announcements. Let's all join in to make 1983 a fun year to remember!

Notes

from the
Secretary's Minutes

by James Procnier



OCTOBER 10, 1982 - Field Trip

A field trip was held on October 10 with 12 members leaving Ishpeming Armory in the rain for the Color Tour of Canyon Falls Area. The weather cleared and the group also visited the Arvon Slate Quarry near Skanee to collect.

NOVEMBER 5, 1982 - Business Meeting

Not available.

NOVEMBER 14, 1982 - Program Meeting

Our November meeting was a Show and Tell with seven members displaying various specimens in their collections.

DECEMBER 3, 1982 - Business Meeting

Not available.

(continued on next page)

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY'S MINUTES (continued from page 2)

DECEMBER 12, 1982 - Christmas Party

The annual Christmas dinner was very successful with 53 members partaking at a Northwoods Club smorgasbord. We exchanged gifts and had many very nice door prizes. The following officers were elected for the coming year, with the installation to be held at the January meeting: President - Bruce Spike; First Vice President - Jan Ruonavaara; Second Vice President - Ingrid Bartelli; Treasurer - Arnold Mulzer; Secretary - James Proconier. President Spike also appointed a committee to make recommendations for the future publications of the JASPILITE.

SUMMARY OF 1982

1982 was a good year for our club with many excellent field trips, including an underground tour of the Michigan Tech experimental mine and a very successful Swap held at the K-Mart Lot in August with a profit to our club of over \$750.00. We hope more members will be able to participate in the field trips in 1983 and help make 1983 the most exciting year ever for IRMC.

*Christmas Party
1982*

by Laurence Sain



On the 12th day of December, the Northwoods Supper Club was the scene of the Annual Christmas Party of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club. From 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. the members and their guests arrived and were directed to the East Dining Room which was gayly decorated with Christmas trees and other decorations. The tables were very colorful and shown with sparkling beauty as the festive occasion demanded.

The head table for officers and their guests was arranged along the north wall with the other members and guests seated at round tables around the room. Each person was presented with his or her name card as they registered at the door and asked to reserve a place of his or her choice at a table by inserting the card in the very clever note holder at each place setting. The note holders were red and green and added to the colorful tables. Pat and Jim Proconier had made the individual note holders for each of the participants.

The time from 1 to 2 p.m. was spent in some very intense socializing with members whom some of us had not seen for some time. About fifty club members and guests had arrived by 2 p.m. when Jim Proconier issued the call to be seated to eat. He said we told them we'd eat at 2:00 and we are going to follow the program. Grace was given by C. Robert Markert, one of the charter members of the club.

Then we proceeded to load our plates at the delicious and very adequate smorgasbord or brunch tables which only Ron Klumb and his able crew can prepare. We came back to our tables with plates piled high. When we had consumed this along with plenty of coffee, tea or milk, our genial host Ron went from table to table urging everyone to go back for more. A few brave and younger souls were able to go back for seconds. This was topped off with ice cream for dessert.

(continued on next page)

CHRISTMAS PARTY 1982 (continued from page 3)

When we had finished the gastronomical delicacies, Bob Proconier with the aid of assistants Don and Jan Ruonavaara, proceeded to distribute the gifts which members had brought. There were many ohs and ahs as the gifts were unwrapped. There were many gifts which had been handcrafted by club members: belt buckles, pendants, pins, etc. Other gifts were practical gifts which could be used by rockhounds and non-rockhounds.

After the gifts were distributed, the drawing for door prizes followed. These prizes were rocks and other minerals which were contributed by numerous members of the club. This was carried out by Bob Proconier and Don Ruonavaara. Everyone received at least one door prize.

President Bruce Spike then called the meeting to order. He stated that we must elect officers for 1983. He called upon Bob Markert to present the slate which is as follows: President - Bruce Spike; First Vice President - Jan Ruonavaara; Second Vice President - Ingrid Bartelli; Secretary - James Proconier; Treasurer - Arnold Mulzer; Editor - Helen Johnson. The president called for more nominations and as none were forthcoming, the motion was made, supported and carried that the nominations be closed and the secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate. The officers will be installed at the January meeting.

