

JUNE 1973



The

GRAND RAPIDS
MINERAL SOCIETY

BOARD OF CONTROL

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	Ruth Potter	4175 Huntington NE, Grand Rapids	364-4245
Past President	Roger King	1957 36th SW, Wyoming	532-6239

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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 7:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the 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.

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EXCHANGE EDITORS - PLEASE NOTE:

All exchange bulletins should be addressed to:

Mr. Arthur Ferguson, Editor
The Glacial Drifter
2748 Pohens NW
Grand Rapids, Mich. 49504

THE GLACIAL DRIFTER

VOLUME 15

NO. 10

JUNE 1973

JUNE MEETING

Place: Shelter House, Ideal Park
(see article for map)

Time: Wednesday, June 13 6:30 p.m.

Program: "Netsuke" by Henry Tchozeski
"Corundum" - Five Minutes with
Bob Beauvais

G.R.M.S. CALENDAR

- June 16 Field Trip to Wallace Stone Quarry
Bayport, Mich.
- June 18 Board of Control meets with Ferguson's
- June 20 Mineral Study Group at Beauvais'
- July 11 Pot Luck Picnic at Ideal Park
- July 14 Field Trip to May Stone Company
Fort Wayne, Indiana
- August 8 Pot Luck Picnic at Ideal Park
- August 11 Field Trip to Amherstberg Quarry
Amherstberg, Ontario
- August 13 Board of Control (both new and
old boards) meet at the home of
Bob & Ruth Beauvais.

CHIPS from the Editor's Workbench

This month we start winding down the Drifter for summer. A few comments come to mind:

1. Hunt safely and observe good manners.
2. Keep a few notes on your trip and pass them along via the Drifter.
3. We are always open to suggestions as to what you would like to see in the Drifter.

About two weeks ago, Yo Ed received a letter from the Bulletin Committee stating that we have been selected for one of the top ten bulletin awards. They will let us know which place we have won at the Editor's Breakfast at the MWF Convention in Cincinnati in July.

Our May pot luck meeting was well attended. After the delicious feed, we had an excellent program by Mr. Frankforter on Ice-Age Fossils. We also introduced Robert Gillies, Jr. 12, and Scott Blanchard, 11, and their fathers. The boys have found a fossil sloth skull in Iowa recently. Marilyn Arnold also gave a talk on polishing Petoskeys. One of her fine Petoskey pictures was given to Mr. Frankforter in appreciation of his talk.

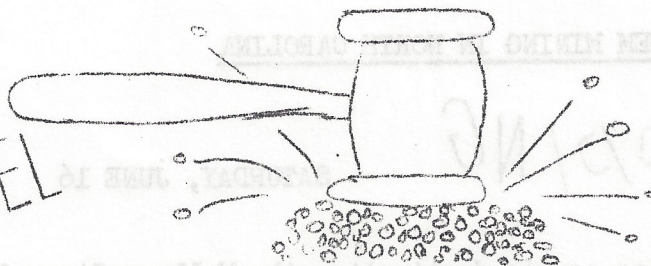
Our annual election was also held at the May meeting. Our officers for 73-74 are:

President - Rich Van Beek
Vice-President - Henry Tchozeski
Secretary - Marion Jennings
Treasurer - Robert Tuinstra
Liaison Officer - Lucile Pearl
Historian - Marilyn Arnold
Board of Control - Karl DeBack
Ruth Beauvais
Roger King
Dorothy Ferguson
Editor - Guess who?

-Art Ferguson

Safety Slogan: You can walk with a wooden leg, and chew with false teeth, but you can't see with a glass eye.

GAVEL
GRAVEL



THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Spring is here at last! -- as far as the Beauvais household is concerned, that is. The storm windows are out and the screens are in, the lawn chairs are on the patio, and last fall's assortment from Cheney Quarry is finally off the picnic table and benches! We've even gotten optimistic about summer's arrival and our vacation plans are gradually taking shape. A portion of those plans include attending the Midwest Federation Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. Ruth and I had been on the fence about going there, but the news of the award to be given to the Drifter and its editor was the catalyst that settled our minds. All we know at the present time is that our bulletin is one of the top ten, but we can think positive, can't we?

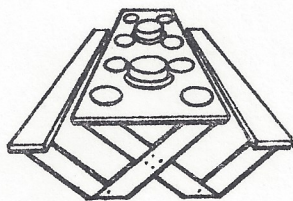
Because our summer bulletins are short and just cover the necessities, I won't be inflicting my views on you in the next couple of months. I do want to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe, pleasant summer, and to remind you to use common sense and good safety practices whether at home, on vacation, or collecting rocks. On another page of this issue we are reprinting the Code of Ethics of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and urge all rockhounds to abide by them. Treat other persons and their property as you would like them to treat you and yours.

