

Dec 70

December 1970



GRAND RAPIDS
MINERAL

BOARD OF CONTROL

President	Mr. Arthur Ferguson	2748 Pohens NW	361-6451
Vice-President	Mr. Arnold Wendt, Sr.	439 Parkside Dr. NW	453-0143
Secretary	Mrs. June Smith	3250 Thorncrest SE	949-0543
Treasurer	Mrs. Dorothy Ferguson	2748 Pohens NW	361-6451
Historian	Mrs. Lucille Pearl	1598 Gridley NW	453-1069
Liaison Rep.	Mrs. Faye King	1957 36th SW, Wyoming	532-6239
Editor	Mr. Gordon Williams	2038 Parade NW	361-0531
Board Members	Mr. & Mrs. Ted Duprey	3326 Badger SW, Wyoming	532-3841
	Mrs. Lucille Pearl	1598 Gridley NW	453-1069
Publishers	Mr. James VanVuren	3281 Division SW, Grandville	538-0826
	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Beauvais	3308 Wilson SW, Grandville	534-3871

o-o-o-o-o-o

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 7:45 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room, East Building, Grand Rapids Public Museum. Summer meetings are at various parks as announced.

Membership dues are \$5. per year for a family, \$3. per year for a single adult, and \$1. per year for students under 18 years of age. Dues are payable to the treasurer. The year is from September 1 through August 31 of the following year.

Advertising in the GLACIAL DRIFTER is limited to a uniform size of one-third page at the rate of \$3. 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, provided proper credit is given.

Member - National Bulletin Editors Association.

o-o-o-o-o-o

EXCHANGE EDITORS - PLEASE NOTE: Address all exchange bulletins to:

Mr. Gordon Williams
2038 Parade NW
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505

THE GLACIAL DRIFTER

DECEMBER 1970

VOLUME 13 NO. 4

DECEMBER MEETING

PLACE - East Building, Grand Rapids Public Museum

TIME - Wednesday, December 9, 1970 6:30 P.M.

PROGRAM - Annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner and Party

June Smith will report on the Conservation Camp she attended this summer.

Bring your own table service and two dishes to pass. Also, bring a wrapped rockhound gift worth at least \$1. Bring a few extra for guests.

LOOKING AHEAD

January 13 - "Geology of the Far North" - Prof. Karl Bruder

February 10 - Steve Tchozeski, speaker. Subject to be announced.

And then comes March! Show Time! How about your display?

* * *

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S ROCK ROOM

The annual silent auction was well attended in spite of competition from the Veteran's Day parade. Many fortunate buyers added to their collections. Our thanks to our area dealers and member donors for making this event successful. Special thanks to Roger King, Henry Tchozeski, George Arnold and the workers who kept the tables filled, also to our treasurer, Dorothy Ferguson, to Marie Duprey and Ruth Beauvais, who handled the cash. And to Faye King, who was in charge of the snack table. The auction total was \$196.85, thanks to our generous buyers.

Our first field trip of the winter to the gypsum mine (Michigan Natural Cold Storage Co.) was well attended. A number of our newer members and friends joined the veteran hunters in prying out selenite crystals. Contrary to rumor,

(Continued)

(concluded from page 1)

there are still some crystals down there, somewhat fewer than last week, however.

Some may wonder about the benefits of going to the shows in other cities. One reason mentioned to me by a visitor at Lansing was to see how the others display their specimens and get ideas on what to do with rocks to make them interesting and useful. There are new ideas to stimulate our own at every show. Of course, some cases appear at every show with no changes or additions.

Your president and his wife recently joined the Indian Mounds Club in a basement field trip. This was a real fun event. We had a chance to see the fine exhibits of three families and showed ours to about twenty visitors. We had a good time of fellowship over a cup of coffee. We also had a chance to see some rock gardens (polite name for rock room overflow), swap collecting sites and just plain yack for a while.

Our December meeting will be a Christmas party with a pot luck supper on December 9. There will be a report on the conservation camp week by June Smith (our secretary), and slides of some club activities and trips taken by several of our members. There may be a visit from Santa. Members are asked to bring their table service, two foods to pass and a wrapped gift worth at least \$1. for each one attending. It would be nice for some to bring an extra gift for our visitors from other clubs. We are again inviting some of the area clubs to send guests to share the evening with us. The club will furnish coffee, milk, and rolls as usual.

