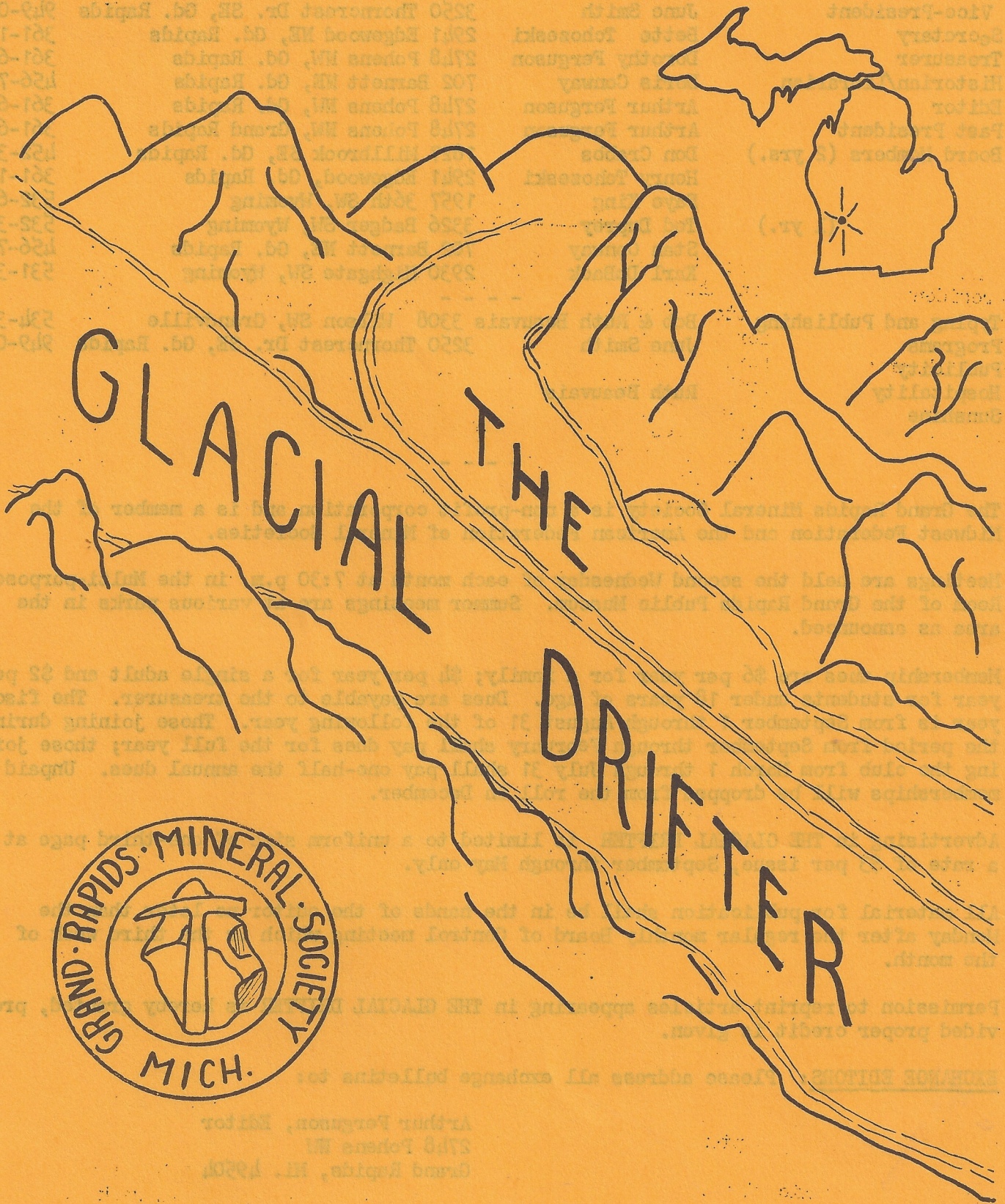


OCTOBER 1977

BOARD OF CONTROL



BOARD OF CONTROL

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| Publicity | | | |
| Hospitality | Ruth Beauvais | | |
| Sunshine | | | |

The Grand Rapids Mineral Society is a non-profit corporation and is a member of 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 in the area as announced.

Membership dues are \$6 per year for a family; \$4 per year for a single adult and \$2 per year for students under 18 years of age. Dues are payable to the treasurer. The fiscal year is from September 1 through August 31 of the following year. Those joining during the period from September through February shall pay dues for the full year; those joining the club from March 1 through July 31 shall pay one-half the annual dues. Unpaid memberships will be dropped from the roll in December.