President Spike then called up Frazier Tubbs for our program. Frazier started it out with some very interesting and valuable pictures which he had acquired of early mining scenes. He also showed some pictures of club trips which he had taken. He then called upon Laurence Sain who showed some interesting slides taken over the last few years. He also added some humor as he had inadvertently put in a number of slides upside down. He promises some day to show them right side up. Next Bob Markert showed a number of slides which were scenes of collection sites at the 1960 and 1972 shows that our club had put on. Some of these sites many of us had never seen as they were closed before we became club members. These slide programs were enjoyed by all.

The program and party adjourned at approximately 5:30 p.m. We had had a wonderful day and say orchids to anyone who helped organize it and a great big thank you to Ron Klumb and his crew for being so patient with us.

Historical Highlights of Yesterday

WHEN: Sunday, January 16, 1983 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Ishpeming Senior Citizens Center
Pine and Division Streets, Ishpeming

SPEAKER: Mr. Clyde Steele

The January program meeting will feature Mr. Clyde Steele with a talk entitled "Historical Highlights of Yesterday". Mr. Steele is one of the Marquette County Commissioners.

ISHPEMING ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB

SILENT AUCTION

Sunday, February 20, 1983

2:00 p.m.

Ishpeming Senior Citizens Center

Pine & Division Streets

Ishpeming, Michigan

- ** All proceeds from the Silent Auction will go towards the IRMC and AFMS Scholarship funds.
- ** All members are urged to bring good specimens and other items to be auctioned off.
- ** The Silent Auction is open to the public. Bidding forms will be available at the door for all donated items.

NOTE: CLUB BUSINESS MEETINGS are held at
 NOTE: the Bothwell Middle School on the
 NOTE: first Friday of the month during
 NOTE: the winter months. During the months
 NOTE: of May through September, they are
 NOTE: held on the first Thursday evening.
 NOTE: ALL meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.
 NOTE:
 NOTE: CLUB BUSINESS MEETINGS are open to
 NOTE: all club members; and ALL MEMBERS
 NOTE: are urged to attend to help with
 NOTE: club business decisions.
 NOTE:
 NOTE: We hope to see you at the next
 NOTE: meeting ... and every one of them
 NOTE: thereafter.



DON'T FORGET!

Mail your dues to: Arnold Mulzer, Treasurer
 IRMC
 322 Rock Street
 Marquette, MI 49855

82 is gone, but will be preserved for posterity in the rock and mineral collections and creations made from them by members of the IRMC.

83 is barely off the ground and already we are cogitating on places to go and things to do before the months of 83 fly by:

"What a beautiful rock I found at such and such a place! Must go back for more."

"Never did find that mine dump. Will try again as soon as the snow is gone."

"We need more time at so many collecting areas."

"Wonder if the snow will be gone at the Ohio by April." etc. etc. etc.

To sort through and study our 82 collections is to whet our appetites for collecting and learning in 83. We hope that rest, relaxation and recuperation this winter will make it possible for all of our members to get out on the rock dumps come spring.

Bob and Marian Markert have left for Florida with the hope that the warmth and sunshine will restore their health so they can join us on our summer field trips. We hope it becomes a reality.

Tony, we all feel badly that your reports from your trip to Rochester were not more positive. Aren't you glad that you have such a fine hobby as rockhounding and the friends that go with it? We can't get along without you, Eleanor and Tony. Your kindness and good humor are contagious -- warms our hearts and tickles our ribs.