Past president, Jim DeZwaan, has been working with the State Highway Department and the Niles club in setting up a display of Michigan rocks and minerals at the new visitor center on the new I-94 connector near the state line. This is about two years away, but it is not too soon to think about the type of exhibit we want to use. The materials would remain the property of the club and would be in a locked case. He will be giving us more on possible displays at one of the regular meetings soon.

* * *

FROM THE EDITOR'S ROCK ROOM

The sound of winter is strong tonight. It is a good night to stay warm and do a bit of whatever it is an editor is supposed to do.

The dog and I are batching it for a few days. We put the lady of our house on the plane this afternoon. She has gone to help our youngest and her husband get moved into their new house near Lake Forest, Illinois. We - the dog and I - will join them Thanksgiving Day with a trailer load of stuff n' things that have been stored here while the new house was being built. (My contribution to moving.)

How on earth did I ever get started on such a thing as that? Unless it was looking ahead to Thanksgiving and being reminded of so much to be truly thankful for. (Now, now, I know all about this ending of sentences with prepositions bit. That's what happens when the editor's editor goes away.)

(continued)

(concluded from page 2)

As individuals we all make up our own list. I wonder if we ever gave it a thought as a club. Mind if I try?

How about those who thought up the idea in the first place as a starter. Charter members are revered members. It is good to have them with us, and to have the advantage of their experience and guidance. We like to see them at our meetings.

Then we are thankful for the memory of those who have left their mark on the club and community, but who are no longer with us. The beautiful letter of Miss Afton concerning her memories of Les Pearl says it so much better than I that I prefer to leave it at that. Except to add that to date it has appeared as a reprint in more bulletins than any other single article I can recall.

The fellowship of our members, and the fun of meetings and field trips is what makes the club "tick." Who among us did not have fun at the auction? The spirited bidding for those pieces we wanted. I never heard a single gripe about getting "frozen" out at the last instant. (I lost a couple of pieces, too.) The Christmas party, the show, the field trips -- all are good reasons for us to reflect and be thankful.

And perhaps most of all we need to constantly remind ourselves that we live in a country where all of this is possible. May we always savor it and protect it, and work toward making it an ever better environment.

* * *

CENTRAL MICHIGAN GEM & MINERAL SHOW EXCELLENT

On Saturday, October 11, we visited the Central Michigan Show at the Lansing Armory on South Washington St. It was a fine show.

The displays were top notch both in quality and workmanship. Geographically they covered a wide area of Michigan. Some GRMS members had show materials exhibited.

A swap table, children's table, silent auction and working demonstrations of silversmithing, faceting, Petoskey stone polishing and lapidary work were available to the visitor. Besides the row upon row of club exhibits, seven individuals, one college and four industries had special exhibits.

Twelve commercial exhibits were chosen from a list of about 50 applicants. The out-of-state companies come from Pennsylvania, Arizona, Oregon and Kansas.

Well done, neighbors!

* * *

Life has become a struggle between keeping your weight down and your spirits up. -Micky Porter in Akron Beacon Journal. From The Reader's Digest.

GRMS CHIPS & FRAGMENTSNEWSNEWS

Field Trip Chairman, Rich Van Beek reports that the January, February and March events will be basement field trips. None for December -- he figures Christmas is enough. This will be something to look forward to in the new year. He still needs places to visit. This is a chance for you to show off your braggin' rocks. And, ladies, as President Art reminded us some time ago, it's a great way to get the basement cleaned up and the rocks in viewing order. Call Rich to volunteer your basement. And be making plans to attend the field trips planned for next spring and summer.

We have word that Mrs. Joe Parrish is in the hospital, which one is not known.

The December Board of Control meeting will be held at the home of June and Bob Smith, 3250 Thorncrest Dr. SE, Monday, December 14.

The Mineral Study Group is currently studying the Upper Peninsula and will meet on December 16 at Nellie Mead's home. Rocky presents will be exchanged.

Membership renewals are coming in very slowly this year. Your club needs you and your support.

Marilyn Arnold and Emily Van Vuren are the hostesses for the December pot luck. If you have an questions about food arrangements, please contact either one.

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sweet, formerly of Grand Rapids and members of GRMS while here, were recently called back to Grand Rapids by the illness of Mr. Sweet's mother. They now reside at Rt. #1, Box 3811, Ridgecrest, Calif. 93555.

