

OCTOBER 8, 1986



# THE JASPILITE

Affiliated with the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies

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

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

ROCK and MINERAL CLUB  
P.O. Box 102  
ISHPEMING, MICH. 49849

Hi Club Members,

It seems like a long time since we had our last field trip. It has been a whole month since the trip on the Labor Day weekend. However, I know that several individuals were out on trips of their own and enjoyed the rapidly dwindling days of summer and fall.

We've actually missed the color season trip as the fall color came upon us suddenly and early. Along with that with so much rainy weather it was difficult to schedule a trip and equally difficult to decide where to go. I hope that most of you were out enjoying the beautiful weather when we had it.

The Labor Day trip was very enjoyable for those who participated in it. It included areas of beauty that had not been traveled before. But, have you stopped to think how disappointing on the part of leaders to organize such a trip and a sacrifice of their own time to lead it.

Why don't we have more participation? Is it because you don't want trips or because it isn't where you want to go? Whatever the reason you should make your wants known at the club meetings.

I want to remind you of the "Show and Tell" program for our first meeting of the fall on Sunday, November 9th. Please bring in your best find or otherwise memorable one. We'll be anxious to hear about it and see it.

We'll be looking for you at the Ishpeming Senior Center.

Your President, L. W. Sain

FROM THE SECRETARY'S NOTES.....Bruce Spike

More (SECRETS) about IRMC activities. Much has happened since August 2.

The results of the Swap & Shop are in and have been tabulated. YES! It was a huge success. We had many out-of-state visitors whose participation made it all possible - not to mention a group of hardworking dedicated club members. The visitors not only enjoyed the Swap but found the field trips fascinating.

A group of visiting rockhounds from Toronto, Ontario, Canada arrived the evening of August 21 for a planned field trip next day. On the 22nd they enjoyed the Phoenix and Beacon Hill mines at Champion as well as a visit to Lindberg's quarry. This was not a first visit for many of them. They keep coming back and would enjoy having us visit their area. They have many collecting sites also and advised they would gladly show us around should we ever decide to make a visit over there.

The cook-out supper at Markerts was great -- everyone enjoyed the supper (they should have-they cooked their own). Of course the dishes to pass added a lot. It was a beautiful setting for the meeting after. Thanks to Bob and Marian, this has become the highlight of our summer meetings. The threat of rain and the wind added to the spirit of the occasion.

Our last business meeting October 3rd topped off Club activities for the period. We voted in six new club members, spent more Club money, finalized plans for the Christmas party right down to the punch and little pig ribs. Bring your five spot, the club will pick up the tab for the rest. No speaker, no headtable, just a fun-time get-to-gether and election of the officers for 1987.

And that's not all. There's a SHOW & TELL meeting November 9th at the Senior Center in Ishpeming. Time to brag a little, show your favorite specimens, tell about your summer activities and about your display, YOU ARE THE PROGRAM - this is a program meeting. Even pictures will do. You out-of-towners can write a note to be read. Tell about your summer.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AND PARTY at the NORTHWOODS CLUB

Sunday, December 7th

Social hour at 1 P.M. Dinner promptly at 2 P.M.

SMORGASBORD

Cost per club member \$5.00; guests \$9.50

Bring a gift to exchange and all the door prizes you can spare.

A 50/50 drawing will be held.

Call Jim Procnier at 485-4263 for reservations by Nov. 20th.

This is a reminder that before the next Jaspilite is sent out (January) you should be mailing in your 1987 dues to Arnold Mulzer 322 Rock St., Marquette, MI. 49855.

## OUR SPECIAL PROJECTS AND PHILANTHROPIES....L. W. Sain

For the benefit of many who seldom appear at our business meetings we felt that you might like to know where some of our money goes besides for publishing and mailing the Jaspillite and the other necessary expenses of operating a club affiliated with the MWF and AFMS.

Our first interest was in the AFMS Scholarship Fund. For many years we made it a practice to contribute at least \$1.00 per member or \$100.00 annually to this fund. We still continue this and at present are listed as being a 1900% club which is a very high rating and one for which we can be justly proud.

