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The

GLACIAL

DRIFTER



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The Grand Rapids Mineral Society is a Non-Profit Corporation affiliated with the Midwest Federation and the American Federation of Mineral Societies.

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 PM at the Grand Rapids Public Museum, Multi-Purpose room, East Building. Summer meetings at various parks as announced.

Membership dues are \$3.00 per year for a family, \$2.00 for single adult, and \$1.00 for students under 18 years of age. Dues are payable to Treasurer-year is from September 1 through August 31 of the following year.

Advertising in the GLACIAL DRIFTER is at the rate of \$3.00 per issue, September through May only.

All material for publication shall be in the hands of the EDITOR no later than the Wednesday after the regular monthly BOARD OF CONTROL meeting which is the third week of the month.

Permission to reprint articles appearing in the GLACIAL DRIFTER IS HEREBY GRANTED, PROVIDING PROPER CREDIT IS GIVEN.

Member--National Bulletin Editors Association.



FOR YOUR CALENDAR ----

Apr. 10, 8 p.m., Reg. Meeting, Museum East Bldg.  
"Making Table Tops"--a colorful slide  
lecture by our own talented Dr. Richard  
Rose (see story below)

7:10 p.m., Lapidary Group, Main Museum

Apr. 14, 5 p.m., ALL EXHIBITS OUT of Museum.  
Stay for coffee and cookies (especially if  
somebody--maybe you?--brings cookies)

Apr. 15, 7:30 p.m., Bd. of Control,  
Mrs. Nellie Mead, 334 Briarwood S.E.

Apr. 24, 8 p.m., Mineralogy, Fay Reed, 425 Lafayette N.E.



May 18, 19, Gems & Minerals Show, Cedar Valley  
Rocks & Minerals Soc., Armar Ballroom,  
Marian, Ia. Field trips Sat. and Sun.

May 18, 19, "These United States" Rock Show--Kalamazoo Geological and  
Mineral Soc., County Fairgrounds, Kalamazoo, Mich.

June 8, 9, Annual Rock Swap, State Line Gem & Mineral Society, Fulton Co.  
Fairgrounds, Ohio 108 & Exit 3 Ohio Turnpike near Wauseon, Ohio

June 22, 23, Cuyahoga Co. Gem & Mineral Rockrama, Co. Fairgrounds, Berea, O.

July 25, 26, 27, 1st Annual Upper Peninsula Gem & Mineral Show

St. John's School, 351 S. Pine St., Ishpeming, Mich.

Fri. field trip in closed mining areas, by advance registration only.

Aug. 23, 24, 25, National Gem & Mineral Scho, Normal, Ill.

(see story on page 3)

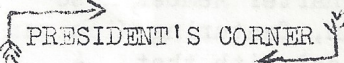
INSIDE INFORMATION -- that's what we can expect when Dr. Richard Rose tells and shows us, with the help of slides as well as examples, some of the tricks and technics he has devised in making table tops of embedded rock and mineral materials, with casting plastic. Charter Member Rose has been asked to make a special table for the Museum, featuring Michigan fossils and minerals, and some of his remarks will deal with that. A finished table, molds and other materials needed for smaller projects, will also be displayed. Here is a chance to learn how to make beautiful rock objects without even needing rock polishing equipment. Dr. Rose is one of the club's outstanding lapidarists and collectors; his approach to this new phase of our hobby is sure to be worthwhile.

LOOKING AHEAD--to our May meeting, it is important that every member attend, as a number of necessary changes in our constitution, dues, and other matters will be acted upon, as well as officers elected. There's another good reason for coming--this will be one of our yum-yummy pot-luck suppers, and who'd want to miss that? Mrs. Ford Hurd and Mrs. Chas. Mumford are acting as co-chairmen of this event, and they will be contacting you in order to plan a tip-top meal.

CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE will hold a sale of display mineral specimens and lapidary material Apr. 27. Institute members admitted from 9 a.m. to 12 noon; general public from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.