They send their best wishes to their GRMS friends and would be glad to hear from anyone remembering them. Mr. Sweet is now employed by the American Potash and Chemical Co.

HINTSTIPS

For cold dopping opal, use "N" grade solution of sodium silicate. Dip end of stick in solution, then on opal. To remove stone, soak for 24 hours in water.

Use an electric frying pan for dopping. Set it at 200° and there will be no danger of cracking. Line the pan with foil. Then put the side of the stone that you wish to dopping. Get the wax on the dopstick hot, then set it on the stone and shape.

-Gem News via Turritella Telegram

Remember we asked you to write up your summer adventures? It's the personal stories that spice our Drifter. Get out the pen, pencil or typewriter and let's hear from you. Tell us where you found your best treasure.

THESE ARE ROCKHOUNDS?Reprint via S.I.E.S. Club News and Gems

Editor's note: It seems incredible that this sort of thing happens. What can we do about it? Out of all the rockhounds in the U.S.A. someone must know who these characters are.

One day a couple of weeks ago, about an hour before the time I usually open up, a caravan pulled up in front of my shop. Out here on the desert in the summer, anytime is the time to do business, so I opened up. Who knows when the next potential customer will come along at this time of year?

Here is what the caravan consisted of: The first vehicle was a four-wheel drive pickup pulling a four-wheel tandem axle trailer. In the body of the pickup was a pretty good-size air compressor, a lot of hose and tools. On the trailer was a bulldozer and on the front bumper of the pickup was a Honda Trail 90. The next vehicle was also a four-wheel drive pickup pulling another four-wheel tandem axle trailer. The pickup had a sort of camper body and on the trailer was a Case rubber tired tractor with a backhoe and loader on the front. The pickup also had a Honda Trail 90 on the front bumper. I found out later that under a canopy was a generator (I forget how many watts) and a slab saw. The truck also had a Honda Trail 90 on the front bumper. The next vehicle was a Scout with a winch on front and the next two vehicles were pickups with large size campers on them. Three men drove the first three trucks and three women drove the Scout and campers.

They all came into my shop and looked around. To get a conversation started I asked if they were in the mining business. My answer was, "No, we are rockhounds." During our conversation I found out that they had gotten over 35 tons of cutting materials besides heaps of X's during the past year. They would go anywhere up to a thousand miles, it didn't make any difference if the area was private land, under claim, patented land, or what. As one of them said, "We are gone before anyone finds out." They carry enough supplies for a week at a time. They use dynamite....I could write a book on what they told me the hour they were here. They received no information from me as I was pretty well burned up by the time they left....Rockhounds, huh??? I have a lot of words that would describe them better, but they're not printable.

* * *

BULLSEYE CABS -- Paul Yeater in Gazette

Via Earth
Science News

Many small pieces of banded rough that cannot be placed in the saw vise to any advantage can be laid on edge and cut parallel to the bands to achieve bullseye effects.

A very good stone for this is tiger eye which can give you a surprisingly different cab. The more contrast between the bands the stronger^{er} bullseye effect you will have. If the stone is cut with a high dome many bands will be evident. If a low dome is cut, less bands will show. This should be taken into consideration before the slabbing process to arrive with the desired effect in the finished cab. Always remember to slab as parallel to the bands as possible and have some idea of how thick the slab should be. . . . Also try malachite, onyx, jasper, and some rhodochrosite.

POLISHING PETOCKEYS BY HAND.

First purchase "silicon carbide" wet or dry sandpaper. You might want a very coarse 100 grip paper to start with, and then go on to a 220, 400, and 600 papers.

Dip your Petoskey stone into water as you work and with your first sandpaper thoroughly go over your stone, turning it as you work. It is important that the first sanding is well done, and this will take some real effort.

Wash the stone before you start with your second grit, and use it to remove the scratches from your first paper. Continue on in this manner progressing through the finer grit papers. Keep your stone wet as you work and wash in clean water between papers.

We found it easier to lay the sandpaper on a piece of carpeting, and sand the stone down on top of it.

When your stone has been sanded very smooth with the last grit, wash it again and dry it, and then use a polishing compound such as tin oxide or cerium oxide and put some on a fresh piece of carpeting or material such as corduroy or velvet and rub your dry stone very hard and fast. Your stone when it is finished should have a shiny clear surface.

