

July 1969

"GLACIAL DRIFTER", G.R. Mineral Society, Vol. 10, No. 11, July 1969

JULY 9 IS "BRAGGIN' NIGHT"!

Regular Meeting, Wed., July 9, 6:45 p.m.--bring your picnic supper to Ideal Park. Directions: Leave the south Expressway (US 131) at 54th St. exit. Go .4 mile east to Crippen (sign on corner pointing to Ideal Park), and go .6 mile south where Crippen ends inside the park. Take either of two footbridges over creek to shelter house.

Double-Barrelled Program: Everyone is asked to bring at least one "bragging rock" and tell what it is and where it was found. Don't worry about your rocks not being good enough-- if it made you happy, it's worth showing. No doubt some things from Murdo will be included. Also, Presiding Officer Jim De Zwaan Sr. will supplement this program with a summary of some of his broad experience as to where rocks can be found and how to find them. That'll be worth hearing! See you there.

BOARD OF CONTROL, July 14, 7:30 p.m., T. Duprey, 3326 Badger S.W.

August Meeting--not until Aug. 23--Big rock swap in conjunction with Indian Mounds Club. Details next month.

FIELD TRIP PLANNED FOR JULY 12

Field Trip Chmn. Ted Duprey has arranged a field trip to Pugh Quarry--your chance to get some exceptionally beautiful calcite crystals. He suggests you get there around noon, and check in at the scale house before entering. It is about 200 miles. Go to the town of McClure, O. (between Bowling Green and Napoleon) on U.S. 6. Turn south on O-65 for 2 or 3 miles-- signs will indicate Pugh Quarry. Good hunting, everyone!

OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER

- July 12, 13--All-Minnesota Rock Swap, Morris T. Baker Park, Lake Independence, Minn. (20 mi. west of Minneapolis)
- Aug. 7, 8, 9--Upper Peninsula Gem & Min. Show, Copper Country Club National Guard Armory, Calumet, Mich.
- Aug. 9, 10--Gem & Mineral Show, Thunder Bay Club, Port Arthur, Ont.
- Aug. 16, 17--Rock Swap, Red Cross Bldg., Green Bay, Wis.
- Aug. 23, 24--Iron County Rock & Min. Club Swap, Crystal Falls, Mich.
- Sept. 13, 14--Rock Swap, Northland Rock & Min. Club, Lieb's Moonstone Mine, Rte. 3 East, Saranac Lake, N.Y.
- Oct. 17, 18, 19, Central Mich. Lapidary & Mineral Show Mich. Natl. Guard Armory, 2500 S. Washington, Lansing



## MURDO MUSINGS.....

We'll have an official report on the Murdo, S.Dak. convention later. Meanwhile, the sponsoring clubs, and the town itself, must be given tremendous credit not only for handling such a big job, but for being able, after all that work and planning, to alter a good many plans at the last minute and still keep everyone busy and satisfied.

Imagine: A town of around 700 serving 2700 free (and good) barbecue dinners in little more than an hour, opening night. In order that the streets wouldn't be completely clogged by cars, school busses were brought in from all over the state, run as a constantly-circulating feeder bus system around town. You could get on and off anywhere, all free--and did the Murdo kids, who had never been on school busses anyway, have fun with that! The busses also transported many of us to the collecting areas. Four churches cooperated in making identical box lunches to order. Unfortunately, when bad weather cancelled some of the trips, they ended up with a surplus which local committee members feared might keep them eating box lunches till Christmas. We stopped on our way home Sunday morning to buy a couple (even though we'd had them for two days), and they quickly gave us four for the price of two!