FRESH OFF THE DOP: -- Mr. and Mrs. Joe Parrish will take over the handling of our door prizes and raffles until the Ross's are again available for duty. They could use more good raffle material, things really worth selling tickets for. Since this money is an important help to our budget, we hope that anyone who might have something to contribute will bring it to the next meeting . . . . . When you check over the list of meetings and special shows on page 1, remember that more detailed information, exhibit entry blanks, etc. are on file with the Drifter Editor. So if you are planning to be in the neighborhood of one of these shows, do ask for more information about it. If you are interested in a competitive exhibit, the Waterford Gem ' Mineral Club is holding one Oct. 12 and 13 at Oakland Univ.; deadline for applications is July 1. Going down south out of season? July 25-27 is the Macon Co. Gemboree in Franklin, N.Car. We even have attractive brochurs about gem safaris to E. Africa and Rhodesia, to Brazil and S. America, and to Australia and New Zealand. They surely do sound fascinating! . . . . . We are delighted to hear that Nellie Mead's mother is making a nice recovery, after surgery. . . . . Welcome to new members, Mrs. Robert C. Smith and family, and to (soon to be) Mr. and Mrs. David Berndt--and we hope they will find a lifetime of joy in our hobby . . . . . Among the many visitors to our show were Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Stout of the Michiana Rock and Gem Club. Mr. Stout, who is his club field trip chairman, extended an invitation to our members to join the Michiana Club in an Easter weekend field trip to Gray Quarry at Hamilton, Ill. This is in the Warsaw formation, and a good place for geodes. The George Arnolds of our club hope to go along--anyone else care to join them? Call them for further details. . . . . We sincerely hope that Rich Van Beek's father is making a good recovery, following recent surgery . . . . . We don't have the weight yet, but the specimens shipped to Sauk College in Ill. by G.R.M.S. to help them start a new geology department, included jasper conglomerates, Petoskies, copper ores, pyrite blades, crystals and nodules, hematites, drusy quartz, Thompsonite, gypsum, L.Superior agates both polished and unpolished, and various good fossils. We hope the college will find them useful.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Marion Jennings and Jim DeZwaan Sr. and their committees deserve a big hand for the great Museum show we have this year. And a big thanks to all who are exhibiting. It's one of the best.

Henry Tchozeksi's talk on carving at our March meeting was very informative. You've given me the desire to try it, Henry.

How many plan on cooking your meals a la car engine this summer? Quite an idea.

We will have the results of the questionnaire at our annual May meeting. Please--if you haven't filled yours out yet, please do.

Max Ross is home now, recovering from a coronary, and cards from you would no doubt be appreciated. Get well soon, Max--we miss you.

Don Crabbs, President.



### NATIONAL GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

Aug. 22-25, Normal, Ill.

Many special features are being planned for the National Gem and Mineral Show to be held Aug. 23-25 in Normal, Ill. This is also the official Midwest Convention for this year. The Corn Belt Lapidary and Mineralogical Society and Illinois State Univ. are hosting the event.

On display will be the jewel-studded ivory elephant from Lizzadro Museum which appeared on the cover of Lapidary Journal. Originating in India, the elephant is encrusted with gold set with hundreds of hand-cut gems, including many star sapphires in several colors, and vivid red star rubies. Another display will feature the model of the Chicago Water Tower which was written up recently in Gems & Minerals magazine.

Bert Mann's incredible gold pieces shown in Lapidary Journal and on its covers will be another special display, and Mr. Mann himself will be at the show, to tell how he perfected his arts of gold spinning and casting. Of special interest are his gold cups and chalices set with hundreds of rare gems. John E. Quann will have his mineral and fossil collection which includes "The Pride of the Pacific", the world's largest white fire opal from Australia.

Crystal lovers will see famous specimens from Smithsonian. In addition, noted collector Lafayette Funk will have for the first and last time his entire collection on display. The exhibit of spectacular fluorite specimens from Illinois is expected to be one of the finest ever assembled, as this is the official mineral of the host state.

