



# THE JASPILITE

NOVEMBER 1985

Affiliated with the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies

Business Meetings: 1st Friday of Month 7 PM at Jacobetti Veterans Facility  
425 Fisher St. Marquette.

Program & Activity 3rd Sunday of Month 2 PM at Ishpeming Senior Center, Pine &  
Meetings: Division Streets, Ishpeming. (Field Trips- May-October)

ROCK and MINERAL CLUB  
P. O. BOX 102

ISHPEMING, MICH. 49849

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE- LAURENCE SAIN

Hi Club members- As the days grow short and the weather crisper it reminds us that another year is rapidly coming to a close. In these northern climes the weather will soon prohibit us from doing much prospecting for specimens and materials for cutting, shaping and polishing. Those who are fortunate enough or not hardy enough to stand the rigors of winter can continue in warmer places.

However, now we can sit back and enjoy what has happened during the summer months. We hope that each of you have had some successful trips this year. We trust that you will be at the program meeting on Sunday, November 10th at the Ishpeming Senior Center to share your experiences and findings with us at this "Show & Tell" program. During the winter months you will have time to work on the materials you brought home this summer and fashion them into beautiful jewelry and what have you. We will miss the "Snowbirds" who fly south or west and look forward to seeing them again in the spring.

This is also time to take inventory of what we and our club have accomplished this year. Have we been successful in our endeavors or have we failed to reach our goals? Have we done all that we can to make our club trips and projects a success? What can we do to improve the club this coming year?

It is time to think of new Officers for the coming year. They will be elected at the annual Christmas party and be installed at the January program meeting. Everyone should have the experience of being involved as an officer of the club. If you haven't had the opportunity make known that you are available. Everyone will help you.

By the way we haven't had any volunteers for the making of table decorations for the Christmas party. Are we going to be without them this year?

For this coming year let's all make a resolution that we will put forth a definite effort to attend club meeting regularly (Both the business and program meetings) and help in every way we can to make our club what it was in the past or even better in the future.

Many people are saying that rock clubs have reached their zenith and now are receding. Let's show the world that's not true of our club by all putting our shoulders to the wheel and assist in making ours bigger and better than ever. DON'T JUST BE A CLUB MEMBER, BE AN ACTIVE PARTICIPATING CLUB MEMBER !!

L. W. Sain, President.

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FIELD TRIPS- By Bruce Spike

A field trip is something Rockhounds do in the summer so that they can brag about it and enjoy the experiences and spoils all winter. Of course that's not the only reason, field trips are fun. Good companions and sometimes good luck in finding display specimens or cutting stock for the lapidary minded.

We have a show and tell session in November to bring out our prize specimens and re-live a little the joys of summer. A rockhound is always on the lookout for the unusual and sometimes lucky enough to find it.

A trip to Minnesota for agates started off the season. Yes, these were Lake Superior agates but nature does as nature wants. The glaciers pushed the Lake Superior agates into Minnesota so even though we live in the shore of the Big Lake, agates are scarce locally.

Con't.

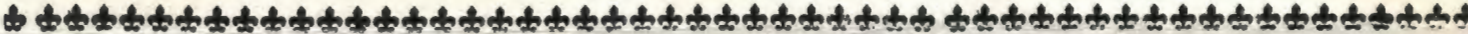
Field Trips-

We are more fortunate when it comes to collecting copper specimens, green stones, datolite & thomsonite. The greatest deposit of native copper in the world lies at our doorstep and it also contains native silver. A good halfbreed is a prized specimen. Our summer is never complete without at least one trek around Copper Country.

And then there are the iron mines, even closer to home. They yield a wide variety of associated mineral specimens and some beautiful lapidary materials, crystals and the like.

Our summer is never complete without several trips to the Kona Dolomite quarry. Found nowhere else in the world, it is highly prized for lapidary purposes. Many visitors come to this area particularly for Kona Dolomite. This past summer we had visitors from Canada, Ohio, the Virginias, the Carolinas, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin and Lower Michigan. Many have been here before, most will be back again.

This is what makes a field trip. A love of the Out-of-doors, good companions, an interesting hobby, and an unlimited area to enjoy it all.

