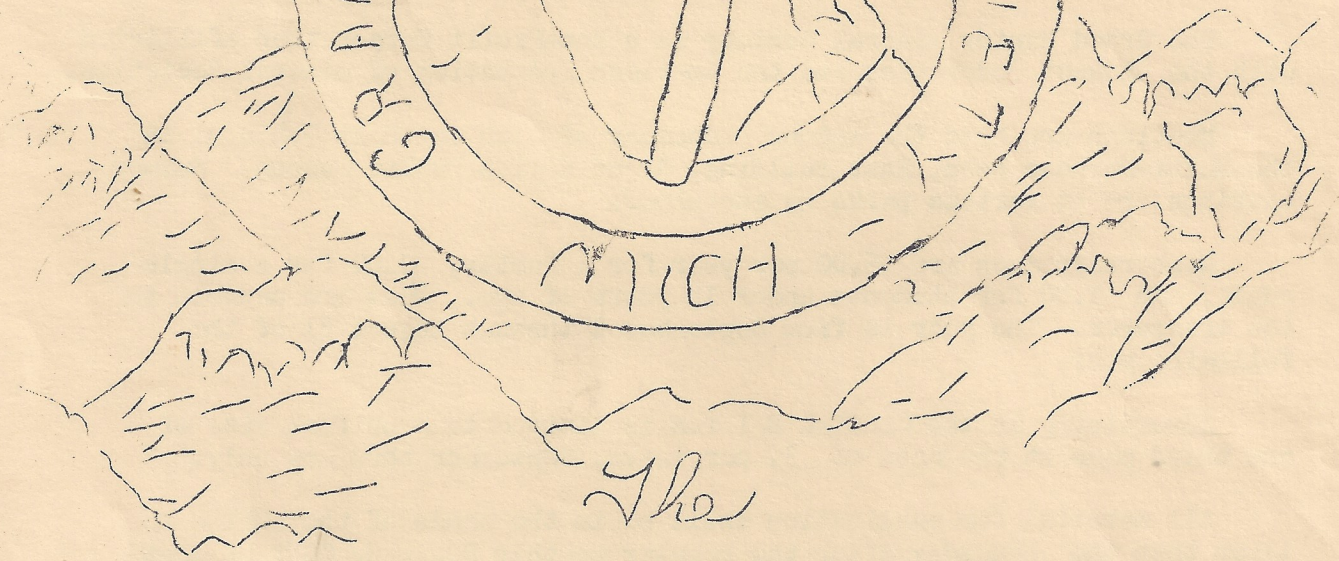


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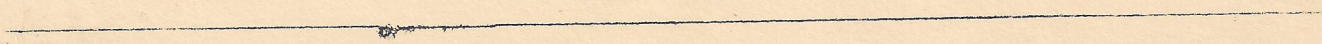
FEB. 1970



The

GLACIAL

DRIFT





NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Grand Rapids Mineral Society    Date    February 11, 1970  
  Place    East Building, Museum  
  Time    7:45 P.M.  
  Program    Herb Pabke of our own club will show  
  slides of trips to western states and  
  show specimens.

Board of Control                    Date    February 16, 1970  
  Place    Mr. and Mrs. Ted Duprey  
  Time    7:45 P.M.  
  Topic    The Show and other business  
  Show Committee asked to attend.

Mineral Study Group                Date    February 25, 1970  
  Place    Rich Van Beek's Home  
  1227 W. Leonard  
  Time    7:30 P.M.

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The whole club was saddened by the death of one of the charter members of the Grand Rapids Mineral Society, Mr. Joe Parrish. We take this opportunity to extend our sympathies to the survivors, especially Mrs.. Parrish.

Nellie Mead graciously consented to phrase our memorial to Joe, and it certainly expresses what we all feel.

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* Few men attain greatness. But what \*  
\* is much more to be desired is to leave \*  
\* behind the example of a man who was a \*  
\* considerate and loving husband and \*  
\* father, a true sportsman always ready \*  
\* to lend a helping hand, and one who \*  
\* has the sincere respect of many \*  
\* friends. \*  
\* \* \* \* \*  
\* Joe Parrish, your fellow rockhounds \*  
\* salute you. \*  
\* \* \* \* \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

### From the President's Rock Room

This issue of the DRIFTER is the last before the show. So -- prepare for February 28 at about 9:00 A.M. We hope to have one of the finest workshops ever when we present our show to the public at the Grand Rapids Public Museum. It will be "The Wonderful World of Rocks and Minerals, and Welcome To It." If you have never had a part in this club project you have missed something.

