

# the GLACIAL DRIFTER

Vol. I.

July, 1959

Number 8.

official publication of  
THE GRAND RAPIDS MINERAL SOCIETY

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## JULY MEETING TO BE "SWAP" NIGHT

A "swap table" will be the feature of the July meeting which will be held at the pavillion of Riverside Park, Wednesday, July 8 starting at 5:30 p.m. Members are urged to bring their families as well as rocks, though trading will be restricted to the latter. Picnic tables are available as well as fireplaces for the more ambitious; however, everyone is to provide for himself as no group arrangements are being made as at the Caledonia picnic last month.

Some members have completed rockhounding vacation trips and will have some material from distant areas to trade. Of special interest is the lava picked up by Gus Beuker while vacationing in Hawaii last January. It is hoped that the Junior members of the Society will take an active part in the trading as well as newcomers and oldtimers. We have seen a few of their collections and have noted some outstanding material.

A "Show and Tell" table will also be available for members who have "bragging rocks" and lapidary work they would like to show. No formal meeting is planned and so no speaker has been scheduled for the evening.

## PIT FIELD TRIP ATTRACTS TWENTY-FIVE

The first summer field trip attracted twenty-five members to the Vosburg Block and Gravel Co. pit in Ada on Saturday, June 27. Among the numerous mineral specimens and cutting stones found were: calcite crystals, pyrite in oil shale, jasper conglomerates or "puddin' stones", banded chert, Petoskey stones and other fossils, limonite and hematite concretions, jasper, and a few agates. One member, Miss Clara A. Powell, not wanting to miss the trip, took a bus to Ada. Miss Powell does not drive and didn't want "to put anybody out." Rest assured she found new friends and a ride home. Joe D. Hanna, Jr. was trip captain.

## SILENT AUCTION TO HIGHLIGHT NEXT MEETING

Chief Rockhound Henry Tchozeski has announced that the July rock sale will be in the form of a silent auction. Donated material will be placed on tables--each piece with a card identifying it, along with space for the bidders to put their names and the price they are willing to pay. At a set time, the auction will be closed and the pieces awarded to the highest bidders as of that moment. It is believed that an outstanding amount of high grade material contributed by various members will result in some spirited bidding. A list of donors will appear in the next issue of the DRIFTER.

## MABEL PALMER WRITES BOOK ON HERBS

Mrs. Mabel T. Palmer, assistant women's editor of The Grand Rapids Press and a charter member of the Society, has written a book entitled "The Herb Patch" just released by her publishers. Mrs. Palmer writes a column for the Sunday Press under the same title as her new book. Husband, Lowell Mead Palmer, an instructor at Union High school, is also a charter member of the club. We would suggest to Mrs. Palmer that her next book deal with ROCK Gardens. We'll place our order now.

## DIRECTORY LISTS 362 MEMBERS

The Society's first directory compiled and published by Miss Edna M. McDowell and her committee of Miss Maxine Atwater and Miss Virginia Franzen was mailed to 173 addresses listing family, individual and student paid memberships totalling 362 people. This would indicate that the Grand Rapids Mineral Society is one of the largest for the hobby in the United States. Miss McDowell tells us that she will take the blame for any mistakes and that any corrections members may desire should be phoned to her. Perhaps a mistake or two did creep into the directory, but the DRIFTER wants to emphasize the credit that should go to the Mesdames McDowell, Atwater and Franzen for the tremendous amount of time and effort put in to the creation of this work. This record will go down thru the years as a permanent listing of the Society's pioneers.

As new members join, the DRIFTER will list them in the same manner as the directory. The names may then be cut out and pasted on

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## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Add these names to your directory for an up-to-date listing of the membership.

Weisner, Mr. & Mrs. Otto J.	M-F	Friedrich, Miss Marion	M-I
655 Lugers Road		1404 Hope Street, SE	
Holland, Mich.		Grand Rapids 6, Mich.	
		GL 8-8012	
Jarvis, Mrs. Louise H.	M-I		
120 Eastern Ave. SE			
Grand Rapids, Mich.		GL 8-6924	

sheets of paper and kept with the original pages. Three such listings appear in this issue above.

## MEMBERS MEET BY CHANCE IN COPPER COUNTRY

Having passed two roadside tables, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie G. Pearl decided to stop for lunch no matter what the next offered. Luckily it was a park (they had been hoping to find one). They were returning from a rockhounding vacation trip in Michigan's copper country. The park was north of Hancock. Fixing lunch, they struck up an acquaintance with another couple only to learn that their new friends were Mr. and Mrs. Lester B. Walters, like themselves charter members of the Society. While they were remarking about this coincidence, up drove a trailer and out climbed founding members Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kerr and their family. So with Secretary Jane Kerr present, Outpost No. 1 of the Grand Rapids Mineral Society held an informal meeting--subject, ROCKS.

## FIELD TRIPS SLATED JULY 11 and 26.

A field trip to the Coit Ave. gravel pit is scheduled for Saturday, July 11 under the supervision of club Treasurer, Henry Slater. Members are to meet in their cars at the Riverside Park pavillion at 1 p.m. from where they will caravan to the pit. Only members of the Society may attend and no member under 14 is permitted on a gravel pit field trip. The Coit pit is a very large one and has not been worked by rockhounds before. Henry has been over the

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Grand Rapids, Mich.

ground (we sewed up his pockets) and reports many rich finds are in store for those making the trip.

Another trip is planned for Sunday, July 26 but the destination has not been set. A beach area has been picked but had to be discarded when a check disclosed the beach contaminated with oil. Cards will be mailed to members when a new site has been found. This field trip will be for all members and their families regardless of age.

#### JOHN SEXTON IS DOUBLE DOOR PRIZE WINNER

Cries of "fixed" didn't faze John W. Sexton as he walked off with two of the door prizes given at the June meeting---a tie and cuff set made and donated by Ray Fox, and a blue agate slab given by Rozema's Rockpile. Other winners were Cornelius Doornbos, and Ray Fox. The beautiful amazonite crystal contributed by Wilper Rock Shop was won by Miss Jane P. Cichaniewicz.

#### STUDENT MEMBERS MAKE FRONT PAGE NEWS

Two Junior members of the Society made the front page of the Grand Rapids Press recently. Terry Beye was elected vice president of the Organization of Scientific Explorers, a group of high school and college young people who are building their own chemistry laboratory to further research in that field by their members. Penny Arleen Hanna was nicknamed "hurricane" in a story picked up by United Press International when it was learned that her first, middle and last names had all been picked by the United States Weather Bureau as names for hurricanes in 1959.

Editor

Joe D. Hanna, Jr.  
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