



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

THE JASPILITE

Affiliated with the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Business Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the Month, 7 PM--Jacobetti Veterans Facility - 425 Fisher St., Marquette, Michigan
Program Meetings: 3rd Sunday of the Month, 2 PM--Marquette Township Hall - 161 Co Rd 492 - west of Marquette, Michigan

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Its been about a month since the MWF/AFMS held their annual convention (Field Trip Convention) in Houghton, August 11-15. Frances and I, as alternate delegate and delegate respectively, are still talking about the interesting and painstaking exhibits that we viewed there, as well as the fun we had looking for the "perfect" specimen to carry home.

Moreover, Frances and I, as your representatives, attended the MWF Delegates Council meeting and were briefed us on various issues, including the possibility the MWF may purchase one or more mine dumps in the Copper Country to insure collecting site(s) into the future. It is my hope the Copper Country Rock and Mineral Club will play a major role in the endeavor since these sites are in their backyard.

The Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club also deserves a "pat on the back" for the outstanding work and participation our membership performed during the MWF/AFMS Convention and the Copper Country Rock and Mineral Club Mineral Show.

I hope everyone had a Great, Safe, Summer!

Sincerely,

Nicholas J. Ilnicky

Nicholas J. Ilnicky - President

NEWS

A Bulletin Editors Hall of Fame was established at Boise, Idaho in 1995. In August, 1998, our Club was honored by having one of our own members voted into the Bulletin Editors Hall of Fame. A certificate of appreciation was sent to Olive Sain because of her many accomplishments. **Congratulations Olive!!**

1999 SHOW 1999

SHOW CHAIRPERSON(S) "NEEDED" FOR THE 1999 SHOW !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The 1999 show will be held on August 7th, 1999 at the Negaunee Township Hall. Without a show Chairperson(s), the Show can not go on! Please, if you have any interest in chairing or sharing the chair for the 1999 Show, call, write, or e-mail: Ernie Johnson, 1962 W. Fair St., Marquette Michigan, 49855, Phone 906-228-9422, e-mail ejohnson@nmu.edu

HOSPITALITY AND REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON NEEDED for 1999

We need someone to oversee the **Hospitality and Refreshment** (lunch) **Committee** (program meetings, etc.) throughout the year. It does not require a lot of time, just a couple of hours a month. It is an easy way to become involved in the club and provides an excellent opportunity to meet fellow club members.

Ernie Johnson

1998 MINI SHOW



1998 LIVE AUCTION

ITEM	DONATOR	BIDDER
Gold Pan Display	Jim DeCAIRE	Alan Smith
Smelter Copper - Hubble MI	Olive Sain	Tony Payne
Galena Pseudonymous - Blanchard Mine NM	Ray DeMark	Marve Starbuck
Petrified Myrtle Wood - Camargo OK.	Gene Potts	Dave Meyers
Smelter Copper - Hubble MI	Olive Sain	Marve Starbuck
Fluorite - Blanchard Mine NM	Ray DeMark	Vince Vishaw
Smelter Copper	Olive Sain	John Cleaver
Copper - Mass Mine - Copper Country.	Olive Sain	Tony Payne
Pompeliyite (Greenstone) - var. Chorastralite	anonymous	Ken Bendick
Pompeliyite (Greenstone) - var. Chorastralite	anonymous	Mr/Ms Sterling
Smelter Copper - Hubble MI	Olive Sain	Tony Payne
Dogtooth Calcite on Dolomite XLS (3 pcs.)	anonymous	Marg Rohrer
Flint	Gene Potts	Vince Vichaw
Smelter Copper	Olive Sain	John Furtag
Melilite - Houghton MI (2 pcs.)	Olive Sain	Ken Bendick
Mining Scene	Da Yooper Tourist trap	Charlie Kukral
Gold Earrings	Dave Meyers	Helen Johnson

1998 Raffle Prize Winners

ITEM	DONATOR	BIDDER
\$50.00	I R M C	Ev Duester
Necklace & Earring	Sally Ahmndt	Olive Sain
Kona Dolomite Clock	Les & Ida Anderson	Milt Gere
Agate Ring	Nelson Short	Leon Anderson
Malachite Bracelet	Don & Jan Ruonavaara	Zep & Marlene La Chance
Verde Antique Clock	Don & Jan Ruonavaara	Richard Zembo
Agate/quartz specimen	Mike Basal	Shar Gere
Pen Set	Les & Ida Anderson	Pat Procnier
Selenite Crystal	Alan Korby	Gloria Haapala
Copper Specimen	Red Metal Minerals	Beverly Patrick
Fluorite Bookends	Bob Procnier	Nelson Short
Tiger Eye Belt Buckle	Ernest Johnson	Amy Clickner
Amethyst Gem Tree	Ruth Beauvais	Scott Markert
Necklace & Earring	Robert & Ila Smith	Paul Josefek
Kona Dolomite Clock	Ingrid & Bart Bartelli	Bill Korby
Necklace	Pat Procnier	Gene Grenles
Multi-use Organizer	Kathy Waters	Pastor Kalweit
Book - Ivory & It's Uses	Nelson Short	Arnold Mulzer
Agate Belt Buckle	Olive Sain	Jim Smith
Necklace	Olive Sain	Kitty Starbuck
"Cliff Shaft Mine" print	Kathy Waters	Ray DeMark
Tiger Eye Belt Buckle	Ila Smith	Karen Commentator
Hand Woven Carpet	Ingrid Bartelli	Pam Basal
Necklace & Earring	Robert & Ila Smith	Robert Weakley Jr
Float Copper	Red Metal Minerals	Burton Bartelli
Pendant	Robert & Ila Smith	Dede Rife
Float Copper Clock	Jim & Norma DeCaire	Leon Micheal
Calcite Crystals	Robert Beauvais	Unabelle Weaver
Fluorite & Blue Celestite	Dave & Nina Olsen	Willard Humpal
Snowflake Obsidian Belt Buckle	Pat Bemis	Shar Gere
Copper Brick Belt Buckle	Bruce Spike	Chester Bulat
Chrysocolla tree	Kitty & Marve Starbuck	Don Ruonavaara
Hematite Necklace	Alma Yeiley	Merry Price Schuders