Inasmuch as we realize how important this fund is nationally to help selected students working on advanced degrees, we do not have much to say about to whom scholarships are granted. As a result we decided that we wanted more visibility of results of our donations and thus was born our local Scholarships. There are two of these, one each to a student selected by Northern Michigan University and Michigan Technological University who are continuing his/her education in the field of earth science as upper classmen rather than on advanced degrees. These originally were \$100.00 each but we have for the past few years increased the amount to \$200.00.

The Midwest Federation Endowment Fund has been set up in 1985 as a means of financing the operational expenses of the Federation instead of raising the dues. Membership dues have been only 25¢ per member since its beginning and finally due to continually rising inflation and decrease in members something had to be done to balance the budget. Only the interest from this fund can be used so it will take some time to realize working funds from this source. Some clubs have given money in memory of departed members, others have had silent auctions with the proceeds going to the fund, etc. At our October meeting we voted to send \$100.00 to this fund.

Our latest endeavor has been to repair in some small way the Seaman Mineralogical Museum for the many hours of enjoyment and education that has been afforded our club members. The museum is located at Michigan Technological University in Houghton. If you haven't seen it you should. We decided to join the A. E. Seaman Society with a \$100.00 donation which places us on the Silver Club Society level. This membership entitles our club to be listed as a charter member on a permanent display in the Museum. This will assure us of continued remembrance and allow us to renew our membership annually.

### BITS AND PIECES.....Arnold Mulzer

Another season is coming to an end and I hope that those of you that joined me on the four field trips I led enjoyed them as much as I did. The only regret I have is that the groups could have been larger. Let's improve on the turnout next year.

The Midwest Show at South Bend, which my brother and I attended broke records in the number of displays, dealers and demonstrations. Next years show will be held in Dearborn, Michigan, and the workers down there say they will out do the South Bend people. Let's support the Michigan clubs by attending the Show and Convention next June.

Those of us that live in the Marquette area were given some bad news this past week when the Marquette City Commission decided to demolish the Pavilion at Presque Isle because of the storm damage last fall. The building was originally built on Partridge Island in 1894 and moved to Presque Isle in 1914.

Out of town rockhounds will remember the Pavilion as the site of our cracker barrel sessions when we held our annual Swaps at the park in 1984 and 1985. It is now a thing of history, as moving it was quite a project for the city's early residents. Some say the structure was drawn across the ice by teams of horses to where it stands today. Others say it was brought across the water on a huge barge/raft. Even the Historical Society haven't been able to verify which version is correct. In any case, it was a tremendous job.

I am ready to take your 1987 dues. Send them to me at 322 Rock St., Marquette, Mi. 49855.

### CLUB CALENDAR

Friday, November 7 at 7 P.M.....Business meeting. Jacobetti Veterans Bldg., Marquette  
Sunday, November 9 at 2 P.M.....Program meeting. Ishpeming Senior Citizens' Center.  
This is a Show and Tell by all club members.  
Friday, December 5 at 7 P.M. ....Business meeting. Jacobetti Veterans Bldg., Marquette.  
Sunday, December 7 at 1 P.M. Christmas Party at the Northwoods.  
Friday, January 2 at 7 P.M.....Business meeting. Jacobetti Veterans Bldg., Marquette.  
Sunday, January 18 at 2 P.M.....Program meeting, Ishpeming Senior Citizens' Center.  
Installation of 1987 officers. Program to be announced.

### DID YOU KNOW

That of fossil sharks, the only part that is found is the teeth? The shark skeleton is composed of gristle, which does not stand up like bone.

That diamonds, emeralds, sapphires, rubies, tourmaline and topaz are all formed from the hardening of molten igneous rock?

That amethyst, turquoise, opal and quartz are formed from the evaporation of underground waters?

That garnet and staurolite are formed by metamorphic processes whereby the minerals in the rock are recrystallized into different forms?

#### FIELD TRIP---Labor Day Weekend...B. Spike

August 29th and heading west - destination "Union River Camp Ground" just west of Silver City and at the east end of the Porcupine State Park. Arrival time - optional.

