

JANUARY 1971



MINERAL

REPORT

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

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 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.

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

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

THE GLACIAL DRIFTER

JANUARY 1971

VOLUME 13

NO. 5

JANUARY MEETING

Time - January 13, 1971 7:30 p.m.

Place - East Building, Grand Rapids Public Museum

Program - Dr. Karl Bruder "Geology of The Far North"

ALSO IN JANUARY

January 16 - Basement Field Trip

January 18 - Board of Control Meeting at the
Arnold Wendt, Sr. home

January 27 - Mineral Study Group at the home of
Marian Jennings

LOOKING AHEAD

February - Dr. Richard Lefebvre of Grand Valley
State College

March - Steve or Henry Tchozeski
Topic to be announced

The month of March is Show Month at the Museum

April - Open date

May - Dr. J. Cotter Tharon, Head of Geology Department,
Hope College

Our January program will be an illustrated presentation by Dr. Karl Bruder who for the past two summers has been doing geological research on the Beaufort Sea, north of Alaska. He studied glaciers and sea ice, including their shifting and strain and took sample cores from the floor of the Arctic Ocean. All the work has been done under the auspices of the Arctic Institute of North America. Some of these projects have been supported by the Canadian and American governments as well as private enterprise. Prof. Bruder has been a professional geologist for 15 years and for the last three years has been teaching at G.R. Junior College and the G.R. Baptist College.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S ROCK ROOM

The Board Meeting this month was concerned with plans for the future. Programs are now set for the next few months as detailed on the first page under the caption "Looking Ahead."

June and July will be picnics at the Ideal Park Lodge. Programs will be announced later. This seems to be one of our good years in regard to programs. Those who miss them will definitely be the losers for having done so.

The Board of Control appointed Rich VanBeek as chairman for our Annual Rock Show at the Museum. The show dates for this year are from Saturday, March 13, to Sunday, April 18. This is the week after Easter. We requested this due to the fact that so many, for either personal or religious reasons, do not want to remove their displays on Easter Sunday. Rich will have at least two able assistants, Roger King and Jim VanVuren.

A show theme is needed for this year, so please bring your suggestions to the January or February meetings. It is not too soon to start planning your display. Rich will have the print for the cabinet layout soon so that you may start signing up for your favorite display space. The problem of the heat and sun in the outside windows was discussed with the museum staff. A former display put in by Lowell Palmer featuring a wheelbarrow load of rocks was mentioned. Also the Board recalled some previous windows using geodes, machinery, etc. Anyone with ideas is requested to sign up with Rich.

Our treasurer, Dorothy, reports that with the credit from last year's Betty Crocker coupons and the coffee money, and what we have on hand this year so far, we should be able to make the 200% club this year. Please bring in your coupons to the next two meetings so that they may be sent in during February.

Our publishers, the Beauvais', are working on the new directory. Any changes in addresses or phone numbers should be reported to them. Also the directory will include only those whose dues for '70-'71 are paid up. Members are reminded that our membership year runs from September to September, not the calendar year. Some of our members have been slow in renewing, but we have one who wants to be sure so she renewed twice. Very commendable! !

Our December Christmas party was well attended by about 75 members, friends and guests. We entertained guests from the Ionia, Holland and Indian Mounds clubs. One of the guests from Ionia was Princess Ella Jane Petoskey, who is now 90 years young and is well known to our members. Our secretary, June Smith, reported on her term at the Conservation Camp last summer. Then we revisited some of the year's hunting trips and past shows via a fine series of slides by Bob Beauvais, Arnold Wendt, Sr. and Casey Doornbos. Our thanks to all the fine cooks for the good food. Santa also made a visit and brought some top notch specimens to all our group. June Smith was also responsible for our pretty table decorations. Several of them were given as door prizes and now grace our members' homes. Our thanks to her.

The January Board of Control meeting will be at the home of Arnold Wendt, Sr.

