

January 15, 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 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!

A belated "Happy and prosperous New Year!!! This message should be my swan song. By the time you read it I should be the immediate past president. In closing out the past two years I wish to thank all the officers for a job well done. I further wish to thank all of the club members who helped to make our activities successful and enjoyable.

I am very thankful that we have members who are willing to take over the controls and see that everything goes well. I also appreciate those who jump in and help wherever they can. I would like to urge some of you to accept offices so that there can be a change of scenery. We have many capable people who willingly help but do not want to accept the responsibility of an office. Please give it some thought!

Let's give our new officers the utmost in cooperation. It is OUR club not THEIRS!  
May all your pathways be strewn with beautiful and interesting rocks and minerals in 1987.

L. W. Sain

### 1987 OFFICERS

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Treasurer.....	Arnold Mulzer 322 Rock St., Marquette, Mi. 49855	226-2321

### NOTES from the Secretary's minutes

Thank you letters were received from Stanley Dyl II, curator of the Seaman Museum and Ald Helman for our donation to the Museum. We now hold a charter membership and a silver membership for 1986.

Our new State Director, Harold "Arizona" Rice sent a letter saying he will try to meet with our club at our February 15th meeting.

Don Auler (our Villa Park member) reports that full shark impressions (fossils) have been found - it had previously been thought that only shark teeth fossils existed.

Nelson Short will be leading a two week field trip to the Upper Peninsula (Marquette area and the Copper Country) following our annual Swap and Shop the first weekend of August. The group will be from the Eastern Federation and due to the conflict between the Eastern Federation Convention and our Swap they will not be here for August 1 as Nelson had hoped. About half the group will be micromounters and they would like to do some trading while in our area.

### SCHEDULE of meetings and donors

<u>DATES</u>	<u>LUNCH</u>	<u>DOOR PRIZES</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
Jan. 2 (Bus. M)	Bowns		
Jan 18 (Prog. M)		Bowns	Ilnicki
Feb. 6 (Bus. M.)	Allan Korby		
Feb. 15 (Prog. M)		Pat Bemis	Rice ?
March 6 (Bus. M.)	Bartelli		
March 15 (Prog. M)		Bartelli	?
April 3 (Bus. M)	Sain		
April 26 (Prog. M) (4th Sun.)		Sain	Silent Auction
May 1 (Bus. M.)	Wiig		
June 5 (Bus. M.)	Anderson		

### CLUB NEWS

The Club's Christmas party and dinner was well attended. Everyone enjoyed visiting, the delicious food and gift exchange along with door prizes. Special thank yous were extended to the Proconier's for doing a fantastic job in arranging all the details for the party and Olive Sain for the needle point Santa favors.

The Smalls and Kaukolas had planned on attending but sudden illness prevented them from going so. Lowell had a heart attack (he is recovering nicely) and Bernie had extreme heart stress resulting in hospitalization and by-pass surgery before Christmas (he too is home and doing better every day).

Florence Hill, past State Director, has joined our club. We are honored to have her as a member.



## BITS and PIECES....Arnold Mulzer

1986 has passed and a very successful year it was with field trips, meetings, convention, Swaps and Shows.

It's not too early to plan for 1987. Let's get started by getting field trips lined up for the season. In the sixteen years that I have been a member there are very few sites that I haven't been to at least a couple of times. We'll have to start over. The U. P. still a good place for the confirmed Rockhound; the Eastern end for fossils, Central for iron minerals, the Western end copper with agates and cutting material from one end to the other. Good museums in all areas; some consider Seaman's at Michigan Technological University the best next to the Smithsonian in Washington D.C.

If you are interested in a certain area or site let the club officers know by telephone or letter if you can't make the meetings. The planning needs to be done before the next Jaspilite is printed.

A large group of Eastern Federation Rockhounds have contacted Nelson Short to lead the group to the U.P. in August. I have done some leg work for him already. We need to plan this as a club activity so we can meet new people and learn about each others interests.

As I have said for years, a visit to the world's largest gem stone (Jasper Knob in Ishpeming) is a must for any rockhound. Now I'll propose another; the Carp River Forge in Negaunee. Only now it is called the Michigan Iron Industry Museum. The State has spent over a million dollars at the site and has hired a full time Curator and Historian, which is good. Let him give you the history of where it all began.

In keeping any rock club successful, ways must be found to support it and that means money. The club could not survive on dues alone. We are trying to save on postage, too. If you want any club information by mail please send a self-addressed stamped envelop. If you send your 1987 dues to me by March, your dues card can be stapled in the next Jaspilite thus saving the club that postage. This would be a big help.

According to a press release, the DNR and CCI will start to refill Deer Lake in the spring. There goes a good collecting site under water again. Hope it will be a slow process as the old lake bed has been a good area to pick up charcoal furnace slag. The slag has been there for about a hundred years. The furnace shut down before the turn of the century.