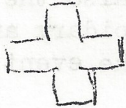
In addition to this and more, the committee promises 120,000 sq. feet of floor space, ample parking for thousands of cars within easy walking distance of the I.S.U. fieldhouse, cafeteria with reasonably-priced meals, college dormitory facilities with reasonable prices, and a 40x80-ft. swap tent. This might be a great year to go to the Midwest Convention--right? (If you do plan to go, notify your club president to get meals, accommodations, and registration blanks.)

OUR APRIL MEETING IS THE DEADLINE for applications for the G.R.M.S. Scholarship to the State Conservation Camp this summer at Higgins Lake. No forms to fill out, no tests to take--if you know of a good candidate, simply submit the name, address, age and qualifications to Pres. Don Crabbs by April 10.

THE OWNER OF THE HOUSE answered the bell to find a rockhound friend, whom he hadn't seen for some time, at the door along with a large, shaggy and rather muddy dog. Inviting them in they sat in the living room and talked about old times. The dog, after sniffing around finally hopped on the couch to settle down for a nap much to the host's dismay. Finally the guest rose to leave. "Aren't you forgetting your dog?" asked the host. "That's not my dog," said the guest. "I thought he was yours."



(LAST MONTH--our article on how to let your car do the cooking attracted quite a lot of attention. (IF ANYBODY TRIES THAT, DO WRITE A LITTLE ARTICLE ABOUT IT FOR THE "DRIFTER" !) So this month we have culled some other off-beat ways in which a car can be useful. Read on!)



YOUR CAR CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE

Statisticians point to over 38,000 highway fatalities a year, but it is usually overlooked that the family car can save lives too. In emergencies, your car is a fortress. Beneath its hood and within its steel body can be found materials for survival for your family or your friends.

The average car radiator holds 16-21 quarts of water. If not contaminated by anti-freeze, that is enough water to last a family of four for four days.

Hubcaps, cleaned with sand, pinch-hit for cups and for shovels; also, for reflectors. Your horn can alert rescuers as far as a mile, downwind.

A hose from the motor will convert into a syphon for getting gasoline from your tank. The windshield washer tubing becomes an effective tourniquet to stop excessive bleeding.

Door panels become ground blankets, insulating you from frozen, wet or scorching ground. Domelights can be used to focus the sun rays for fire. The glove compartment door and sun visors double as shovels. Slip covers, floor mats and rugs serve as blankets and clothing.

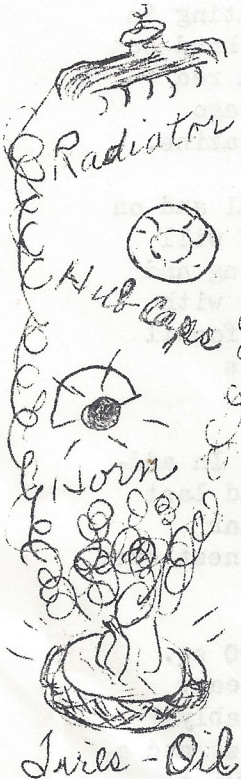
Under the hood are four gallons of oil. A quart of oil, burned in a hubcap in the still air of morning, spews a signal of smoke visible for miles. Lube oil can be used as a salve to protect your skin. And many a hunter has warmed himself (and stayed alive) over a tire-fire. A little gasoline ignites a tire; an average tire will burn 3 to 4 hours. One family carefully removed a sealed-beam headlight, leaving it wired to the battery, directed its beams upward in wide-sweeping arcs, and drew attention of rescuers.

"Drastic," you say, "to destroy your car." A highway patrolman says, "Everything you need to stay alive, except food, is found in the average car, but few motorists think of their cars as a survival kit. His first inclination is to set out on foot for help. Too often he is beyond help when we find him a few miles on--dead from exhaustion, heat or cold."

("Home & Highway", Allstate Ins.Co. Safety Program)

-- all this, and LAUNDRY, too?

--While on a trip, it says in the Firelands "Gravelog", put soiled clothes, water and soap in a tightly lidded ice chest. Ride it around all day (especially on some of those "good" rock-hunting roads), and when you get back all you will need to do is rinse it and hang it up to dry. HOW ABOUT THAT?