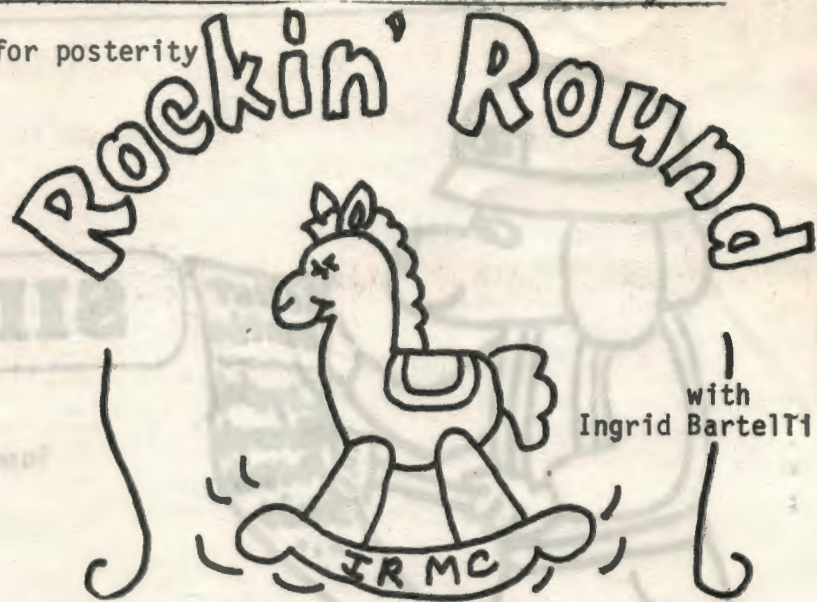
Helen, the creator of our JASPILITE, has undergone leg surgery which certainly curtailed her holiday activities. Hope all will be well soon, Helen.

Cutting wood can be fun and recreation or just plain hard work. Whatever, it is hazardous as Bruce and Tony can testify. They both guarded smashed fingers at our Christmas party. Glad both were healing well.

Frazier, we hope your Pat is aware of our hopes and prayers for her.

Laurence has been traveling a rough road -- two carpal tunnel operations, persistent arthritis and rheumatism and more recently another bronchostipity. He manages to get to all of our meetings, however, and continues to add more than his bit to the cause. He has learned that your personal benefit from any organization membership is in direct proportion to your input and participation.

We have a bonus for our membership this winter. The Bowns' and the Ogeas will be staying home. The pleasure is ours since they are "regulars" at all of our meetings and add much to same.



(continued on next page)

ROCKIN' ROUND (continued from page 6)

About half of our total membership enjoyed our Christmas party -- one of the best ever. If we can maintain the same fellowship and dedication throughout the year, 1983 can be one of the best for the IRMC.

What Do You Think of the Jaspilite?

by Laurence Sain

We've been told that the Club has had the JASPILITE since its beginning. Most of us have not been members that long; but as long as we have been members, we've been receiving the JASPILITE four times a year. Now, the question is: "What do you think of the bulletin? Is it something you would like continued? Are you satisfied with it as is or do you wish it could be changed? Do you want it larger, longer, shorter, more often (perhaps monthly), or less often (perhaps once or twice a year)? What should it contain? More original stories by club members, more copied from other bulletins, more news and direction from the higher up organizations such as Midwest Federation and American Federation?

On the other hand, perhaps you would just as soon see it discontinued because of the cost of publishing and mailing. Have you ever stopped to think of the work that goes into editing, typing, publishing and mailing it each time? Have you ever made a comment to the editor as to whether it is a good job or what you would rather have in it? Have you ever written an article for the JASPILITE? You don't have to be a professional author and not even a perfect speller. Your work could be edited and at times more refreshing and enjoyable as is. If you did write an article or write a regular column, do you get it to the editor on time; that is, before the deadline, or do you have to be continually reminded?

At the last business meeting on December 3, 1982, there was considerable discussion of what should be done about the bulletin. As a result, the president appointed a committee to study the situation and come up with some recommendations for the improvement and changes which can be made. The committee is composed of many past editors and publishers plus the present ones and a few other club members. The reason he gave for appointing the past and present editors and publishers was that these people, having carried on the work, knew many of its problems and, therefore, should be able to make recommendations.

The committee consists of Bob and Marian Markert, Helen and Ernie Johnson, Olive and Laurence Sain, Jim and Dorothy Bowns and president Bruce Spike, ex officio. I was appointed chairman and will call meetings after the holidays are over and people get settled back into their regular routines.