FROM THE EDITOR'S ROCK ROOM

The shortest day of the year has come and gone, and its passing brings us closer to the new year.

This morning the snow was new and clean when I went out to clear the walks and drive, and the temperature a brisk 15 above. The little rhyme my grandmother used to recite kept running through my mind as I watched the column of snow fly out the throat of the snowblower.

"When the days begin to lengthen
The cold begins to strengthen"

The rhyme has nothing to do with what I had in mind for this rock-room session. What I really wanted was to talk about this beautiful, wonderful place where we live; what we are doing to it; and what are we going to do about it in 1971.

Michigan may not have the gemstones other states can boast about. She may not have the high rugged peaks of the Rockies. But, she has a beauty of her own when a fresh winter snow covers her evergreens, housetops, hills and valleys. She presents her very best profile with ice floes majestically navigating her rivers or piling up in huge caves along her shorelines. In short, she presents a hospitable environment to those of us at home within her boundaries as well as to the visitor.

But there are those who would violate her beauty and hospitality. Trash unloaded along highways is probably our most flagrant offense. Plastics and aluminum, for instance, do not recycle through weathering. They only remain and continue to pile up year after year.

How badly do we infect our waters? No one really knows. We only know that Lake Ontario is dead, Lake Erie is dying and Lake Michigan is at a point where it can go either way. We only know that many of our rivers no longer support anything but scavenger fish, and some not even those.

Indeed we have violated our state's hospitality. And as we have traveled in other states, we probably have violated their hospitality. The time seems at hand for a New Year's resolution from every rockhound in America.

May we all resolve to treat this place we live with the respect due it, knowing full well that before respect for another must come respect for self.

President Art has covered the Christmas party in his space, but I would like to acknowledge our visitors for the evening and bid them welcome: Mr. & Mrs. Don Johnson, Ionia Club; Jim & Ruth Franz, Holland Club; Betty & Chet Smith, Holland Club; Robert Gierman, Ionia Club; Mr. & Mrs. Harry Coleman, Indian Mounds Club; Len & Shirley Jurries, Indian Mounds Club; Mr. & Mrs. Adam Korie; Dorothy Coykendall, Wyoming, Mich.; Miss Sue Thomas, Sydney, Australia, who was visiting the R. C. Smith's.

A special welcome to Miss Ella Jane Petoskey, the 90 year old granddaughter of Chief Petoskey, after whom the editor's home town was named.

HAMILTON, MUSCATINE AND POINTS WEST

(Or, A Second Vacation for The Ferguson's)

Our second week of vacation, taken in August, found us headed thru the windy city and down to Hamilton, Ill. for geodes. We camped at Wildcat Springs Park and had fair success in and near Gray's Quarry. We noted with regret that the old covered bridge has disappeared, burned by vandals.

Now on to Muscatine for agates. We always stay at Wildcat Den State Park. At the park we met two couples from Missouri who were fossil hunting in the area. They were having good luck. They found a "petrified snakeskin," lepidodendron, at Wyoming Hill near Muscatine and many brachiopods, etc., at quarries in the area. They also had some tiny blastoids, slightly larger than a grain of rice. For those who have never been to Muscatine, you can find the Gravel Co. blindfolded. You just drive towards the sickish sweet odor of the pellet plant and when you are nearly overcome, you are getting close. We found some nice agates, though not as many as Gordon Williams reported from there.

As we had no planned itinerary, we made up our minds as we went along. So we now decided it would be fun to go to Bariboo, Wisconsin, via the old mine area around Shullsburg, New Diggins, etc., in southwest Wisconsin. We drove through Galena, Illinois, picking up some mineral specimens at a rock shop there. Then on to camp at Beardsley Lake, Wis. This is a fine campground with a private lake. It is stocked with trout, bass and bluegills. There is no extra charge for fishing or swimming. We can attest to the excellent fishing as we saw several large bass $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{3}{4}$ pounds apiece. We found a mine dump at New Diggins and gathered marcasite and calcite there. On the way to Bariboo we passed thru Mineral Point. Just south of town I spotted a mine dump. It was open to the road so we just couldn't pass it up. We found mostly sphalerite there along with some pyritized shell fossils.

