

VOLUME 12 NO. 7 MARCH, 1970



The

GLAZIER  
QUARTZ







ANNOUNCEMENTS

Regular Meeting of the Grand Rapids Mineral Society

Date: March 11, 1970

Time: 7:45 P.M.

Place: East Room Public Museum

Program: Mrs. R. C. Smith with program and pictures on Hawaii

DISPOSAL SALE

At the March 11 regular meeting there will be a table or tables of rocks, minerals, and crystals from the collection of Joe Parrish. These will be carefully identified and marked with a fair price. They will be for sale before the meeting begins. You all know that Joe had some exceptionally fine pieces in his collection.

Board of Control

Date: March 16, 1970

Time: 7:45 P.M.

Place: James DeZwaan home  
8250 Cherry Valley Road  
Caledonia, Michigan

Mineral Study Group

Date: March 25, 1970

Time: 7:30 P.M.

Place: Mrs. Helen Slavinkas  
1428 Pine, S.W.

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From the President's Rock Room

More signs of spring.

The few balmy days at the end of January did bring out some rockhounds. This is an eyewitness report. We did see some at the new diggings on the East Paris Road diggings of the new gypsum plant. Also saw some at Bellvue. These rock hounds just can't wait.

Then on Monday morning, February 2, it was like the poem by Marie J. Post

"I need not look too far this winter morning  
To find a tree with jewels for her adorning,  
To see a hedge with ermine cloaked and hooded,  
And where a hill last night was only wooded,  
To find a fairy place, a crystal palace  
Complete with furnishings from rug to chalice,  
Each reed is crystallized, each valley brimming  
With wind carved sculptures and with silver trimming.  
Why even on my window glass I see the veining  
Of fern and flower etched beyond explaining.  
This morning is a miracle of God's conceiving  
To help the slow in faith to true believing."

We are planning a field trip to the Gypsum Mines for Saturday, April 11. More details coming.



The program brought to us by our own Herb Pabke was outstanding, and certainly did show us some real rockhounding. The pictures proved what outstanding trips he and his family have taken. Thanks so much, Herb. We wish you many more. (Editor's note: But, Herb, stay out of those dry washes!)

Now is the time to check over our rockhounding equipment. Check the shoes and boots. Be certain you have good soles on your shoes and boots. They wear down, you know.

And how about eye protection devices? Don't take foolish chances with your vision. All the rocks you can collect can never make up for the loss of an eye.

How is your first aid kit, and do you take it with you? The cost is very small. (Ed. Note: We have found that the addition of a pressure can of any of the general purpose burn and antiseptic sprays is worth the space it takes up. There are Solarcaine, Quick Care, and many others equally satisfactory.) Gloves to suit the kind of hunting you are doing are musts, as well as a good sturdy prodding cane. The cane can be used as an aid in getting over rough or steep places as well as turning over rocks and saving the fingers. A good cane is worth its weight in gold. And when I come to gold, it's time to stop.. I haven't found much of it yet. Have you found any?

#### DATES TO CIRCLE

April 17-19	The Jackson Club Show
May 15-17	The Kalamazoo Club Show
February 28-March 29	The Grand Rapids Club Show
March 14-21	Beacon Rock and Fossil Club Show-Grand Haven
July 30	U. P. Gem and Mineral Show
Aug. 1 & 2	

#### From the Editor's Rock Room

By the time this paper arrives we will be in the midst of our Museum show I hope this is as gratifying to you as it is to the Editor and his Dorothy.

Many, many thanks to two valued contributors to this edition of the DRIFTER. The Arnold Wendt, Jr., family and Mrs. Slavinskas, Mrs. Wendt's mother, have been on a spelunking outing and tell us about it in one of the feature sections.

Rich Van Beek, whose interest in the Norton Mounds is well known to all in the Grand Rapids Mineral Society, and who has been in the forefront of the effort to save the mounds area, has started a series of articles that will be run in the DRIFTER starting with this issue. Besides being well written, it is well laced with human interest stories that make this and succeeding installments well worth reading.

Reading other bulletins gives us great pleasure. Especially interesting is what other clubs and people are doing. One of our correspondent clubs buys a major piece of machinery, then sells chances on it over a period of time. A drawing determines the winner of the equipment.



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Still another has a meeting when members bring in their find of the year and put it on display.

