



THE JASPILITE

Affiliated with the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies
Business Meetings: 1st Fri. of Month. 7 PM--Jacobetti Veterans Facility
425 Fisher Street, Marquette, Michigan
Program & Activity: 3rd Sun. of Month. 2 PM Marquette Township Hall, West of
Marquette, Michigan

From the president's kitchen table,
As I sat down at the kitchen table to write the president's message for the Jaspilite, I was gazing out the back patio doors, looking for those right words and thoughts to put down. I then realized this would be the last chance I would have to address the IRMC members as their president.

It brought some sadness because I really enjoyed serving you as your president, but I also thought it's time to move aside and for others to step forward and lead; to provide that opportunity for fresh ideas, fresh thoughts, which are the life blood of any organization. I believe that for any organization to grow and prosper you must nurture and encourage individuals to step forward and assume responsibilities; to be part of and to feel part of the future of any organization.

Going back over five years and trying to highlight activities during that time period became very difficult. I looked at the Swaps, Field trips, meetings--both program and business, the Jaspilite and they were all very successful and enjoyable. They were not successful because I was president, they were successful because of "YOU" the members. You stepped forward and volunteered your time, effort, resources and enthusiasm.

You made my job as president enjoyable and simple. When I looked for direction or suggestions you were there, when I had a problem or concern I could call and talk with any of you. I thank each and everyone of you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president and the support you gave and showed during the past five years.

To the new incoming officers, you cannot serve a better group of individuals. I wish you the best for the coming year.

To you the IRMC members and to your families, I wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Enjoy yourselves, the great outdoors, and the world around you.

Ernie

P.S. I will still be around; just on the other side of the table from where I can do a little kibitzing.

.....Welcome NEW Members----Dave Olsen

Since September, six families have joined our club. Please add these names to your list:

- 93 Malone, Rolland & Annemary 2059 Greenfield Wyoming, Mi. 49509
- 93 Rasmussen, Thomas H. 906/225-4099 1104 Tonti Rd. Marquette, Mi. 49855
- 93 Larson, Mary 906/482-9507 2007-C Woodner Dr. Houghton, Mi. 49931
- 93 LaFortune, Cathy 906/345-9210 HC 550 Box 176 Marquette, Mi. 49855
- 93 Maki, Dennis & Mary 906/228-6389 1734 Fitch Ave, Marquette, Mi. 49855
- 93 Livermore, Jenel M. 906/225-7364 203 E. Hewitt Apt. 2 Marquette, Mi. 49855

To our new inductees and all those who have joined earlier in the year and experienced some of our field trips and the annual summer SWAP, you have joined a club which began in the early 1950's with a membership from all walks of life and novices to semi professionals and professionals but all had a common interest in learning about the world around us; whether it be earth science, geology, mineralogy, or the many things you can do with gems and minerals you collect. By banding together, we can share what we do know, learn from one another, and learn from our extensive library, guest speakers, monthly mineral highlights with exhibits, etc.

To grow in this hobby, you need to become involved. Attending business meetings and program meetings this winter is a good start. The program meetings are held at the Marquette Township Hall on Sunday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. January 17, February 21, March 21, and Apr. 18. The business meetings are held the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in a meeting room at the Jacobetti Veterans Facility--drive around to the back and use the ne entrance.

Our long term members purchased unique name badges with "old Ish" on them and now that we have so many new members, we encourage you to get yours so that you may be identified to the IRMC at our club events and and to members of other clubs. It is always easier to get a lower price when the order is larger. I would like to get an order going in January or February of '93. Please contact me.

Hiliters of the IRMC secretary's minutes--Dawne Smail

Our two scholarship recipients have each received \$300.00 from our club and expressed their thanks. They have joined our club and attended meetings and field trips. We enjoy them and they are definitely an asset to the club. They are: Tom Rasmussen, Marquette and a student at NMU, and Mary Larson, Houghton and a student at MTU.

We were pleased to hear that the Cliffs Shaft Project is now listed as a National Historic site. Hopefully development will soon begin and a room to display the club's large mineral collection will become a reality.