Near Baraboo, we camped at Devil's Lake State Park. This is one of our favorite spots. We visited the steam train ride and museum at North Freedom and picked up some quartzite of several colors nearby. The old quartzite quarry was the main reason for the branch railroad now being used as a tourist attraction and museum. There was also an iron quarry nearby which we did not locate. A lot of this is posted private property so it may not be possible to get there. This is an interesting area geologically. Devil's Lake was formed by a glacier damming up a part of the Wisconsin River, forcing the river to find a new route. There is also an area where the glaciation did not take place, sort of an island not disturbed by the glaciers. Now after a pleasant week, back to Grand Rapids in time for the Rock Swap.

-Art and Dorothy Ferguson

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BETTY CROCKER COUPONSBETTY CROCKER COUPONS

We are so close to the 200% status. Let's really get our coupons in during January and February. We worked hard enough to make the 100% status to stop now. Let's go, go, go!!!

JANUARY FIELD TRIP ANNOUNCED

Our first "Basement Field Trip" will be on Saturday, January 16. We will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Dr. and Mrs. R. B. Smith at 1445 Breton Road, SE. After viewing their "goodies" we will then go to Mr. & Mrs. Casey Doornbos' home at 1917 Rosemont SE and finally to the home of Mr. & Mrs. R. C. Smith at 3250 Thorncrest, in Cascade to see their "Rock Rooms." (Thorncrest is just east of the Thornapple River and runs south from "old U.S. 16".) If you can not make the starting time feel free to join us en route.

-Rich VanBeek, "Chairman

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ABOUT TIGER EYELAPIDARY TIPS:

Sometimes, when tiger eye has too much brown color, it is not desirable as a gemstone. Removing some of the iron oxide which produces this brown color will expose more of the fibers and give the stone more "life" and chatoyancy.

The bleaching process will be quite easy, and can be done at home with a minimum of material. First, get some granular oxalic acid from a local drug store. Dissolve one heaping tablespoonful to each cup of warm water using a covered pyrex dish. Clean all matrix and oil from your tiger eye slab, immerse in the acid bath, and place in a 200 degree oven for 12-14 hours, or until the desired results are obtained. . .

After removing tiger eye from the acid bath, soak it in warm water to clean off excess acid. It is now ready to use the same as any tiger eye. The acid solution can be used again, but add more acid each time. Oxalic acid is not dangerous or messy if handled with ordinary care.

-via Kyana Gemscoop, Ozark Earth
Science News

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MORE LAPIDARY:

Want to see tiger eye transformed from yellow to red right before your eyes? Use a blow torch or place on top of your stove burner. Gently at first and then steadily increase the heat until it gets the color you want.

-via The Rock Hammer, Ozark Science News

From the Flint Rock & Gem Club Bulletin comes the following on "Opals" and "Death Valley"

OPAL FIRES

The mysterious cause of the brilliant blue, green, red and yellow fires of gem opal has at last been uncovered by an Australian scientist using an electron microscope. The rainbow flashing gemstones actually are composed of orderly layers of tiny amorphous spheres, neatly stacked row upon row, according to Dr. J. V. Sanders, with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Organisation of the University of Melbourne. Spaces or gaps occur between each of these spheres, which are bound together by more silica. It is the size of the spheres and the arrangement of the spaces that determine the colours and fires of the stones.

As ordinary daylight or white light penetrates into the transparent spheres it's scattered by the latticework of the spaces and deflected back to the surface of the opal in various colours. Radiating at angles determined by the wave length, it's the size of the spheres that determine the spaces and hence wave lengths and colours. Uniform small spheres give off violet to blue, while larger spheres give off reds to greens.