MYSTERY MINERAL OF THE MONTH

Remember, the best way to win mineral description in a book have the correct name if your

the mystery mineral is to research the before the meeting so that you will guess is pulled from the hat.

by
Ray DeMark

September: Our mystery mineral for September has a chemical composition: $(\text{Fe, Mn}) \text{WO}_4$. It is therefore, an iron manganese tungstate. This mineral actually forms a series from FeWO_4 (ferberite) to MnWO_4 (hübnerite). It is a monoclinic mineral commonly found as tabular or prismatic crystals. It may also be bladed, lamellar, and even granular. It has one perfect cleavage and is quite brittle. The hardness is 5 - 5.5 with a specific gravity of 7 - 7.5 (heavy!!). The luster is submetallic and the color is usually a brownish black. The streak is nearly black and it is always opaque. It is often found in granite and pegmatite veins and is commonly associated with cassiterite. It is also deposited in veins with sulphide minerals that have been found under conditions of less heat and pressure. Superb crystals have come out in recent years from Panasqueira, Portugal and from Tong Wha, Korea. Excellent crystals of hübnerite have come from the Adams mine near Silverton, Colorado. It has not been reported from Michigan. Good Luck!!

October: Our mystery mineral for October is a relatively common vanadium mineral that is commonly found in oxidized ore deposit in arid regions. It is a lead, zinc vanadate with a chemical composition of $\text{Pb}(\text{Zn})(\text{VO}_4)(\text{OH})$. This mineral forms a series with mottramite, the lead, copper vanadate. Crystals are orthorhombic and usually wedge-shaped or pyramidal. The mineral generally is found in small crystals that form drusy crusts but may also be stalactitic or even form mammillary or botryoidal crusts. It has no cleavage and is quite brittle. The hardness is 3 - 3.5 and the luster is greasy. Although the color is variable, it is usually a brownish red to blackish brown, but can be orangish red to almost black. It is often found associated with vanadinite, mimetite, and cerussite. This mineral and mottramite may occur at the same location. Some of the finest examples of this mineral occur at Grootfontein in Namibia. It is found at many locations in the southwestern part of the United States; notably at the Mammoth Mine in Pinal Co., Arizona and the Georgetown District of Grant Co., New Mexico. This mineral has not been reported from Michigan. Good Luck!!

November: Our unknown mineral for November is popular as March's birthstone, so identifying this mineral should be a "piece of cake", especially for those born in March. It is also a number 8 on the Moh's hardness scale which also should be a give-away. Chemically, it is an aluminum silicate fluoride hydroxide $\text{Al}_2\text{SiO}_4(\text{F, OH})_2$. It forms crystals with orthorhombic symmetry and has perfect basal cleavage. Although it is a hard mineral, it is also brittle. Crystals are well-developed, short to long prisms, may be highly modified, and have been found weighing up to several hundred pounds. This mineral may also be found in massive formations and in coarse to fine granular masses. It is most commonly colorless, but may be white, bluish, greenish, yellowish to brown and even pinkish to orange. This mineral is transparent to translucent and has a vitreous luster. It occurs widespread in pegmatites and high-temperature quartz veins, in cavities in granites and rhyolites, in contact zones, and in alluvial deposits. It can be found in fine crystals from the Thomas Mountains in Utah and as superb crystals from the Pike's Peak region of Colorado. Minas Gerais, Brazil and the Ural Mountains in Russia have produced some of the finest examples of this mineral. It has not been verified to occur in Michigan although some reports have listed it from pegmatites in the area around Republic. Good Luck!!