Where does a rockhound hunt during the winter? Why he goes into mines or gravel pits when there is snow and where the banks protect him from cold winter winds.

Ruth Beauvais has listed the books we own which are available for club members. Look for the list in this issue.

The March Federation Newsletter has a story on the plans for the Midwest Convention to be held in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, on July 23, 24, 25, and 26. A huge municipal auditorium will house the convention. It is air conditioned, close to freeways, and so large that all activities will be on the ground floor. Thirty-four carefully selected dealers, along with three machinery manufacturers and twelve wholesalers, will make up the commercial exhibits. The rest of the space will be given over to competitive, special, and educational exhibits.

Campers and trailers will have facilities on the outskirts of the city, and bus service will be available to the Auditorium. Field trips and tours are being arranged with the Minnesota Tourist Bureau and local industries. Mr. Armin Steinhauser is general chairman of the show. Since we are a Midwest affiliate, promotional materials will be arriving shortly. This sounds like a wonderful convention.

We asked for news of our members and got a dandy from the Wendts. The story is so full of information about Eagle Scout Terry and the Wendt family that we will simply reprint the article.

#### TROOP 209 HAS TWO NEW EAGLES

Peter E. Graube, 16, and Terry G. J. Wendt, 13, of Troop 209 Oakleigh Junior High School were presented their Eagle Award Monday by Judge Louis Simhauser.

Both Peter and Terry are the third Eagles in their immediate families. Peter's brother Eagle Maris is an engineer at Standard Computer Co. in California. Eagle Andy is an engineer at Lear Lazor in California.

Peter has also earned the World Brotherhood Merit Badge, which requires the fluent use of a foreign language, and the Potawatamie and Chief Pontiac Trail medals.

Both Peter and Terry are members of the Order of the Arrow. Peter was Senior Patrol Leader and Terry is Assistant Senior Patrol Leader.

Terry's father and brother received their Eagle Award from Troop 209 dating back 30 years. Arnold III, Terry's brother, is a student at Grand Valley College and is Assistant Scoutmaster at Harrison Park School. Terry's father is Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 209.

Terry is vice president of the Oakleigh Rocket Club. He has received the Century Award for hiking over 200 miles; the spelunker's patch from the Cumberland Caverns for cave exploring and sleeping over night in a cave as guest of two Tennessee scout troops; the Mammoth Cave Hike Medal; Devils Lake (Wisconsin) Trail Medal; Cantigny (Illinois) trail Medal; Fort Harrison (Indiana) Trail Medal; Caveland Trail Medal; Saginaw Trail Medal; Au Sable Canoe Trail Medal; and the Par Vuli Dei Religious Award. Terry is a Blandford Nature Center Aid.



Mrs. Ferguson gave us a list of names to fill in our roster books. We will print them here, and at the same time welcome our newest members. Here is the list of names that do not appear in your club directory.

Atkins, Erwin  
1253 3 Mile Rd., N.E.  
Grand Rapids, 49505

DeZwaan, Mr. and Mrs. James, Jr.  
114 Williamsburg Way  
Morristown, New Jersey, 08057

Bursley, Mr. and Mrs. Claude  
103 Elm, S.E.  
Grand Rapids 49507  
Phone CH 3-4653

Draper, Robert  
765 44th St., S.E.  
Grand Rapids 49508  
532-5536

DeZwaan, Robert  
DeZwaan, Jalean  
6708 College, S.E.  
Grand Rapids 49508  
Phone 538-3203

Garlitz, William A.  
1743 Godwin, S.E.  
Grand Rapids 49507

King, Mr. and Mrs. Roger  
1957 36th St.  
Grand Rapids 49509  
532-6239

Heintzelman, Mr. and Mrs. R.  
2446 Elmwood, S.E.  
Grand Rapids 49506  
Phone 949-4424

Kent, Mary  
Kurtz, Ruth  
712 W. Walnut St.  
Hastings, Mich. 49058

Slavinkas, Mrs. Helen  
1428 Pine, N.W.  
Grand Rapids 49504  
456-6084

McCandliss, John  
166 Grand, N.E.  
Grand Rapids, 49503  
Phone GL 9-3966

Whitcome, Mr. and Mrs. James  
310 Eola, S.E.  
Grand Rapids 49507  
Phone GL 2-5287