Advertising in THE GLACIAL DRIFTER is limited to a uniform size of one-third page at a 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 Monday 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.

EXCHANGE EDITORS: Please address all exchange bulletins to:

Arthur Ferguson, Editor
2748 Pohens NW
Grand Rapids, Mi. 49504

Cover design by Robert Beauvais

THE GLACIAL DRIFTER

VOLUME 20 NUMBER 2

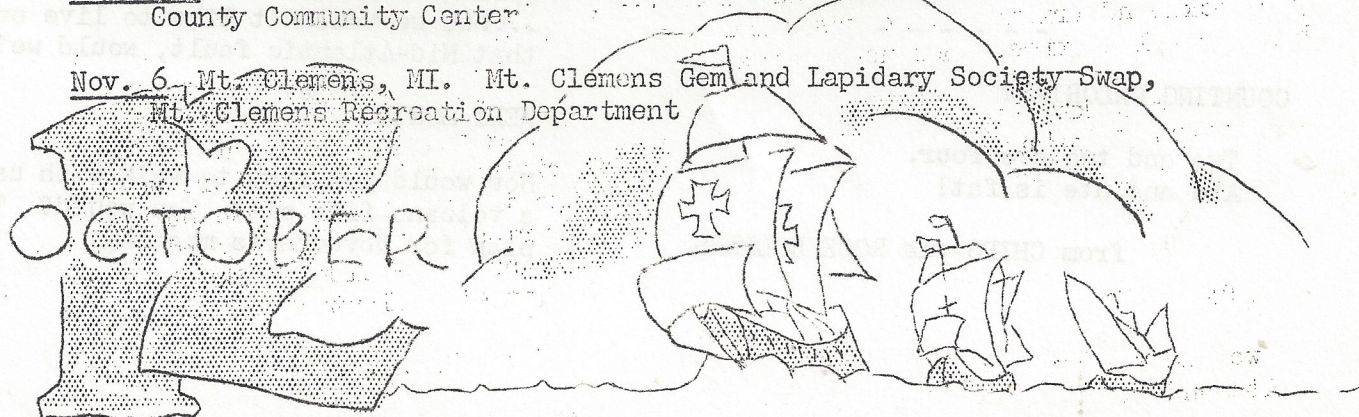
OCTOBER 1977

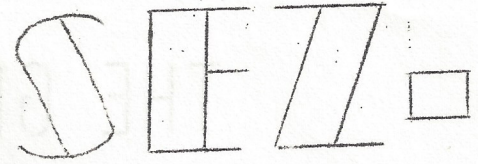
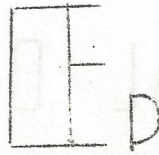
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Wednesday, October 12: Annual Silent Auction - 7:30 p.m.
Multi-purpose Room, East Building,
Grand Rapids Public Museum
- Monday, October 17: Board of Control meets at the home
of June and Bob Smith, 3250 Thorncrest SE
- Wednesday, November 9: Regular Meeting at the Museum. Walk with
us into a volcano fire pit!

SHOWS AND SWAPS TO VISIT

- Sept. 29-Oct. 2 Chicago, Ill. International Gem, Mineral & Jewelry
Show Inc.- "Gems and Minerals of the Far East" - McCormick Place
- Oct. 1-2 Fort Wayne, IN. Three Rivers Gem and Mineral Society Show
at Zoli's, 4114 Covington Rd.
- Oct. 14-16 Detroit, MI. Michigan Mineralogical Society's Greater Detroit
Gem and Mineral Show, at the Light Guard Armory, 4400 E. 8 Mile Rd.
- Oct. 21-23 Lansing, MI. "The Magic of Minerals" Show of Central Michigan
Lapidary and Mineral Society, Michigan National Guard Armory,
2500 S. Washington
- Nov. 5-6 Bay City, MI. Tri-County Rock and Mineral Society Show, Bay
County Community Center
- Nov. 6 Mt. Clemens, MI. Mt. Clemens Gem and Lapidary Society Swap,
Mt. Clemens Recreation Department





As retiring president, I would like to say thanks for the unique and beautiful gift I received. For those of you who were not there to see it, here's a brief description. A cherry wood base, 14" x 6" x 2" bears an engraved brass plate. Then there are two horns (like trumpets) with the polished halves of a Mexican geode in them. The quartz lining is a pale amethyst color with small pyrites on it. Very pretty! It now rests on our piano.

The new officers have taken over the leadership of the club. Let's all get behind them and boost our club. The first event is our Silent Auction. Let's see some, or rather, a lot of good items for sale and a host of buyers to snap up the bargains.

