

August 5, 1987



THE JASPIRITE

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

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

Hi Fellow Rockhounds!

Well, here it is, another Rock Swap, Shop and Show is now history. I would like to thank each and everyone of the IRMC who helped in making this, the 12th annual Rock Swap, Shop and Show a success! Thank you for all the beautiful raffle and door prizes that were donated; that was just great! Thanks to all the ladies for the delicious lunch!

Thank you again,
Pat Bemis, president

REPORT OF THE 1987 SWAP, SHOP, and SHOW....L.W. Sain

Our 12th annual Swap, Shop and Show is now history and in spite of the heavy dew that fell almost continuously we think it was a huge success! There are many, many people, club members and non-club members, who should be thanked and we will attempt to mention some who certainly helped to make it a success.

First of all the news media who served us well in spite of a very busy season, also the Wickman Sign Service for the highway sign they set up on US 41 near the Swap. We appreciated having some of the MWF and State dignitaries present to witness what our small club can do. The following were present and a number of them pitched right in to help: Esther Mullaly-Pres. of the MWF, Wm. Parch-P.Pres of the MWF, Ted Schnaar-Pres. of MGAGS, Jane Matz- editor of MGAGS, Florence Hill-P. State Director of Mi., Al Murray and Nelson Short-Assistant State Directors, IRMC member, past president of the local club, State of Mi., and MWF--C. R. Markert, plus many other out of town people who are members of our club. These out of town members donated generously to the Raffle and door prizes and those present pitched right in and helped the local members wherever they were needed.

There were many beautiful items for sale or trade by the various tailgaters who became sidlers due to the aforementioned precipitation which occurred quite regularly. There wasn't much swapping which was disappointing to some people, mostly buying and selling.

The Show was an added attraction this year. Many beautiful exhibits were set up by club members and non-club members and were enjoyed by all. One outsider's exhibit that attracted much attention was Mack McMahon's revolving sphere of many scenes made of mostly U.P. minerals. It was truly the work of an artistic craftsman. Bob Markert's display of the pictures and articles from the 1972 MWF Field Trip and Convention hosted by our club, and the display of the eleven oil paintings which had been produced by the Markerts and artists of the Lake Superior Art Association in 1963 and had been used in local schools as back drops for displays of rocks and minerals, mining, collecting and manufacturing drew many favorable comments. The Club members who set up displays are to be congratulated on sharing what they have collected or made with their lapidary equipment. This writer had one complaint, they should be displayed for a longer period of time, two days perhaps. Let's hear opinions from you.

Our attendance was not only local people of whom there were many but also also from a considerable distance away. Probably the furthest travelled from Florida and Scarborough, Ontario Canada. Others were from Wisconsin, Illinois and Minnesota and of course from all parts of Michigan.

The Cracker-Barrel session was the highlight of the evening with Fred Rydholm extolling the history and importance of the Upper Peninsula and especially Marquette County. He also made much of the fact that outsiders were fortunate to be able to hob-nob with the natives. The raffle of 38 beautiful prizes was held at this time. There were many Oh's and Ah's as the prizes were won. All of them donated by Club members and mineral associated businesses. Door prizes had been given away all day. The evening session was capped off by the serving of a lunch of home made cookies and bars along with coffee and fruit juice.

Sunday afternoon it was Field Trip time, first to the Kona dolomite pit on County Road 480, the Lindberg Gravel Pit. Many beautiful pieces were carried away; something for everyone. Most cars and trucks left quite heavy laden. Some of the group went on to Palmer for Jaspilite. An enjoyable weekend was reported by everyone, despite the weather.

If I have left undone or unsaid something I should have, I'm sorry. I'll say right here "Thanks a million to everyone who helped make the weekend a success!"

From the Rock Lore comes this lapidary hint-- A cold test for jasper is to wet it. If absorbs water and dries rapidly, throw it away. It will not polish. If it stays wet and does not dry right away, it contains a high amount of chalcedony (quartz) and will take a good polish.

Your tools won't rust if you spray Pam or WD-40 on them, then wipe with a dry cloth. Via Charles Gold Lapidary, California.