Porter, Ronald  
6704 48th St.  
Grand Rapids, 49509  
Phone 698-6119

Loper, Stanley  
4325 Eastern, S.E.  
Grand Rapids 49508  
Phone 452-4923

Schwander, Richard  
4500 Julivan, S.E.  
Grand Rapids 49508

Wright, Miss Karen  
Route 1  
Hopkins, Michigan

Change of Address  
Cooley, Mr. and Mrs. Charles  
5349 Chickadee  
Belmont, Michigan 49306  
866-5883

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The PROSPECTOR (Muskegon) carried a very interesting item that sounds like fun. A swap column was started by the GEODE of St. Louis, Mo. Paul and Nancy Schulze answered with this ad:

Have Rhodochrosite, selenite xls, iridescent fluorite, fossils ...will swap for fluorite, fossils, what have you? Paul and Nancy Schulze, 3061 Eastland Road, Muskegon, Mich. 49441

If any of our DRIFTER subscribers want in on this, be sure to get your copy in to the editor by the 20th of each month and we will run it for you.



The PROSPECTOR also had some dates to remember, circle, mark down, or whatever you do with your dates. This is the event that found the Rosses and the Williams enthused.

### WATER WONDERLAND ROCK SWAP

It's going to be a  
ball again this  
year!

Sent. 18-19-20  
Pioneer Park  
North Muskegon

MARK THE DATE NOW!!!

YALL COME

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The Midwest Federation provides many services for its members. As you plan your vacations this year, this may be a big help. We are making plans for Spencer, Idaho, this summer and got our contact from this source.

### FEE BASIS FIELD TRIPS AND GUIDED ROCK HUNTS

(As compiled by the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies)

There are still plenty of wonderful places to collect rocks, gems, minerals, and fossils in the United States (and our neighbors). Many of the best places are now open to amateur collectors on payment of a modest fee. Here is the first published list for a Federation Directory of places you can hunt for anything from diamonds to talc. These are the addresses where you should write for the information and to make arrangements, and are not necessarily the address of the collecting areas. The list is another of the many free services of your federation.

#### DIAMONDS

Crater of Diamonds, Murfreesboro, Arkansas 71958

Arkansas Diamond Corp., Murfreesboro, Arkansas 71958

#### RUBIES AND SAPPHIRES

Ruby City Museum, Franklin, North Carolina 28734

Chamber of Commerce, Franklin, North Carolina 28734

#### EMERALDS

Crabtree Emerald Mine, Little Switzerland Route, Spruce Pine, N.C. 28777

#### BERYL

Beryl Claims, Route 5 - Box 372, LaGrange, Georgia 30240

#### TOPAZ

Massey's Rock Shop, Mason, Texas 76856

Sequist Ranch, Mason, Texas 76856

#### AMETHYST

Pandleman Amethyst Farm, Iron Station, North Carolina 28080

Thunder Bay Amethyst Mine, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada

#### TOURMALINE

Himalaya Gem Mines, Box 1034, La Mesa, California 92041

Vt. Mica Tourmaline Mine, Ralph Spencer, Buckfield, Maine 04220

#### QUARTZ CRYSTALS

Ocus Stanley Quartz Mines, Box 163, Mt. Ida, Arkansas 71957

Shrader Mine, Middleville Village, New York 13406



ROSE QUARTZ

Lignon Mine, Amelia, Virginia 23002

MOONSTONE

Leibs Mine, Route 1, Saranac Lake, New York 12983

Harris Mica Farm, Oliver (Hanover Co.) Virginia

JADE

Bob Berry, Wheatland, Wyoming 82201

Zykowski's Gilroy Gem Field, 3050 Manda Dr., San Jose, California 95124

Storm Jade Mines, Chiriaco Summit Rt., Indio, California 92201

OPAL

Bob Dowell, Boxx 509, Edinburg, Texas 78539

Virgin Valley Rainbow Ridge Mines, c/o Hodson's 66 W 1st Ave., Scottsdale, Arizona 85251