Good hunting and a safe return!

-Bob Beauvais

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JUNE MEETING



June 13 will be the first of our summer potluck meetings. Everyone is reminded to bring a tablecloth, his own table service, a hot dish, salad or dessert to pass and his own beverage. Directions to Ideal Park will be found on page 7.

NETSUKE (ancient carved ivory figurines from Japan) will be the subject of an illustrated talk given by Henry Tchozeski beginning about 7:30 p.m. in the shelter house. He will also discuss "The Eight Immortals" which are somewhat larger carved ivory figures from China. Henry is a founding member of G.R.M.S., is a past president and vice-president, and has been on the Board of Control for a total of ten years. Beginning in September he will be vice-president and program chairman.

-Rich Van Beek

GEM MINING IN NORTH CAROLINA

FIELD TRIPPING

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

The field trip for June has as its destination the Wallace Stone Quarry at Bay Port, in Michigan's thumb area.

Meet at the plant office at 11:30 a.m. to sign their liability release form. The plant office closes at noon, so be sure to arrive before then!

Directions for reaching the quarry are quite simple. You can choose your own route to Bay City, then take M25 east and north 40 miles to M42, turn east on M42 approximately 5 miles to the quarry on the north side of the highway.

Minerals to be found here are brown calcite crystals, dogtooth calcite, pyrite and chert. Several kinds of fossils are also reported to be found here.

If you plan on camping, Albert E. Sleeper State Park at Caseville, and Port Crescent State Park at Port Austin each have campgrounds. A number of private campgrounds are also available.

It might be interesting to visit Grindstone City, at the tip of the thumb, where at one time a flourishing business was enjoyed by manufacturers of large grindstones and millstones.

The field trip for July will be to Fort Wayne, Indiana, to the May Stone Quarry where fossils and yellow fluorite are found. In August we plan to visit Amherstberg Quarry at Amherstberg, Ontario to look for celestite, calcite and other minerals. More about both these trips later. For all trips you need hard hats, safety glasses, rock hammers, sledge hammers, pry bars, and chisels.

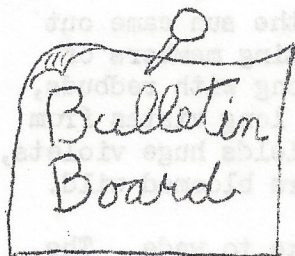
Call me if you have any questions.

-Bob Beauvais

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A special thanks to Marilyn Arnold for the lovely Petoskey stone picture she made at cost and which was presented to Mr. Frankforter. It is now hanging in a prominent place in his office at the museum.

-Rich Van Beek



FLASH! FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

A letter was received recently from Frank Cox stating that he is sponsoring a Mall Show at the North Kent Mall August 17-19. He has invited the GRMS to participate. We may display, demonstrate lapidary techniques, swap and even sell. There will be no charge to the club. Promotions on TV, radio, and the Lapidary Journal and five other gem magazines will advertise this event. A quick telephone poll of a few board members showed some interest. A letter to Mr. Cox showing club interest was sent and has now been answered. Tables will be furnished with power for lighting, etc. The Mall requests that tables be covered and Mr. Cox states that sheets are O.K. One important part of the show will be dealers from across the country. Many of the members have been wishing that we could have a Dealer Show. Here is our chance. The board will act on this and further details will be discussed at the June meeting. Anyone who wishes to participate in the Mall Show should let a board member know, or tell us at the June picnic. Possibly those who cannot attend all the time can share tables. A check of the calendar in Lapidary Journal shows that there are about three of these traveling mall shows moving around the country. Evidently the promoters feel that there is more demand for this type of show than the clubs can provide.

The Rockhound Directories are in and will also be available at the June meeting. Price is \$1.25.

As announced at the May meeting, the name tags are available and members wanting their own tags may buy them for 50¢. One set has been purchased for club use at meetings. These are to be left at the museum.

Visitors at our May meeting included Jack and Helen Roberts, Mr. & Mrs. G. W. Stover, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dutchess, Gene Baldwin, Bob Gillies and son, Bob, Don Blanchard and son, Scott, and Mr. & Mrs. S. Sarien.