-via "The Rock Vein" and "Stonepages"

THE BEAUTIES OF DEATH VALLEY

"Tomesha" is the name given to Death Valley by the Panamint Indians. It means "ground fire." Indians of the area became familiar with the sun and seasons of the area and learned to accept it.

The white man named it "Death Valley!" Many perished here in arid heat as they sought a short cut to the California gold fields. Some gold and silver was taken from the surrounding hills, and much borax from the valley floor, but many lives were lost.

Not until recently have Americans learned to enjoy this pleasant and fascinating recreation area. They have learned that they must obey the valley rules. Death Valley is now a National Monument. Comfortable resorts and camp grounds are located in the 140 mile valley. People have found that the best time to visit the area is from mid-October to mid-May. At this time moderate temperatures and cloudless skies combine to highlight the spectacular scenery. During the hot months the mountains surrounding the area are reasonably cool. In mid-day in summer the temperature in the valley floor has gone as high as 134 degrees.

Death Valley shows all of the geological eras of time in the structure of its rocks and sands. The valley was not formed by erosion but by an ancient faulting (sinking) of a great section of the earth, plus an upheaval that formed the bordering mountains.

There are six paved roads into the area--all offering dramatic views. The most spectacular is from the west, from Lone Pine through the peak along the valley floor.

(continued on page 9)

G E O D E S

Opening and Cleaning

The opening of geodes can be a pleasant experience and also offer many surprises if the proper tools are used.

The pro uses a set of two hardened steel points that are fastened to a hand press or sometimes even a powered press. In this way he can apply pressure from two sides. This works real well, but the outfit is somewhat expensive.

An ideal way for the amateur is to score the geode all the way around with a trim saw scoring it rather deeply. You can do this by raising the splash guard on the saw and rotating the geode by hand until it is cut all around. Once this is done, it is quite simple to pry the sections apart, using a screw driver or thin chisel.

Likely the most common method used, is to lay the geode in a soft earth depression. Look it over for any cracks or weak spots and then apply force at these points. When you have decided where you will apply the pressure, use a medium weight hammer and a center punch. Never use a chisel. Put the punch in a spot most likely to keep it from sliding off, and hit it several blows. These should be easy at first, then harder. If it does not open with three or four blows, try hitting it in other spots until a crack does appear. Then use a screwdriver to pry apart.

Regardless of the method used, always use gloves and safety glasses. Remember do not hit geodes with your hammer. You may have on safety glasses, but what about the fellow ten feet away. Chips and burrs from your tools can fly like bullets.

Finally, in transporting your geodes home keep your sections

together either with tape or rubber bands.

After your geodes are opened, extreme care should be used when cleaning them so as not to destroy any micro crystals that they might contain. These are very tiny and quite easy to overlook. Smythite, siderite, millerite, strontianite, and goethite are a few hard to come by crystals that are usually destroyed by the rockhound when cleaning geodes with brush and water.

If when opened, the geode has iron oxide stains---brown mud coloring---it is likely that these crystals have already been destroyed. In this case, it is safe to wash with a hose and brush. If the discoloration is still present after using soap, water and brush, soak the specimen in a solution of oxalic acid. For this, use one-eighth cup oxalic acid crystals per gallon of water. As much mud as possible should be removed before you try soaking it in acid. Do this with an ice pick or piece of wire, but use care so as not to scratch any of the crystals.

A word of caution---put the solution in a non-metallic container and don't allow the acid to touch your skin! Use rubber gloves while handling the specimens or working with acid. Using a hose and brushing occasionally will help to speed the cleaning operation, but even then it could take as much as six months to get all stain from your specimens. When clean, wash in mild soap and water, and then rinse extra well.

This method will be very effective when the geodes are quartz lined, however oxalic acid will dull or even discolor most of the carbonates. For cleaning geodes

(concluded on page 8)

GEODES (concluded from page 7)

containing such crystals, I suggest using but a single tablespoon of oxalic crystals per gallon of water. If a yellow precipitate collects on the material while in the acid, take it out, wash well and start over with a still weaker solution.