The IRMC will be listed in the Michigan Department of Commerce Travel Bureau; this is good advertising for our Augut Swap, especially.

Dan Fountain, club member, has published a book "Michigan Gold, Mining in the U.P." and it has been very popular. He will be autographing copies at each of the Dalton Bookstores in Marquette and Snowbound books. You can also write to him if you need a book for a holiday gift.

Efforts to have Iron and Copper designated as dual Michigan State Minerals have been resumed since the November election.

Nominations for IRMC officers for 1993:

- President-----Dave Olsen
- 1st VP-----Pat Bemis
- 2nd V P-----Lowell Smail
- Recording Secretary-----Dawne Smail
- Treasurer-----Bruce Spike

*****NOW PAYABLE ARE YOUR 1993 DUES. If the number in front of your name on this Jaspilite is "92", you will need to send your '93 dues to Bruce Spike, 197 Midway Drive, Negaunee, Mi. 49866 to be a member in good standing and to be on the mailing list for the Jaspilite.*****

Anyone interested in the micromounting study group should contact Dave Olsen or Ingrid Bartelli. The group will begin meeting sometime in January.

The EMS made an emergency call to the L. Sain residence, Thanksgiving evening. Laurence was admitted and has since had many tests to find the source of the problem. Still more tests are scheduled. If all goes well he should be home sometime during the week with some new medications.

1992 IN REVIEW.....Bruce Spike

Sometimes a good backsight is necessary to determine the course ahead. Looking back at 1992, it was a busy year, very enjoyable with rewarding field trips.

The season got underway early, right on the heels of winter. A bit chilly but northern rockhounds are a hardy bunch. A visit to the poor rock piles in the Keweenaw didn't yield much in the way of copper but micr's were unlimited. Even though rare, many crystals of Kinoite were found at the Laurium. The Owl creek area of Copper Falls mine produced some nice pink to red dolomite crystals.

A trip into the Republic pit, for club members only, brought in a flush of new faces plus visits by some of our out-of-state members from southern Wisconsin and Illinois. While many of us had been in the pit on previous occasions, it was a chance to revisit the old mine workings and collect mineral and crystal specimens.

The Kimberlite at Lake Ellen didn't yield any major diamonds but a micro study of the material collected will be the fun part of the trip. The Groveland mine near Felch was also an interesting prospect, yielding many pyrites and a specimen of Cambrian Sandstone.

Lindberg's quarry, always a productive of a never ending array of colorful Lona Dolomite, really drew visitors to our Swap. There have been a number of repeat visits since by Wisconsin members and MTU students both to Lindbergs and the Verde Antique/Ropes Gold mine area.

A color tour September 27 ended the field trip season. We try to visit a different area each year. Our choices are great and the variety endless but sometimes limited by road conditions.

What's ahead for '93? Where would you like to go? After reading Dan Fountain's Michigan GOLD, perhaps a little prospecting might be in order. Make your wishes known.

THE STATE STONE---PETOSKEY STONE continued from Sept. Jaspilite

(In the last issue you read of the legend and history as well as the naming of the Petoskey stone. Almost a century later, June 28, 1965, Governor George Romney, signed a bill that made the Petoskey Stone Michigan's Official State Stone. Dr. Edwin C. Stumm in 1969 made the designation of Hexagonaria percarinata as the specific fossil coral. At least seven different species of this genus are found in Devonian rocks in Michigan. The Petoskey Stone family is found in six states, Canada, Germany, England and Asia. In order to tell these corals from each other you have to become familiar with coral anatomy and the related terms.)

Pleistocene glaciers (about 2,000,000 years ago) plucked Petoskeys (and many other rocks) from the bedrock and spread them over Michigan and surrounding areas. This is why Petoskeys can be found in gravel pits and along our beautiful beaches far from the Petosky area.

During Devonian time Michigan was quite different. A warm shallow sea covered the State. This warm, sunny sea was an ideal habitat for marine life.