-From the Tulip City Conglomerate

* * *

ARE YOU READY FOR TWO "FUNNIES" THAT REALLY HAPPENED? Via Rock Dobber

(Having left my daughter one time under similar circumstances, I couldn't resist this reprint. -Editor)

1. What wife doesn't occasionally ride in the camper when enroute? The one in question finished her chores and, feeling sorry for her lonely husband up front, decided to keep him company. Knowing it was almost time for a filling station stop, she was ready to bound out the door.

Sure enough, the camper rolled into a filling station and out she came! This would be no story at all except that the husband suddenly pulled out, leaving her. Undaunted, she pursued the camper, with both vocal chords and feet in high gear. Fortunately, the camper had to stop before entering the highway traffic and she caught up, only to be greeted with, "What in the world are you doing out there?"

2. A rockhound couple valiantly trying to go from a show in Seattle, Washington, to one in Southern California and being sorely pressed for time, planned to take turns "at the wheel." Even though it's illegal for a passenger to ride in a trailer being towed, they decided to risk it so each could rest.

It was "wifey's" turn to drive as they went through the Los Angeles area. "Hubby", being fond of gaily colored shorts, happened to be wearing the gayest of the lot when he pulled off his shirt and trousers for his nap. "Wifey" stopped for a traffic signal at a busy intersection; but "Hubby",

(continued)

(continued from page 6)

fogged by sleep thought she must have car trouble, so suddenly jumped up and dashed out the door. The light changed, "Wifey" drove off leaving "Hubby" in dazed embarrassment.

A convenient motorcycle policeman radioed on ahead and when "Wifey" was finally stopped and questioned about her husband, she swore he was at home; when confronted by "Hubby" in his colorful shorts said, "Who is this strange looking man?"

-by Marge Mills from Rok-Tok

* * *

GARNET HUNTING IN ONTARIO

Have you ever been given directions to a rock-hunting area by a native, only to get hopelessly lost? We sometimes suspect that there is a conspiracy to keep "outsiders" from getting the local "goodies."

But that is not the case if you get your directions from Sam Woodcox on the Bay Lake Road, Bancroft, Ontario. He has a rock shop and hunts his own rocks for the most part. He is very willing to give you precise information, particularly if you have brought him some of your own specialties. We were pleased to see our previous gifts (Petoskey stones) in his personal collection. It also does no harm to buy some local rocks from his establishment.

The accompanying ^{ing}map (not to scale) gives the location where Sam himself gets his almandine or almandite garnets which he sells for \$1. each in his shop.

We were traveling on Route 17 from North Bay westward to Sudbury. About 26 miles east of Sudbury we turned north a short way to the village of Markstay which is on the railroad. Then we proceeded north on a dirt road, across a small bridge past a gravel pit on the lefthand side of the road, until we came to a farmhouse where we received permission with the payment of \$2. to enter the garnet area. These people act as agents for the owners. Across the road is a newly built house which will be occupied by the owner's daughter. I expect that future dealings will be made with her.

We proceeded up the road about 150 ft. to the place where tracks went to the east. We parked beside the road, went through the fence following the 2-wheel tracks. We soon became fully aware why we were cautioned not to drive in. The word "meadow" was certainly a misnomer. It might seem a meadow in dry season, but we found it a wet, squashy place where we tried our best to step from one tuft of grass to another. Boots were the order of the day.

Soon the 2-wheel trail ended and we were forced to follow a very faint path through the tall grass, bushes, and trees which had been used by previous rock-hunters. Evidently this location is not frequented very often.

Suddenly up a small hill we came upon an opening and there it was!

(continued)

