

the GLACIAL DRIFTER

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THE GRAND RAPIDS MINERAL SOCIETY

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"COPPER" IS THEME OF OCTOBER MEETING

The story of Copper will furnish the theme for the Society's October meeting which will be held at the Public Museum, Wednesday the 14th at 8 P.M. Vice-President Dr. Richard W. Rose will present the program which will feature unique specimens from the Michigan State University collection.

Dr. Rose asks that any member who has copper specimens of an unusual nature bring them to the meeting for showing to the group. A discussion period will be devoted to types and origin of native copper and the many copper minerals. Joe D. Hanna, Jr. will speak briefly on copper gem materials and their lapidary treatment.

NOVEMBER AUCTION TO HAVE "ONLY THE BEST"

Plans are underway to make the club auction in November a truly big affair. If successful, it will be continued as an annual event not only as a "fund raiser" but also as an opportunity for all members to purchase from a greater selection of items than is normally carried by dealers.

All material is being donated by members. It is also hoped that rock shops in the area will send in contributions. The DRIFTER will gratefully acknowledge all donations. Early gifts for the auction reported by Henry J. Tchozeski include - A Calcite crystal group from Mrs. Leslie G. Pearl; a cluster of purple fluorite crystals given by James Ray Jones and a packet of tumble polished gem stones donated by Jay Shook.

Henry Tchozeski says he has a lot more promised but urges all members to participate with "at least one really nice item." Henry will be on hand (if the stork cooperates with Mrs. T.) at the October meeting to receive material for the auction.

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Election of officers for the Society's second year of operation will be held at the October meeting.

* * *

NORWOOD FIELD TRIP REWARDS MANY

The Society's first overnight field trip was a huge success according to the twenty-nine members who travelled to Norwood, Michigan September 26 and 27. And everyone returned home with full sacks and happy hearts after a wonderful week-end of fresh air, sunshine and rocks.

Les Pearl was, of course, fully equipped for any adventure. We didn't think much of this, however, until we learned he had told Les Walters and Bob Rozema not to bother to bring their boots. But then it was probably just a coincidence that the intrepid Mr. Pearl was seen picking up all the BIG marcasite nodules while sloshing about in Traverse Bay.

Edith Register and Sarah Royer concentrated their hunting on the North Shore where the Petoskey stones and banded chert abounded. Mr. and Mrs. Francis A. Mullin and their youngsters arrived late but had some beautiful Lake Superior agates to show from an earlier trip to the Upper Peninsula. Leo Hoogerhyde found some excellent pieces of chert and large chunks of anthraconite crystals. Patti Ann Rose brought a school chum to help "load the loot" but wound up in the doghouse when she promptly lost the Doctor's rock hammer. Fortunately Mr. and Mrs. Merle Shook came along with the hammer they had rescued from the sand. The Shooks, incidentally, received a pleasant surprise when their daughter and son-in-law brought their brand new grandson for a visit to their motel while in Traverse City.

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Jack Phelps gathered some select Petoskey stones and then headed North for an Indian village in search of a clue to locate Stauroilite which he said had been reported in the area. Jack promises to tell us the location if he finds any of this unusual mineral. Otto Weisner managed to find some fossils no one had ever seen before much to the embarrassment of the "experts". Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Doornbos missed the caravan on Saturday and so found a beach of their own to explore. Buddy Hanna, age 3, picked up a rock and handed it to his mother saying, "Toskey stone". It was too!

The group was met at Norwood by Mrs. Clyde Warner a new member of the Society.

* * *

Miss Edna M. McDowell has a nephew who is a geologist. For a rockhound, this is like having a key to the night lock at the First National Bank.

JADE RING TO BE NEXT PRIZE

Some lucky member is going to walk off with a jade ring which is the ticket prize for the October meeting. The ring has been donated by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reed Rozema. Club President Rozema is also the proprietor of Rozema's Rockpile in case any of our readers didn't spot the connection.

MAKES DISPLAYS FROM SPOOLS

Mrs. Helen Burgwald showed us some unique mountings for slabs she has devised from plastic spools. The spools are discards from the Wilson (golf clubs) plant where Mrs. Burgwald works. The mountings lend themselves excellently to lighted displays for showing color and design in transparent and translucent slabs.

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THE GLACIAL DRIFTER

Lou Witte was winner of one of the September door prizes - a year's subscription to EARTH SCIENCE magazine. The other prize - a piece of moss opal - went to our cutest cutter of gems, Miss Holly Barkley.

YOU TOO CAN BE A GEOLOGIST!

Never underestimate the ingenuity of a rockhound. Take James Ray Jones, a member from Zeeland, Mich. (see Drifter Sept. 1959), for instance. Invited to look over the famous fluorite mines of Southern Illinois as a visiting geologist this summer, Jim managed to knock off a few samples with his rock hammer which he happened to be carrying at the time.

What we would like to know, however, is how you manage to walk out of a mine with forty pounds of fluorite crystals in your pants pockets and nobody the wiser?

This man we could afford to send to Johannesburg, South Africa!

Joe D. Hanna, Jr., Editor