It's all a lot of work to be sure, but the Ohs and Ahs you will hear from the viewers will more than make the effort worth while.

-by Lloyd Owen

From Serindipity Gems via The Conglomerate

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THERE IS STILL HOPE

NUCLEAR ENERGY CLEANING SEWAGE

The awesome force of nuclear power has been used to kill, to destroy, and to pollute. Now it is also being used to save lives and clean up dirty water.

Because of experiments by a Florida scientist and research physicist, nuclear energy is being used to fight pollution. And it seems that it is winning the battle.

Dr. David D. Woodbridge, who heads the physics department at the Florida Institute of Technology at Melbourne near Cape Kennedy, has developed a nuclear sewage disposal plant--the first such commercial facility to be built in the United States and perhaps the only one in the world.

The \$87,000 plant bombards an average of 10,000 gallons of polluted water each day with gamma rays from the heavily radioactive Cobalt 60.

CLEAN FOR DRINKING:

The plant processes sewage from camp trailers, bathhouses, toilets, and laundry machines located at the Fisheating Creek campsites west of Lake Okeechobee in Southern Florida.

When it leaves the plant, the water is clean enough for drinking.

Irradiation with the cobalt isotope does more than rid the sewage water of disease--causing viruses and bacteria. It also breaks up deadly pesticides and reduces by as much as one-third the quantity of phosphates and other nutrients in the water.

Treatment is similar to the standard sewage disposal process, with the irradiation as an extra step just before filtering.

FORMED CORPORATION:

Dr. Woodbridge and his team of scientists, most of whom previously worked in space-missile programs, developed a pilot plant at the institute three years ago. As their work progressed, they formed Energy Systems, Inc., and secured private financing.

(concluded on page 9)

NUCLEAR ENERGY CLEANING SEWAGE (concluded from page 8)

Although processed water from the camp-site sewage is clean enough for drinking, said Dr. Woodbridge, it is not generally used for that purpose.

"Some people have a psychological barrier about drinking water they know comes from sewage treatment," said the physicist. "It's going to be a matter of educating them."

The Florida scientist suggested that municipalities throughout the nation could use nuclear irradiation to decontaminate raw sewage. Allowing for evaporation, he said, a community could save 80 per cent of its water by recycling it any number of times through the nuclear irradiator.

---from GRIT, via GEMS

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WHAT I DO WITH MY ROCKS --- by Francine Valant from T-Town Rockhound
via Earth Science News

How many of your non-rockhound friends have come in, looked over your rocks, then put a silly grin on their faces, and said, "But what on earth do you do with all those rocks?" Upon thinking about the question, so many things were found that I do with the rocks that they had to be listed in alphabetical order:

A - admire them	N - never tire of 'em
B - brag about 'em	O - ogle 'em
C - cut 'em	P - polish 'em
D - display 'em	Q - quicken to collect 'em
E - enjoy 'em	R - read about 'em
F - facet 'em	S - stumble over 'em
G - gloat over 'em	T - trade 'em
H - hunt 'em	U - unable to resist 'em
I - identify 'em	V - vastly enjoy 'em
J - joy in their beauty	W - wonder at their colors
K - kick 'em	X - x-ray the xenolity on 'em
L - lick 'em	Y - yearn for more of 'em
M - make jewelry with 'em	Z - zoom to collect more of 'em

THE BEAUTIES OF DEATH VALLEY (concluded from Page 6)

To the north are the great sand dunes near Stove Pipe Wells and Scotty's Castle in Grapevine Canyon, and colorful 800-foot deep Ubehebe Crater, the result of a gigantic volcanic explosion.

These are just a few of the many sights which will welcome you to Death Valley.