Your committee is now busy getting the details planned and ready to present the finest show ever to the public. There will be new displays, new ideas, and new people displaying the finest of rocks and minerals. Everyone is invited if you have a case full or only a few pieces. Bring them in and a good place to display them will be provided. Every display will be under glass for safe keeping.

So -- send in your entry blank to Nellie Mead or Roger King. They need to know how much space is needed.

I recently met one of our past presidents who is still active in our club and it was his opinion that - "the show is the backbone of any rock and mineral club. If you don't cut and polish, you can at least display your specimens. If you don't show them, no one knows you have them. If you do cut and polish, this is the finest place to show what you do with the rocks and minerals you pick up. One picture is worth a thousand words."

Signs of spring -- some new seed catalogues have arrived and members have been asking when we were going to have a field trip. Well, we are planning a field trip to the gypsum mine soon. Plenty of good material there. We will announce it in plenty of time.

Also, a summer trip is being planned for the Charlevoix, Michigan, area. There is plenty of good hunting for Petoskeys, epidote, chert, fossils, etc., in that region. This will be more than a one day affair. Plan to camp out and cook out if we can find the room.

S.O.S. -- We need rocks and minerals for our rock table, also goodies for the door prizes and better goodies for the drawings.

Yes, we're always after more things for our club, and that's the way it should be to keep up interest in the organization.

If you have rare or odd specimens, bring them in for others to see and enjoy.

And now -- everyone roll up the sleeves, get brush, soap, and water, and clean up those rocks for the Wonderful World of Rocks and Minerals and Welcome To It.

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ADVICE TO LOVELORN ROCKHOUND - From Peru Newsletter via January Earth Science News  
Be mannerly and perlitte. Look gneiss. To eat pyrite, please use your fork. Don't let your apatite for things that come in quartz show; she might think it's a cinnabar to serve you anything stronger than coke. Don't try to be tuff or as hard as flint. If you must be a wulfenite, go find yourself an Amber and don't gypsum poor fellow out of his precious Opal. Willemite but Jasper never wood. Schist remember -- swim on your merits or you will zinc. Follow these hints and you can take your pick and win a lot of prase; but don't take too much for granite, not jet. Augite, so it does take a lot of brass; just remember this -- they stilbite.

Notes from the Editor's Rock Room

The editor and Dorothy had not intended to be here doing this little chore right now. We had intended being in St. Joseph attending the Blossomland Rock-a-rama. However, the weatherman made so many threats about late afternoon and evening weather that we decided in favor of discretion rather than valor. We were indeed sorry to miss the show.

We have too little news of people in the DRIFTER. Would someone be willing to take the responsibility of ferreting out what our members are doing and report it? I'll take calls after 6 P.M. also -- 361-0531. Let's get lots more news of our members and their families.

How timely was our report from Miss Gunn on environmental control. Scarcely a magazine, broadcast, or newspaper item that does not deal with this critical problem. The January 26 issue of NEWSWEEK devotes twenty-two pages to the problem. While there is no doubt that massive governmental efforts will be necessary to relieve the conditions, let us all hope that the means of sustaining life does not become an issue to be tossed around for political advantage. In actual fact, it is really up to each individual to control the environment in which we live. This is nothing new to Rockhounds, is it?

Back to the pollution issue. Phosphorus in detergents is one of the big offenders in water pollution. For those who are concerned with a choice of low phosphorus detergents, here is a list of brand name detergents and the percent of phosphoric content. This list came from the office of Rep. Henry S. Reuss of Wisconsin, sponsor of H.R. 12435 that would require all detergents manufactured in the U.S. to be free of phosphorus. We do not know how accurate this list is, but certainly we must all consider this. Have any of you run across figures on this?

Product and percent of phosphate:

Ajax Laundry	28.2	Duz	23.1
Axion	43.7	Fab	21.6
Biz	40.4	Gain	24.4
Blue Lustre	0	Ivory Snow	0
Bold	30.2	Lux	0
Bonus	22.3	Lux Flakes	0
Borateem	0	Oxydol	30.7
Breeze	22.2	Punch	25.8
Cheer	22.0	Salvo	35.3
Cold Power	19.9	Tide	30.6
Cold Water All	9.8	Trend	1.5
Diaper Pure	5.0	Vel	0
Dreft	24.5	Wisk	7.6
Drive	25.3		

How about making a special effort to attend club meetings. We miss the fellowship of having the absent ones present.