Stetler Opal Mines, Spencer, Idaho 83446

AMAZONITE

Rutherford Mine, Amelia, Virginia 23002

Morefield Mine, Amelia, Virginia 23002

COPPER SILICATE

Bagdad Mine, Bagdad, Arizona 83621

THOMPSONITE

Thompsonite Rock Shop, Lutsen, Minnesota 55612

APACHE TEARS

Apache Tear Caves, Mike Guzeman, Superior, Arizona, 85273

RHODONITE

Frank Landes, Dixie, Virginia 23046

FLUORESCENTS

Buckfield Dumps, Chamber of Commerce, Franklin, New Jersey 07416

GOLD

Feather River Pastimes, Box 899, Oroville, California 95965

MOSS AGATE

Fry's, 1207 Woodbury, Miles City, Montana 59301

JASPER

Drummonds, Route 2 - Box 32, Lebanon, Oregon 97355

PLUME AGATE

Woodward Ranch, Alpine, Texas 79830

THUNDER EGGS

Fulton Ranch, Madras, Oregon 97741

Chamber of Commerce, Nyssa, Oregon, 97913

Ochoco Agate Mines, Box 305, Mitchell Star Route, Prineville, Oregon, 97754

AGATE (CARNELIAN, BANDED AGATE, FORTIFICATION AGATE, DENDRITE, ETC.)

Bob Berry, Wheatland, Wyoming 82201

Velmer Cutlow, Wartace, Tennessee 37183

Bob Dowell, Boxx 509, Edinburg, Texas 78539

Agua Frio Agate Ranch, B.P. McKinney, Marfa, Texas 79843

Walter Drengrson, Shell, Wyoming 82441

AGATIZED AND OPALIZED WOOD

Mamie Erdman, Falls City, Texas 78113

John Mikus, Callihan, Texas 78007

Highland Meadows Ranch, Dubois, Wyoming, 82513

Dobell Ranch, Holbrook, Arizona 86025

Lapidary Supply, Route 1 - Box 375, Palisade, Colorado 81526

Tessman Ranch, Falls City, Texas 78113

Greer's Milky Ranch, Holbrook, Arizona 86024

ONYX

Silver Onyx Mine

Ross Onyx Mine, Texaco Station, Ludlow, California 92357

DINOSAUR BONE

Kelly's Rock Shop, Box 84, Mack, Colorado 81525

FOSSILS

Lambert Ranch, San Saba, Texas 76877



WONDERSTONE

Wonderstone Gem Mines, Goldfield, Nevada 89013

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### SPELUNKING HERE WE COME

Along with our other hobbies we are now spelunkers. Last summer we visited Cumberland Caverns of Tennessee because they had a spelunking overnight camp (in the cave) for Boy Scouts.

We found the commercial tour more enjoyable even than the Mammoth Caves of Kentucky and much easier to walk as they had wood chip trails.

The Scouts go on a spelunking tour through 9 to 13 inch openings, which meant it was done on hands, knees, and sometimes squirming through on their stomachs. They of course also go on the regular commercial trail, which was beautiful. This is followed by a ghost story and they all bedded down for the night with occasional night visitors, pack rats. They were curious but harmless, and looked for things to swap.

While this went on, we gathered flint nodules from the road wash and black chert. (No women were allowed on the Scouts outing.) In the evening we were invited to the manager's home for a song fest, pleasant conversation, coffee, and movies. Needless to say, we found this a very enjoyable side trip which turned out to be just as good or even better than our main trip.

The Boy Scouts received spelunkers patches and breakfast for a very nominal fee. Everyone there wanted to go again, including us.

The Arnold R. Wendt, Jr., Family  
and Helen Slavinskas

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### THOSE INDIAN MOUNDS WHO? WHAT? WHEN? WHERE? WHY?

Norton Mounds? Hopewell Mounds? Which is the correct term to be used with the local Indian Mounds? Actually, they are both correct.

The Hopewell Indians lived in an area ranging from what is now the state of New York to Arkansas to Minnesota as far north as the shore of Lake Superior. Their burial mounds were scattered throughout this area. (The Hopewell people were not the only mound builders. Mounds of other cultures have been found throughout North America and even in Europe and other parts of the world.)

One group of seventeen mounds was found a few miles south of Grand Rapids on the farm of Capt. A. N. Norton, a Civil War veteran. This group became known as the Norton Mounds. So "Hopewell" refers to the people, culture, and mounds of a large group of prehistoric people who lived in a large area of what is now the central and eastern United States, while "Norton" refers to one specific group of mounds near Grand Rapids.