Your DRIFTER needs writeups of your summer trips for use in your bulletin. Share your fun and disappointments with the whole club.

Former member, Mary Merrick has moved. She's feeling well and misses everyone. It would be nice if she could hear from yer rockhound friends...she was a member for a long time. Her new address is:

Bobby Beekman's Rest Home
11390 Cleveland
Nunica, MI 49448

COUNTING CALORIES?

Two and two are four.
Ate and ate is fat!

from CHIPS via ROCK ROLLERS

DETROIT SHOW COMING. . .

Try to attend...this is the biggest in the state. Exhibits, lectures and dealers to suit all tastes. The speakers include: Paul Desautels, Smithsonian Institute; Robert Seasor, White Pine Mine Geologist; Dr. Clifford Frondel, Harvard; Dr. Joseph Mandarino, Royal Ontario Museum; Mrs. V. Anderson, Royal Ontario Museum; Dr. Eugene Richardson, Field Museum. The dates are October 13, 14, 15, 16 - see the enclosed flyer!

LAST MONTH . . .

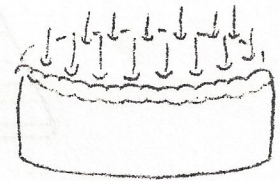
Everyone enjoyed getting back together again and we all liked the several mini-programs. Arnie Ballast had some slides of his first field trip with the club a few years ago - to Grand Ledge for fossils. Art Ferguson showed pictures of rock hunting in Arizona with the Don Bowers and Marie Spielmaker. The story of gold mining in Georgia back in the early 1800's was told by Bob Beauvais with slides taken this summer. Then Program Chairman June Smith gave us a report on the use of thermal energy, and her pictures of how Iceland utilizes natural underground heat brought back all the memories of that bleak winter last year and rapidly rising fuel bills. Sure would like to import one of those bubbling hot springs for our back yard this winter ...but we wouldn't like to live over that Mid-Atlantic fault, would we?

NEXT MONTH. . .

How would you like to walk with us into a volcano fire pit? You would? Then plan for November's meeting!

OCTOBER MEETING

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, GRAND RAPIDS MINERAL SOCIETY!



You're 19 years old this month! Guess how your members are going to celebrate?

They're having a SILENT AUCTION! All for you! Sure, we know you need it! We've seen the treasurer's report. We know that a new stencil duplicator is needed sometime soon.

If ALL your members really want to wish you many Happy Returns of the Day, they will search out some of their treasures and bring them to be put into this SILENT AUCTION. They may make a special cab, some jewelry, bring in some good slabs, or some mineral specimens...maybe a book or two... some good back issues of rock and mineral magazines...the possibilities are endless. Every member should want to share in your celebration!

So, MEMBERS OF THE GRAND RAPIDS MINERAL SOCIETY -- you are challenged!!

The day is WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12 -- the time is 7:30 p.m. -- WE NEED YOU -- and WE NEED YOUR FRIENDS!!! Each year we must remind you that outside of dues, this is our only fund-raising event, and it must be a good one. Don't let your club down! And please don't say, "I haven't anything to bring." We can always suggest you visit one of the several rock shops in town and buy an item or two to put in the auction so that you are represented among the givers. And remember, you may have 50% of the final purchase price returned to you if you wish -- but fill out the bottom of the bid sheet if you do. One more thing....bring some goodies for the snack table, too....the Cookie Monster(s) will be present and we don't want them disappointed.

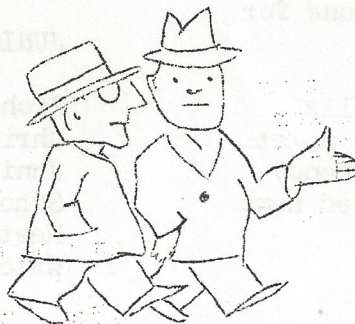
Roger King is chairman and will be glad to give you further information if needed. He will be assisted by Henry Tchozeski and Karl DeBack.

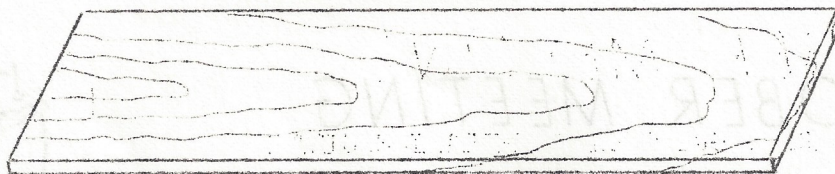
LET'S MAKE THIS A REALLY HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR OUR CLUB!