RAFFLE PRIZES FOR AUGUST 1, 1987

<u>Prize</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Winner</u>
1. \$50.00 Cash	IRMC	Leonard Bartelli
2. Fish clock	L. Bartelli	Mike Touchinski
3. Picture jasper necklace	Chet & Jackie Bulat	R. McCullough
4. Jade and silver Bolo	Nelson Short	Robert Rogers
5. Kingston lode pen set	Larry Sain	Dukis Burton
6. Hematite Clock	Larry Sain	L. J. Mulzer
7. Superior agate Bolo	Leon Anderson	George Tibor
8. Copper & turquoise necklace	Copper World	James Jacobson
9. Mother of Pearl necklace	Jim Bowns	John Hubbard
10. Hematite & silver ring	Arnold Mulzer	Clarence Morgan
11. Kingston lode slab	Northern Mineral	Delia Agnoli
12. Rose quartz & jade necklace	Sally Ahrndt	John Maher
13. White Pine copper	Jim Bowns	Otto Luoma
14. Kona Dolomite clock	Pat Bemis	Robert Larrabee
15. Ming tree	Olive Sain	Jared Anderson
16. Copper map	Copper Arts	Ruth Lehtomaki
17. Kona Dolomite pen set	Pat Bemis	Pat Procunier
18. Garnet necklace	Dawn Smail	Nancy Filizetti
19. Larvakite Bolo	C. & J. Bulat	Roy Anderson
20. Copper crystals	Keweenaw Gems	Ron Thomas
21. Kona Dolomite clock	C. Robert Markert	Dick Ontto
22. Larvakite buckle	C & J Bulat	Glenn Manning
23. Framed copper	Jim Procunier	Allen Spike
24. Gold ore clock	Bob Procunier	Judy Taylor
25. \$10.00 Gift certificate	Copperland	Esther Mullaly
26. Jasper book ends	Pat Bemis	Hank St. Aubin
27. Greenstone necklace	Dave Meyers	John Sigulinsky
28. Polished Larvakite slab	Fabian Steinbrecker	Susan Ruppe
29. Kona Dolomite pen set	Ernest Johnson	J. Maki
30. Geode	Don Ruonavaara	Dewey Fraley
31. Painting on Kona Dolomite	Don Auler	Leona Schnaar
32. Verde Antique clock	Bruce Spike	Karen Rossell
33. Pyrite dollar bolo	Chet Williamson	Barb Meyers
34. Agate buckle	Betty Williamson	Paul King
35. Halite on sage (Salton Sea, Ca.)	Jane Matz	Karl Werner
36. Conicalcite specimen	C&J Bulat	Margaret Kuefner
37. Amethyat specimen	C & J Bulat	Jim Bowns
38. Agate buckle	Alan Korby	Edward Locke

BITS AND PIECES.....A. Mulzer

The club roster for the current year is available and can be picked up at club meetings or by sending a self addressed, stamped envelope to me at 322 Rock St., Marquette, Mi. 49855. Like most clubs we have lost some members.

For those of us who will be visiting the Seaman Mineralogical Museum at Michigan Technological University at Houghton, it will be a chance to view the Ontonagon Boulder, a 3,708 pound chunk of pure copper that is coming back to the Upper Peninsula for the first time in 144 years. Some consider it as one of the wonders of the world.

It played a big part in the Industrial Revolution of the United States. It started the boom in the Keweenaw area with the opening of copper mines. A few years later the Marquette Iron Range was discovered, causing prospectors, miners, and entrepreneurs to move to these areas. You recall the saying of Horace Greely "Go west young man, go west". He didn't mean the Gold Rush of California which was on at the same time. We can get along without gold but copper and iron was the hardware that made our young nation prosper.

But back to the copper boulder. It is currently displayed at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D. C. where it was taken after being removed from Ontonagon County in 1843. It will be exhibited at Michigan Tech August 4 to October 5, 1987 as part of the Sesquicentennial celebration of Michigan.