December: December's mystery mineral is a common mineral that is quite abundant in the U.P. It is a manganese oxide $\text{MnO}(\text{OH})$ that commonly occurs with the iron ore minerals on the iron ranges of Michigan. It is a monoclinic mineral that forms short to long, vertically striated prismatic crystals with flat or wedge-shaped terminations. It is often grouped in bundles or may be massive, fibrous to columnar, granular, concretionary, or stalactitic. It is black to dark steel-gray with a submetallic to dull luster. The streak is reddish brown to black. This mineral occurs chiefly as a low-temperature hydrothermal vein mineral or as deposits formed by circulating meteoric waters. It is found in small amounts at many locations throughout the U.S. The finest examples of this mineral are found at Ilfeld in the Harz Mountains of Germany. Superb specimens of this mineral have been found at the Lucy mine in Negaunee, associated with Barite. The Jackson mine in Negaunee and mines in the Gogebic range have also produced excellent specimens. Most U.P. collectors probably have this mineral in their collections. This one should be easy to determine!

January: Our mystery mineral for January is a relatively common mineral that forms gemstones of great beauty and durability, esteemed for thousands of years. Part of this mineral's appeal lies with its hardness, 9 on the Mohs' scale. Color, however, is the most important characteristic of the gem varieties of this mineral. I won't give you the names of these gemstones, however I will tell you that one is pigeon-blood red and another is cornflower blue. This mineral is, chemically, a very simple aluminum oxide Al_2O_3 . It forms well developed crystals in the trigonal system. The crystals are usually steep-pyramidal, prismatic, tabular, barrel-shaped, or even spindle-shaped. It may also be massive, compact, granular (emery), or lamellar. It is brittle but tough when compact. The color is commonly gray, brown, or bluish, but this mineral also may be found in various shades of red, green, blue, yellow, orange, purple, and even colorless.

MORE FOOD FOR THOUGHT

If you are going to subscribe or need to renew your subscription to the Lapidary Journal, do it through the club as you will save money. See either Bruce Spike or Ernie Johnson.

We need ideas, your ideas, as to what you would like to see in programs and where FIELD TRIPS should be planned. Please think about what you what like to see and do, to make YOUR hobby more interesting. Talk with any club officer or make a suggestion at meeting. The club is here for you. A brief survey form is included with this newsletter - please fill it out and send it to the Club's address.

Ernie Johnson

KIDS KORNER

"A Helping Hand for Youth via Identified Rocks & Minerals"

A third egg carton of identified minerals was ready for the Aug. 1998 Rock Swap and Show through contributions from Club members. This meant 36 identified minerals for the kids. Thank you for helping on this project.

I was unable to work at the show but many volunteers took over and did a tremendous job – and enjoyed the experience. Wonderful! Members from outside the area brought in 50+ specimens of a kind, some of which have been set aside for carton #4. I wish I had your names so I could write & thank you individually. Thank you for your interest in helping our youth get acquainted with more and more of the rocks, minerals, and fossils in and out of the Upper Peninsula.

The next step for the new owners of these cartons is to:

- purchase a notebook of 50 or more pages
- write the name of a mineral on each page, with its number

As you gain information about a mineral – its description, uses, where found, etc., write it on that page. This can be an ongoing project all your life. By recording the numbered minerals in a note book you may decide to consolidate your minerals into one box or display case instead of the egg cartons.

Specimens in the first two egg cartons were listed in the July, 97 Jaspilite. The 3rd carton, numbers 25 through 36, are:

Egg Carton # 3

Chalcocite	Chert	Coal	Flint
Fluorite	Galena	Graphite	Labradorite
Petrified Wood	Selenite	Thompsonite/Prehnite	Tiger Eye

Quantity contributions from this year's Show and Swap are the beginnings of carton #4. Needed for this carton are the following:

Egg Carton # 4

Ankerite	Bornite	Datolite	Gold
Mohawkite	Picrolite	Siderite	Silver
Sulphur	Talc	Tourmaline (Schorl)	Verde Antique

Specimen size including the matrix should be from the size of a walnut to that of a small a small hen's egg. The mineral, especially if gold or silver, could be just visible or even needing a hand lens to be seen. All the minerals listed are found in UP (some elsewhere in Michigan) and are

specimens we don't have yet for the boxes – any of them would be appreciated. – we need 50 of a kind! Minerals and Fossils from Lower Michigan or other states would be a bonus!

I work on the egg cartons in June, so you may need to ship the specimens to me - at least write or call me about what you can donate. The specimens need to fit in the egg carton spaces as I no longer have a rock saw to cut them down to size.

Thank you again for all the help in '98. This project wouldn't be possible without you. Keep the kids in mind when out collecting. I'm already looking forward to the '99 Show & Swap and to meeting you.

Olive H. Sain

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

The Upper Peninsula Children's Museum is located on Baraga Avenue, between 3rd and Front Streets.

Our Club donated the ultra-violet (UV) lighting hardware for a display of fluorescent minerals (the minerals were donated by Ray DeMark). Many other Club members have made significant mineral donations as well.

*** PLEASE COME TO THE NOVEMBER 15th MEETING ***

On Sunday, November 15th, at 2 P.M. (our regular program day) we will meet at the Children's Museum. The program for our November meeting includes touring the many displays and observing the addition of a new "hands-on" mineral display, presented to one of the Museum's directors in the Club's name. You will have an opportunity to see/test your knowledge by connecting names to mineral specimens; if a correct match is made a red light comes on!