(If you didn't pick up any bid sheets at the last meeting, they will be available at the auction. If you need help in setting a minimum bid, someone will help you. A good rule of thumb is not to price them too high in the beginning, to make the minimum bid about 25% less than what you think is the value--that generates the beginning bids and gets others interested in a bargain.)

Note: If you can't make the auction but have good material for us, please call Roger at 532-6239 and he'll arrange for a pick-up.

BRING A
FRIEND!





September 19, 1977

The September meeting was called to order by the president, Rick O'Beshaw. The meeting was held at his home.

Present: Rick and Pat O'Beshaw, Art and Dorothy Ferguson, Stan and Doris Conway, Ted and Marie Duprey, Roger King, Henry Tchozeski, June Smith, Bob and Ruth Beauvais.

The secretary's report was approved as read. The treasurer's report, showing a balance of \$395.12 was accepted unanimously. Dorothy reported the membership as of the September meeting - 40 members. We need new members for the club. If anyone has any ideas for either new members or some programs they would like or anything about the club, please let June Smith know.

It was suggested a display of minerals that you are able to dig be put in a case for the January show.

The silent auction was discussed for the October meeting. We need lots of rocks, cabs, jewelry, etc.

It was also discussed that we need a case for the club to display at other shows.

The mimeograph was brought up. It is wearing out. It would cost \$650 for a rebuilt one and up to \$1,500 for a new one. We will table it for a while as we can use the old one for a time yet.

Rick brought up the Kent Skills Center for a show. It would be at no charge. This would be a money-making show and we really need some money.

June Smith will have the meeting at her home next month. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. for lots of goodies by Pat.

Respectfully,

Bette Tchozeski
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT. . .

Balance forwarded, Sept. 1, 1977 \$218.60
Receipts:

| | | |
|-------------|--------|---------------|
| Coffee | 12.19 | |
| Memberships | 202.00 | |
| | | 214.19 |
| | | <u>432.79</u> |

Disbursements

| | | |
|-------------------|-------|-------|
| Attendent | 5.00 | |
| State of Michigan | 10.00 | |
| Supplies | 22.67 | |
| | | 37.67 |

Balance on hand, Sept. 19, 1977 \$ 395.12

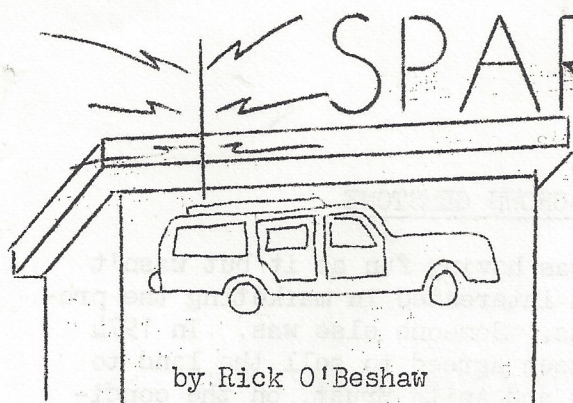
| | |
|-------------|----|
| Memberships | 40 |
| Family | 23 |
| Single | 15 |
| Student | 2 |

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Ferguson
Treasurer

JUNIOR GROUP WILL BE COMING

Rich Van Beek announced that Eric Christrup will begin a class for Junior rockhounds at Christian High School, probably in late November. Meetings will be on Saturday mornings. Watch for more news.



SPARKS FROM THE ROCKGRINDER

OR RATCHET-JAWING WITH THE PRESIDENT

For the uninitiated, ROCKGRINDER is my CB handle. I thought it rather apropos for a lapidary.

For my first column, I would like to apologize in advance to all who would like to talk to me at the meetings. I have found that the more I get involved in the operations of the club, the less time I get to talk to people. I wish I had time to just talk to all individually but can't and still keep the show on the road.

While I'm on the subject, we've noticed several of the members tend to stay in groups before and after the meeting. If you see a new face, go up and introduce yourself. Who knows, it may be Paul De-sautels.

Remember, the silent auction is our major money maker for the year, so we need a good turnout. Tell your friends in the other clubs and anybody you think of who would be interested.

The annual show is coming up in January 1978. Its title is MINERAL MONTAGE. We would like any large color photos of mineral specimens and fossils you might have for the show. Contact Stan Way, Show Chairman, if you have any to loan.

See you at the auction!

A FRIEND IS A PERSON WHO ASKS YOU AN IMPORTANT QUESTION TO WHICH YOU KNOW THE ANSWER.