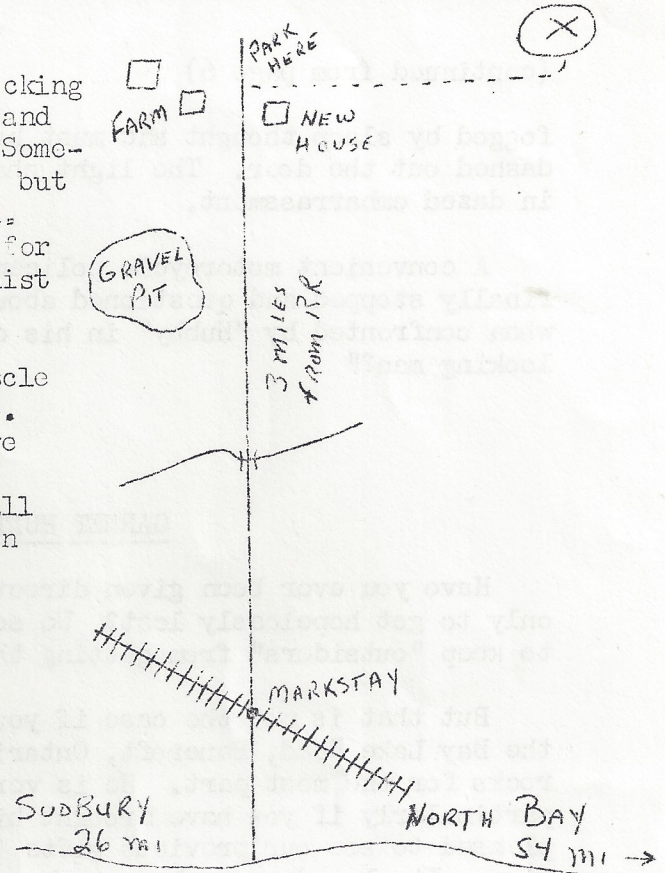
(concluded from page 7)

Solid mica schist with huge garnets sticking out provocatively. Armed with chisels and hammers we attacked the work at hand. Sometimes a garnet would "pop out" readily, but usually they would not cooperate at all. They were really going to make us work for whatever we got. I never knew mica schist could be so hard.

We were limited only by our own muscle power and the weight we could carry out. Three hours of physical labor was all we could take. I rested occasionally by picking up the small garnets that lay all around us. It seemed a shame to go when there were so many beautiful garnets there. But happily there is a goodly supply for you and others.

These garnets range in size from 1/4 to 1 1/2 inches. Some of these will be displayed at the November meeting of the club.

-Betty Vanderbush
(Via Conglomerate)



* * *

W T H O P E

H H H P P E

E E E E E E

R R R R R R

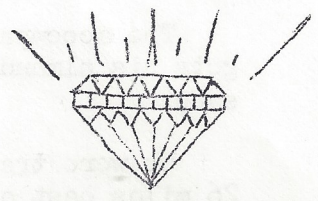
E E E E E E

O O O O O O

P P P P P P

E E E E E E

S



CURSE OF HOPE DIAMOND WORKING ON THE NATION. . .

WASHINGTON: There is a great deal of soul-searching going on in this country as to why things have gone wrong. The Democrats blame the Republicans. The Republicans blame the radical-liberals. The students blame the Establishment. The Establishment blames Dr. Spock.

The one thing everyone seems in agreement on is that we're in a mess. The only thing no one is in agreement on is how we got into it.

I can now reveal the exact date and hour when things started going downhill in the United States. I can also reveal, for the first time, the reason why.

On November 10, 1958, at 11 a.m., a small brown package insured for \$1 million was delivered to the Smithsonian Institution. Inside was the famous Hope diamond, a gift to the United States from Harry Winston, one of America's famous jewelers.

The Smithsonian was thrilled to have such a beautiful stone to display to the public. But what the American officials did not take into consideration was that the diamond had a curse on it--it brings bad luck to anyone

(continued)

(continued from page 8)

who owns it.

Here are just a few of the things that happened to people who possessed the Hope diamond.

Louis XIV gave it to his mistress, Mme. de Montespan, and immediately abandoned her. The king himself finished his reign in disgrace.

The beautiful Princess Lamballe wore the diamond and was beaten to death by a mob during the French Revolution. Her head was paraded before Marie Antoinette, her closest friend. King Louis XVI, who inherited the stone, and his lovely Marie didn't fare any better.

The diamond was missing for several years. Then it turned up in the possession of Wilhelm Fals, a Dutch diamond cutter. Fals died of grief when his son, Hendrik, stole it from him. Hendrik committed suicide.

Francois Beaulieu, a Frenchman who owned it next, died of starvation after selling it to an Englishman, David Eliason, who sold it to an Irishman named Henry Thomas Hope.

The diamond was sold at auction to Jacques Colot, a jeweler, who went insane and committed suicide. A Russian prince, Ivan Kanitovski, also owned it at one time. He was, as everyone knows, stabbed to death. Catherine the Great is said to have worn the diamond, and she died of apoplexy.

After that, it was just one bad-luck story after another. One of the female owners, after living high on the hog, was reduced to working as a scrub-woman for \$2. a day in a shipyard.