## MUSEUM DISPLAY SHOWS HOW TO "LIVE WITH ROCKS"

"Living With Rocks"--our 1968 Museum Show--surely convinced thousands of visitors that this is really a good way to live! From the opening moments, when Pres. Don Crabbs' charming daughters cut the ribbons to let in the waiting crowd, the show has met favorable public response. The Opening Ceremonies, new this year, might have benefitted from a public address system, but Mary Jane Dockeray and Mrs. and Mrs. Victor Blandford (donators of the land for the Blandford Nature Center) were nevertheless happy to accept the large rocks designated for the Blandford Center's outdoor patio, and the Sinkankas' "Gemstones of North America" book which we gave for the Center's public library.

And isn't it a lovely show? Come on in, and let's start on the right, with Geroge and Marilyn Arnold's exhibit on tumbling--a nice combination of factual information on tumbling procedures with decorative arrangements of the finished articles--including the charming "wishing well" planter. Next comes the Henry Tchozesk's carvings, mobiles, and "gunk to glow" samples, as well as Steve's nice fossils. The key here, too, was not only an attractive, but a meaningful arrangement of diverse materials.

The Robert B. Smith family used copper-toned backdrop, floor, and other elements to unify larger lapidary objects, such as the table with the map of Michigan (lower peninsula) with every county a different polished stone; and the stone checkerboard and checkers. These were all Michigan materials. Donn Crabbs' lovely Thompsonites were shown both polished and in the matrix; the L. Superior agates in the matrix were educational, too, in showing others how these things can look as they are found in the field; the petrified woods and Brazilian agates filled out this case nicely--along with the Club emblem done last year by the lapidary group, looking good against the blue velvet.

Mr. and Mrs. Casey Doornbos indeed showed how to "Make Living With Rocks" Exciting", with their outstanding specimens combined into flower and tabletop arrangements. And Gordon and Dorothy Williams had many good messages in their display: "Up Tight? Take this 'Trip'--Live With Rock"--and the cute doll urging G.R.M.S. membership. Every shelf was well designed, with interesting and instructive progressions of lapidary and silver making, tumbled stone usages, outstanding carvings, and specimens to show the fun of collecting (and where did you collect those greenstones?)

Two correlated cases were those of Ted and Marie Duprey, and the Jim VanVuren family. The Duprey exhibit displayed fine specimens with beauty and imagination, with differentiation of color, yet unity of tone in backdrops and surroundings. The geode-lovin' Van Vurens provided similarly attractive surroundings to enhance their favorite specimens of you-know-what. Another case of you-know-what....Dot and Jerry Morris' always outstanding examples of, well, you know what! The imagination and technical excellence of their carvings, planters, jewelry, etc. show that Michigan's State Stone has many possibilities.

Now let's move around to the copper collection entered by James and Bertha DeZwaan--enough to make any knowing collector drool, especially  
(con't.)



-6-  
("Living With Rocks"- 2)

that top piece with the datolite tucked into its branches. In the same case, Ed Pryce's very interestingly designed silver jewelry, and the Art Ferguson's unusual specimens and "pictures" added interest.

Nina and Bob Rozema's petrified woods are outstanding, and proved especially interesting with the source of each piece identified. Wood from at least 14 different states is an interesting fact in itself. Marie Spielmaker and Ruth Steele--what a variety of materials and locations was shown in their case!--surely an inspiration to every viewer that wherever you go you can find things of great interest to rockhounds. Their things were so nicely arranged--these big cases aren't easy to design. Jim DeZwaan Jr's display of specimens from the Bancroft, Ont. area will certainly put that region on anybody's trip-wish list.

Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club enhanced our show with two fine displays. One featured Bill and Nancy Ammerman's petrified woods--not only lovely pieces, but many identified as to kind of wood as well as location. Well-done jewelry pieces demonstrated that these woods are certainly pretty enough to be gemstones. Indian Mounds also provided the gay case of specimens, jewelry, the "Rockhound's Paradise" tabletop arrangement, and many fine frames of cabochons. Worth special mention is Millford Voss's gorgeous and beautifully finished turquoise--as well as his cabochons of many other materials. The J rries, Harold Casterline, Fred DeWitt, and Jack M. Cramer were also represented here. It was nice that all the cabochon materials were identified--we have seen too many that only left the viewers guessing.

There's more in the center of the floor! Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Littlefield and Mr. and Mrs. Ford Hurd showed many nice specimens...and we especially liked the clever use of black-painted jar lids for stands. Howard C. Rose furnished some lovely agates and petrified woods, with unusual bookends. The beautiful case of silver work had only one drawback--the artists were not identified, but artists they are, with some outstanding pieces. Also, including the tools added much interest.

Arnold Wendt Sr. showed that Jerry Morris is not the only one to explore the possibilities inherent in our interesting State Stone. And Harry Wendt's large Petoskey Stone map of Michigan attracted much favorable attention. Bob and Audrey Teunis made an outstanding display by sticking to one material--fluorite. The range of types of specimens, with information on its uses, gave solid worth to this exhibit.

The Jr. Lapidary Class showed both the progress and imagination in this group. Shelley Johnson had a fine display; others participating with good cabs and jewelry included Jeff Martin, George Arnold, Ed Krzeminski, and Kevin Wagner.

Dr. R.B. Smith managed to work stamps into a rock show with his "Stamps and Stones--How Two Hobbies Meet", and an explanation of the ground-mineral inks used in early Japanese stamp printing. Jim Waldron's lapidary work, and Mary Anna Waldron's copper enameling attracted much

(con't.)



("Living With Rocks"--3)

interest with their charming figures and groupings.

We mustn't forget the front casses--starting with Jim DeZwaan's nice display of Tampa coral, with informative signs. Then there was Henry Tchozeski's rather startling "Living With Rocks--Past, Present and Future". Henry got his comeuppance, though, when a woman visitor took one look at his little old tombstone and shrieked, "Those are my initials!"

To make this record complete, we mustn't forget the outside windows. The big front ones, featuring some of the Blandford patio specimens and the outstanding large signs made for us by the Museum, gave a nice, outdoorsy look to the show. The many pieces of lapidary equipment tied up a lot of stock for the Rozemas, but was surely informative for the general public. And the Les Pearl Junior Rockhounds can take especial pride in their window, with its activity lists, drawings, diagrams and specimens. We might mention Lori, Lisa and Beth Hough's anthropological drawings, and Jeff Martin's well displayed collection, but all the others were equally important in this fine display.

Well, we hope we haven't missed anyone, and we hope you all enjoyed the 1968 show. If we were to make any criticism at all, it would be that we wish every specimen shown had been identified, at least with a general or common name. (American Federation rules require even more detailed identification, and it is time our club members learned to properly identify our material according to these rules, both for our own education and for the encouragement of building collections worthy of displaying in big shows.) To show a specimen just looking pretty is not really enough, if it leaves the viewer wishing he knew what that pretty stuff was, and prevents him from learning about it. Oh yes--our fine fossil-live murals -- they are so attractive, but do they get enough attention up there? Maybe another year we could do a better job of pointing them out and explaining their content and meaning.

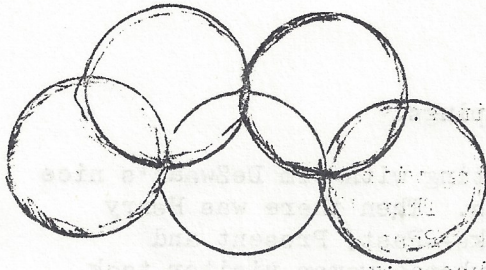
LAPIDARY TIP: This method of Cold Dopping can be helpful on many fragile stones. Opal is one, in which damage from regular "hot dopping" may show up after the stone is finished.