Life forms were abundant and varied. Some would be easily recognized, others would not. If you were to visit a tropical reef today you would see a wide range of life forms. Some you would recognize, many would appear strange and unknown. A Devonian reef would have sheltered clams, cephalopods, coral, crinoids, trilobites, fish and many other, even strange critters. During the Devonian, land plants were taking hold and primitive amphibians were also getting their start.

The process of plate tectonics, explains that since Devonian time the continents have moved to new locations. The shape, size and climate of the land masses have changed, too. Related to this movement is the subsequent uplifting of Michigan. This caused the sea to vanish and dry land to form. The migration of the continent to the north resulted in a cooler climate as well.

Many people see their first Petoskey in a polished form. Petoskeys are primarily calcite. However, quartz, pyrite and other minerals could be present. The corals are found in which can have a sizable amount of clay in it. Due to differences in hardness and ability to take a polish, impurities effect the final product. The possibilities of what can be created with Petoskeys is limited only by the imagination.

Not all specimens are suited for polishing. Some are too porous or have too many impurities. Others may show features that would be eliminated by grinding and polishing. Along the beaches and in most gravel the stones have already been rounded by glacial and water action. Most of these are well suited for lapidary and the results are worth the effort.

.....Michigan D & R Geologic Publications.

MWF GROUP LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICY APPROVED....John Boland, Legis. Chair

Insurance survey replies from 105 clubs were received prior to the MWF Executive Committee meeting in Oshkosh on October 24th. The results were presented to the committee and they approved proceeding with the group liability policy.

The master policy will be in the name of the Midwest Federation and each club who wishes to be co-insured on the \$2 million/ \$1 million per incident liability policy will have their name added to the policy. The club cost will be \$1.50 per member for each member. Juniors do not pay if their parents are members. Complete details were described in the "second survey" sent to all clubs in August and a return form was included. Members who only obtain the club bulleting, could be described as subscribers and not active members for premium calculations. All active members of the club must be included in the policy.

Clubs expressing interest in enjoining the MWF policy will be notified so their premium can be sent in. Some clubs indicated that they wished to join when their current policy expires. They can join at a pro-rated cost for the remainder of the policy period. The Executive Committee decided to make March 1st to March 1st the policy period. This will allow all participating clubs sufficient time to collect the premiums before the policy commencement date and provide full liability protection for the 1993 meeting, show and field trip season.

The federation feels that all clubs and their officers should be protected from liability claims. Many meeting facilities are requiring at least \$1 million coverage, and show or collecting locations generally insist on it. The 85 clubs that have not responded by returned survey form, should return the form so they can be sent a premium notice. With the probable change in officers for the new year, new officers should be informed as soon as possible.

(Further information on the insurance will be forthcoming from Bob Mullaly, our new Insurance Chairman.)

AMERICAN FEDERATION legislative update....John Boland

(At Brunswick, Ohio at the combined MWF and AFMS meeting in 1992 an important piece of legislation was approved which will have hopefully a major protective effect on collecting privileges.)

At Brunswick, a 501(c)4 non-profit lobbying group was approved by the AFMS. In an organizational meeting, the name AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION was chosen. For the incorporation papers, two officers and nine directors from the various federations, were named. The stated purpose is: to promote and ensure the right of amateur hobby collecting and recreational mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes. The membership is separate from any federation and the members of this group will receive frequent legislation mailings. Details are in the AFMS Newsletter. All federations and the AFMS will continue to inform their membership of legislative issues on a non-lobbying basis through their newsletters

Mineral of the month presentations

The mineral MICA was presented by Olive Sain. Of this family of silicate minerals, Muscovite or 'white mica' was enlarged upon. In ancient time bits of mica in rocks or books of mica may have been toys for children. Bits of mica adorned the dress of court ladies. Mica is a most versatile mineral; its ease in being split perfectly into sheets so thin that it would take a thousand of them to make a pile an inch high. We old timers remember the "ising-glass windows in the old wood stoves. Mica can be found in many uses around the house--toaster, radio, television, paint, wallpaper, artificial snow, etc. Congress, a number of years ago included mica among the minerals earmarked for national stockpiling--a matter of national security.

Several tables of specimens by club members were enjoyed. Bob Procurier had a box of large specimens of Muscovite for members to take home.