A Spanish owner drowned in a shipwreck. A Greek broker who sold it to a Turkish sultan was killed with his entire family when his car went over a precipice in the mountains. When the sultan gave the gem to his favorite wife, she stabbed him. The McLean family who owned the diamond before Winston didn't come out of it too well, either.

The Hope diamond has brought nothing but grief to its owners, and whoever accepted it on behalf of the United States in 1958 did this country a great disservice.

Anyone who recalls what went on before 1958 and compares it to what is going on now knows we made a mistake.

The question is: What is the solution?

Our suggestion is that we present the Hope diamond as a gift to the Soviet Union. President Nixon could drop it off on his next trip to Europe.

If the Soviets refuse to accept it, there's always the Red Chinese. What better way of showing we want to be friends with the Chinese than to give it to Mrs. Mao Tse-tung to wear in her naval at the next rally at Peking Square?

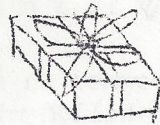
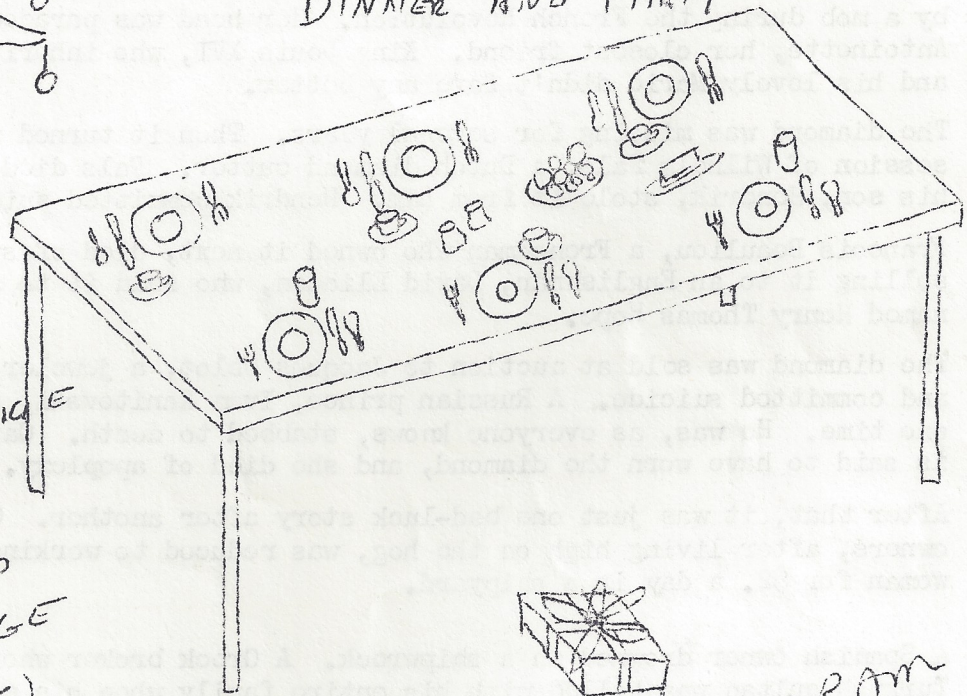
Write your congressman before it's too late!!!!

By Art Buchwald in the
Kalamazoo Gazette
Via GEMS

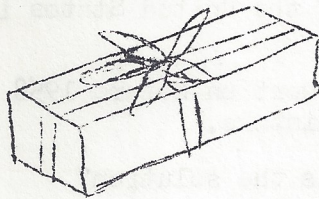


MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS
MERRIER - BY ATTENDING
THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS POT-LUCK
DINNER AND PARTY

BRING
TWO
DISHES TO
PASS AND
TABLE SERVICE
AND
GIFTS TO
EXCHANGE
(\$100 VALUE)



PROGRAM
AFTER
DINNER



DECEMBER 9, 1970

6:30 PM

Midwest Federation's NEWSLETTER



Published monthly except July and August as a service to member clubs
All news, articles, subscription orders and requests for information concerning publication
should be sent to P.O. Box 1130, Des Moines, Iowa 50311

Issue No. 110 - December 1970

A Message From Russell MacFall

OUR RETIRING PRESIDENT

A year in office not only teaches a great deal about the Midwest Federation, but also how much it and the other federations have done to bring our hobby to maturity and recognition in the United States. But these are days of change and the Federation must adapt to change. The old days of free and easy collecting are drawing to a close; the professional geologists will soon be so far ahead of the amateurs in skill and techniques that they will no longer easily communicate, and the business of the federations is becoming so demanding of time and talent that officers will soon need better organizations to help them with their jobs.