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### A Look Back at 1986 Highlights.....Bruce Spike

Carp River Forge became a State project. We had hopes of displaying our mineral collection there but it seems that the State planned otherwise.

A new site was needed for our Swap and Shop; Presque Isle parking lot was no longer available. Ishpeming Township Hall site was chosen. With their limited parking and high charges we are looking for a better location.

Dean Rossell presented a great program on the Geology of Marquette County. Get pre. Dean, we want a follow up.

Our new officers were sworn in - It's amazing how few willing candidates there are in our large membership.

Jim Paquette expounded on the archaeological dig at Teal Lake - a stone age rock club. They met on the shores of Teal Lake and fashioned tools and weapons from stone and copper.

Pat Bemis, who commutes between here and the west coast, came up with some excellent slides and information about Mount St. Helens. We hope to hear more about this subject in the future.

Our spring silent auction netted a few stray bucks although we did not attract many outsiders.

Field trips started out with a walk along the Lake shore in Marquette with Clyde Steele who related past history of the area back to the first settlers who landed off Ripley's Rock.

Our June 22nd field trip to Dickinson County with Arnold Mulzer was one of the highlights of the summer. Steinbreckers farm is a real show place and well worth the trip.

As usual many visiting groups came to our area during the summer. These represented many states and Canada. The Green Bay group were most welcome at our Swap and Shop and certainly helped to make it the huge success that it was.

Labor Day at the Porkies was a new area for some of us. The Bulat's, from Downers Grove, Il., had a ball and we enjoyed having them along.

Can you imagine not being able to hold a color tour in this area. The leaves turned and fell so quickly that we lost them.

Judging from the November Show and Tell our members did quite well and had an interesting summer. So we celebrated the close of a good season with a well deserved Christmas party on December 7th to wind up 1986.

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### FIELD TRIP REFLECTIONS.....Ingrid Bartelli

There's more to rockhound field trips than finding a pile of rocks--so very much more! A few reflections on our field trips prove my point.

Of course we all like to come home with bags full of nice specimens but that's not of first importance. To enjoy the fellowship of kindred souls on the loose in and away from home--out of doors setting heads the list of "side benefits." Fellowship relates to people in this case fellow rock club members. We can learn so much from each other as we respond to "the call of the wild" each in our own special way.

The Ruonavaaras, hand in hand, are completely at home in the woodlands --always ready



to explore a new trail, interested and observant. Wild flowers hold a special fascination for them. Jan and Don probably have the most fun on a trip and they help others to enjoy also. Did you know that fish chew gum? Don proved it to me on the bridge spanning the outlet of the Lake of the Clouds below the Porcupine Mt. escarpment.

Anderson always mindful of mother, is the first to show up for the day's excursion. He collects a lot of rocks for himself and just as many mementos and experiences that he can share with his artist-author mother who has 94 years behind her and working (literally working) her way to 100.

We feel secure when traveling with Bruce Spike. He knows where he is at and will always bring you back to where you started in quarter mile stretches. He knows every tree, why it's there and what it's good for. He showed us some witch hazel. Few of us realized that it grew in the U.P. He even explained why quaking aspen quakes.

Marie can't manage the leg work on our excursions but brings her smile whenever she can join the crowd.

Sharon--what her secret is I don't know - but on every trip she follows the crowd on the rock piles and invariably comes up with the prize of the day that we all walked over.

Bart is the scout and explorer of the group. Sometimes he carries a bag and hammer but more often not. But he'll tell you the lay of the land, where the mine shafts are, what has changed since our last visit. He knows the location of all the crew on the piles, he visits with all of them. You may think he is bored sitting alone on a boulder. Not so; he is plotting out the flight pattern of the migrating geese and counting the number of shots some hunter took to get his partridge. For a man who does little collecting, he has toted more bags of rocks back to cars than most - always helping. If anything needs fixing, from a cut finger to a C.B. aerial, he's there to do it.

What a pure delight to walk down a woodland trail with our newest Chicagoland members, the Bulats. Jackie is more aware of the wonders of everything in the out-of-doors than any rockhound I've ever met. She sees and loves every plant and call them by name - wild ginger- maiden hair fern, hepatica, even in the fall. She hears the silence in the forest, a blessed change from the noise of the Chicago streets. She is forever in search of a new outdoor discovery, a lesson learned in her childhood in her native France. She knows how the out of doors can wrap itself around you to give you warmth, serenity, comfort and strength.

'Twas a thrill to hear Chester chuckle as he discovered all the treasures inside a big boulder he was breaking apart. How nice of the Bulats to come all the way from Chicago to field trip with us. Come back soon and often!

What a nice place to meet our newest club members Ron Thomas and Bob Smith - at the Ohio Mine, where they can enjoy the micro-minerals in which they are interested. We fellow rock-mounters hope we can share other collecting areas with you.