After the presentation and tour, we will congregate for a short business meeting.

Admission is free to Club members and guests that afternoon. Access is by elevator or stairs.

MEETING NOTES

July.....August.....September.....October

July business meeting (07/23/98): Meeting was called to order at 7 P.M. at the Jacobetti Home For Veterans by Pres. Nick Ilnicky. Thirteen adults attended, no guests. Minutes were read by secy. Kathy Waters. Motion to approve minutes made by Nick, seconded by Don Ruonavaara - Approved. Treasurers report given by Bruce Spike. Motion to approve made by Dave Olsen, seconded by Don R. and approved. No correspondence. On the MRIMHTP (Marquette Range Iron Mining Heritage Theme Park) Rat DeMark mentions that we need to decide on the dues for board membership, which is \$200.00 for 2 representatives for 1999. Also a nomination that Kathy waters be a MRIMHTP board representative was made by Ray DeMark, seconded by Jan Ruonavaara & approved. Motion made for the payment of the \$200.00 membership dues to the MRIMHTP for 1999 by Ray DeMark, seconded by Don Ruonavaara and approved. On the \$100.00 stipend for our Midwest delegates, Nick & Fran Ilnicky, Jan made a motion to approve the stipend and seconded by Pat Proconier - approved. Show, Swap & Sell...Kathy Waters brought a copy of the menu proposed by Lawry's Pasty Shop. The menu was discussed and approved. Lawry's did a good job last year. Ernie discussed the table set up & signage. Kathy Waters mentions that Leo LaFond, iron mining historian, might like to be our speaker. She will contact him. We will meet Friday evening at 6:00 at the Negaunee Township hall for set up. Ray DeMark will lead the Friday morning field trip to the Ohio Mine. Meet at 9:00 at Blockbuster's Parking Lot. Sunday's field trip to Lindberg's is set. Not quite sure yet who will lead the group. Nick mentions that we need to get more new faces at the program meetings...maybe a booth at the county fair...a booth at Kalidscope for Kids (spinner game, light up board). Ernie mentions ads are set up for the show. Also he may check with Charlene Yeadon on stored rocks for the children's table. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45.Refreshments brought by Ruonavaara's were enjoyed!

September business meeting (09/10/98): Missing Minutes

September program meeting (09/20/98): Meeting called to order by Pres. Nick Ilnicky at 2:00. The field trip to the Laurium & Ojibway mines was enjoyed by 4 persons. The minutes were read by Nick. They had been taken by Ray at September's business meeting as the secretary was absent. Minutes approved. We're hoping for a nice color tour on 9/26 or Oct.4. Bruce has made up maps for the drivers and will contact us when the day is set. Some members will phone people to inform them. George Robinson will speak at the Oct. program meeting on the minerals of New York State. Ernie mentions that the write up for the newspaper should explain better what the program is about. This might encourage more people to show up. Olive will make sure arrangements are set with the Children's Museum. We would like to meet there for the Nov program meeting. Ernie gave a Show wrap up - \$1780.00 income (Lindberg Quarry bill has not yet been received). The nominating committee should be set for October. Check with Pat on the Christmas Dinner. Pat received a brochure from the students at Westwood. She proposes we send them something as a thank you. The brochure included rockhounding in the list of tourism ideas. Dave O. suggests we send specimens to the Federation Shows to get credit for our club. Olive suggests we might get a travelling exhibit put together for our club as was done before. We would have to get a travelling case made. Minutes were read and the treasurers report given. The mystery mineral was postponed until October. The program today was show and tell of specimens that our club members found throughout the summer. Refreshments were served.

October business meeting (10/08/98): Rat DeMark acting President called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. No guests and 10 members present. Minutes were read by Ray, moved and approved. Treasurers report given by Bruce Spike. Ray reminds us of our program meeting on Oct. 18. Dr. George Robinson will be here from Houghton to speak on the minerals of New York State. There will be an honorarium presented to Mr. Robinson as he travels quite far to be with us. Old Business- Ray will call Dave Kronberg on the mine shaft model and make necessary arrangements to move and store it. We will present the IRMC scholarship to Erin Cunningham, the N.M.U. nominee, at the program meeting. There is no nominee from M.T.U. yet. The 1998-1999 fall scholarship is \$300.00. On the MRIMHTP...a meeting on Oct. 17th. to go thru the buildings and do some brainstorming. Board representatives Ernie & Kathy will be there. We are hoping Rep. Mike Prusi can attend our Oct. program meeting if his schedule permits. Olive would like to add copper/hematite as our state minerals, as could be mentioned to Mr. Prusi. Dave reminds us that he is on the Midwest committee that identifies ways to insure that clubs can keep collecting rights to rockpiles. Such as buy/lease options. Our club might consider some of these options. Dean Stone from Illinois is the Pres. of ALAA (American Land Access). The Copper Co. club has put a lease on the Laurium mine in Calumet. New Business—Ernie found info on a learning kit from the Mineral Information Institute of Colorado. These kits could be used by club members who go into the field to teach about rocks & minerals. The kits are \$31.00. Al Smith made a motion to purchase one of these. Don Ruonavaara seconded. Approved. We talked about putting in more detailed info on the content of the program meetings in the "Mining Journal" to try and get more people interested in attending. Olive reminds us that the November Program Meeting is at the U.P. Children's Museum. Olive will donate a Mineral Identification board that she and Jarl Kivela made. Ernie is checking on a field trip to the Humbolt Mine and Cliffs shaft. He'll keep us posted. Meeting was adjourned.