How was the rock collecting? Well, there are really an infinite number of good rocks lying all over the ground in the Badlands area; so everyone must have gotten some good material. Unfortunately, the weather couldn't manage to be comfortably cool without also managing to be uncomfortably wet. They tried, anyway, hoping the deluge would let up. Some sensible, chicken-hearted rockhounds who never got out of the bus were treated to unforgettable sights of gumbo-footed, pail-hatted, bedraggled but utterly determined rockhounds sliding, slewing and grabbing for what they could in that slick, viscous mud. At the time it was snowing 4 inches in Rapid City, so you know that rain was mighty cold. Nobody lasted too long. So the rock swap, scheduled for evening on main street, spontaneously started in the afternoon in the auditorium, and was a big affair. Other cherished memories: the comments of some of the local residents on the rockswap, as overheard in a local restaurant the next morning; the rapid-fire chant of the auctioneers, and the clever way they kept the bidding going at the live auction; the fine performances of the musicians on the big truck bed at the street dance; the hot buffalo-burgers and meat counters loaded with buffalo meat. Oh yes--they did run field trips the next day--unfortunately they had to skip the Weda beds, as you just don't drive off hard roads in that country after a rain. We couldn't join the Sunday trips, but many did.

Murdo was really a great experience. Our hats are off to the town which jumped overnight from (relatively speaking) about 43rd in population in the state to about 7th, and survived. They really tried harder.



HOW'S YOUR HEXAGONARIA COLLECTION?  
(from the Grand Valley "Lithogram")

Hex--Hex--Oh, yes! That's the state stone of Michigan--the Petoskey Stone. Hexagonaria as a name refers to the shape taken by the crowded coral growth in the characteristic cluster. There is some fascination to see the form and growth pattern of life of the Devonian Period of some 350 million years ago when warm seas inundated the Michigan area.

There is another fascinating aspect of this stone. The name Petoskey connects our state stone with the people who lived here before the coming of the white man, before the squaring, the fencing, the barring of forest to field, road building, the channeling and damming associated with our progress.

Here we quote Princess Ella Jane Petoskey to bring the story of the name of Petoskey as it became the name of the city and the name of the stone that became the state stone of Michigan by legislative enactment June 28, 1965.

I will go back to the days when Michigan was a wilderness to the white man and a paradise to the Ottawa, who roamed unchallenged through its rich forests and over its peaceful waters in airy birch bark canoes.

The Little Traverse Bay area was his playground and his winter quarters were in northern Illinois at the mouth of the Illinois River where the city of Chicago now stands. Every fall the Ottawa made his pilgrimage to this favored spot where he fished in lake and river and hunted in the forest during the moons of frost and snow. The vicinity of the Chicago River was a favorite rendezvous and it was rich in legend as well as fish and game.

One of the outstanding stories is that a large family of skunks lived in this particular place for many generations and, for obvious reasons, monopolized that territory. The Ottawa word for skunk is Chicag and the Indians called that place Chicago--the literal translation meaning skunktown. A few years later, before the red man realized what was going on, a city sprang up in skunktown and the new owner named his city, Chicago. The Ottawa laughed but said nothing.

In the course of time there came to this western country a scion of French nobility whose name was Antoine Carre'. He became a fur trader for the John Jacob Astor Fur Company and was finally adopted into the tribe and made a chief of the Ottawas, to whom he remained true and loyal to his death. He was given the name Nea-a-toosh-ing, which name is signed to Ottawa treaties with the United States Government.

In the spring of 1787, after having spent the winter in Chicago, Chief Antoine Carre' (Nea-a-tooshing) was journeying



northward with his royal Indian family and had made camp on the bank of the Kalamazoo River. One beautiful morning, just as the sun was shining over the tree tops, it shone into the face of a new born baby boy, the son of Antoine Carre. The father observed the glorious sunshine on the baby's face and said, "His name shall be Petosegay and he shall become a great man".

The name of Petosegay or Be dos e gay means rising sun--rays of the dawn or sunbeams of promise. Petosegay expresses a great deal in one word.

The royal family journeyed to the north, to the summer playground at what is now known as Seven Mile Point. Young Petosegay grew to manhood and became a fur trader and merchant. He accumulated an unknown amount of land and wealth and married the daughter of Chief Pok-o-zee-gun, the last great chief of the Ottawas of the northern part of the lower peninsula of Michigan.

Chief Pokozeegun reserved what is now Emmett, Charlevoix and Cheboygan counties for his people forever, but when the white representatives of the government came for the Chief's signature, they limited the reservation for a period of five years without the Chief's knowledge. When the five years had passed, the white people came in and took possession. The Chief is said to have died of a broken heart after he discovered the white man's great deception.