I too learned, even though I'm completely saturated with the wonders of nature I always hope to soak up more. As I sat my way down a rocky, rubble slope I learned that in the fall ants are concentrated in their hills - not out romping around. They still get you if you happen to sit on their nest. The hornets in the spruce tree and the yellow jackets in the rotten stump are more curious than vicious as they are in the spring and summer. The most curious critter of all is the weasel. They like the fringes of the rock piles where they poke up their bobbing heads with big beady eyes to see what all the pounding is about. They're changing to their winter coats. Under one rock I found a bat which stayed put, blinded by the bright sunshine. I never knew a bat had a big spine on each wing joint. Must be a reason for it.

What about rocks? Sure, we all had some to bring home. More important was the joy from good fellowship and the awe in our hearts at the wonders God has wrought. How we wish you all could come.

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#### Fayette --- Ancient Culture Uncovered

John Halsey was digging around the base of an old house near this Upper Peninsula town when he stumbled upon the remains of what researchers believe is a 2,000 year old civilization.

Halsey, an archaeologist with the Michigan Bureau of History, and an assistant were digging in May at Fayette State Park, once an iron-smelting village that went out of business at the turn of the century. They wanted to make sure the smelter superintendent's home was rebuilt accurately.

The archaeologists were shoring up the porch foundation when they found flint chips, pottery, stone scrapers, animal bones and arrowheads.

"It's something special because we didn't know it was there," said Halsey. He said the culture was one of hunters and gatherers, but that he wasn't sure whether the site was a major Indian encampment.

...from the Detroit Free Press, 6/24/86

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#### What Are Rhinestones!!!

Rhinestones are artificial colourless gems of high lustre cut to imitate diamonds. Their chief use is in the manufacture of cheap jewelry, and false jewelry itself is sometimes referred to as a rhinestone. Rhinestones were so named because they were first made along the Rhine River, of a composition known as 'strass', which was a vitreous or glass-like paste invented by, and named after Joseph Strasser, a German Jeweler. The original rhinestones consisted of a silicate of potassium and lead, combined with borax, alumina and white arsenic. A greenish film forms on true rhinestones when they contact copper or brass.

..COCOA GEMS



Let's Have Fun.....PEBBLE CANDLES

Did you ever try making pebble candles? It's an unusual way to show off those pretty stones you picked at the beach. You will need:

Paraffin, with pan for melting over hot water.

A utility household candle.

A frozen juice concentrate can.

Pebbles

Blow hair dryer.

Set the utility candle upright in the can and fill the space around it with pebbles.

Melt enough paraffin to fill the mold and pour carefully around the pebbles, shaking to fill all the spaces. When the paraffin has cooled thoroughly, strip off the sides of the can ( it is hard to melt the candle out of the mold). Set the candle in a pan to catch the dripping wax, and with the hair dryer melt off the outer paraffin so the pebbles are exposed as much as you want them to be.

Variations will occur to you. Paraffin may be colored with crayons melted in it. For molds use anything of desired size and shape from which you can peel out the hardened candle. Old candle stubs or candlewicking may be used for wicks.

**SAFETY WARNING!** Be very careful when melting paraffin. It is flammable.

(Make certain your utility candle is fastened to the center of the base of the can with melted wax before adding pebbles. The pebbles should be of a quite uniform size so they just barely touch the side of the can.)

(This is an old idea, brought to my attention by Margaret Randolph of Portland.... Florence Hill).

CHAMPION, Michigan (AP) Sales of the new American Eagle gold coins are soaring, and so could the profits of an Upper Peninsula company supplying the precious metal to the government, its president said.

Callahan Mining Corp. has been extracting a growing amount of gold since the first of the year from its Ropes Mine near this Marquette County town. Business has picked up since the American Eagle coins arrived on the market. Callahan President Charles Snead said.

"I can't say it's directly related to the American Eagle," Snead said. "I guess we have seen..... a little growth" because of it.

The coins' popularity is good news for the Ropes Mine, the only underground gold mine east of the Mississippi River, Snead said. The coins are required by law to be minted from newly mined American gold or from gold reserves.

Employment at the mine has risen to about 140 people, more than 95% of whom are from the Upper Peninsula, he said.

**THE JASPILITE**

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ISHPEMING ROCK & MINERAL CLUB, INC. PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

IRMC officers for 1986

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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.

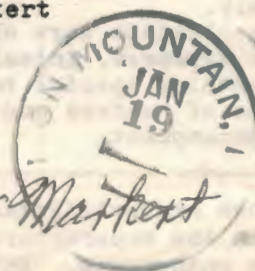
To collect, to admire, to brag and to show

The material we've found, we'll trade for yours.

..Bob & Marian Markert



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