October program meeting: (10-18-98) Meeting called to order by President Nick Ilnicky, at 2:00 p.m. 25 members, 1 child, 1 visitor. The visitor today is Erin Cunningham. She is our fall '98-'99 scholarship recipient from NMU. Nick started the meeting by reviewing the minutes. Ray DeMark will contact Dave Kronberg about the model of the mineshaft. Al Smith says he will help in the delivery and Kathy Waters will store it in her shop basement. Ray also mentions that a mechanically minded person should look it over and get it running. On the Marquette Range Iron Mining Heritage Theme Park (MRIMHTP), Ernie & Kathy attended the meeting at the property on Saturday Oct. 17th. The group walked through most of the grounds/buildings. Afterwards, they met at Sundberg & Carlson's Ishpeming offices and did a brainstorming session to zero in on where grant monies should be attained according to which category of need. There are many grant opportunities to be written up, and that must be done first. Ernie & Kathy would like the rest of the club to meet there for a field trip. Possibly on Oct. 24 or 25. Pam Basal, our new Jaspilite editor is here today. She has her Jaspilite format set, just needs to plug in final dates/times/meetings. Dave Olsen reported on the MWF Special Committee that is identifying ways to keep rockpiles open for collecting. This is a long-term project as ideas and sites become available for lease/purchase. Lots of \$ and liability. On the learning kit, Ernie has sent for one, but hasn't heard anything yet. The next meeting will have few male members as the deer hunting season starts. Good luck guys, hunting or not!!! Minutes were read and approved. The next program meeting will be at the U.P. children's museum. Free entry for the club and guests that day. There will be 8 people for Bonanza today at 5:00. Bruce then gave the treasurer's report. \$14,062.44 was the bottom line. Bills...Insurance due: cost went up so we need to compare this with the Midwest policy. Possibly next year we will go with the Midwest. Erin Cunningham was then presented with her earned scholarship of \$300.00. Congratulations, applause!!!

Mystery Minerals – September – Wolframite, won by Dave Olsen; October - Descloizite; correctly guessed by Clara Brayden. Door prizes were then handed out. Ray DeMark introduced the program speaker. Dr. George Robinson was here from Houghton to speak on Minerals of New York State. After the very informative program, refreshments were served. Ray DeMark also brought flats of minerals for everyone to have at no charge.

NEW-MEMBERS:

Kenneth & Rosemary Bendick	11799 Bayer Road	Roscommon MI 48653	(517) 275-4235
Marg Rohrer	P.O. Box 291	Houghton, MI 49931	(906) 482-5653

CHANGED ADDRESSES:

Nick & Francis Ilnicky	315 W. Ridge St.	Marquette, MI 49855	(906) 226-3482
Jim & Debra Proconier	1472 W. Knudsen	Gwinn, MI 49841	
Dean Stone	900 Willard St.	Galesburg, IL 61401	

1998 IRMC MEETINGS

Programs	Planning/Business Meeting	Refreshments	Program Meeting	Door Prizes	
	1998				
01/18	<u>IRMC Collection</u>	01/08	Alan Korby	01/18	None
02/15	<u>Fred Rydholm (megaliths) & Lapidary</u>	02/12	Pat Proconier	02/15	Bob Proconier
03/15	<u>Microminerals</u>	03/12	Kathy Waters	03/15	Dave & Nina Olsen
04/19	<u>Silent Auction</u>	04/09	Nick & Frances Ilnicky	04/19	Ernie Johnson
05/17	<u>Bus trip - Seaman Museum & Quincy</u>	05/14	Olive Sain	05/17	Olive Sain
09/20	<u>Show & Tell</u>	06/11	Don & Jan Ruonavaara	09/20	Don Ruonavaara
10/18	<u>George Robinson - Seaman Museum</u>	07/09	Ernie Johnson	10/18	Ray DeMark
11/15	<u>U.P. Children's Museum</u>	09/10	Ingrid Bartelli	11/15	Dave & Nina Olsen
12/06	<u>XMAS Party & Election</u>	10/08	Ray DeMark		
		11/12	Dave Olsen		
		1999			
01/17	TBA	01/14	Olive Sain	01/17	Mike & Pam Basal
02/21	TBA	02/11		02/21	

Christmas Party and Election of Officers: Our annual Christmas party and election of next year's officers will be held at the Northwoods Restaurant on Sunday, December 6, 1998 at 1 P.M. Please come and have some fun with us. The Club pays a substantial part of each member's cost for the meal (guests pay full price {\$10 - \$15}). Each person attending the party should bring a gift, approximate \$5.00 value, a woman - a woman's gift, a man - a man's, an a child - a child's gift (the gifts should be wrapped and tagged: Man, Woman, or Child). Please call Pat Proconier, 485-4263 before Thanksgiving.