From AFMS NEWSLETTER

A new silver solder has been developed for metal craftsmen. A soft solder, it has great strength and will remain stable and ductile. It is made with pure tin and is a flux-cored wire solder.

-THE CONCRETIONARY COLUMN
by June Zeitner

Guest speaker for the Archaeological Society's meeting on Thursday, Oct. 20, will be Dr. Donald Wilson of Calvin College. He has worked with Dr. Leakey and his topic will be "The Present Status of Early Man in Africa." The group meets in the Multi-purpose Room of the museum at 8 p.m.

MEMBER AD.

For sale: a B & I Gem Maker;
a field test kit
Glass shelves:

3 are 23 7/8" X 23 1/4")
2 are 23 1/2" X 4 5/8") approximately

BEST OFFER ACCEPTED

Leville Pearl, 453-1069

We're going to miss you if you don't come -- remember DUES ARE DUE! If you can't get to the meeting this month, please mail your check in. . . to Dorothy Ferguson, Treasurer at 2748 Pohens NW, Grand Rapids 49504

THOMSONITE: MINNESOTA'S HOME-GROWN GEMSTONE

Thomsonite is a very rare opaque stone of gem quality. Colors range from black to subtle shades of coral, pink, red and white. Circles form "eyes" with dark green a prominent color.

About 90 percent of the world's supply is found on 10 acres of land near Grand Marais, Minnesota, that Harlow M. Tychsen, Sr., bought decades ago for the pretty scenery.

Unlike Lake Superior agates that were dragged far south by glaciers, thomsonites are found no farther than two miles from the Lake. This indicates that thomsonite appeared at the surface after most glacial activity was over ...about 11,000 years ago.

Lava flowed from volcanoes on the lake-shore, with gas bubbles appearing in the lava. Surface water and condensed oxygen seeped down and mixed with other chemicals and acids. Gemstones resulted from unique conditions, with copper playing a part in the coloration.

Thomsonite was called the "Gem of Many Eyes" by Minnesota Indians and was used for ornaments and trade.

People began hearing about the stones. They became well known to collectors around the world but were relatively unknown to most people in the stone's native area. Tychsen realized he

might have something valuable on his land and began doing some reading and experimental mining. He got hooked on the things. He began spending more and more of his spare time at his Lake Superior retreat. (And so did rock-hounds; he hired an armed guard to keep away uninvited guests who happened to have a hammer and chisel in pocket.) At the peak, he mined 1,400 stones a day, each one extracted by hand tooling.

He was having fun at it but wasn't much interested in marketing the products. Someone else was. In 1974 Tychsen agreed to sell the land to Jack and Anita Brust, on the condition that he retain mining rights for as long as he lives. They formed a corporation and looked around for a way to market the stones.

The gemstones had attracted attention for years. There was some jewelry around, but it was always in cheap settings. One notable exception: About the turn of the century Diamond Jim Brady owned a set of thomsonite jewelry. The \$2 million grouping included a ring, scarf pin, watch chain, pencil, shirt stud, five vest buttons, two collar buttons, belt buckle, eye-glass case and pocketbook clasp.

Thomsonites now are being made into rings, pins, necklaces, bracelets, earrings...some with diamonds, emeralds and other rare stones.

-The PROSPECTOR and other bulletins

CLEANING SILVER THE EASY WAY. . .

A novel and easy way to clean tarnished silver is to place the pieces in an aluminum pot with bright, clean inside walls. Cover in water with a tablespoon of baking soda and boil for one half hour. When taken out and rinsed, silver will be bright and clean. All tarnish will be on the inside of the aluminum pot. It can be easily removed with a steel wool scouring pad.

-AFMS NEWSLETTER

The eagle is our national emblem, but the national flower has got to be the cost-of-living rose.

via FLINT ROCK & GEM NEWSLETTER

Midwest Federations NEWSLETTER



Published monthly except July and August as a service to members clubs.
All news, articles, subscription orders and requests for information concerning publication
should be sent to the Editor, Haydon Peterson, Parrot Printing, 2125 Forest Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50311

October 1977 - Issue No. 178

Ken Zahn: "It has been an eventful year"

by Ken Zahn, AFMS President

This has been an eventful year for the American Federation. The Show Chairman of the Rocky Mountain Federation, Mrs. R. Anderson, persuaded 19 of the Past Presidents to be present to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the founding of the AFMS in Salt Lake City in June 1947. It was an event which will be long remembered by all the Past Presidents who were able to attend.