Meanwhile, everyone should be thinking about what they would like done with the JASPILITE and pass on suggestions for its improvement or whatever. We have had a good bulletin. This writer was proud of it when Olive was editor and he the publisher. I am sure that the Johnsons have felt the same way, but any editor and publisher needs suggestions and help and sometimes (just sometimes) a word of praise for their efforts. Remember this is a demanding job and done for no remuneration or glory.

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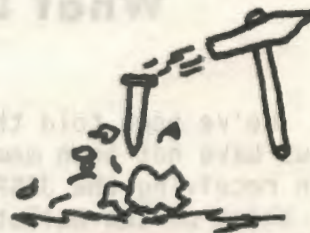
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE JASPILITE? (continued from page 7)

We've had recognition for our efforts previously and I believe our bulletin is and always has been outstanding as compared to all others. However, let's help our present editor and publisher make it more so.

We'll settle on a meeting time at our next regular business meeting on January 7, 1983. Please, let me have your suggestions and/or criticisms! Written or called in.

bits 'n' pieces

by Arnold Mulzer



Several years ago I made a survey of club members to find out the area of their domicile. For an update in checking over the roster, I find that, of about 100 members, 36% reside in Marquette, 22% in Ishpeming, 19% in Negaunee, 4% in Gwinn and 21% out-of-county. Without asking anyone's age and guessing at a few, I find that our club is composed of 60% in the senior age bracket. Also, we have only 6 juniors. To keep the IRMC up to its past performance and achievements and to maintain our heritage, I think these figures should be changed around. Let's get more younger members! Tell your friends what the club has done for you and what it can do for them.

A date to remember: August 6 and 7, 1983

IRMC Annual Swap and Field Trip

MAKE PLANS NOW!

Having worked almost all my adult life in the Marquette iron ore range, the early history has rubbed off on me. The Carp River Forge has always intrigued me.

Iron ore was discovered in 1844 at Negaunee; mining started shortly thereafter. There being no railroads and no Soo Locks at that time, some steel men from the East got the idea to smelt the ore in the area their having plenty of hardwood to make the charcoal. Production began at the Jackson Forge, also known as the Carp River Forge, in 1848. The Forge was never a financial success due to mismanagement and poor transportation facilities from the forge to Lake Superior and the cost of shipment overland at Sault Ste. Marie before the canal was opened. The forge passed through several owners; and in 1855, it was permanently abandoned.

The Michigan History Division, in the summers of 1973 and 1974, did some archaeological excavations; and the records of their finds can be found in the booklet, "Carp River Forge Report".

You may have heard about the forge; but I know very few of you have been at the site. The State of Michigan has acquired the property and has done considerable work clearing a parking site and making roads, hoping to develop it as an historic tourist attraction; but, with state finances in bad shape, the work has been set back. This, however, doesn't stop you from visiting the forge site. It is located about one mile south of the state police post at Negaunee on Forge Road. Look for a newly built gravel road. You can also reach the village site off County Road 492 and just west of the Carp River. Watch for a cast iron sign and a foot trail.

Flint

by Nelson Short

Flint, a variety of the mineral quartz, is composed primarily of silica and has a crystalline structure too fine to be seen with the naked eye. The rock has a hardness of 7 on the Mohs scale, breaks with a pronounced conchoidal fracture that leaves a sharp cutting edge, and has a vitreous (glassy) luster. Pure flint is translucent and colorless, but minor amounts of impurities make it opaque and may produce various colors. The colorful red, yellow, blue and green flint results from varying amounts and types of iron compounds and the gray shades are caused by organic material. Chert, a very closely related and more common rock type containing higher percentages of impurities, is normally duller in luster and more opaque than flint and breaks with a more splintery fracture.

Flint is present as beds of relatively pure amorphous silica. Foremost among these beds is the Vanport, generally one to five feet thick but as much as twelve feet in the vicinity of the Flint Ridge State Memorial Museum. This is in Ticking County and the beds extend over into Muskingum County.

Flint has little economic use today even though it is a potential source of abrasives and silica. In modern times a quarrying operation was unsuccessful because of the difficulty and high cost of crushing the rock. Presently flint is of value only to mineral collectors and lapidaries.