First, squeeze a small amount of Strong Hold Cement on a slab of jade, agate or something; then, on the same slab, place a small amount of corn starch in a small mound, NOT in the Strong Hold. Gradually add the corn starch to the cement until it is the texture of spun honey. It doesn't take very much of either.

You are now ready to place the stone on the dop stick. Let it set at least 24 hours and you are ready to work the stone. To remove the stone, dip it in acetone. (---Miami Gemcrafter)

TO SAVE TIME AND TROUBLE ON SAW BLADE, when getting rocks ready for tumbler, on the trim saw, notch where the break is wanted, shallow for smaller rocks, deeper for larger ones. Then place a thin, untempered chisel in the cut, strike sharply with a light hammer. (---Gravelog)





### OLYMPIC SITE YIELDS RELICS

Workmen have uncovered an ancient civilization--a culture which may be older than the Olympics themselves--in the middle of the site where athletes will live during the 1968 Olympic games.

Skeletons and pottery found about 15 feet below ground may be from the Cuicuilco culture which some archaeologists believe had its start more than 800 years before the birth of Christ. The first recorded Olympiad was held in Greece in 776 B.C.

The archaeological find was made when picks and shovels broke through a hollow area and workers found what appeared to be a burial ground for Indian nobles. Two complete burial valuts have now been uncovered. Dirt is being brushed away from three others closer to the surface, and the outline of five more could be seen in a trench dug by workers. Well-preserved skeletons, clay pottery, and feminine adornments made of clay have been found. Archeologist Alfonso Quevas Perez said the bones and pottery date at least to the third century before Christ and may go back to the start of the Cuicuilco farming culture which is thought to have flourished between 828 and 328 B.C., long before the Aztecs or Mayan Indians started ruling Mexico.

The find was not entirely accidental. The National Institute of Anthropology, because of the belief something might be uncovered, borrowed about 50 workmen and set them to digging in a likely looking spot. The site of the village is about 2 miles south of the National University, on the edge of Mexico City.

(---from "Esconi")

### \* \* \* THE MINERALOGIST \* \* \*

Man scales the sides of mountains and ascends  
The ice-scarred creek beds lined with minulus  
And starry phlox; he seeks for minerals  
And semiprecious stones left in rock  
By seeping water; in rigid ledge he finds  
Chalcedony with tracteries of white  
Or ebon arabesque; in barren hills  
He burrows for sharp crystal's symmetry;  
He finds the eerie caverns where cave flowers shine,  
And from the depths of earth he excavates  
Green malachite and gem-blue chrysocholla.  
For him unfolds the drama of the earth.  
His yulse, attuned to movement of the spheres,  
Heeds not the ticking of our nervous years.

(Ethel M.Hewitt, Arizona Highways Magazine,  
via "Puddin' Stone News")

--- When you see no end to your troubles, just remember that a diamond is only a piece of coal that has been "hard pressed" for along time.



AN APPROPRIATE GIFT

Mrs. John F. Kennedy had been searching for the perfect American State Gift. It had to look magnificent and sophisticated to give to the heads of highly civilized countries. "Anything that was Early American," Mrs. Kennedy explained, "would look too rustic. Yet our modern things would look out of place in old surroundings." For a while she thought of giving historic letters, but sources were precarious, and an appropriate letter could not always be come by.

Then, one day, she went to the Smithsonian Insitution to discuss with Dr. Leonard Carmichael, the Secretary, details of her White House restoration plans. He wanted to show her the First Ladies' Hall, where costumes of her predecessors are on display. On the way, they walked through the Hall of Minerals. "I was overcome," Mrs. Kennedy recalled. "It was like Ali Baba's cave!"

She spent hours with Dr. Carmichael and wrote down the name of the most lovely stones, which she considered more beautiful than precious gems. They weren't really valuable---just minerals that can be found in the United States. She thought at once of paperweights, delicately feminine or heavily masculine, artfully embellished by a skilled jeweller. Bound with ropes of twisted gold, some with perfect, stand-up flowers, and all with a plaque on the smooth underside commemorating the occasion, the paperweights were more than magnificent gifts.