A cordial welcome is extended to our new members:

Tom and Wendy Penning
3402 Wyoming Ave. SW 538-7356
Wyoming, Mich. 49504
(Junior members)

Tom Sharry
843 Clancy NE 459-5986
Grand Rapids, Mich. 49503
(Junior member)

Mr. & Mrs. Keith A. (Linda) Morse
1220 Northfield NE Apt. 12
Grand Rapids, Mich. 49505
774-9259

Add their names to your directory and make them welcome when you meet them.

HAPPINESS IS -- BROWN COUNTY!

After weeks of cold and rain, right up through Thursday night, the sun came out on that Friday, in Brown County, Ind., just to welcome the visiting members of the GRMS, no doubt. Dogwoods measureably sprang into bloom, along with redbuds, cherries, and many other appreciated but unknown blossoms. The long vistas from the ridges took on the green tinge of unfurling buds. In the fields huge violets, daffodils, narcissus, anemones, phlox and countless other flowers bloomed wild.

It was the perfect way to spend a Friday...especially if you like to wade. The swift-running, muddy creeks were full to their banks and the only way to get at those prized geodes and fossils was either in the water, or in the banks from the water.

This is where the winter boots came in handy. One piece, they were waterproof...sheep-skin lined, they were warm. You could splash happily across, or up and down the stream searching for treasures. Well, maybe you could. Before long I had been tempted into one step too many, and the water coursed cheerfully over and into the boots. Actually, this turned out to be not a bad thing--boots full of water, as long as you're all wet anyway, provided somewhat the advantages of a diver's leaded shoes. The strength of the current now posed few problems, and who cared any longer if the water came well above the knees? Yes, I was getting the hang of it now, and there certainly were plenty of those limestone balls to pick up. And fossils--brachiopods, gastropods, horn corals, other shapes, large and strangely marked, but surely fossils! What matter if a large percentage of my prize globules turned out to be disappointingly solid under my partner's patient sledging. Pretty soon we'd get the hang of what was meant by "light for it's size"--bound to! There just couldn't be a better little old river to go splashing around in on a Friday afternoon.

Now, I have a theory that any time a couple of handsome young men stop to talk to me it's worth a bit of conversation. So, when a couple of college-type guys in a Beetle pulled up on the road to ask if we were looking for mushrooms or rocks, I allowed as how we favored the rocks. And by golly, they told us about a new road cut, just north of Bloomington, where there were lots of geodes, both quartz and calcite. I duly reported this information to our trip leaders, and by golly, we found it.

And that's how we came to be standing on a gummy, sticky, slippery, gluey, red-mud bank on Saturday. Out came the boots again (standing them alternately upside down and rightside up overnight had drained out much of the "loose water" in the sheepskin.) Out came the collecting bags and pails. Now we knew what "light for their size" meant. Allowing for the ounce or two of mud surrounding each, these things were practically weightless. And lots of them. And fossils--crinoid stems, and that beautiful big crinoid head my partner found and fortunately recognized before he sledged it. What matter the rain that came pouring down? It was no wetter than the river, and no doubt useful in washing off some of the mud resulting from slides and sit-downs. (You don't know what you missed, if you missed Rich Van Beek in old pants that he'd cut off into shorter-shorts than he'd planned, plus old rubbers so encumbered with 4-inch mud clumps that he eventually abandoned them at the bottom of a gully.) There just couldn't be a gummier, goosier spot for a Saturday afternoon.

(next page, please)

And there was more to this rockhound paradise. After those of us who out-waited the rain finally abandoned the slippery geode banks, we found the Birdie Gal-
yon Road area. This is where the crinoids went to bury their dead (leaving
their heads at home), and they were smart about it. They put it right where
fast and heavy traffic would form an effective barrier to casual searching. It
was interesting to watch Marie Spielmaker and Ruth Steele diligently hammering
away, their fannies air-cooled by every car that swooped by within inches. But
it did keep you close to your work. There just couldn't be a more accessible
location.

Hot, booted and mud-stained, we were looked upon with ill-concealed pity by the
multi-hued tourists wandering in and out of the narrow streets and gift-shop
by-ways of Nashville. It was good we were able to thus lift the spirits
of all those bored, fancy-feathered city slickers herding around looking for
artsy-craftsy ways to spend their money--I think they needed that. As for me,
there just couldn't be a better way to go than on a muddy, wet but splendid
search for nature's hidden masterpieces.