It is universally agreed that flint is deposited only under marine conditions and in a basin receiving virtually no sand or mud. Deposition is estimated to occur at depths ranging from shallow to hundreds of feet. There is no agreement, however, on the method or methods by which silica is extracted or precipitated from seawater to form flint.

Prehistoric Use of Flint

Stone artifacts are nearly indestructible and have always afforded scholars' records of the life style of prehistoric man. In many instances, such relics are the only hints we have. Expectedly, the earliest tools fashioned by prehistoric man were somewhat crude; round, waterworn stones were shaped on one end by striking with another stone.

Most rocks were too soft or granular to be so shaped or they shattered inconsistently. Flint, chert and similar rocks proved to be desirable raw material, particularly as skills developed and more advanced and efficient tools were made.

Flint Ridge was one of several sources of high quality flint in Ohio, and became a neutral territory for Indians from all through the Midwest to come and collect material for arrowheads, spearpoints, scrapers, etc. The weathered flint exposed at the surface tended to shatter during shaping so that excavation was necessary to obtain good flint. After the overburden was removed, mining began at joints, where large pieces of flint were struck off with handheld hammerstones and mauls. The workings were gradually enlarged, and many of the pits are 70 to 100 feet in diameter. Large pieces of flint were reduced to smaller and more convenient sizes prior to being transported to the Indian villages.

(continued on next page)

FLINT (continued from page 9)

Specimens of Flint Ridge flint have been found as far east as the Atlantic seaboard, as far south as Louisiana, and as far west as Kansas City; and artifacts of material foreign to this region have been discovered in local burial mounds. This suggests far-reaching trade activities. It is not inconceivable that Flint Ridge flint was bartered for such articles as grizzly bear teeth and obsidian from the Rocky Mountains, copper from the Lake Superior region, mica from the Alleghenies, or shells from the Gulf of Mexico.

Early white settlers quarried flint from the western part of Flint Ridge. The flint in that area was somewhat porous and was fashioned into grinding wheels for water-powered mills. These grinding stones measured 4 to 7 feet in diameter and 1 to 1-1/2 feet in thickness and sold for several hundred dollars a pair. Smaller hand-powered grinding wheels were made for home use.

Flint was used also to produce the spark needed to ignite the powder charge in the flintlock rifles and pistols of the day. Larger pieces were used to spark the tinder for cabin and campfires.

In 1933 the Ohio Historical Society established Flint Ridge State Memorial to insure preservation of this remarkable site of Indian industry. In 1968 a modern museum was constructed over one of the original flint pits. Impressive exhibits reveal the geologic and human history of the area.

Flint has also been acclaimed the state stone of Ohio; and can be worked to make beautiful jewelry, some of it being scenic and some containing dendrites.

Material for this article was taken in part from an Ohio State Geological Survey.

I Remember When . . .

by Helen Johnson

It was twelve years ago, in the year 1970, the month of June. The weather forecast was for sunny skies and warm temperatures. It was our weekend to be truly "initiated" in field tripping with the IRMC. The adventure was to take place in the Copper Country.

So, we dropped our 3 year old at his grandparents' home for the weekend, packed our 10-year-old daughter in the car along with much miscellaneous and headed northwest on Friday evening.

(To fully appreciate our experiences, you must realize several things, among which are: (1) We didn't know one rock from another; and (2) Ernie was, at the point, very particular about his almost-brand-new Impala Hardtop Convertible -- hardly a fieldtripping car.)

Our first stop on Saturday morning (raining, of course) were several mine dumps. After becoming very dirty (ugh!), we were to stop for lunch. First, however, Elmer Jarvi, our field trip chairman, led the many cars off the highway on the wrong road. This became our "tour of the garbage dump". As this 20-odd car train circled the garbage dump, many people unloading garbage there just stopped and stared. Out of the dump and on the correct road, we all parked our cars and lunch was announced. My

(continued on next page)

I REMEMBER WHEN ... (continued from page 10)

immediate reaction was -- "yuk! eat lunch out of the trunk of the car in a dirty, dusty mine dump with these dirty hands?" This was lesson #1 -- ALWAYS carry extra soap and water and a prepared lunch. There are NOT nice, clean parks and picnic tables always available.