The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to members telling and showing the new treasures they had accumulated during the summer.

The mineral ASBESTOS was presented by Ernie Johnson. Asbestos is the term applied to fibrous varieties of several minerals of widely differing compositions--from the very flexible to brittle fibers. The early Egyptians and Chinese wove mats of asbestos. The Romans wove linens of asbestos to wrap bodies of distinguished persons before cremation in order to preserve their ashes. Emperor Charlemagne mystified his friends after a banquet by throwing the table cloth into the fire to cleanse it without the cloth itself being consumed.

In addition to the use of asbestos made by the ancients, the fiber has been used in many ways for fireproofing--such as fireproof garments, theater curtains protective mats under and around stoves and brake linings. Other major uses have been in asbestos-cement products; Asbestos and a bonding agent are sprayed onto walls and ceilings for fire protection, as well

is for its acoustical and heat-insulating qualities.

Club members brought in many examples of varieties to add to those Ernie set out for the membership to look at during the afternoon.

A "flint-napper" who was to have demonstrated the art failed to show; so we plied Dan Fountain with more questions about his travels seeking some of the gold explorations which he related in his book.

TRASH CAN HURT US....Ray Uebel via ESCOM)

We, as collectors, are having the problem of keeping collecting areas open. Reasons being-closing of quarries to collectors, no insurance and areas being depleted of specimens.

Another reason an area can close is due to the negligence on the part of the collector to keep the area clean and picked up after themselves.

Recently my wife and I made a trip to the Selenite area in Jet, Okla. The sight we saw was deplorable! As I made my way out onto the flats, I saw such items as plastic jugs, disposable rubber gloves, tennis shoes and food in plastic bags.

There are large trash cans at the parking area, but apparently some people are too lazy to deposit their trash where it belongs.

If this should continue, we could stand to lose this classic area.

Roseann Scotti noted that these same conditions were also found at the Brookite location in Magnet Cove.)

INDIANS USED PLANTS FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES

Slippery elm's weathered bark made tinder, the inner bark was chewed to relieve a sore throat, and the tougher inner bark fiber made strong ropes and cordage. Birches used by the Ojibwas, Creeks, Potawatomis and other Central and Eastern tribes provided material for torches, baskets, and poultices for wounds. Nettle leaves were boiled and eaten for their tart flavor and nutritional value (vitamin C).

...Roadside Naturalist via Earth Science News

SHOP HINTS.....The Living Stones

Monument makers use a weak solution of Oxalic Acid to acquire the glass shine on Granite. Dissolve a little oxalic acid in water and work into your felt buff, to add to your polishing paste. Try it on agates and other such stones.

To remove stones from cemented on findings, even those attached with super glue, soak in vinegar over night and they will pop off.

When preparing fossils for display, Endust will bring out the details without leaving an undesirable shiny finish.

**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ISHPEMING ROCK & MINERAL CLUB
IRMC OFFICERS FOR 1992**

Published
Quarterly

President	Ernest Johnson	1962 Fair Ave.	Marquette, Mi. 49855	Tel: 228-9422
1st V. Pres.	Dave Olsen	909 W. Magnetic	Marquette, Mi. 49855	228-9829
2nd V. Pres.	Lowell Smail	100 Marble	Ishpeming, MI. 49849	486-6588
Secretary	Dawne Smail	100 Marble	Ishpeming, Mi. 49849	486-6588
Treasurer	Bruce Spike	197 Midway Drive	Negaunee, Mi. 49866	226-3933
Bulletin Ed.	Olive Sain	818 W. Kaye Ave.	Marquette, Mi. 49855	226-7325

Mailing address: Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club, Inc., P.O. Box 102, Ishpeming, Mi. 49849
Membership Chairman--2nd V. P. The club is open to anyone interested in the Earth Sciences.
Initiation fee- \$1.50. Annual Membership dues: Husband & Wife- \$3.00, Adult-\$2.00, Jr.-\$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 and Marian Markert



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

LM
Markert, Robert & Marian
Carlyn Estates Lot #122
Palmetto, FL 34221