Speaking of magazine items, have you read the article in LIFE for January 23 on the moon rocks? It is, of course, a copyrighted article and cannot be reproduced without permission. Your editor did not have time to seek such permission. However, may I recommend starting on page 30 with the startling and beautiful color photos taken through a polarizing microscope.

The article concludes on page 32 with a digest of what has been learned to date from samples brought to earth on Apollo 11 and 12. We recommend this article to everyone, but especially to rock fanciers.

By the way, in case you missed last meeting, our lapidary demonstrations, carving demonstrations, silver demonstrations, etc., at the show are to be in the same room as our monthly club meetings. This will give us more room and flexibility, to say nothing of not having to dodge coins tossed at the whale's tail.

We had a note from the Cooleys in Tucson, Arizona, thanking us for forwarding the DRIFTER to them. They included a copy of the Tucson club bulletin ROCK TALK and indicated they were active with that group. They plan to start home near the end of February.

It was good to have Mr. and Mrs. Watrous of the Indian Mounds Club with us at our January meeting.. Visitors are always welcome.

Sandy is running low on materials for our door prizes..Let's pitch in and help her out.

Are any of our members interested in a trip to Mexico around March 1? If you are, and are free to go at that time, contact Marie Spielmaker at LE 4-5629 for details. It does sound like a winner.

Our club was extended an invitation to participate in the Beacon Rock and Fossil Club of Grand Haven potluck dinner on February 28. The editor and his lady expect to attend and would welcome another couple or two to help fill up the Chevy.

The editor wishes to apologize for an item lost in the shuffle. He got a phone call concerning a new baby arrival that came in after the last issue had gone to press. Then -- he up and lost it as well as his recollection of who made the call. To whomever he owes an apology, please accept it. And if you will still trust him, let him know and he will be happy to run it. New heirs should not go unnoticed.

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#### Notes from Last Meeting

Dr. Menninga's presentation on meteorites was truly one of our finest programs. He covered the subject from the earliest recorded fall in France in 1492 to the present. The theories of the source of meteorites were discussed as well as the chemical and mineral composition of both stone and iron meteorites.

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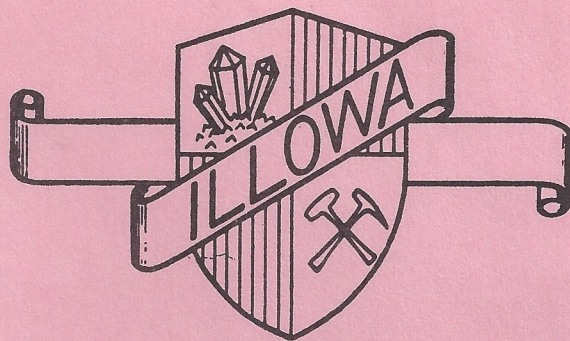
See the small circle to the right?  
Hold this circle to your face and blow  
on it rather strongly for full effect.



If the circle turns green -- see your doctor  
If the circle turns brown -- see your dentist  
If the circle turns purple -- see a psychiatrist  
If the circle turns red -- see a banker  
If the circle turns black -- see a lawyer, and make out your will  
But if the circle does not change color, you are apparently in very good health and there is no reason why you should not attend the next meeting of the Grand Rapids Mineral Society and be sure to speak to at least one stranger.

From SYCAMORE VALLEY NEWS

# Illowa Gem and Mineral Society



## Gem and Mineral Show

APRIL 4 - 5, 1970

10 to 10 Saturday; 10 to 5 Sunday

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**SPECIAL EXHIBITS**

**DEALERS**

**WORKING DEMONSTRATIONS**

**SWAPPING**



The feature of this issue of the DRIFTER has to be the show.

Let's dispose of the prosaic details first. We set up our windows and displays on February 28 and with that -- the show is on the road.

But that is only the mechanics of the affair. The broader purpose of community service is the goal of our club. We have a hobby to sell to people who have an interest. These are troubled times with many people grasping for the release from tensions and strife. This the rockhound can provide.

Last year while I was demonstrating cabachon making, a group of youngsters about ten or twelve years old spent a long time talking and watching me work. Their questions were perceptive and their interest sharp. We talked about the program for young people their age and how to get started. Certainly others working in the show had the same experience.

I have no idea whether or not any of the youngsters entered any of the programs available. And perhaps whether they did or not is not too important. Like so many things, the results are not measurable for years to come. Possibly I talked with the membership of the Grand Rapids Mineral Society of 1980.

So far as the club membership is concerned, we have a selfish purpose in the show. To take anything of value from our efforts, we have to put something of value into our club and its programs. What are you prepared to take away from the month of March at the Museum?