Taking M-28 to Bruce Crossing we visited a niece and her family and stayed all night. Upon arrival at the campground Saturday A.M. we found everyone gone but a note as to probable location. We checked in and also made reservations for Ruonavaara's then headed for the Norwich mine. Here we caught up with the group.

During lunch break events of the day came to light. It seems that Bulats had been following Bartelli's since they were unfamiliar with the roads and mine location. The roads were dusty so Bulats dropped back and were following the dust cloud. In the meantime a pickup truck had slipped in behind Bartelli's and then took off on an old logging road with the Bulats following. Thus ending up way out in the boonies. AND LOST. Bart, however, being an old sleuth backtracked and located them.

After lunch we took off through the backwoods, Ottawa Nat'l Forest Trail, for the Victoria where we visited the site where the famous Copper boulder was found, a restoration project of several old log houses with original style furnishings, and the old Victoria mine again yielded up a few treasures.

Back to the campground - Ruonavaaras and Sains had arrived. Our party was now at full strength. Sunday was mostly sight seeing and visiting the Park. First the information center where we were treated to a slide show which spanned 4 1/2 billion years. Its amazing how modern day computers, with their memory banks, can recall how the earth began - and with pictures yet. Anyway it was interesting. Then to Isle via the south boundary road. We viewed the falls and the virgin timber in the area. A very scenic spot. On the return trip we checked out the old Union Mine which turned out to be mostly a series of test pits. However, they did attempt to mine as the remains of the old stampmill stack is there.

A campfire get-to-gether Sunday evening was enjoyed by all. Monday was to be beggars choice, the Bulats, Leon Anderson, and the Spikes for Rockland where we visited the Minnesota and Michigan mines. Then up M-26 to the Winona Mine. A few nice specimens were found poking their heads above the rubble. At 4 P.M. we all parted company.

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#### CLUB NEWS

Laurence Sain has been asked to serve on the Midwest Federation Committee that reads club reports and selects merit award winners. This is a three year term.

Don and Jan Ruonavaara have a new granddaughter, Lauren Beth, born September 22, 1986.

The Procuiners are avid cribbage players and Jim reported that the last time they played he dealt his wife a perfect 29 hand; her third one during the years she has played the game.

Two new slide programs have been added to the Midwest Film Library because of our club and three club members:

The first is 130 slides, 'Story of Michigan Copper' a history of copper minerals in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The slides begin with pre-historic Indians and continues through the Homestake Mine. Dorothy Tubbs, the film's designer, used photos from old books for the historical section so some slides are black and white. Presented to the MWF Film Library by Frazer Tubbs in memory of Dorothy. Cost of this project was underwritten by the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club.

The second slide program was donated by Arnold Mulzer and Pat Elie. This is a 30 slide program on the Grotto of the Redemption, West Bend, Iowa. Rocks and minerals and gems from all over the world were used to make the Stations of the Cross and other religious statuary. Father Doberstein, inspired by his faith, created the beautiful works of art.

Dr. Duncan McGregory, professor, Department of Earth Sciences, South Dakota was selected from the MWF candidates by the AFMS as the Scholarship Honorary Award winner for 1986. He will select the two new MWF graduate students to receive scholarships for 1987 and 1988.

Fred and Doris Garceau, 765 White Ave., Ishpeming, Mi. have rejoined the club after a few years absence. Welcome back! Doris had been club treasurer for many years.

Robert and Mary Lee Weekley, 207 N. Church Ave., Panama City, Florida, 32401 have asked to join the club. A registration form has been sent to them.

Three members of the Esconi Club joined our club this summer: Robert Larrabee, 820 Hill Ave., Glen Ellyn, Illinois, 60137, and Chester and Jacqueline Bulat, 309 3rd St., Downers Grove, Illinois 60515. We enjoyed your fellowship this summer and look forward to next year.

We are happy to welcome two micro mounters, especially since we had two excellent members leave the area this spring. Ronald and Carol Thomas, Box 234, Iron Mountain and Robert and Ila Smith, 615 W. Brown, Iron Mountain, Michigan 49801.