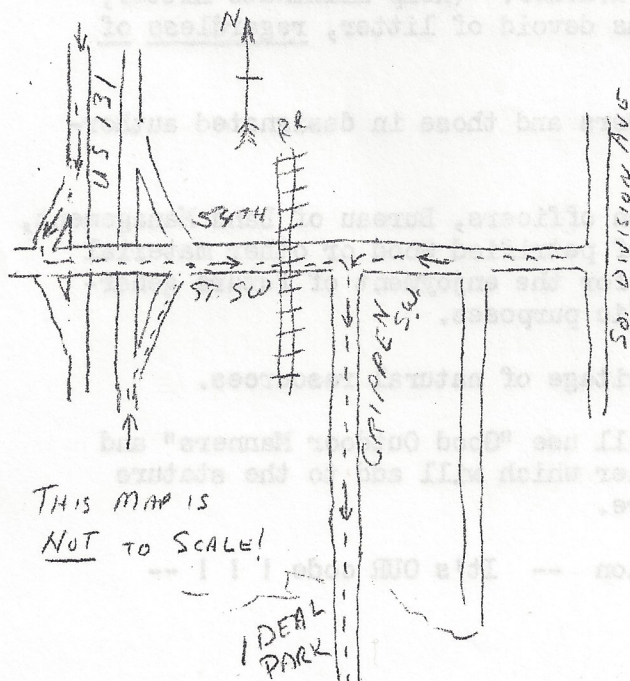
Just sign me --

Abby Martin

(Note: Abe Martin is Brown County's most famous character who never really
lived except on paper, yet his sayings are constantly repeated. Created by
Kin Martin, Indiana's famed humorist, he was a composite of many Brown County
natives. Just how Abby Martin (his wife?) got with the rockhounds of the GRMS
is anybody's guess!)

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THIS IS THE WAY TO IDEAL
PARK, WHERE ALL OUR SUMMER
MEETINGS WILL BE HELD --



READING THE MAIL. . .

Tip: How about taking your rocks
after a field trip to a car wash and
for 25¢ all specimens can be washed
in hot, soapy, high pressure water
in three minutes? It really gets
them clean!

Via The Pegmatite

Nowadays when we see someone holding
his nose, we don't know if its pol-
lution or politics.

INVENTION: A shotgun with one barrel
on top of the other instead of side by
side--for shooting ducks that happen
to be riding piggyback.

All from State Line's
ROCK TRAILS

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION CODE OF ETHICS

(This has appeared several times in our bulletin, but with many new rockhounds among us, and the field trip season just beginning, it seems a good time to have all of us reread it.)

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.

I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.

I will cause no wilful damage to property of any kind--fences, signs, buildings, etc.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires in designated or safe places only, and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning material: matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supply.

I will cause no wilful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will support the Rockhound Project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter, Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management, or other proper authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other material on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule," will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and "Public Image" of rockhounds everywhere.

---We are members of the American Federation -- It's OUR code ! ! ! --

GEM MINING IN NORTH CAROLINA

If you feel like taking a week's vacation in the beautiful Smoky Mountains of western North Carolina you are in for a great thrill. The scenery is breath-taking and gem mining is centered pretty much in two locations. There are many mines in and around Franklin, N.C., mostly in the Cowee Valley, 6 miles north on 28. There, with a little luck and perseverance you can add rubies, yellow, red, blue and white sapphires, rutile, and rhodalite and kyanite to your collection. It costs \$3 a day to use each mine owner's facilities and you may dig your own pails of dirt or buy theirs at 4 for \$1. I preferred to buy as I could wash more buckets that way and I figured they knew a bit more about the terrain than I. Contrary to some belief, the owners do hope that you have some good finds as they are in strict competition and the word really spreads when tired miners make their way back to various motels and campgrounds. There are good reasonable motels in the area and also campgrounds. Also some very good restaurants.

About 2 hours north rises a community called "Little Switzerland" near Spruce Pine. It lies about 50 miles northeast of Asheville. I went up there specifically to mine for aquamarine and fully intended to go on over to Hiddenite for emeralds. When we arrived and started making inquiries at various gem shops and the museum we found that the Wiseman aquamarine mine had been shut down because of lack of funds for new timbers and shoring and not reopened this year as yet. With further probing they disclosed the location of the Crabtree emerald mine--actively mining. We went up early the next morning. The fee was \$3. If you didn't have a pail, 50¢ more, and 50¢ for a sifter. Both can be brought from home. The operator brings up 3 or 4 loads a day and dumps them--depending on the crowd. You carry pails of water to pour on fresh material and scoop up the dirt and rinse it in your sieve. There you may find tiny crystals of emerald, beryl crystals, tourmaline, and smoky quartz. No one goes away entirely unhappy. That evening we found a great Chinese restaurant called Bearns in the hills. We also discovered "The Gem Shop" which I doubt could be bested. Mr. McKinney makes all his own settings, charging \$125 for a ring. They are simply beautiful. My whole trip was complete after seeing his displays.