The Iron Mining Companies, not to be outdone by the copper people, cut a large chunk of Jaspilite out of Jasper Knob at Ishpeming and shipped it to the Smithsonian. I haven't heard from anyone if they saw it on display there.

For an interesting historical tour this summer, visit the copper boulder in Houghton, Jasper Knob in Ishpeming, and the newly opened Michigan Iron Industry Museum at 73 Forge Road, Negaunee. This new museum overlooks the Carp River and the site of the first iron forge in the Lake Superior region. It presents the history of Michigan's iron ranges and the people who worked them. It is open from 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. daily from mid-May to October.

A GUIDE TO GOLD IN MICHIGAN

MARC Geologic Research Service is a geologic consulting service. They have recently published "Gold in Michigan" which features information on where gold has been found and been mined, including maps and background information. The cost is \$7.00. If you want to order a copy, or want more information, write: MARC Geologic Research Service, P.O. Box 1434, Dearborn, Michigan 48121-1434.

IRMC-- business meetings, tours & party

Every member is encouraged to attend the business meetings to help plan the club's activities, tours, projects, etc. Be a part of the action! Although the Bemis's are in charge of the coffee equipment, volunteers are needed for each business meeting to provide one thing be it a cake, cookies, coffee cake or whatever. These meetings are generally the first Friday of the month at the Jacobetti Veteran's Facility. The program meetings are the third Sunday afternoon of each month during the winter except for November.

Following is a list of activities, some with ?'s for now, and volunteers. Be ready to sign up for 1988.

August 7--7 P.M. Veterans Building, Business meeting.....lunch ..Sains
Sept. 4-7, Field TripCheck with Pat Bemis or Bruce Spike
Sept. 11..7 P.M. Veterans Building, Business meeting.....lunch...Mulzer
Sept.?????, Visit the Iron Mining Museum...check with Pat Bemis or Bruce Spike
Oct. 9-- A cookout and business meeting at Markert's. Check for details--Bemis or Spike
Oct.?????Color Tour. Check with Bemis or Spike
Nov. 6--7 P.M. Veterans Building, Business meeting.....lunch..Spikes
Nov. 8--Ishpeming Senior Citizen's Center, Program meeting 1:30 PMdoor prizes..Sains
Program by Ron Thomas
Dec. 4 --7 P.M. Veterans Building, Business meeting.....lunch..Bartellis
Dec. 6 --1-4 P.M. Christmas Party and dinner

CLUB NEWS and SHOWS TO VISIT

Our newest member Laura Willhite has already been on two field trips and helped with the Swap. Welcome! Her address is 233 Midway Drive, Negaunee.

New members added during the Rock Swap were:

Gary Pennala, R. 1, Box 39, Ishpeming

Allan Hiltunen, 320 E. Michigan, Marquette

John Maki, 2005 Neidhart, Marquette

David Taylor, 137 Tarzan, K I Sawyer,

Rejoining the club is Michael and Suzanne Elliot with a new address; 4971 Stonerest Drive, Lakeland, Florida, 33813.

Ron Thomas's new address is 704 East A St., Iron Mountain.

Nelson Short will be leading a two week collecting and sight seeing tour in the Iron and Copper Ranges next week and the following week, for Eastern Federation Members. Our club has been invited to meet with these members to swap and visit. Call Arnold Mulzer for the time and place.

Former member, Rev. Wm. Rogers was in Ishpeming and Marquette visiting friends in July. He is serving as a minister in Louisiana.

At the June Midwest Convention, the delegates voted to raise membership dues from 50¢ to \$1.00 in order to keep their very lean budget in the black.

If you would like to do a little traveling the next two months, here are 3 shows to consider: Sept. 19--Tulip City Gem and Mineral Club at the Holland Civic Center, West 8th St., Holland; Sept. 19, 20-- Wonderland Rock Club, American Legion Post No.256, 1329 Michigan Ave., St. Louis, Oct. 3-5, Michigan Mineralogical Society, Detroit Light Guard Armory, 4400 Eight Mile Road, and Oct. 17-18--Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society, on Michigan State University's Campus.