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The IRMC has two valuable issues of the Mineralogical Record for sale: the GOLD and the SILVER issue. These are collectors items. Pass the word on to graduates in the Earth Sciences that these are available for sale. The proceeds will go into our scholarship fund. Send inquiries to club president L. W. Sain 818 W. Kaye Ave., Marquette, Michigan 49855.

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For cleaning hands of stubborn odors like onion, fish, etc., use a little squeeze of toothpaste on your hands. Wash and rinse and the odor is gone. (Ark. Rockhound News)

Use Automatic Transmission fluid in place of cutting oil. All the particles settle to the bottom of the saw right away, so that only clean cutting fluid is on the blade. Also, there is no oily 'fog' when opening the saw. (Rocky Trails via Oshkosh Quarrier)

MICHIGAN LAPIDARIST FINDS NEW CANADIAN GEM....from AFMS Newsletter

According to the Bay City, Michigan 'Times' Harry Courtney, a Michigan rockhound, has found an interesting new stone on St. Joseph Island in Lake Huron. The stone, which takes a beautiful polish, was common enough on the island to be kicked by Harry as a 'Nuidance rock.' Gray and covered with splotches of green moss, the stone was bypassed by Harry in favor of the more colorful 'puddingstone' on the island. But finally, Harry picked up some of the rocks to get a better look at the moss and, to his surprise, it wasn't moss at all but a flower-like mineral pattern in the rock, which was even greener and more attractive after being cut.

Although Green Flower has been suggested as a name for the cutting material, Courtney is not quite sure he wants to name it that. St. Joseph Island belongs to Ontario. The boundary runs between Sugar Island and Neebish Island of the United States and St. Joseph Island. So far, none of the stones have been reported on the other islands.

NEW METHOD OF TUMBLING.... Al Nutile, Tulip City Conglomerate

The writer believes that the following idea can take much of the work from the popular method of polishing rocks and gemstones by tumbling. All of the instructions we have seen state: "WASH STONES AND TUMBLER VERY CLEAN BETWEEN EACH CHANGE OF GRIT OR FINAL POLISH MATERIALS" at the same time stating: "If liquid is ~~too~~ in, add some slurr or grit from previously used material". We know some will argue against our method, but here goes:

DON'T WASH AT ALL AFTER EACH WEEK OF TUMBLING WITH GRIT! Start with #80 grit, tumbling a week. THEN, DON'T EMPTY THE TUMBLER BUT ADD 5 TEASPOONS OF NEW GRIT (one step finer) to the mixture in the three pound tumbler. Follow this procedure through #190, #320 and # 600 grit. Now (finally) thoroughly wash the stones and tumbler before pre-polish and final polishing.

For a really glossy finish, take one or more weeks (after washing out the polishing powder) adding three spoons of sugar, one spoon (level) of Cascade or All or any non-sudsing detergent and about ten drops of Muriatic acid, if you have some. Let stand one minute open, close tub and tumble for a week.

We have run eleven tubs using this method and found that even ordinary sandstone comes out highly glossed. Except for extra final steps, you save three washings and getting rid of the slurr each time. Saves time, work and mess and still gets a better polish.

THE JASPILITE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ISHPEMING ROCK & MINERAL CLUB, INC. PUBLISHED QUARTERLY  
IRMC officers for 1986

PRESIDENT	Laurence W. Sain	818 W. Kaye Ave.	Marquette, 49855	226-7325
1st V.PRES.	C. "Pat" Bemis	5305 Rice Lake Dr.	Gwinn, 49841	346-3361
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Secretary	Bruce Spike	197 Midway Drive	Negaunee, 49866	226-3933
Treasurer	Arnold Mulzer	322 Rock St.	Marquette, 49855	226-2321

MEMBERSHIP: The IRMC, Inc. is open to anyone interested in the earth sciences.

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

JASPILITE EDITOR: O. Sain. Mail exchange bulletins to P.O. Box 102, Ishpeming, Mi. 49849

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL



ROCK and MINERAL CLUB

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