I took a widow friend of mine along and I think I almost made a rockhound believer out of her. To top everything the roads going and coming are excellent and the trip can be made in a day, 800 miles. If anyone decides to go, give me a ring and I'll fill you in on details.

-Bette Baker

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Cleaning oil soaked crystals--the name of a product that can be used to clean the oil-soaked pyrite crystals such as found at Rensselaer is Kem-Klean, made by Kem-Tine. Just brush on liberally with a paint brush and flush off with the hose.

From Rocky Ledger via Geologem and
Earth Science News

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL - May 14, 1973

The meeting of the Board of Control was brought to order by our president, Robert Beauvais, at the home of Roger & Faye King. The secretary's report was given, one small correction of a missing word made, then approved. The treasurer's report was given showing a balance of \$180.63. Our membership is now 82. The report was approved.

The election report was given and the names of the new officers are now recorded as:

President - Rich Van Beek
 Vice-President - Henry Tchozeski
 Treasurer - Robert Tuinstra
 Secretary - Marion Jennings
 Historian - Marilyn Arnold
 Liaison Officer - Lucile Pearl
 Editor - Arthur Ferguson

Board Members:
 Karl DeBack
 Dorothy Ferguson
 Ruth Beauvais
 Roger King

Moved by Dorothy Ferguson that the ballots be destroyed, seconded by Ernie Potter.

A letter has been received from Mr. P. R. Page of Gainesville, Fla., informing us of a book being prepared which contains the names, addresses and special interests of individuals in many different parts of the country who would like to contact other rockhounds. As this booklet could be a valuable source of information, it was moved by Karl DeBack that the club buy 12 of these booklets for resale; supported by Ernie Potter, and carried.

Dorothy Ferguson says she has orders for 18 pair of safety glasses and will send the order in soon. Moved by Rich Van Beek that the club reimburse Karl DeBack for expenses as publicity chairman, but the offer was declined by Karl as he considers his expense a donation to the club.

Rich Van Beek reminded us that our 15th anniversary will come next October. After discussion it was decided something special should be planned for this occasion. Rich Van Beek so moved, Karl DeBack supported the motion, and it was approved by the board.

It was noted that attendance at the Grand Rapids Public Museum during our show in March was 14,240. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Arnold, Secretary

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TREASURER'S REPORT:

Balance forwarded			\$ 162.24
Receipts:		Disbursements:	
Raffle sales	28.00	Returned membership	5.00
Safety glasses	13.75	Postage	24.00
Emblems and decals	2.50	Attendant	7.75
Sale of food	1.20	Dymo tape	3.61
Name tags	13.50		40.36
	<u>58.95</u>		

Receipts	58.95
	<u>221.19</u>
Disbursements	40.36
	<u>\$ 180.83</u>

Balance on hand May 14, 1973

Respectfully submitted, Dorothy A. Ferguson, Treas.

SHOWS 'N' SWAPS

Note: The following are listed for your convenience and we suggest that you keep this list for reference during the summer. Take it on vacation and make it a point to see what our fellow clubs are doing.

June 28-July 1 AFMS and Eastern Federation Show, Charlotte, N.C.

June 30-July 1 Rock River Valley Gem and Mineral Society, at the Wagon Wheel, Rockton, Illinois

July 26-29 Midwest Federation Show and Convention, hosted by Cincinnati Mineral Society, Cincinnati, Ohio

July 27-Aug. 5 Grand Valley Rock & Mineral Society at Ionia Free Fair.

Aug. 3-5 Lakeland Gem Club 5th Annual Gemboree, Midwest Regional Show. Displays, dealers, swapping. "Lakeland Gem Festival" Minocqua, Wis.

Aug. 9-11 Copper Country Rock and Mineral Club 6th Annual Gem & Mineral Show, "Earth's Treasures" National Guard Armory, Calumet, Mich.

Aug. 17-19 North Kent Mall Gem & Mineral Show (Frank Cox Show - see Bulletin Board in this issue)

Aug. 18-26 Richland Lithic & Lapidary Society Show "Gems Amid Floral Beauty" at Mansfield, Ohio. Field trips, swap, silent auction

Aug. 24--26 Westwood Mall Gem & Mineral Show (Frank Cox) at Jackson, Mich.