The Midwest Federation is now the largest of the regional federations in membership; its activities extend over more than a dozen states and more than 220 clubs. It has grown to this point in the last year and its prospects for further growth are sound. It has spent most of the money it has received for the direct benefit of its member clubs. Obviously, the future dictates that it must strengthen its organization and encourage its clubs to educate their members for a more sophisticated approach to our hobby. By so doing, they will not only keep pace with the growth of knowledge in the earth sciences but also derive more pleasure from their meetings, shows and field trips. Less emphasis on piling up specimens, less emphasis on annual shows and on making money from shows and more emphasis on widened opportunities for the individual member will make our Federation grow greater.

I have enjoyed my year as president of the Midwest Federation; I am passing on the office to a young man of ideas and ripe experience in whom I have faith.

Attention Club Program Chairman

New Program Chairman

Effective immediately all request for bookings of MWF Library Programs and any questions regarding them should be sent to

MRS. EVELYN HIRSCH

Route 1

Mitchell, Indiana 47446

Be sure to give Mrs. Hirsch a choice of dates when you could use the program you are requesting together with the name and address of the person to whom the program is to be shipped. Please include your zip code and follow the instructions she gives you regarding the return of the program.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

of the MWF met in Evansville, Indiana on Saturday, November 7 and the Federations new president, Jay Wollin, was installed. A report on this meeting will be carried in the January issue together with a message from our new president. Minutes of this meeting will be mailed to all member clubs.

HELP Eliminate Litter

Being Sent To All Clubs In December

MEMBERSHIP AND DIRECTORY INFORMATION FORMS

Clubs will be receiving this month the combined form for reporting to the Federation secretary, Miss Jean Reynolds their membership, their dues for the treasurer's records, and their officers and shows and other dates for the 1971 Directory and Calendar of Events. These necessary reports have been combined for the convenience of the club presidents and liaison officers who make them. In return, the Federation expects that the forms will be returned before the deadline so that the treasurer and the Directory editor can complete their work promptly and with a minimum of effort. They, too, are voluntary officers who are giving of their time and talent for the good of the Federation and its member clubs,

Prompt return of club information will make it possible to get out the Directory early in 1971 so that it will be of maximum usefulness to club members in their contacts with Federation officers, the officers of other clubs, and in attending shows and field trips.

3 Successful Shows

THE 1970 ROCKRAMAS

All three 1970 Rockramas are completed and from the reports were quite successful. The Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society of Michigan reported an attendance of over 4,000 persons. The Fairview Park Lapidary Society and the Parma Lapidary Club reported 4,600 in attendance at the big Rockrama at Berea, O. A report from the Blackhawk Rock Club of Rockford, Ill. indicates an attendance of over 6,000 persons at the Rockrama held in Oregon, Ill. This makes close to 15,000 persons who have been attracted to Rockramas in three locations.

These clubs are to be commended for the effort and enthusiasm which went into making these shows successful. None of these shows lost money which was all to the good. 1970, with three Rockramas, was the best year in a long time for this type of show.

I would like to express my thanks and the thanks of the Rockrama Committee to the club members, the dealers, and the many exhibitors who traveled many a long mile to display their efforts.

Now, about 1971. You will note that the three clubs with 1970 Rockramas were from the Eastern sector of the Federation. Each state has the privilege of hosting a Rockrama under the new rules. There can be eleven possible shows during a year. Admittedly it takes extra effort but the end result is worth it.

One club, the Valley Rock and Mineral Society, has been approved for a Rockrama show in Wisconsin in 1971. This leaves the field wide open for requests from clubs in the other states. If one club feels it cannot handle a show, why not combine with one or two other clubs. It can be made to work nicely.

The Rockrama Committee has material which will help you get started. This material will help you set up a show organization and start you off with some tested ideas on how to run various parts of the show. It also includes a list of the judges who might be available to judge a competitive show and a list of persons who have indicated to the MWF their willingness to provide special exhibits. There is also an article on how to write a newspaper release plus many more helpful hints.

Get your request in to the Rockrama Committee as soon as possible and let us see if we can have more Rockramas in 1971. Incidentally you do not have to call the show a Rockrama if you feel that the word "ROCK" is a dirty word in your area.