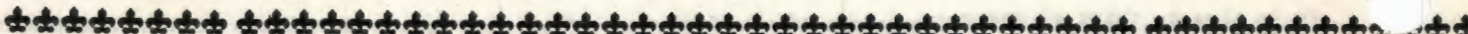


AMBITIOUS PLANS- By Ingrid Bartelli

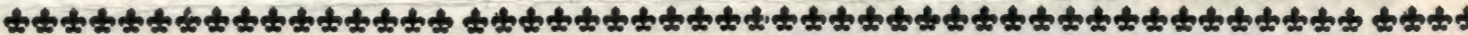
There is nothing small about plans of our micro-mounters study group for the coming winter. Can you believe that anyone staying in this area for the winter would eagerly await the month of January? Micro-mounters do. Not until the busy holidays are over and we become house-bound do we have the time to luxuriate and examine each little cranny the holey rocks have that we hauled home this summer. It does take time-lots of it.

First of all we plan to study some micro-minerals from the White Pine mine. There might be a possibility of seeing more material from that mine since it will soon be back in operation.

After Christmas we will tackle the minerals from the Cliff mine. Carl Gutman will be our mentor along with the expertise of our two for-real geologist, Dean and Karen Rossell. We will meet on Tuesday nights whenever most of us are available.. Are you interested? You need a microscope, some holey rocks, the curiosity of a child and lots of time.



KNOW YOUR MINERALS: Hydrous calcium potassium fluorsilicate, often with a small amount of iron and nickel. Colorless, white, gray, greenish, yellowish, reddish; vitreous, pearly on cleavage; streak white. Hardness 4-5. Cleavage, perfect, one direction. Crystals; Tetragonal; usually cubelike or tabular, square in cross section; also lamellar, granular, compact. Commonly found in cavities in basalt of volcanic rock, where it is associated with zeolites and prehnite. Large glassy crystals have come from the copper country mine on the Keweenaw Peninsula. Answer elsewhere ( from the Rockpile, Dearborn, Mich.)



BITS AND PIECES By Arnold Mulzer

As I started this article the news came over the radio of the death of Frank Matthews. Frank was a member of our club for many years and put on several interesting programs for us. Frank has also donated several fine books to our library. In his later years he owned and operated the Jackson Mine Museum located on US 41 near the airport in Negaunee. This year his dream, and the dream of many others, became a reality when he turned over the first shovel of dirt to start construction of the Carp River Forge Museum. It was his baby and its too bad he couldn't live to see the historic site complete. I am sure some of his materials will be at the museum when it complete next year. For those of you who have never visited the Forge site, it is located near the Negaunee Cemetary on Forge road off 492 or it can be reached from the road behind the state police post. The state has spent a considerable amount of money on this project. It will be a great tourist attraction. Our club will display some of our mineral collection when it is complete. Be sure to visit the Museum when in the area.

Con't.

Bits & Pieces

As the year draws to a close I can look back at our summer field trips. While most of our members were the Keweenaw over Labor Day weekend Allan , Jim and I lead a group of Escon rockhounds from Chicago in the local area. We spent two days collecting Kona and specimens from local piles as well as material found along Deer Lake road from the Ropes Gold mine, A new find of charcoal slag was found in what used to be Deer Lake in Ishpeming. Within the last year the lake was drained to clean up a mercury contamination. At the turn of the century a charcoal furnace was operating at a point where the Carp flows into Deer Lake and the slag was dumped into the lake. Some very desirable specimens were picked up- all colors and sizes. As long as the lake is down it will be a good collecting spot, easy to get to and only about one hundred yards off the road.

Again the annual Swap & Sell was a success- Rock hounds from nine states and Canada were present. At the Crackerbarrell session we had a good number of VIP's present. Bill Parch, 1st VP of the Mid-West Fed., also Florence Hill, State Director and several assistant directors. The person who will be rembered and talked about will be our local historian Fred Rydholm who gave us a new theory on early copper mines. Fred has presented several of our programs and I never tire of him.

Remember- DUES ARE DUE- send to either P.O. Box 102 Ishpeming, 49849 or to me at 322 Rock Street, Marquette, 49855. or you can pay them at the meetings.

WASHED OUT By Ingrid Bartelli

Yes, that's what our gold panning trip turned out to be- a complete washout.