FIELD TRIPS

Calumet, MI



Ojibway Mine



Jan Ruonavarra & Nina Olsen discuss rock collecting



Floyd & Unabelle Weaver look for copper



King of the Mountain - Don Ruonavarra looks for everything

DATE	FIELD TRIP	WHEN & WHERE TO MEET
5/17	Seaman Mineral Museum & Quincy Steam Hoist	TBA
5/22-25	Copper Country - agates, thompsonites, micros, copper, silver, etc.	Hancock Campground - (906)482-7413
6/14	Prehistoric Copper Pits - Harvey, MI	Cancelled/Postponed - road out!
7/19	Ishpeming, Negaunee & National Mine Iron Mines	Call Bruce Spike - (906) 226-3933
8/7	Ohio & Champion Mines, - micros, amythest, smoky quartz, specular hematite, etc.	09:00 - MQT Blockbuster's Parking lot
8/9	Lindberg's Quarry - Kona Dolomite	13:00 - Negaunee Township Hall
8/10-16	Copper Country - Red Metal Retreat, MWF/AFMS Convention, Copper Country Club Show, more than 20 field trips	Houghton - MTU Gates Tennis Center, call Steve Whelan (906)337-2599, e-mail Steve swhelan@portup.com or visit the web site: www.portup.com/~swhelan/ccrnc/
9/5-7	A Labor Day weekend trip - Copper Country - agates, thompsonites, micros, copper, silver, etc	Meet 09:00 Sat morning (09/05) at the Laurium Mine (1 block west of the new State Police post)
10/11	Bruce Spike's Color Tour	09:00 - MQT. Co. Courthouse (Baraga Av.)

NEAR-BY SHOWS

On the internet, look at this site: → → <http://www.commean.com/rocks/mwf/shows/>

January

1/09 - 1/24 **Quartzite, AZ** Tyson Wells Sell-A-Rama Rock & Gem Shows. {Lapidary Journal Calendar - October, 1998} for more 1/29 - 2/07 information.

1/31 - 2/14 **Tucson, AZ** At least 15 different shows/meetings will be held in Tucson, AZ. {Lapidary Journal Calendar - October, 1998} for more information.

Excerpted from: MWF NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 1998

As there has been a lot of concern voiced on the decline in membership and attendance at meetings., in this issue you will find a very interesting article called "The Magic Rock Club", borrowed from THE ROCKY ROAD, bulletin of the Water-Oak Gem and Mineral Society, Inc., Waterville, Maine. The article was written by Joe Meade from NAPA GEMS 12-19-78, and was the 1st Place Adult Article in 1979 AFMS Editors' Bulletin Contest ... please note the date ... so "this is nothing new", but it appears we haven't found the solution 20 years later! THERE IS A LOT OF 'FOOD FOR THOUGHT' in the article...which appeared in the October 4, 1997 bulletin THE ROCKY ROAD, Water-Oak Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. of Waterville, Maine.

THE MAGIC ROCK CLUB

Once upon a time, in a beautiful valley, there was a magic rock club, or at least many of its members thought it was. Why did they think so? Because many strange and wondrous things happened in their club. After all, they only had to bring themselves to the club meeting once a month, and they found at the beautiful meeting hall their chairs, all lined up neatly for them, the place ablaze with light, the coffee pot perking away, the cookies and many other delicious "goodies" all set out and ready for them. The microphones were all hooked up and buzzing quietly, and the President, Secretary and Treasurer's tables all set up. It was indeed wondrous. The members needed only to sit down, and soon they were told all the bills had been paid, correspondence answered, and problems solved. They were brought up to date on what was happening not only in their area, but also what was happening for many miles around that might affect their hobby of rock collecting. Something called "The Federation" always took care of defending their favorite collecting areas. They didn't know much about this "Federation", but they did know somebody in their club always looked out for their interests and they were content.

This indeed was a wondrous club, as there was hardly ever anything to argue about during the short, pesky thing they called the "business meeting". Somehow the problem, whatever it might be, was solved whether they paid attention to what was happening or not. After all, if they all said "Aye" to whatever motion was being made, and they all always did, they could gripe about it later when they really found out what they voted on. Anyhow, they were anxious to get on to the rest of the meeting that they liked so well, like passing out beautiful and wondrous pieces of gemstone or finished jewelry as door prizes. Though many had been members for years, they were not sure exactly where these prizes came from, but it was probably more magic that they always appeared. But that was not all, some liked the "committee reports", because some of them were really interesting. They could find out who was not feeling well, how they were doing; find out about a forthcoming field trip; find out how much money the club had in the bank; find out what the next program would be; about books in their very own library; latest news on their big annual show; and many other interesting things. During the parts they were not interested in, they

could always talk to their neighbor, but if anyone talked during the part They were interested in, they could shush them. But the best part, was when they could visit with their friends, and enjoy the knowledgeable speakers, there were bingo games for gemstones, there were "silent auctions", where slabs of gemstone from the four corners of the world could be had for a few pennies, and there were picnics and potluck suppers. Many were only vaguely aware of how these things came about, but after all wasn't it magic?