Petosegay and his young wife, Kee-way-gah, who later was named Mary by the Catholic Church, settled at Seven Mile Point where they lived for a while, and then moved to the place now known as the Otis farm. Later they settled in Harbor Springs where he expected to spend the rest of his life. Other things intervened. At this time he had sent three of his sons to a Protestant school and when Petosegay could not see the priest's point of view, a disagreement arose and the Chief changed his place of residence.

The land across the river was unoccupied and Petosegay bought hundreds of acres of land from the United States Government and paid cash for it. Here he lived in peace, unmolested by religious creeds for a while.

The Chief and his family ran a general store in the Indian community. Edith Judkins Knaul in her history of "Petoskey At The Turn Of The Century" describes it, "I remember the store full of handicrafts of his tribe; baskets of all shapes and sizes, woven of fine wooden strips, colored by dyes made in Indian homes of fragrant sweet grass or birch bark, designs in dyed porcupine quills; the moccasins of the softest leather, decorated with beadwork, birch bark canoes in all sizes, these among many other items, but these stand out in my memory."



The Chief was outstanding in appearance, smooth, dark skin, spare, deep-set eyes and speaking quite good English.

Eventually the Chief and his family--they now had ten children, eight sons and two daughters--moved up on the bluff overlooking the bay.

In July of 1873, Petoskey was an Indian field, bordered by the river, the bays and hills. Overgrown with June grass, uncultivated except for a plot where a small wholesale grocery stood, was this site. On the beach east of the river lay the dock and storehouse of H. O. Rose, and up the river, the mill of Hazel Ingalls and the store and saloon of Jackson Ingalls. Farther south was the mission school of Andrew Porter, who was also the postmaster.

In 1873 the City of Petoskey was born. In order to do business with the government, the Chief had to have two names, and he chose Ignatius Petoskey. This was the name given to the community whose population was 50 or 60 people at this time, mostly railroad workers. In the winter of that year, a petition resulted in moving the post office from the Indian Mission to Petoskey City.

With the coming of the railroad also came the tourists on the once familiar excursions. The tourists found the intriguing pieces of petrified coral on Mr. Petoskey's land and were soon calling them Petoskey's stones.

There you have the story. There has never been a year since the building of the railroad that the stones have not been plucked from the Lake Michigan beaches of Petoskey and other nearby areas, carried to homes near and far and treasured for the unique patterns of the coral life that made them.

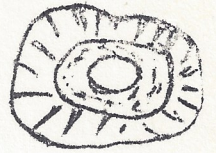
None of these keepsakes bears the autograph of the Chief after whom they were named. None carries a signature of any of the Chief's eight sons or his two daughters. The last surviving member of the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation, the Chief's granddaughter, Princess Ella Jane Petoskey has autographed a few of these polished stones. If you would like to obtain one, call Elaine Smith, 949-4093.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks to Rich VanBeek for typing the above... we thought you might like to read it because so many of you had a chance to meet Miss Petoskey at our June meeting. .... We are now about half way toward being "100%" behind the AFMS Scholarship Fund; let's keep up the good work. The Mich. Mineral Soc. is having a week of Canadian field tripping: Aug. 17-20, daily trips from Bancroft, Ont. and Aug. 21-23, daily trips from Otter Lake, Quebec. There might be a chance to go along--call Editor Elaine Smith if you'd like further details.