All summer long we waited for perfect conditions. The water in the river should be low and Dean Rossell had to be in town to instruct us in the fine art of panning. The first week end Dean was avaiable was in mid September. I was to guide the group to a spot on the river where we theorized the nuggets would be big and plentiful. The trip wouldn't be easy- several miles over a rough two rut road, then scrambling over rocks, rough brust, fording streams and beaver dams and wading thru muck till we reached the site.

The size of those nuggets grew all summer long in our imaginations 'till we wondered hoe we'd get them packed out.

The weather man foiled our trip ! Six weeks of rain fell, the river snarled and growled as it surged over it's banks. The two rut road was so wet it looked like a river and the day for the trip turned out to be another drencher.

So - we will wait for next year and try again. Wonder if we should look for a mule to pack out our loot ? We can dream can't we ?

As we go to press two members are recovering from surgery- Jim Bowns was an in & out patient at Marquette General and is doing nicely. Pat Procunier is still in Bell Memorial in Ishpeming but gaining each day and hopes to be home by the time you receive this newsletter. If we have any other members under the weather give me a call so the kembers can be informed at the next meeting.

SCRATCHES WHILE POLISHING: Stones sometimes develop fine, threadlike scratches whilebeing polished. This may be due to grit that has penetrated the polishing buff (one grain will do it). To clean the buff, hold a strip of soft plywood or balsa wood firmly against the buff. The grit will embed itself in the wood, leaving the buff clean. from the Hy Grader via Rock Chips.

HINT: When you have finished using the grinding wheel for lapidary work, ALWAYS turn the water off before turning off the motor. The reason: the water dripping on a stationary wheel will enter the stone. It may cause a fracture. It may even break off the next time you put it to use. Therefore, NEVER, NEVER stand ia ont of the grinding wheels when you turn on the motor. from ACHATES via the AGATE PICKER

The club activities for November, December and January are as follows:

- November 10th. Show & Tell program at the Ishpeming Senior Center at 2PM-Come and bring a friend.
- December 6th. Business meeting at Jacobetti Veterans Facility 7PM All members should try to attend and lend a hand in the operation of our club.
- December 8th. Annual Christmas Dinner at the Northwoods Club. Excellent fellowship & food for all. Cost will be \$5.00 per member with the club picking up the balance. Bring a gift to exchange and if you have something we could use as a door prize wrap it and indicate if it for a woman or a man. Officers for the coming year will be elected at this meeting so please be there and show you care. Please call Jim Procnier at 485-4263 for reservations by December 2nd.
- January 3rd. 1st business of the new year at the Jacobetti Veterans Facility- Come one, come all and lets make 1986 a year of both fun and growth for IRMC.
- January 19th. Program meeting at Ishpeming- the program to be announced at our Dec. 8th meeting.

We need someone to take over the Jaspilite starting with the February issue- Its not that hard to do and I will help you get started. If you have three to four hours every three months to spare step forward and join in the fun. Don't be afraid to try- everyone says " I can't type ". Anyone can use my system- it's called the " Columbus System"- DISCOVER & LAND and at times I even use more than two fingers. If you notice all my corrections that was when I was using my thumb. To all of the members who have written the very interesting articles for me I want you and the other members to know how much they were appreciated.

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Official publication of the Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club. Published Quarterly

IRMC Offiver for 1985

President	Laurence W. Sain	818 West Kaye Ave.	Marquette, 49855	226-7325
1st Vice-Pres.	Allan Korby	116 Cedar Lane	Negaunee, 49866	475-6302
2nd Vice-Pres.	Dennis Mapes	285 County Road 510	Negaunee, 49866	475-9345
Treasurer	Arnold Mulzer	322 Rock Street	Marquette, 49855	226-2321
Secretary	James A. Procnier	572 Jopling Ave.	Ishpeming, 49849	485-4263

Membership: The Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club, Inc. is open to anyone interested in the earth sciences. The IRMC is an Educational non-profit Corporation.

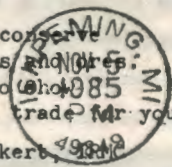
- Initiation fee - - - - - \$1.50
- Husband & Wife annual dues - - - - - 3.00
- Adult annual dues - - - - - 2.00
- Junior annual dues - - - - - 1.00

Membership Chairman:	Dennis Mapes	285 County Road 510	Negaunee, 49866	475-9345
Jaspilite Editor:	Jim Procnier	572 Jopling Avenue	Ishpeming, 49849	485-4263

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 & Marian Markert



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FIRST CLASS