Via: "The Rock Vein" from "Magma"

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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. 111 - January 1971

A Message From Our New President

THE PILL... YES OR NO

Tradition has it that every new president of a Federation must have a theme, to unify clubs and give direction for the year. This reminds me of a cartoon I saw a few years ago, where the editor of a grade school newspaper was being questioned about the paper. When asked about how often it was published, he shook his head slowly and said - "Every Friday, whether we need it or not".

Whether we need it or not, the theme for '71 is not new; it is the oldest theme in existence, education. The more we know about our hobby, the more we can enjoy it. This is the function of the MWF - to provide information and education to member clubs so that all may enjoy rockhounding more.

But as any teacher can tell you, education is useless without communication. There is an old story about the wise teacher who told his class members to raise their hands if they finished listening before he finished talking. This is a problem that the MWF has, a problem of communication, for even with the vast amount of information sent out by the MWF, some clubs still ask "What does the MWF do?"

The Midwest Federation is much like a doctor; it can do little until called upon to solve a problem. Like a doctor, it can prepare ahead of time an antidote, a pill for maladies, such as club slide programs, specialists to answer questions about rocks, minerals, fossils, tax problems, laws, speakers, putting on a show etc., lists of show judges and special displays, funds for Rockramas etc. But again like the doctor, the MWF must wait for a request for the "pills" it has prepared.

HAS YOUR CLUB EVER ASKED FOR ONE OF THE PILLS?

Or have you benefitted from the MWF only by attending one of the annual conventions, or using the Directory to find rockhounds in strange cities, or collecting in an area still open only because irate rockhounds bombarded their congressmen with letters after being informed about the potential closing through MWF experts in legislation?

There are now about 125 elected officers, committee chairmen and assistants, and state directors and assistants serving the MWF and the 200 clubs in it. Each is an expert in his field. None makes a penny from the Midwest.

EARTH SCIENCE MAGAZINE

In the January-February issue, Michigan State Director Russell Greer begins a 2-part article for lapidaries "From Rock to Cabochon." Dick Ade, Chairman of the Archaeology committee, writes on "The Effigy Mound Builders." Dr. N. King Huber, U.S. Geological Survey, tells why he believes much of the "thomsonite" from Isle Royale is actually copper-bearing prehnite. Finally there's the story, in her own words, of a plucky lady in Kalispell, Montana who undertook to teach a college course in rockhounding.

All want to dispense their "pills" - and even more, make new ones. They can do this only by tapping the wealth of information locked in YOUR club and others like it. Your club has in it people and groups who could make an educational program for the MWF that could be used by 200 other clubs, but the MWF cannot make this "pill" available until you are willing to make it. Likewise, the MWF cannot make new pills until we know what is wrong. So please...

If your club can produce a program, TELL US.

If a member of your club has a new, exciting idea, TELL US.

If you feel a special program is needed (for juniors I.D. of fossils etc.) TELL US.

If you need help in putting on a show or forming a junior group, TELL US.

If you need identification of fossils, minerals, or rocks TELL US.

...and if the MWF asks YOU to participate in a project, please HELP US.

The Midwest Federation has some mighty good "pills" and wants to make even better ones. Try a MWF "pill" someday, and help us make some new ones.

Jay C. Wollin, President

ALL HISTORICAL MATERIAL

histories and bulletins should be sent to the Archives chairman, Elmer Priggie, 6919 West 31st Street, Berwyn, Illinois 60402.

At Evansville, Indiana

FALL MWF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Midwest Federation Executive Committee met at the Washington Square Mall in Evansville, Ind. Saturday, Nov. 7, 1970. The Evansville Lapidary Society made arrangements for the meeting in connection with their annual show held at the Mall on Saturday and Sunday.

President Jay Wollin set the tone of the meeting by declaring this to be "the year of EDUCATION" in the Federation. We need to do a better job in acquainting member clubs with what the Federation is, what is available to clubs from the Federation, and how to obtain help when needed. In addition, committees should work toward improving and augmenting their services to clubs.