---

#### Rockhound's Troubles

Gather round me, hear my story, I'm a rockhound in distress.  
I'm a rockhound bathed in trouble, I'm an outcast, more or less.  
I have fossils in the kitchen, I have crystals in the hall,  
I have minerals in the bathtub, I have relics on the wall,  
I have tin oxide on the carpet, I have oil upon the floor,  
I've a black light in the parlor, I have bones behind the door,  
Attic rooms are fairly sagging, rocks have the cellar floor,  
Pockets bulge with gemmy pieces, all this and millions more.  
Wifey thinks I'm goofy -- I don't know, she may be right --  
She insists I've silicosis, or some contagious form of "ite".  
Says my head is lined with agate, a freak replacement of the bone,  
Says my brain is just a nodule, says my heart has turned to stone.  
Threatens me with separation, storms about our rock-bound home,  
Says life to me is just a geode, or a hunk of mammal bone.  
Are you rated as a fossil -- are you obliged to live alone?  
How do you maintain a hobby and still maintain a home ???

From GRAVELOG via T-TOWN ROCKHOUND AND ROCK DOBBER

---

Michigan has two clubs which are sponsoring displays in two rest areas, the Jackson Club on I-69 at Angola, and the Port Huron Club on I-94.. I understand they are both outstanding displays.

An item of interest, Michigan with 38 clubs and 3,266 members has more clubs and members than any of the other 14 states in the Midwest area.  
from ROCKHOUND NEWS



## JOURNAL GEMS

Each month we try to give you some of the most interesting bits and articles from the many exchange bulletins that come to us from other clubs. It is fun to know what other clubs are reading and doing.

---

### WHAT IN THE WORLD IS A FOSSIL?

By

Bernice Rexin

from Ozark EARTH SCIENCE NEWS

Fossils found in places seemingly alien to their surroundings have resulted in many different explanations for their being there. Huge fossil bones gave rise to legends of monsters such as Cyclops, centaurs, and dragons. In the Dark Ages fossils were explained as examples of imperfect creations that were not completed. Even today some people believe that marine fossils found far from the sea are proof of the great flood which was survived by Noah and his ark full of animals.

Now fossils are known to be the naturally preserved remains of the direct evidence of animals or plants that lived on earth before man began to record his history. The facts that scientists have learned from fossils are even stranger and more fascinating than the legends. No teller of tales has ever dreamed up a story as exciting as that of the grotesque dinosaurs which ruled the earth for more than one hundred million years.

The remains of passenger pigeons in our museums are not fossils even though this pigeon is extinct, because its remains were preserved by man and in recent times. Lamp shells found in Cambrian rocks, however, are fossils even though the same kind are living in the seas today.

Crude stone artifacts found associated with Pekin Man who lived during the middle Pleistocene are considered fossils, but stone tools left by the American Indian are not classified as fossils because they were made after man began to keep his own records.

Fossils are preserved in many ways, the rarest is when the entire body including the soft anatomy is preserved. In Siberia and Alaska mammoths have been found that were frozen 25,000 years ago. When thawed the meat was still fresh. Usually only the hard parts of actual remains such as teeth, bones, and shells are fossilized. The actual remains of insects are often found in amber.

Commonly the actual remains are replaced by mineral matter. When an animal is replaced particle by particle by a mineral so that the details of its form can still be seen the process is known as permineralization. An example of permineralization is the Petrified Forest in Arizona. The replacement mineral in this case is silica. Other common replacement minerals are calcite and pyrite.

When an organism disappears entirely from its entombment rock, but leaves an impression the result is an external mould. The small irregular holes found in the travertine deposits of Sisanne, near Rheims are moulds. When filled with a casting material the casts obtained show flowers with petals

and stamens preserved in perfect detail. Moulds of extremely thin objects such as leaves, are known as imprints. When a mould is filled with a mineral deposit by natural means the resulting fossil shape is known as a cast.

Some fossils are just the carbon residue of an organism that is left after all of its volatile materials have evaporated. The fish fossils from Green River, Wyoming, are carbon residue fossils.

Other types of fossils are tracks, and worm burrows left in mud which later hardened into rock, and coprolites (fossil excrement).

Only a very small percentage of past life has been preserved as fossils. Most organisms are destroyed after death by scavengers, decay, or erosion. To prevent decay oxygen must be excluded. This means that the organism must be buried relatively quickly after death. The area most favorable for fossilization is a shallow sea floor where fine grained sediment is being deposited in quantity.

Fossils are important because they are clues to ancient life, past environments, and climates.