OBSERVATIONS ON ETHICS

It is by our conduct as mineral collectors in our relations with mine operators, quarrymen, geologists of Universities and museums and finally among each other, that we contribute to the development of facilities for extending our collections and our hobby or that we contribute to making it progressively more difficult for ourselves and for all our colleagues.

Let us be sure in the first place that when we collect we maintain friendly and respectful relations with property owners, miners, and quarrymen, that we obtain the necessary permission and that we conduct ourselves safely and courteously. In our relations with scientific institutions let us have a regard for the facilities and time of those to whom we appeal for information and help. And, finally let us be sure that in our dealings with our fellow collectors we are careful not to become "chiselers" ourselves nor to foster the unethical practice of others.....(by Bryant Mather in the bulletin of Marquette Geologists Association. He was Assistant Curator of Mineralogy at the Field Museum of Natural History.) (by Diane Dare, AFMS Newsletter)

STATE MUSEUM TO HAVE 3-STORY GEOLOGY MURAL

Scheduled to open in the summer of 1988, the new Michigan Historical Museum will highlight the geology and geologic industries of Michigan. Your first image upon entering will be a three story relief map of Michigan and the Great Lakes. In front of the map will be mounted "football" size specimens of important Michigan mineral resources: copper, iron and gold ores; limestone, dolomite, shale sandstone, rock salt, gypsum, oil and gravel. Each will be identified and its source location described on an accompanying plaque. An array of display cases will hold showcase samples of Michigan minerals. Passing through a dark tunnel you will find a mining exhibit. The exhibit's atmosphere will give you the feel of a real mine.

From prehistoric man to modern industry, the exhibits will be very interesting and

educational. The museum will be housed in the new heritage center with the State Archives of Michigan, the Library of Michigan and the Office of the Great Seal.

The museum is seeking Michigan rock and mineral specimens and related artifacts for the displays. IF YOU HAVE SUCH A SPECIMEN OR ARTIFACT THE MUSEUM MAY BE ABLE TO USE, CONTACT SCOTT PETERS, BUREAU OF HISTORY, 208 N. CAPITOL, LANSING, MI 48918; 517-335-2782. (From Michigan Geo-Pulse)

ENVIRONMENT and LEGISLATION...John Boland, MWF

New proposed indoor air quality standards for commercial buildings have many building owners concerned. The American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers have recommended that minimum acceptable levels of outdoor air be raised from 5 cubic feet per minute (cfm) to 15 cfm. The increased ventilation rate is partly due to studies of newer, tighter building construction used to save energy and the resultant increase in RADON and BACTERIA levels, higher humidity and smoker problems. Building owners are reacting by using carbon dioxide and humidity level indicators to regulate outside air and restricting smoking to restroom areas. The home area is also a concern due to tight construction. Formaldehyde and radon levels have been studied and more ventilation is often recommended.

(Michigan has been involved in a radon study, and we were one of the participants. We luckily were below the minimum standard but many in the Upper Peninsula were extremely high and follow up studies with remedies will follow. Read the August 4th issue of the Mining Journal. Ed.)

WHY LEAVES CHANGE COLORS (The Rockpile)

Did you ever wonder what causes leaves to change colors in the fall? The answer deals with chlorophyll, one of the many pigments in plants. Chlorophyll makes plants green and is used by plants to make food. Other pigments may be red, brown, yellow or orange. Because leaf pigments are mostly chlorophyll, the green hides the other colors during the spring and summer.

During spring and summer, the trees replace the chlorophyll that is used for food. The aging of leaves causes some chemical changes; other changes are caused by a lack of water in the soil, by the warm days and cool nights of autumn and by the shorter fall days. As the season changes, less and less chlorophyll is formed. As it disappears the bright pigments become visible. The brightest fall colors usually appear after a dry summer is followed by a clear crisp autumn. Less colorful pigments are produced during warm, cloudy autumn weather.

Fall color is usually best after the first frosts occur. Happy color touring!

THE JASPILITE

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MEMBERSHIP: The IRMC, 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 & Marian Markert

FIRST CLASS MAIL



ROCK and MINERAL CLUB

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