At one time there were many more mounds throughout western Michigan. Capt. Wright L. Coffinberry, another Civil War veteran, reported investigating and/or excavating many of these for the Kent Scientific Institute (now the Grand Rapids Public Museum) including, among others, the following:



- 26 in Grand Rapids (Converse Mounds)
- 7 at Grandville
- 5 at Newaygo
- 4 at Lamont
- 6 at Spoonville and Nunica
- 6 at Grattan
- 6 at Clifford Lake
- 8 at Tamarack Lake

A preliminary list published in 1904 includes 400 mounds in Michigan but does not include any of the ones of Kent County and is far from complete.

However, the Norton Mounds are the only ones remaining in this area and Dr. Flanders of Grand Valley State College, who directed the excavation of six of these in 1963-64 considers these to be the best preserved east of the Rockies. That is why it is so important that they be preserved and developed into a park we can be proud of.

At one time it was thought that with a cooling of the climate the Hopewell Indians left this area and moved farther south. Dr. Flanders now considers it more probable that they remained here, but because of the cooler weather it required more of their time to provide for the necessities of life so they had to abandon their time consuming mound building. Their descendants eventually became known as the Algonquin Indians. This new theory was fostered by the discovery of many similarities in their cultures.

As late as the early 1950's it was still thought that the Hopewell culture flourished around 1300 A.D. It was not until the discovery of carbon 14 dating that this date was pushed back till the time of Christ. Two of the Norton Mounds have been carbon 14 dated, one being found to be of 50 B.C. and the other 100 A.D.

We will now quote extensively from an article by Charles Belknap, written in March, 1916, entitled "Data Concerning Converse Mounds, Grand Rapids, Michigan". See also the accompanying map showing the locations of some of these mounds.

"My memories of the Indian Mounds dates from the year 1856 when as a youth of ten I was employed as a water boy with the men who were platting and grading the mission lands on the west side of Grand River, the boundary line on the north being Bridge Street, extending south about one mile. I may not be right, but I think the mission lands were one entire section, 640 acres.

"This land was being platted as an addition to the city, the streets graded, low grounds filled in by the removal of the many Indian Mounds. I can now locate only nine on the river bank, south of Fulton Street, five at right angles to the river in what is now Fulton Street, five where now is the Grand Rapids Lumber Company, near the west end of the G.R. and I.R.R. bridge, three on the location of the Grand Rapids Brush Company. Allen and Court Streets (Court St. is the former name of Scribner Ave. An 1868 map shows it to be Court St., but by 1875 it had already been renamed Scribner Ave. -RVE) three in Front Ave., near the Powers and Walker factory, 25 in all. But there were many others, at least 60 in all, scattered about in this section, all within the present limits of the city, south of Bridge St. and west of the river.

"All of the mounds were above high water mark (a precaution usually taken by the Hopewell mound builders--RVB). Some were small, possibly one hundred feet in circumference (this was large in comparison with most other mounds in western Michigan--RVB) and 6, 8, and 10 feet high, while one on the river bank south of Fulton near the intersection of Watson St. was at least 30 ft. high and 200 ft. in circumference. On some of the mounds were large trees.....

"I carried from sometimes distant hills, drinking water for the men, Irish



and Hollanders, who with pick and shovel loaded the wagons with the black soil mixed with bones of countless first Americans of whom we have no knowledge.

"The soil from the mounds north of Fulton St. went to fill the low grounds of Front and Court (Scribner) Streets. This was a valley about five hundred feet long and required a fill of 6 to 8 feet.

"The quantity of skulls and bones was so great that the Irishmen in superstitious horror, struck, left their jobs, and finally were set to work on other streets. In the fill of Front St. there are tons of human bones, as well as flints, stone implements, etc.