One feature instituted at this meeting was the formation of what Jay called "Hash" groups which met separately for about 45 minutes to discuss problem areas. The areas of Programs, Convention and Show, Newsletter, and Uniform Rules were covered by four different groups. This procedure proved very profitable as evidenced by reports of Committee Chairmen which followed.

Major areas in which extra effort will be made this year are:

1. More program material and better service to clubs on programs.
2. A MWF Bulletin Editors Manual to stimulate more and better club bulletins.
3. An educational program to correct misconceptions and answer complaints on the Uniform Rules. This should also increase the number of competitive exhibits.

The Executive Committee thanks the Evansville Lapidary Society for the excellent facilities and arrangements and also for the party given the group in the evening.
-B. F. Parr, 1st Vice President

Scholarship Foundation

13 CLUBS REACH NEW STATUS

13 MWF clubs have reached a new percentage status in the Scholarship Fund. These clubs are congratulated for their efforts.

- 1300% - West Suburban Lapidary Society
- 800% - Des Moines Lapidary Society
- 500% - Lake County Gem and Mineral Society
- 400% - Richland Lithic and Lapidary Society
- 300% - Central Iowa Mineral Society
Dallas County Rock Club
Wisconsin Geological Society
- 200% - Flint Rock and Gem Club
Ozark Earth Science Club
Cincinnati Mineral Club
Badlands-Sandhills Earth Science Club
- 100% - Great Lakes Rock Club
Pike County Gem and Mineral Society

Thanks are expressed to clubs counting and trimming coupons before mailing. A reminder to clubs to include name and address both inside and on the outside of all packages. -Katharine Steinbrenner, Chm.

Richland County Fairgrounds, Mansfield, Ohio
1971 CONVENTION AND SHOW July 22-25

The committee for the 1971 show is working hard to make it the best ever. The aim is to put on an enjoyable show with a friendly atmosphere at the Fairgrounds but at the same time make it rewarding from an educational standpoint. The committee would appreciate comments and suggestions from the Federation membership. The committee cannot promise to use all suggestions but they will be given serious consideration. Address the chairman, B. F. Parr, 1488 Marion Avenue Road, Mansfield, Ohio 44906.

PALEONTOLOGIST NEEDS HELP

More and more professional paleontologists are turning to the amateur collector to provide rare and often unknown fossil specimens for study and description. The amateur often is able to spend more time collecting than the professional, and is able to be there at the right time. Many very valuable (to science) specimens are sitting on dusty shelves, which under proper study would shed light on many fossil classification problems.

Dr. Erik Kjellswig-Waering, of Oslo, Norway, is presently doing a study on eurypterids, scorpions and spiders of the Pennsylvanian. He desperately needs as many specimens as possible of these fossils from the Terre Haute, Indiana area strip mines. These specimens will be described and undoubtedly new species will be found - perhaps a specimen would be named after YOU!

All specimens will be given extreme care, and will be returned if you wish. If you have a specimen that is a small eurypterid, scorpion, or spider-like insect (not insects with wings, or shrimp) and would like to help science and gain a bit of fame, send a brief description of the fossil and a small sketch if possible to: Mr. Ted White, 2623 S. 38th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68105.

Ted is acting as liaison between Dr. Waering and the fossil collectors of the MWF. You will receive instructions about sending your specimens from him or Mr. Waering.

Please participate in this effort if you can. Let's show the professionals that the amateur collector can be of great value.

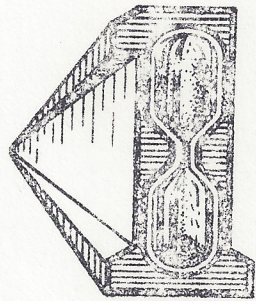
Season's Greetings

TO ALL OUR
MEMBER CLUBS



May your New Year
be smooth and
Crystal Clear

HAPPY NEW YEAR
January



May all your tumbles
be
Lake Superior Agates!!

GORDON WILLIAMS
- EDITOR -

RUTH AND BOB BEAUVAIS
- PUBLISHERS -