Ah, it was indeed a fortunate thing to be a member of this club, many members felt. The telephone would ring, and they would be told of anything of interest to them regarding the club. They knew that if a member was ill, flowers and cards and messages from their club would appear to express their concern for them. If they wanted to go on a field trip, and not many did, the location was already surveyed for them, and they knew what gems they might find, how to find them what they looked like, where they could park, what to bring, and everything they needed to know.

Not only did many members feel lucky to be a part of a magic rock club they were also proud! After all, didn't they often see their club mentioned in the newspaper, hear it discussed on the radio, and wasn't it always a feature of the big District Fair? People would come from far and near to "Ohh" and "Ahh" at the beautiful gems in the cases with their club's name on them. Many never even bothered to go see for themselves, as they knew that the cases would always appear at the appointed time. The building would be available; the kitchen would be clean; the electrical wiring would line up and test itself; the big heavy tables would march into place; and a thousand and one other things would somehow happen whether they were there or not.

But that was not all! Every month a club newspaper would suddenly appear in their mailbox. This was really a wondrous thing. Many were amazed at how the news, articles of interest, and other things would assemble themselves, type themselves, run themselves through a mimeograph machine, staple, address, stamp and mail themselves too! The members knew that if they had not paid attention or even come to the last meeting, everything that happened would be in their club paper. Ahh, what wondrous things did themselves in a magic rock club.

However, there was one long-standing mystery in this magic rock club, that had never been solved by a President or committee chairman. This was the strange thing that happened every time the word "VOLUNTEER" was mentioned!!!, practically the whole membership would suddenly find something immensely interesting in either the ceiling or floor, and commence to gaze intently at them for long periods of time. However, there were always certain members who knew there was really nothing there to see, just as they had learned the truth about Santa Claus long ago, so one of them would say "I volunteer", and immediately the other members lost interest in whatever had intrigued them about the floor or ceiling.

If you really want to know the real secret of this *Magic Rock Club*, you can find the names of nearly all the magicians listed on the inside of the back cover of your magic Napa Valley Rock and Gem bulletin. Of course, all are not listed there, because many of them have quietly and unheralded "made things happen" year after year. To each of you, individually and collectively, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the privilege of working with you during the past year.

(Ed. of Rocky Road note:: This article was the most popular article back in the early 1980s, and was reprinted in over one hundred bulletins)

MWF editor's note .. For years we have all heard that there is a 'clique' that runs the clubs .. a couple weeks ago, our minister preached on the 'WINNING TEAM'...it is not the 'clique' that runs a club, but the WINNING TEAM! that makes a *MAGICROCK CLUB* happen!!!

MWF NEWS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

NEIL'S NOTES

Thank you for the vote of confidence in electing me MWF president for 1998-99. The work has already begun. I have been seeking committed, dedicated persons to head MWF committees and other positions. Thus far, I've had some acceptances, some regrets and some undecideds. It is my intent to have all positions filled by the Fall Executive Committee meeting in Lansing (which may be history by the time you read this.)

I would also like to develop a "pool" of members who would be willing to serve the MWF as committee chairs or in other positions in the future. I need the help of State Directors and Club Officers to accomplish this goal. I know there are a lot of talented members in the clubs. I have no way of meeting all of you though I would like to. I urge each club to review the Operating Procedure manual to determine the duties of the various committees. If your club does not have an O.P. Manual, you can order one from the Director of Supplies.

Communications continue to need improvement. I am pleased to learn that some clubs are allotting time at each meeting to report AFMS/MWF news and events. I urge all clubs to do so. I still get questions as to "What does the Federation do for me or my club?"

Newsletters, programs, insurance and various competitions and awards are a few. The counter question is: "What do you want the Federation to do for your club?" So far I have had only one response to the latter question. The MWF is composed of the local clubs - and clubs are you, the members. If you believe there are other programs or activities the MWF should try, please let me know. They will be considered and investigated. I can't promise all will happen. The MWF exists to serve you, so talk with us.

In addition to continuing to improve communications I want all of us to address the care and nurture of new members. You will hear about this in future notes and from Vice President Willis Smith. The first suggestion is a mentoring program. Assign an experienced member to work with and help a new member until he feels comfortable.

An additional goal is the establishment of 10 new clubs in the coming year. I believe this is possible if we are willing to share our knowledge and interest in the hobby with enthusiasm.

Finally, I wish to you, your families and friends a Happy Thanksgiving. Take time to reflect on the bountiful blessings and freedoms we have in this great nation. Until next time, may all your work shine brightly.

Excerpted from: MWF NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 1998

The following was taken from the OCTOBER, 1998 issue of the CALIFORNIA FEDERATION NEWSLETTER - WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!

LANDMARK DECISION - BLM and USFS LAND REVERSION
Submitted by Teresa Masters, from article by Walter Mroch

A landmark decision was made just last week in Mono County, California by a private company against both the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

Why is this important? What does it mean?