Send your request for information or bid for a date to M. J. Sharp, 3901 W. 210th St., Fairview Park, O. 44126. Phone (216/area) 331-7085.

SPONSOR A ROCKRAMA

in 1971

UNIFORM RULES BOOKS

Additional copies of the Uniform Rules Book and/or Approved Reference List of Lapidary Material Names are available at 50¢ per set or the Uniform Rules Book separately at 40¢ per copy and the Reference List book at 25¢ per copy. Orders and remittance should be sent to Miss Dorothy Gleiser, 1066 Griffith Road, Lake Forest, Ill. 60045.

October Invitation Brings Results

UNIFORM RULES

As a result of our invitation in the October Newsletter, only one person took the opportunity to express his complaints about the Uniform Rules. An exhibitor of 15 years states, "...I entered 'Minerals, Any Type'; lost 40 points because I displayed such 'massive' minerals as smithsonite, datolite, opal and orpiment. Questioned the judge and was told to enter in 'All Crystals' class next time. A first place winner in 'Minerals, Any Type: displayed all crystals. Wasn't he out of class? Crystals usually score higher than massive minerals in most cases but might not do so well in competing with other crystals."

If you will read the rules for minerals, you will find there is no class for all crystals (with the exception of Single Crystals or Crystals with Inclusions). My guess is that your judge advised you to use only crystals; your last sentence explains why. The rules state that quality in mineral specimens shall refer to condition of crystals; size of crystals; crystal arrangement; clarity; freedom from excess foreign material; and the amount of identified material that is visible.

The person who entered all crystals in his mineral display was not out of class. Most mineral exhibitors stick with all crystals because they know they have a better chance of winning. You must determine whether your smithsonite is of sufficient quality to hold its own among the other exquisite crystals. **IF IN DOUBT, LEAVE IT OUT!** This also applies to fossils, jewelry, lapidary work, etc. If you question it, chances are the judges will, too, and why gamble on losing points?

Let's have some more questions! Address them to Betty J. Crawford, Chmn., MWF Uniform Rules Committee, 1119 Seminole Ave., Mansfield, O. 44906.

BULLETIN CONTEST DATES

for 1971 will be announced soon. Bulletin editors should save two copies of each issue, starting with their January 1971 bulletin. Your Bulletin Editors Committee Co-Chairmen, Oliver and Betty Roskam, enjoy reading your bulletins and appreciate your sending them copies of each of your issues.

AGATES

ULTRA-VIOLET LAMPS

SPECIMENS

CUTTING MATERIALS

FINDINGS

OPALS

POTTER'S PEBBLE PALACE

JEWELRY

4073 Segun SE

3 1/2 miles south of Lowell

1/2 mile north of Cascade Road

OPEN: 2 P.M. to 9 P.M. Monday thru Friday
8 A.M. to 5 P.M. Saturdays - Phone 897-7178

STAR DIAMOND, HIGHLAND PARK AND ROCK'S EQUIPMENT

* COME VISIT OUR EXPANDED SHOP *

ALETA'S ROCK SHOP

At Their New Location

1515 Plainfield

Grand Rapids, Mich. 49505

Phone 363-5394
Area 616

Hours

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Mon., Tues., Wed.
Thurs. Sat.

Gene and Winny Lups

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Friday

Rough and Polished Gem Stones
Lapidary Supplies
Tumblings and Cutting Material
Findings

Nationally Known for Choice Material at Reasonable Prices

OPEN

6 P.M. to 9 P.M.
Mon. thru Fri.

8 A.M. to 5 P.M.
Saturday

CUSTOM FACETING & CABLING

THE PALACE GEM SHOP

40 ONEIDA, S. W.

WYOMING, MICH. 49508

ONE BLOCK NORTH OF 32nd ST.
OFF DIVISION

BEACON STAR

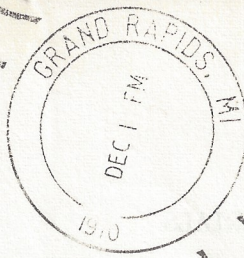
LORTONE

JEWELRY FINDINGS

SPECIMEN BOXES

SLABS & ROUGH

Grand Rapids Mineral Society
R. E. Beauvais, Publisher
3308 Wilson S. W.
Grandville, Mich. 49418
Return Postage Guaranteed



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