Aug. 25,26 Iron County Rock & Mineral Club, 7th Annual Rock Swap, Crystal Falls Township Hall, Crystal Falls, Mich. Swap, silent auction, displays.

Sept. 8 Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club and Grand Rapids Mineral Society Joint Rock Swap, Gaines Township Hall, Grand Rapids. THIS IS OUR SWAP. Push it hard -- be prepared to help our chairman, Art Ferguson. Read the flyer in this issue!

Sept. 8-9 Lake Erie Gem & Geological Society Annual Rock Swap & Display Floral Hall, Lorain County Fairgrounds, Wellington, Ohio

Sept. 14-16 Muskegon County Rock Club Rock Swap at Pioneer Park, Muskegon, Mich.

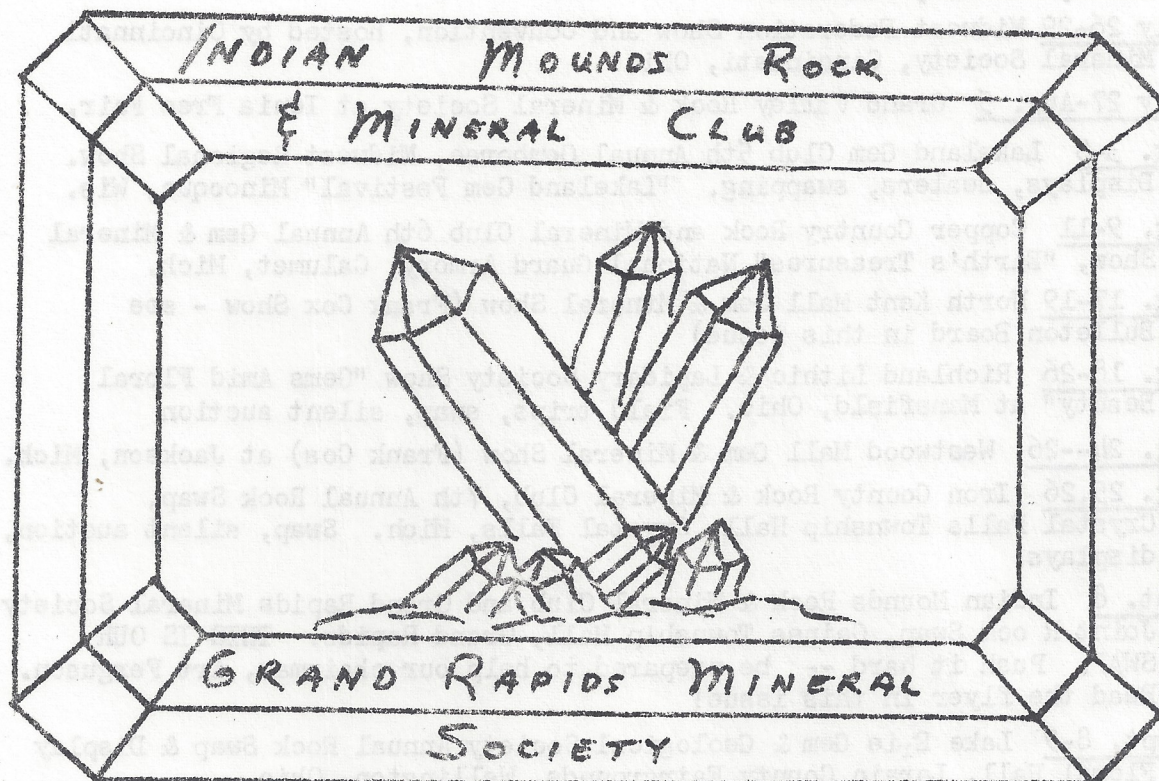
Sept. 14-16 Lansing Mall Gem & Mineral Show (Frank Cox) Lansing, Mich.

Sept. 21-22 Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club 4th Annual Show, Civic Center, Holland, Mich.

5TH ANNUAL ROCK SWAP

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 8, 1973



KIDREN'S TABLE DOOR PRIZES SNACK BAR

POT LUCK DINNER - 6PM

BRING TABLEWARE AND
2 DISHES TO PASS

TRADE:

ROCKS - FOSSILS

MINERALS - CUTTING MATERIAL

LAPIDARY WORK - ???

GAINES TOWNSHIP HALL
1685 68TH ST. S.E.
GRAND RAPIDS, MI.

US 131 TO 68TH ST. EXIT - THEN 2.7 MI. E.