



ROCK and MINERAL CLUB

P.O. Box 102

ISHPEMING, MI. 49489

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)

From the President...Ernie Johnson

Summer is here; can warm weather be far behind? Regardless, now is the time to get out and enjoy what nature has provided for us.

Sixty days and counting to swap time. The swap committee has been working diligently to bring everything together August 4 and 5. If you have not been asked to help, volunteer as your participation is vital to the success of the event. To make it a success, we need as much publicity as we can get. If you don't have any of the flyers, see Bruce Spike and get some to send to your out of town friends and relations who are interested in rocks and minerals.

Field trips; again this year the leaders have set up some great one's, so make your plans to come with us and enjoy the great cut of doors. Invite your friends and neighbors to all our activities this summer.

Remember YOU are the greatest asset our club has.

Notes from the Secretary....Bruce Spike

A quick look at the secretary's minutes is to reminisce about activities and plans. What has happened so far?

Early on a program was initiated to supply school children with rock and mineral samples. Educational, informative and entertaining--- (future rockhounds?) a possibility.

For club members, each program meeting featured a special mineral. January was Goethite. February featured Copper. March--Linda Wilson gave an informative talk on the "Lost Wax" process in jewelry making. April--Ingrid Bartelli presented micros of Kinoite, that rare and beautiful copper mineral. May, our first field trip of the year to the old copper prospect just south of Marquette. Chalcocite specimens were found.

Plans were formalized for summer activities. Among them the MWF in late June, our annual Swap Aug. 5, another trip to the north shore of Lake Superior in September, a color tour to interesting historical sites in early October and our Christmas party in December.

SWAP needs.....from the Chairpersons

The raffle chairman is still in need of prizes. He also reminds you to be super sales people again this year.

Door prizes are a must so that drawings can be made every hour or half hour.

The silent auction is the basis for the days activities along with swapping. Bring your surplus materials to keep the tables supplied. It would help if you had slips made out in advance or at least have things identified and the source written on a tape and attached to each specimen.

A new addition to the swap with eager children in mind will be boxes of local specimens and egg cartons with specimens. At \$1.00 a carton or 10¢ a specimen. This should be an excellent way of helping children learn about local rocks and to be able to identify them in the field.

Allan Korby is providing the egg cartons. All members should check with Bud Nicholls if they have small or large pieces of any of the following: Marble, Copper, Specular Hematite, Magnetite, Slate, Kona Dolomite, Pyrite, Jaspilite, Petoskey stone, Agates, Picrolite, Satin Spar, Bracyopods, Quartz, Calcite, Granite, Verde Antique, etc.

Bud Nicholls will be needing help to break the rocks into sizes that fit into the cartons. Call him to find out when he needs you. He would like to have 100 pieces of each kind of rock.

A notice to all members of the IRMC: We the cracker barrel committee for our Aug. Swap, Show and Sell request that all members contribute some bars or cookies for lunch for our guests at the evening program. Bring them to the kitchen any time during the day. THANK YOU.

Publicity. Spread the word in every way you can.

Kinoite.....Ingrid Bartelli

The Laurium mine on the outskirts of Calumet in Houghton County, Michigan isn't much as mines go. There's not enough poor rock left to make a pile like those of the larger mines on the Keweenaw copper range. The dumpsite is virtually leveled off but there is still some rocky space left which has not been covered by brush and trees.

If you are seeking the mineral Kinoite ($\text{Ca}_2 \text{Cu}_2 \text{Si}_3 \text{O}_{10} \cdot 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$) from Michigan, the Laurium

mine dump is the most likely place to find it. Rarely visible to the naked eye, Kinoite is a microscopic bright sky (U.P. sky) blue mineral found in association with quartz and calcite.

Kinoite was first described in 1970 from Arizona. In 1974 Kinoite was found in the Kearsarge Lode and described by Marc L. Wilson. Michigan Kinoite is found imbedded in quartz and calcite that fill the amygdaloidal cavities in basalt.

Marc Wilson, in an article published in No.6, Vol. 8 of the Mineralogical Record, describes the probable sequence of formation, explaining why the tiny azure blue crystals are included within quartz and calcite. I refer you to his article for more information.

A cluster of clear quartz crystals with a phantom of Kinoite just beneath the surface vies in beauty with any other mineral to be viewed under a microscope. Look for it at the Laurium mine. I have found Kinoite at the Tecumsah and C and H No. 19 waste piles also which indicates that drilling in those mines went through the same Kearsarge Lode.

Business meetings --July -December

Hostesses for business meetings:

July 7	at the Jacobetti Veterans Facility, 7 p.m.	Clive Sain
Aug. 4		Jan Ruonavaara
Sept. 1	at Bob and Marian Markerts. 5:30 or 6 P.M. to grill. Bring your own table service.	Bring a dish to pass and something
Oct. 6	at the Jacobetti Veterans Facility, 7 P.M.	Allan Korby
Nov. 3		Dorothy Bowns
Dec. 1		Pat Procunier

Club Field Trips and Events

June 18: all day trip, bring collecting tools and a camera. Arnold Mulzer has made arrangements for the club to eat in Foster City at a church picnic (the church that the Steinbreckers attend). Meet at 9:00 A.m. on Baraga Ave. at the Courthouse, Marquette.