---

#### From the GRAND VALLEY LITHOGRAM

Lime Kilns on Grand River in Early Days  
Early history of section told by J. D. Burgess, early settler

From a PORTLAND REVIEW clipping (about 1930) of "Interesting items concerning Portland, Ionia County, Michigan, and vicinity collected by Mrs. L. P. Brock (Bertha) Curator Historical Rooms of the Hall-Fowler Memorial Library".

Few of the present generation are aware of the fact that at one time a lime kiln was located a little northwest of Maple Corners and that it did a flourishing business. It supplied lime for many of the earlier buildings, notably the large brick St. Mary's Church at Westphalia. J. D. Burgess, an early settler, describes it in this interesting letter to the PORTLAND REVIEW.

"The lime kiln was located on the east bank of the Grand, a little north of where the Commonwealth dam crosses the river bank nearby, and was laid up about the same as they lay up a kiln of brick, preparatory to "burning" it. This lime rock was laid up inside a stone arch, in criss-cross fashion, so as to leave channels for the blaze to pass through. It formed a fire-box, in which wood was burned. That was the primitive way of burning lime and there was much of it produced at that place, though there is little of the rock to be seen in that locality now. It was some 54 years ago that the last was burned at the old kiln. The process has changed somewhat since then though it is still necessary to do the burning with a wood fire.

"The days of long ago have changed with that, as with other things--milling, for instance. Those little mill stones on the engine roof at the plant of the Portland Milling Co. have a history, and there are not many living who have eaten grain ground by them, yet I can say I have and I remember when they were operated in the old sawmill, under the north hill, not far from where Plant's slaughter house is situated. As a small boy I remember going there with my father -- I remember going with him to Bogue's store, when the Indians traded there; also to Me-Shim-Me-Me-Coning, the Indian village. My father was much with the Indians in an early day.

(Cont.)

## Lime Kilns on Grand River (Cont.)

"When my grandfather came through Portland on his way to Lyons, where he kept the first hotel, the Newmans were just cutting their house logs and there was but one log house up at that time."

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### MOUNT RAINIER "RESTLESS"

From the Nebraska Mineral and Gem Club's REAR TRUNK November, 1969

Volcanic, snow-capped, 14,410 foot Mt. Rainier in western Washington has been showing signs of geologic restlessness, and is being watched closely by scientists of the Geological Survey Dept. of the Interior.

Touching off the latest investigation of the dormant volcano is an infrared image made from a military aircraft recently which seems to reveal a new warm spot on the summit cone.

Dr. Dallas Peck, Assistant Chief Geologist, U.S. Geological Survey, Washington, D.C., pointed out that new warm spots could indicate steam emissions, "which might result in the melting of glacier ice on the mountain side, and flash flooding of streams."

"The current signs of increased restlessness," Peck emphasized, "do not necessarily mean that another eruption is likely to occur in the near future, but they do require close watching."

The U.S. Geological Survey has had Mt. Rainier under study for several years, and has conducted field studies of potential hazards in the area. Specific areas that have drawn the recent attention of the USGS include Little Tahoma, site of a rockfall avalanche in December, 1963; South Tahoma Glacier, site of a glacier melt-water flood in August 1967, and a possible steam vent through the same glacier this past winter.

During the summers of 1968 and 1969, an array of portable seismometers has been monitoring the mountain.

Dr. Peck discussed the potential hazards of steam emissions and warmer temperatures. "Any unusual amount of melting could cause dangerous and unpredictable flashflooding in the streams that drain the mountainside, posing a threat to campers who stay in Mt. Rainier National Park," the survey scientist said. "If an eruption of pumice or ash accompanied the melted ice and snow, the flow of debris would appear like a thick slurry."

"Since the Ice Age - which ended about 10,000 years ago - Mt. Rainier volcano has been characterized by long periods punctuated by brief episodes of activity," he said, noting that "its relatively long current dormant state does not mean that the volcano is extinct. Studies of its past activity indicate that a substantial steam, pumice, or lava eruption could occur on an average of once each 500 - 1,000 years."

"Rainier erupted clouds of ash about 125 years ago, and again about 75 years ago," Peck pointed out.

(Cont.)

Mount Rainier (Cont.)

"Careful studies of seismic charts reveal changes of patterns of activity that have taken place. Continued collections of seismic data, as well as aerial observations of areas that may be "heating up", will monitor the pulse of the mountain. The current activity may be nothing more than a minor restlessness; certainly the odds for a major eruption are not favorable."

Via the ROCK-A-TEER, Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club

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