Later, Dr. Carmichael was to remember the afternoon: "It was one of the great days of my life---to watch Mrs. Kennedy discover the potentialities of these gems.".....

McCall's, via Kalamazoo "Gems"

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## COMPETITIVE DISPLAYS IN GEM AND MINERAL SHOWS

Each of us as members of Gem and Mineral Societies seek certain satisfactions. Some wish only to find recreation in field trips or to collect and possess minerals and fossils. Some wish to share the materials collected and the products of their lapidary skills through the medium of shows and exhibits.

We recognize there are always responsibilities attendant upon privileges. It is a privilege to collect from nature's store-house, and to use this material in making jewelry or other useful and ornamental objects. In doing this, we acquire both material and information, and therein lies the responsibility of sharing with others.

We can certainly state that a primary purpose of all exhibits and of all shows is to Learn and to Share.

As in the other fields of business and industry, in which we take proper pride in our American progress and accomplishments, growth and development have been largely due to competition.

This is, and has been, true of competition in Gem and Mineral displays. Competitive exhibits, because they are competitive, set the standards of excellence and bear the burden of establishing and maintaining educational values and of upholding a public image worthy of those associated in Earth Science societies and federations. Without accepting the responsibility of Learning and Sharing through our shows, we would soon become pack rats or bower birds.

So we engage in competitive shows, and our winning efforts become Special Exhibits much in demand by non-competitive chairmen, not only to aid in growth and development of knowledge and skills, and to uphold a public image worthy of our opportunities, but because of public demand and approval.

The public, those that attend events and pay money for the privilege, appreciate competition. They love a winner. Hundreds attend an exhibition game but thousands attend when a pennant is at stake. No exhibit attracts attention like the one with a ribbon or trophy.

I am not saying that the non-competitive exhibits are not important, for this is not true. In these, we find the beginning from which future competitive exhibits may be built, and all should have the opportunity and satisfaction of displaying collections and workmanship. We find the need for entertainment and amusement acknowledged in non-competitive exhibits in clever and original ways. These displays are essential, and the ones that can put a smile on a solemn face should have preferred billing and placement. However, those who can prepare and display competitively, should very definitely do so.

The basis of all competitive exhibits is The Regional and Local Uniform Rules prepared by the regional rules chairmen for use in 1967-68-69. There are both editing and printing errors in the original printing which have been corrected by a single sheet. Both the Rules and the correction sheet are available from your Midwest Rules Chairman, Mr. Tolson Radloff, 625 Winchester, Lincoln Park, Michigan 48146. Order these, and the List of Approved Gem names, as amended, through the secretary of your society so that bulk shipments may be made. Unfortunately the Exhibitors Manual is out of print and also in need of revision. Part IV of this manual dealing with showmanship, is still very timely. The remainder contains so much that is now obsolete that all sections except only Section IV pages 4 to 13 are applicable. The list of Mineral Names and discredited mineral names will be available shortly. These were published in the August issue 1966 of the American Mineralogist. Possibly you can find a copy for present use.

These rules and lists are not prepared to read through beginning with page 1 etc. Those who are planning to exhibit in a division, (such as minerals) will turn to the index under "divisions" and find the proper pages. Very little attention need be given to the other pages except only as references are made to specific sections.

So you have chosen your Division. Next you will choose the class. These are all set out clearly on your chosen division page.

The exhibitor group in which you will exhibit must then be chosen. Exhibitor Groups, as shown in the index, are on page 7, # 37. In effect this says that you may not enter in a group LOWER than the one in which you have won ribbons, but you may, if you choose, enter a higher group. A beginner, if he feels he has a display capable of scoring high points, may enter in the Master Group the first time he exhibits. This is frequently done since all National Trophies are given only to winners from either Junior or Master Groups. Novice, advanced, dealer, and society groups are eligible only for ribbons. No Junior nor Master group exhibitor need make an entry for National Trophy. Since the rules are identical for both regional and national competition, his exhibit is automatically entered for a trophy when he enters the Regional competition of any show where National Trophies are offered. If you find any Trophy rules in conflict with Regional rules, mark them "printing error", and refer to the correction Sheet. THE REGIONAL RULES AND REQUIREMENTS APPLY.