July 16: all day trip, bring you lunch, camera and collecting supplies. Satin spar, Fayette Park, and a couple of fossil sites.

Aug. 5: all day and evening. Club annual SWAP, SELL and SHOW.

Aug. 6: Field trip to Lindberg's Quarry and possibly another stop. Meet at the Marquette Tourist Park at 1:30 P.M. Sign up at the Rock Swap on Saturday. Any changes in time or place to meet will be announced at that time.

Aug. 20: all day trip. Lunch, camera and collecting equipment needed. The old Champion mine will be one of the stops.

Sept. 8: Circle tour of Lake Superior starting from the west by club members. This will be for a week or more.

Oct. the club's annual color tour. Date to be announced in September. Call Ernie Johnson or Bruce Spike for date and place to meet.

Barnes-Hecker Mine , June 11, 1989

Last year many of the IRMC members and family members of the Barnes-Hecker Mine disaster were present at the Michigan Iron Industry Museum when the Memorial marker was moved from its site in Ely Township to a hillside near the museum.

June 11, 1989 saw a rededication of the Memorial with family members, friends and many dignitaries present for the ceremony which began at 1 P.M. Dawne Smail represented the descendants of the tragedy and Jean Warlin represented the Ely Township Centennial Committee in their remarks during the program. The National Mine School Multi-projector slide show "The Whole World Can't Stop Because of Our Sorrow" was shown in the museum auditorium. Balladeer, Mark Mitchell presented the history in music.

The museum open house for the event was from 9:30 to 5:00.

Our deepest sympathy to the family of Frazier Tubbs who passed away in April after a long illness. He was a past president of the IRMC and the Stateline Club. He will always be remembered for his photography work at events and field trips and for the slide show he and his first wife Dorothy made of the 1972 MWF Field Trip Convention held in Ishpeming by our club and also the excellent slide program on the History of Copper in the Upper Peninsula.

Sunday Programs

Sunday programs are held in Nov., Jan., Feb., March, and April--the third Sunday afternoon except for November which is the Sunday before hunting season starts.

In addition to a brief report on the mineral for the month accented by a display of complimentary minerals, there is an interesting program.

Three or four door prizes are provided by a club member each month. March door prizes were given by Pat Bemis and won by Milt Gere, Carol Swadick, and John Okonkowski. Leon Anderson provided door prizes for April and these were won by Arnold Mulzer, Jan Ruonavaara, Joan Mason and Todd Bowns.

The officers of the club are asking you to sign up for door prizes for the 1989-90 year. They would also like volunteers for a short talk on a particular mineral of your choosing for the same five months. Do you know of someone who would do a program for any of those meetings. Your program chairman needs input from every member. Would you like to see some of the newer slide programs in the MWF Film library? Would you be willing to pay for an outside speaker or charter a bus to attend a special meeting or outing?

Dates to remember. June 18 Field trip to Dickinson County. June 17 and 18 MGAGS Seminar in Kalamazoo. June 22-25 MWF Convention also in Kalamazoo. If any of you have a week to spare it would be an opportunity to attend both events in Kalamazoo with some visiting and rock hunting in between.

The last 15 years has brought great changes in our club roster. Today the 1973 people who are still with us are Bemis, Boyum, Elie, Johnson, Markert, Markham, Mulzer, Quayle, Sain, Korby, Smail and Wiig. In 1973 we had 98 adult members today we have 80.

The IRMC is one of the top contributors to the Midwest Federation Endowment Fund. All funds from the Silent Auction at Kalamazoo go to the fund. I suggest that members get some of your goodies to Jim Bowns and me and we will see that they get on the auction table. I would like to see a 200% increase in our share.

In the April Jaspilite of 1979, I wrote the following article: "We often hear the expression of the 'good old days' when a dollar was worth a dollar, postage was 2¢ and gas was 20¢ a gallon and a new car could be bought for \$500. Those days are gone forever, but do you realize that our club dues are the same today as they were two decades ago when the club was founded. Postage today is 15¢, and gas 80¢ a gallon and a new car \$6,000, and more and the good old Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club dues are still \$3.00 per couple. How long can that last. Something to think about. When will or when should the good old days of the IRMC end?"...End of quote.

Now add today's increases to the above figures and you can see another big jump. Now look at our dues--NO CHANGE.

How can this club survive? There is only one way we have to make a success of our activities. Our raffle sales must go over big. Only 1,500 tickets were printed; but if we sell near that figure, our dues should be able to remain the same. Let each member try to increase his or her quota by at least 50%.

Report on May Field Trip...Bruce Spike

Copper and copper minerals seem to have an attraction for rockhounds. The old copper prospects south of Marquette have long been a point of curiosity, so close to home yet a little off the beaten path.

With some help from Milt Gere, our own State Geologist, and some scouting an access route was located which made it possible to drive reasonably close to the old prospects.