# Annual August ROCK SWAP



CO-SPONSORED BY: Grand Rapids Mineral Society  
and Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club

ALLENDALE Township Hall  
on M-45 (COMING NEAR THE AREA)

AUGUST 23 (Saturday)

1969 11:00 AM to closing

POT-LUCK Lunch  
1 o'clock



Bring passing  
dishes and  
own table  
service

COFFEE

and DRINK FOR CHILDREN  
will be furnished

SNACK  
BAR



Where

"THE COFFEE POT IS ALWAYS ON"



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Mrs. R. B. Smith, Editor  
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BOOK SWAP

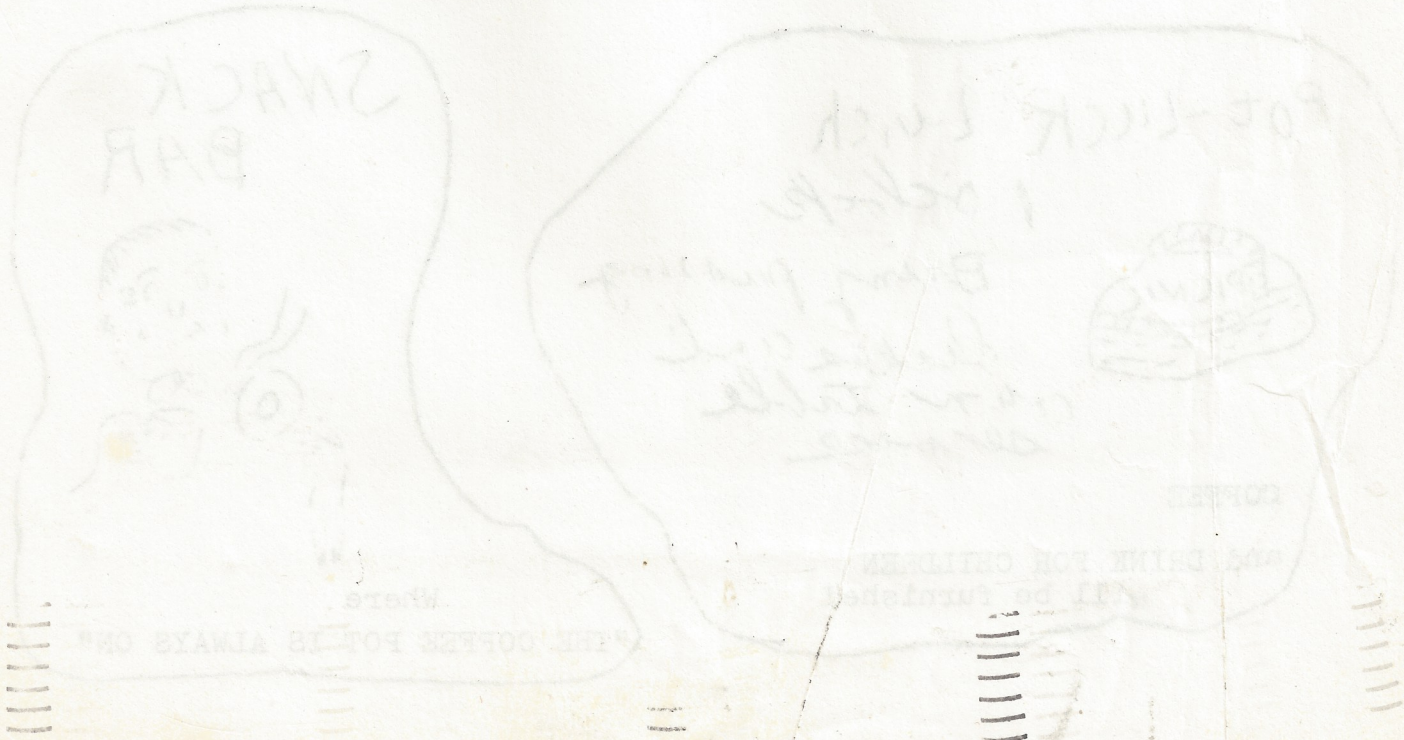
CO-SPONSORED BY: The Grand Rapids Mineral Society  
and Grand Rapids Mineral Society

Township Hall

Mr. & Mrs. James F. Van Vuren  
3281 S. Division  
Grandville, Mich. 49418

ON M-42 (COMPILED FROM THESE)

WEDNESDAY JUL 2 (Saturday)  
11:00 AM to closing



SNACK  
BAR

POT-LICK LUNCH  
1 o'clock  
Bring your own  
plates and  
cups

COFFEE

and DRINK FOR CHILDREN  
will be furnished

THE COFFEE POT IS ALWAYS ON