Mr. Obie Goss has been appointed as Show Consultant. His primary duties will be: 1.) Serve as the expert on all questions which arise concerning a Convention, Regional Federation or Club Show. 2.) Be a clearing house for all show manuals, contracts, correspondence concerning shows. 3.) Be prepared to discuss with Show Chairpersons any problems they may encounter in setting up a show. 4.) He will be responsible for adding suggestions and changes to keep a Show Manual up-to-date. 5.) Work with the Show Coordinator to assure there are no conflicts with show dates. 6.) Establishes methods to stimulate exhibiting and prepares lists of good judges in collaboration with the Rules Committee. 7.) Resolves conflicts in choosing show sites. 8.) And any other related duties that may be assigned.

Both Obie and Barbara have had a great deal of experience and Barbara will be an advancing officer for several years. Judging from the number of problems this past year this position should fill a needed vacancy in the AFMS and provide clubs with a real service.

The International Relations Committee has started to collect information on foreign localities, museums and places of interest to collectors which will be made available in a pamphlet as soon as sufficient information is collected. I am sure more information will be made by the Chairman of that Committee.

A good deal of thought has been given to reorganization of the AFMS. Discussions were held with organizations with similar problems such as the Mineralogical Society of America, the Geological Society of America, Directors, Officers and individuals such as Paul Desautels, Dave Jensen and many others. The result has been a number of suggestions to establish an Executive Secretary or career Secretary-Treasurer position to provide continuity in the organization. In addition a suggestion was proposed which has great merits, to select the President and Vice President for one year terms and elect successors from the Federations by a vote of the Directors.

Zahn... please turn to page 2

National show exceptional in every respect

by June Culp Zeitner

The 1977 "EMPIRE OF GEMS" National Gem & Mineral Show, hosted by the Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society of Ogden, Utah, for the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies in August, was an exceptional show in every respect. With hundreds of superb displays, beautiful facilities against a backdrop of inspiring mountain scenery, and swapping, auctions, programs and special events going on every minute, the show was enjoyed by thousands of hobbyists who traveled to Utah from all over the United States.

All meetings were well attended. Norman Steele, Uniform Rules Chairman, reports that the UR meeting went very well, being streamlined, carefully organized, and accomplishing many goals. The AFMS Cracker Barrel session, presided over by President Ken Zahn was lively and informative and turned out to have more than "crackers" at the delicious snack table laid out by the ever present "red-bandanaed" engineers of the Golden Spike Club.

Thursday opened with a judges and clerks breakfast at the beautiful Skyroom of the Student Union Building. This was followed by an impressive "ribbon cutting" at which Utah Governor Matheson struck a blow at a geode to open the show. The evening was devoted to fun . . . food, refreshments, music, dancing and entertainment . . . a very special event called "Ogden Night."

Following the annual AFMS meeting on Thursday, (reports will appear in the Newsletter) there was a meeting of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation. The AFMS luncheon was at the Ramada Inn.

Friday started with the Past President's breakfast and continued with the Northwest Federation meetings, presided over by Don Kendall, President.

The Editor's breakfast on Saturday at Hilary House was probably the all time record. Elaine Wilponen, Northwest Federation Newsletter Editor, Loyal Gooch, Golden Spike Editor, and Elza Slatery, AFMS Club Publications Chairman, presided at the program which honored bulletin editors, and friends, from all regions.

Attendance at the annual Awards Banquet at the Elks Lodge banquet room, was over 400. Dr. & Mrs. Leonard Glismann were in charge of arrangements and show hospitality. Robert Wallace was installed as next year's President of Northwest Federation and Don Langston was installed

Show... please turn to page 2

Zahn... from page 1

This would provide greater flexibility in elections and a good supply of candidates with competition for offices, rather than an assured position after going through a six year (and possibly more) chain. No candidate would be assured of an office and fresh new ideas would be constantly percolating up the line.

In any event the AFMS has need of a central office with continuity and a clearing house for all administration matters.

We thought we had a new idea for stimulating exhibiting but apparently the California Federation has been experimenting with it for some time. Whether it worked or not California Shows have had a number of outstanding exhibits. It was our idea to encourage exhibiting by establishing awards for unusual or outstanding lapidary items, carvings, one-of-a-kind mineral specimens or fossils. Accordingly we are offering a special award, to be called the President's Award. If it is successful, it will be suggested for future Federation Shows. In addition to the Show Consultant I am appointing a Special Committee to study the problem and make recommendations for stimulating exhibiting. A report will be made in six months and sent to all officers and Directors, and the Long Range Planning Committee for implementation of any good ideas.