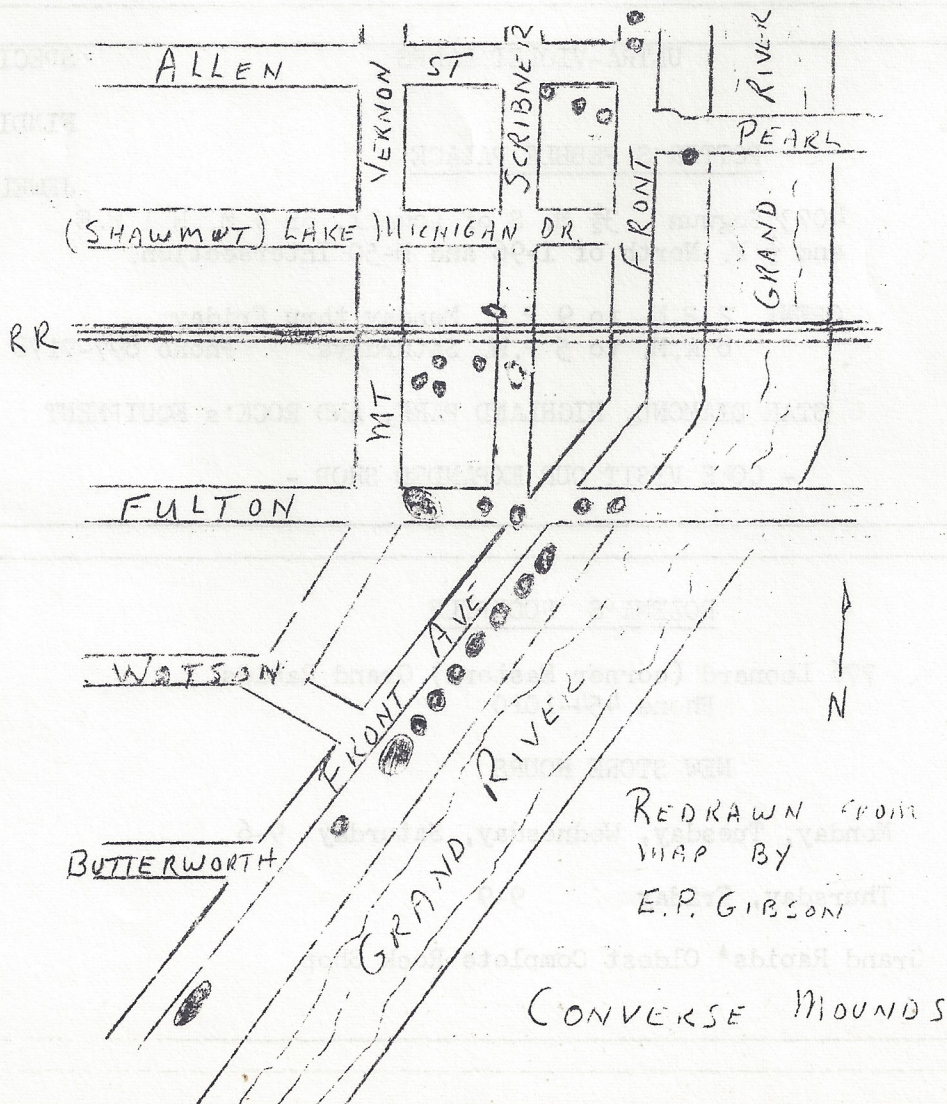
"I lived nearby and every day carried my pockets full of arrows, pipes, beads, pieces of pottery, bone necklaces, and sometimes skulls, until my mother protested against the grim exhibit and forced my collection into the unused attic, where it finally was lost by the burning of the house.

"I sold some of my finds to Capt. Coffinberry and Thomas Porter, and later to Dr. DeCamp. I found many silver ornaments in one mound, which I sold to city jewelers. These findings kept me in pocket money."

Fay Reed, one of our members, tells me that when he was a boy he knew Charles Belknap, the author of the above lines, who lived across the street from him on Scribner Ave.. near Fourth St.

(to be continued)

Rich Van Beek





The list that follows names the books owned by the Grand Rapids Mineral Society in their library. They are at the Museum and available for any member to borrow. Mrs. Duprey is librarian, but she does not get the books out every time, but will if they are wanted.

THE MINERAL KINGDOM Paul E. DeSautels  
 GEMSTONES OF NORTH AMERICA John Sinkankas  
 MODERN JEWELRY Graham Hughes  
 THE BOOK OF AGATES Lolande Quick  
 FOSSILS Rhodes, Zim, Schäffer  
 MIDWEST GEM TRAILS June Culp Zeitner  
 GUIDEBOOK FOR MINERAL COLLECTORS - COPPER COUNTRY Kiril Spiroff  
 FIELD GUIDE TO ROCKS AND MINERALS Pough  
 GEM TUMBLING AND BAROQUE JEWELRY MAKING The Victors  
 HOW TO CUT GEMS Dan O'Brien  
 A BLACK LIGHT UNIT - for viewing fluorescence in rocks

AGATES	ULTRA-VIOLET LAMPS	SPECIMENS
CUTTING MATERIAL		FINDINGS
OPALS	<u>PCTTER'S PEBBLE PALACE</u>	JEWELRY

4073 Segwun  $3\frac{1}{2}$  M. S of Lowell, or  $\frac{1}{2}$  M. N 1 M. E  
 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  M. North of I-96 and M-50 Intersection.