A private company has sued the BLM and USFS for their illegal practices with respect to surface mining activities located on Federal lands. The cases were filed in Mono and Inyo County within California. Local county planning departments have the legal and enforceable right to dictate how Federal lands may or may not be used. They can not, however, totally restrict the use of these lands.

This means that John Q. Public can petition his fellow constituents and submit to the local planning department or county board of supervisors this information to reverse any of the illegal abuses of "Wilderness Areas" and other such instruments created by the environment groups, the BLM and the US Forest Service. The county, BLM and USFS have asked the private company to draft a bulletproof legal instrument. What a compliment. This that the BLM, USFS and county trust the legal advice of a private company over their oft ill conceived legislation and rules.

We can challenge all of the Bruce Babbitt DOI actions and reverse his tomfoolery all over the United States of America. We may not want to do this to every site that is truly ecologically sensitive but we at least have the right where we want to rockhound once again but are restricted due to the illegal actions taken by the Departments of Interior and Agriculture. It also forces the agencies to resolve duplicitous activities to make the regulatory process more economical thereby forcing the sharing of information, personnel and funds. This also ensures that the agencies cooperate jointly.

Who to contact?

The case was filed and determined as legally enforceable. Local Zoning authority exists and is pre-existing with respect to surface mining activity located on Federal lands.

For more information contact the Mono County Planning Department at (760) 924-5450.

Cite the 1992 Cooperative Agreement between the State of California, BLM and USFS and their recent Board meeting.

This is a legitimate victory over the tyranny too often seen by the government agencies who espouse supreme rule but don't even have the courtesy to follow their own rules. At least someone took the time to read the political rulebook and challenge them.

MWF FALL MEETING

The MWF fall meeting was held in Lansing, MI on 10/24/98. Declining membership in many of the clubs was, again, a topic discussed. Most of the State Directors present reported clubs in their states are struggling – lack of participation, tired programs, lack of advertising, no hands-on activities, and ineffective field trips were some of the reasons given for the problems. All club members have and must take a role in running their clubs. Good programs, available at low cost from the MWF, interesting speakers, and hands-on demonstrations were some of the ideas discussed. A special committee, created at the annual convention in August, is studying the possibilities of acquiring long-term rights to collect at one or more Copper Country rock piles. If this can be accomplished, similar efforts may be extended to other areas of the Midwest.

A **5,805 CARAT EMERALD** has been found in Russia's Ural Mountains. It has been named "The President" for President Boris Yeltsin. The 2½ pound stone has excellent color and clarity and may be one of the most valuable emeralds ever from Russia. Initial appraisal placed its value at 1.5 million dollars. It will likely be a museum piece rather than being cut. (From *The Trilobite via Breccia & AFMS Newsletter*)

DID YOU KNOW

In February, 2000, there will be two (2) extra days, the 29th and 30th. The month has 30 days every 1000 years because the leap year day every 4 years doesn't quite match the earth's rotation around the sun. (From *The Petoskey Stone 9/98 via S.I.E.S. News, Tulip City Conglomerate, and The Living Stones*)

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR !

This will be my **LAST ISSUE** as THE **JASPILITE** editor. Pam Basal has volunteered to be our new editor, let's welcome her to the task and support her with many interesting, **** timely **** articles. As Olive and then I did, I'm sure Pam will place her own stamp upon the appearance of THE **JASPILITE**.

Good Luck Pam!

p.s. Thanks to all who have supported me as THE **JASPILITE** editor. Its been quite an experience and I hope everyone has enjoyed the newsletter the past two years. Happy Rockhounding!

Dave Olsen

*** Important! ***

I would like to ask all IRMC members who have computers, and are connected to the internet, please send me an "e-mail" message. My e-mail addresses are: rockhnd@aol.com and dolsen@bresnanlink.net (A NEW ADDRESS!!). I wonder...what if the Club constructed an internet Web site...what might your thoughts be on that? By-the-way, we have advertised the Club's show on the internet, on two rocks and minerals "bulletin boards" - "rockhounds@infodyn.com" and "rocks-and-fossils@world.std.com".

Pam Basal's internet address is: MPBasal@aol.com, please send Pam your articles (saves her typing time).

A SPECIAL NOTE for ALL EXCHANGE BULLETIN EDITORS:

Please change the address you have for the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club (that you send your exchange bulletins to) to the Club's OFFICIAL MAILING ADDRESS:

**The Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 102
Ishpeming, MI 49849**

Some bulletins are going to various addresses, including several still coming to my house. It was kind of convenient for me to have them come here but, now, as we change editors, we, and you, will have to do another darned address change. Lets make this the FINAL address change required. Thanks in advance - we appreciate your help on this!

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Annual Membership Dues: (Membership year: January 1 to December 31)	
Initiation Fee	\$1.50
Individual: Adult (16+)	\$5.00
Individual: Junior (<16)	\$3.00
Family: 1st Adult (16+)	\$5.00
Family: Adults (16+)	\$3.00 ea.
Family: Junior (<16)	\$2.00 ea.

Mailing Address: Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club, Inc., 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 and Marian Markert



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