Boundaries problems have been cropping up all over the country. In my opinion the AFMS should not be the arbitrator of boundary disputes. The real problem seems to be at the grass roots level. If so the boundary should be settled by club members in the gray areas where two Federations overlap, in a democratic matter with votes and then negotiations. Apparently the gentlemen's agreement made in 1971 and again in 1975 in Denver does not seem to be the answer. The AFMS may have to set rigid boundaries and any violations will be settled in an arbitrary manner. In my opinion this is not the best solution and we may have to accept this as the best or only solution. States, governments, government agencies and many corporations establish rigid boundaries for their field offices and nobody steps over these boundaries. I have asked our Boundary Committee to prepare a staff paper and this will be furnished to all Directors.

Our Committees have been working hard to provide the best service to the clubs. The Slide Program Contest is off to a good start, we have new Rules Books, the Newsletter is excellent and Les Darling has been doing a top job trying to protect our collecting areas. I will let them tell their story.

A third of my regime is still available to continue to initiate programs or put into effect any that the Officers and Directors feel are worthwhile. I have had splendid cooperation from all the staff and have received many good suggestions to improve the AFMS. I hope that we can continue to grow and improve our service to the clubs.

DIANE DARE WINS TROPHY

Diane Dare, our Midwest Junior Activities chairman, was awarded First Trophy at the AFMS show and convention in Ogden, Utah last August for Individual Articles. This category was one of those included in the Bulletin Editor's Contest. Diane's winning article was titled "Using Maps As A Collecting Tool". Diane lives in Salem, Illinois.

MARGE COLLINS WINS IN SLIDE CONTEST

Marge Collins of the Plymouth Rock and Mineral Society, Plymouth, Mich. won \$100 for her entry in Class 3 of the AFMS slide program contest. It is titled "Making Constructed Silver Jewelry". Mrs. Collins is an instructor at Madonna College in Livonia, Mich. where she has developed a course of instruction which closely follows her winning program.

MRS. CECIL (PHYLLIS) MELCHER

Phyllis Melcher died Sunday, August 7 in the hospital in Platte, South Dakota. Phyllis was one of the founders of the Missouri Valley Gem & Mineral Society and was Protocol and Social Courtesy Chairman for the Midwest for several years. Phyllis was also hospitality chairman for the Federation Banquet in Murdo. She also helped with the All South Dakota Swap during the years it was held in Platte.

Show... from page 1

as the new President of AFMS. Joe Bybee, Past President of Northwest Federation and assistant show chairman, was Master of Ceremonies, introducing Golden Spike president Devoe Mayhue for the Welcome. Dr. Ruth Hopson Keen, Northwest Federation honorary award recipient of the Scholarship Foundation gave a short talk. La Docia Ellis AFMS all American Chairman, presented the All American Club of the year award to Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society of Lansing, Michigan. Georgia Hedin presented certificates and trophies to Northwest All American Clubs and participants. Kay Jensen, AFMS Slide Program Chairman, presented checks for winning programs to Oregon Agate & Mineral Society, Portland, and Marge Collins, Plymouth (Michigan) Rock & Mineral Club.

AFMS and NWFMS presented trophies for winners in competitive display classes. Bulletin trophy winners were named. A new feature was the presentation by Ken Zahn of the "President's Trophy" for the outstanding non-competitive exhibit. Florence Anderson, Potlatch Diggers Club, was the winner with an exhibit of official State Rocks, Minerals, Gem & Fossils, which filled two large cases.

At the show itself there were an unusual number of special displays under the direction of Emil & Clara Rosenau. There were also a wonderful variety of superb displays by Golden Spike members. Demonstrations, mostly by Northwest and Golden Spike members, were both educational and entertaining, with big crowds watching most of the time. Outstanding were chainmaking, R. McOmber, filigree, M. & M. Sutton, scrimshaw, Steve Allured, and silversmithing, Chris Sladek. In addition to bringing a display of Japanese "chrysanthemum stones." Sigeki Hosono of Gifu Prefecture, Japan, brought ten trophies for displays he thought were particularly beautiful by standards of his country.

Ivan Rudd, Show Chairman, and Liz Rudd, Registration Chairman, seemed to be everywhere helping run things smoothly. Other show committee officers not previously named are Erol Benson, legal affairs, Mary Bybee, Secretary, Lucille Maybee, Treasurer, Charles Sladek, Properties, and Mel Reeves, Special Services.

Bonnie Glissman was in charge of the programs and lectures which were continuous and ranged from local geology to the Hope Diamond. Weber College, site of the show, was most cooperative in all aspects of the show, and furnished several excellent programs.

One of the most exciting areas of the show as the Scholarship Auction of the Northwest Federation. Another area with plenty of activity was the Breezeway where swappers set up their tempting wares.