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*Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society*

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ROCKRAMA**

**GEM & MINERAL SWAPPING**

*Fairgrounds County Center Building*  
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

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**MAY 16-17 1970**

10 to 10

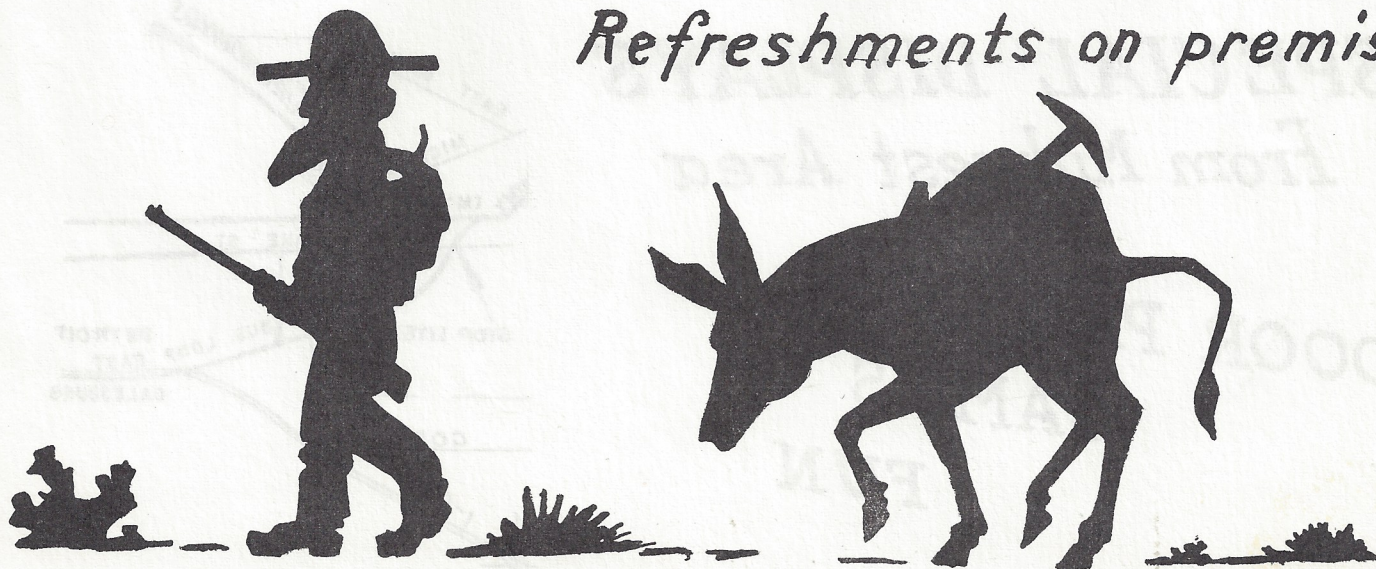
10 to 6

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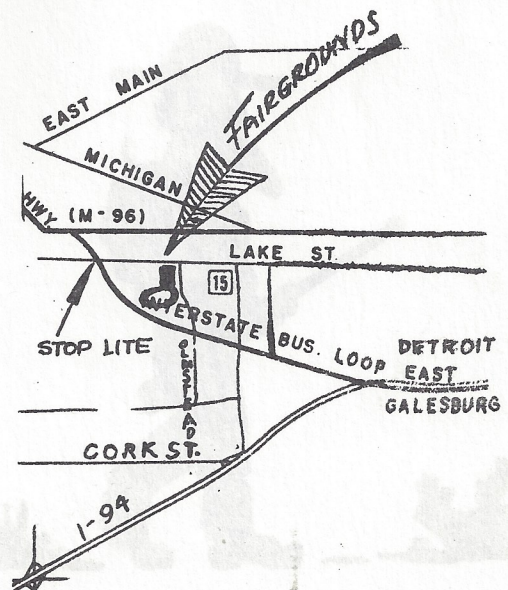
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**GAMES**  
**FUN**





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3308 S. Wilson  
Grandville, Mich. 49418

FILE MICH. (1)

Mrs. Reed Waterman  
1317 Ballard St. S.E.  
Grand Rapids, Mich. 49507