There are quite a number of old test pits and shafts located in sections 1 and 2 of T 47 N, R. 25 W. The main copper minerals are Chalcopyrite, Chalcocite, Native Copper, and Malachite. The sulfides tend to oxidize to a brownish or bluish tarnish.

The copper minerals are disseminated in sericitic slate and sericitic quartzite in Kona Dolomite. It was an interesting, exploratory trip.

We returned to the Marquette Tourist Park for lunch and then proceeded to the Pine Hill Quarry west of Marquette located in Sec. 25, T48 N, R. 26 W. This is a scenic area; some good micro specimens were collected.

An interesting sidelight of this stop was watching an ore train (iron pellets) being weighed as each car passed over the scales. We were really interested in finding pyrite specimens. Although some were found they were not as abundant as we had hoped.

Memorial Day weekend found a few hardy souls camped at Hancock Campground; an annual must. The weather was beautiful the first day, cool and windy thereafter. The rockpiles again yielded some beautiful specimens for the lapidary, the micromounter and just plain collector.

VISITORS WELCOME.....Ingrid Bartelli

If you should notice an expression of eager anticipation on the faces of IRMC members, the season's the reason. Rock hounds return!

Its the time to renew old acquaintanceships--many have become endeared personal friends. Its a time to make new friends, all of us sharing a common love and wonder of the world beneath our feet.

This is the season when our absentee members come to share in our meetings and projects. We of the IRMC are privileged to live in an area abounding in geological wonders. Also we are privileged to have so many folks "from away" come to share our homeland with us.

From all of us...W E L C O M E ! We're happy to see you.

RED METAL RETREAT..July 1,2 & 3

This would be a wonderful opportunity to hear some good speakers, be with fellow collectors, do some collecting with R. Whiteman and have some guided tours as you learn about the geology of the Keweenaw Peninsula and view the region's unique geologic sites. Mine tours and Historic region tours are also options. John Medici, president of the John C. Medici Miners and Stan Dyl, Curator, Seaman Mineral Museum will present a program Saturday afternoon and R. Whiteman will talk on collecting and cleaning Michigan Copper. There will also be a benefit auction for the Seaman Mineral Museum Saturday evening. Write for brochure.

DID YOU KNOW THAT the United states with only 6% of the world's population, consumes 30% of its resources?

DID YOU KNOW THAT one-half of the world's resources have been used up in the last 35 years?

DID YOU KNOW THAT an American child born in 1973, will discard 10,000 no-return bottles and 17,500 cans?????????

CHERT, A Geological Mystery

Geologists call it 'chert'; archaeologists call it "flint"...Indians use it for making arrowheads, spearheads and small cutting tools. Lapidaries and rockhounds collect it. But, no matter what its name, chert (or flint) remains a mystery to scientists and laymen alike.

While chert is easily identified on sight and by simple tests, a shroud of scientific mystery cloaks its chemical composition. Even the most exacting professionals do not agree on the solubility or insolubility of silica and calcium content, precise age determination and primary versus secondary processes in deposition and sedimentation.

Jasper, agate, tripoli and mozarkite (Missouri's official state rock) are all varieties of chert or "cherty" material. Its form varies from nodules, beads, concretions, lenses and stringers to rounded or irregular tube-like figures. More than one Missourian has been found in error, after being fooled by elongated, banded chert nodules which, to the inexperienced eye, appear to be petrified or fossilized bones of giant animals. Chert concretions, such as those found near Osceola, Missouri, are naturally spherical and porous. Some of these "petrified cannon balls" are as large as cantaloupes; others are as small as glass marbles.

Chert is as inconsistent in coloring as it is in shape and size. Iron oxides stain it red, rust, tan, yellow or brown, with most shades of the prism colors being subtly present.

Chert, which has a smooth surface, sharp edges and curved (conchoidal) fracture, accumulates in stream beds as gravel and on hillsides and slopes within the soil. Since it is brittle, dense, and harder than glass, it remains as one of Missouri's common rocks because of its extreme resistance to weathering. It is this quality which makes chert stream gravel valuable for us in road construction and for concrete aggregate.

Scientists know what chert is and where it is found, but they are still searching for a logical answer to the question of how it got that way in the first place and when. It remains one of the mysteries of the geological world!

(From the Missouri Geological Survey & Water Resources, via Michigan Gem News.)

The Rear Trunk advises that....a quick and easy way to put a "polish" on an unpolished slab or rough rock is to wipe it with a liquid dish-detergent, then rub dry. This will bring out the color of the specimen but won't look as obvious as plastic coating. The heat of a display case won't cause cloudiness as sometimes happens with plastic coatings.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ISHPEMING ROCK & MINERAL CLUB

IRMC OFFICERS for 1989

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Quarterly

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Membership: Chairman- Leonard Nicholls. The club is open to anyone interested in the earth sciences.

Initiation fee- \$1.50 husband & wife annual-\$3.00 Adult annual-\$2.00 Jr. annual-\$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.

By.....Bob and Marian Markert

FIRST CLASS MAIL



ROCK and MINERAL CLUB

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