Our next stop was the mouth of the Gratiot River for agates, prehnite, etc. The 2-rut road was ungraded and grown in, to say the least. We parked as close as we could and then walked to the beach. Here comes Lesson #2. As I walked down the beach looking for agates (and found NONE), my 10-year-old walked behind me and picked up all I had turned up with my footsteps. (I did learn to find everything else but agates, though; and our family continues this practice of finding agates.) After a couple of hours on the beach, it was time to head back to our motel and a hot meal.

The cars were turned around; and as Ernie was driving very slowly and carefully on the same 2-rut road, he saw a large stump on the passenger side of the car. He told me to watch carefully so he didn't hit it. So, I watched carefully and yelled out -- "Ernie, we're going to ..." as we hit the stump, tearing all the chrome off one side of his car. After his "WHY didn't you tell me we were going to hit that _____ stump" and other choice phrases as well, I had learned lesson #3. When I am told to watch out for stumps or whatever, I am supposed to tell him BEFORE we hit it.

On Sunday we were to go out to High Rock Bay for agates -- and here comes Lesson #4. As we ventured out on another 2-rut road and descended a hill into a gully through which a rain-swollen creek ran, we ran into quite an obstacle, or NO obstacle, as the case may be -- NO BRIDGE! The train of cars stopped, the men got out on the muddy road, looked over the situation, threw a few rocks in the creek, and declared it safe to cross. Yes, Ernie did drive through the creek; and we only dragged bottom once -- when we tore a large hole in our muffler and lost almost half our tail pipe assembly.

Yes, now the Johnson family was truly initiated into the IRMC. And we were indoctrinated into the ways of their numbers -- the sharing of their knowledge so we could tell one rock from another; how to walk the beaches to find choice stones; how to observe the comedy of the stares in the garbage dump; how to relax and not let dirty hands bother you, the presentation to your daughter (the only kid on the trip) of the first agate found at High Rock Bay. Without such warm friendship, how else could this trip have made such pleasant and long-lasting memories?

FIND IT IN YOUR LIBRARY ... Do you know what mineral is Fe_3O_3 , Hexagonal, Hardness of 5-1/2 to 6-1/2, Specific Gravity 4.9 to 5.3 and soft in earthy varieties? Can you identify the following mineral whose color ranges from brilliant black to brown or brownish-yellow; Luster is black, varnish-like; dull or silky and streak is yellow-brown?

... let me remind you that 1983 dues are now payable. If you miss your next issue of the JASPILITE, the fault is yours!

-- Arnold Mulzer

Calendar of Events

- February 6-25 SHOW Grand Rapids Mineral Society, Public Museum, 54 East Jefferson, Grand Rapids, MI
- March 20-21 AUCTION The Roamin Club of Livonia, 11th Annual Special Auction, held at Bently High School, 15100 Hubbard Rd., Livonia, MI
- March 23-26 SHOW Indian Mounds Society, Eastbrook Mall, Grand Rapids, MI
- April 23-24 SHOW Mt. Clemens Gem & Lapidary Society, 6th Annual Show, Mt. Clemens Community Center, 300 N. Groesbeck, Mt. Clemens, MI
- May 7-9 SHOW Flint Rock and Gem Club, Williams Community Education Center, 3501 Minnesota Avenue, Flint, MI
- May 13 AUCTION Racine Geological Society, Wustum Museum, 2519 Northwestern Avenue, Racine, WI
- May 29-31 SHOW Chicagoland Gem & Mineral Association, DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 West Manchester Road, Wheaton, IL
- June 18-19 SEMINAR Michigan Geology and Gemcraft Society, 9th Annual Crackerbarrel Conference, Seminar; co-hosted by Grand Traverse Area Rock and Mineral Club, Inc., Northwestern Michigan College, Traverse City, MI
- July 14-17 CONVENTION Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society host the MIDWEST FEDERATION CONVENTION and SHOW at the County Center Building, 2900 Lake Street, Kalamazoo, MI

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND ONE OR MORE OF THE ABOVE EVENTS!

January, 1983

THE JASPILITE
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