We are much pleased to hear that many of our societies are forming Rules Study groups. This will accomplish two results: First, the members will become better informed through group reading and discussion, and, from such a study may come much needed suggestions for improvement of the rules, both in content and in wording. Any suggestions or recommendations should be passed on to your Regional Rules Chairman.



We can see no need of further discussion of the rules at this time, so shall give you our findings and conclusions from attendance at National Shows during the past six years.

The greatest weakness in competitive exhibits, and equally the greatest opportunity for exhibitors, is in Educational and Society Exhibits.

First; Educational Exhibits: Our index states that Rule # 71, pages 15 and 16 are to be used. This is Division E, and, as are all other DIVISIONS, it is open to all exhibitor Groups (Including Societies). The limiting rules of quality, rarity, and workmanship, do NOT apply. Also, there are no limitations on the use of synthetics or casts, or extraneous material used in pursuing the educational values.

I find some apparently do not know what an educational exhibit is. The display must first have a specific purpose (and title) quite similar to those our young people use for their science fair projects. You choose your educational subject, use charts, printed or typed explanations, pictures, if necessary to your purpose, but always keeping in mind accuracy in labels and attractiveness in appearance. The classes offered cover all the divisions and the rules are non-restrictive in order to permit freedom of imagination and originality.

We have been asked for suggestions as to subjects for development into educational projects. Here are a few: Pseudomorphs, the Mineral Mimics; Ammonites, Past and Present; Evidence of Fossil Origin of Geodes; The Systems of Crystallization; Twins and Striations in Minerals; Petrification and Petrifying Agents, etc. Once you get the idea, you can think of one much better than any I have suggested. Please remember this is a Division and is open to ALL exhibitor groups. Trophy Award # 14 is offered for Master entries.

Next; Societies at one time were limited to stated classes. Now, every class in every division is available to them. The regular rules of each division apply, and 37 - D on page 7 is absolutely clear as to what constitutes a Society Exhibit. There is nothing to prevent your Society from entering in more than one class if you so choose. It would be a wonderful experience for a number of people. Just another word: Always have someone check your spelling. As to showmanship: this is the Artistic sense of arrangement of size and color so that the whole effect is pleasing. One "odd duck" no matter how good a single specimen, should be left in the home pond, if he would lessen your score.

Each society has a definite responsibility to its members who wish to increase their knowledge and abilities. The study of standards as shown in the rules, is one of them. Since each division uses wording applicable to its own subject, these terms should be a part of the special study. To some,

the words variety, species, genus, epoch and period, formulas, etc., are just words. You who know their meaning can remember the time when you did not know. Those working with minerals and those with fossils, should have study workshops. We find the lapidary people have done a better job than the others in becoming familiar with terms, but, even so, we find clubs, the members of which do not know the difference between lapidary and jewelry.

Another responsibility of societies is to teach the rudiments of showmanship. We visited a local show a few years ago and were impressed by the unusual appeal and arrangement of so many of the exhibits. We felt certain this was not an accident. Inquiry led us to be introduced to a lady who was an art teacher. She had been coaching others in the club. Expert window dressers, especially those from jewelry stores are excellent teachers. The artistic sense can be developed.

After the fear of Rules and of categories and exhibitor groups have all been dispelled by familiarity and understanding, and everything is properly labeled and a diagram of the best arrangement has been prepared, how do you enter the show?

You will write to the exhibits Chairman, or better, your rules leader will do this for all exhibitors in your club. You will write to: Mr. William Eaton, Box 334, Normal, Illinois 61761, and request entry blanks. You will receive these together with a certificate for an officer of your club to sign attesting your club membership and amateur status. After this is all completed we will see you at Normal, Illinois, August 22-23-24-25, 1968. You will be among good company, Rockhounds from all over America.

Merton A. Young, Chairman  
American Rules Committee for 1968.



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