The Golden Spike Club worked for several years planning this show, and all the hard work has paid off, because they produced an AFMS show that is unforgettable.

Greater Detroit Gem and Mineral Show

Host — MICHIGAN MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

OCTOBER 14, 15, 16, 1977

Friday, October 14th
6 to 10 P.M.

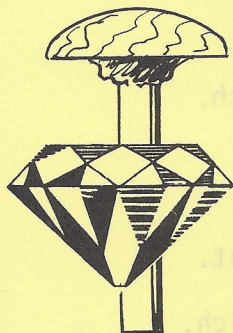


Saturday, October 15th
10 A.M. to 10 P.M.

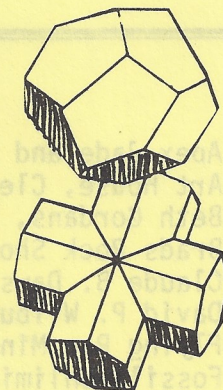


Sunday, October 16th
10 A.M. to 6 P.M.

SPECIAL DEMONSTRATIONS AND EXHIBITS



LAPIDARY • FACETING • MINERALS • FOSSILS
SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES • JEWELRY • OPAL CROSSES
WORKING LAPIDARY DEMONSTRATIONS
COMPETITIVE AND NONCOMPETITIVE
FOSSIL, LAPIDARY, MINERAL AND SILVERCRAFT EXHIBITS
SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS
DEALERS • DEALER EXHIBITS • SWAPPING



DETROIT LIGHT GUARD ARMORY
4400 East Eight Mile Road
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

For Further Information Contact Show Chairman Bill Meinert, 505 Bird St., Birmingham, Mich. 48009

DONATION Adults \$2.00 Children .50¢ 12 Years and Under



Special Programs



Friday, October 14th

8:00 P.M. - PAUL DESAUTELS
Dept. of Mineralogy
Smithsonian Institution
Subject: "Inclusions in Minerals"

Saturday, October 15th

2:00 P.M. - ROBERT SEASOR
Chief Geologist
White Pine Copper Company
Subject: Minerals of the White Pine Area"

5:00 P.M. - DR. EUGENE RICHARDSON
Curator of Fossil Invertebrates
Chicago Field Museum
Subject: "Mazon Creek Flora and Fauna"

3:30 P.M. - DR. CLIFFORD FRONDEL
Dept. of Geology
Harvard University
Subject: "Pegmatites of New England"

7:00 P.M. - MINERAL SYMPOSIUM
Fronzel, Desautels, panelists
Dr. Joseph Mandarino, moderator
Subject: "Chemistry of Minerals"

Sunday, October 16th

2:00 P.M. - MRS. V. ANDERSON
Research Associate
Royal Ontario Museum
Subject: "Artistry of Micro Minerals"

4:00 P.M. - DR. JOSEPH MANDARINO
Curator of Minerals
Royal Ontario Museum
Subject: "The Garnet Group"

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What on Earth, Columbus, Ohio

SPONGES - ANIMALS WITH HOLES

by Steve Stansbury

One of the most primitive groups of animals to be found in the world are the sponges, Phylum Porifera. For most of their history sponges lived in shallow seas. A few have retreated into deep water, and one family of some fifty species now inhabits lakes, ponds, and streams. Young sponges may drift, but adults attach themselves to muddy or sandy bottoms, to rocks, or to other organisms. Sponges live as single animals or in colonies which range from single branches to complex masses. Sponges range from less than a pinhead in size to a height and diameter of 3 to 4 feet.

The basic structure for a sponge is a cup or vase-shaped body, attached at the bottom and open at the top. The body is pierced by canals. Some canals extend inward from the surface of the body and stop. Other canals take over and continue until they reach a central cavity called the cloaca. Water enters the sponge through the canals, and food and oxygen are received. The water then passes out of the cloaca through an opening in the top called the osculum, carrying away wastes and reproductive cells.

Cells comprising the outer body covering and the out canals are called ectoderm. Most of them are thin and flat, but some overlap to form openings through which water passes to the inner canals. The funnels can be closed when it becomes necessary to stop the flow of water. Cells lining the cloaca and the inner canals are called the endoderm. Cells on the cloaca are thin, but the canal cells are thick with lashes surrounded by cup-like collars. Waving the lashes creates currents which bring water into the sponge and send it out again. Food settles on the collars and is carried into the cells. A third group of cells lives between the body walls. It is a jelly of irregular cells which send out pseudopods, and it is different from the mesoderm of other three-layered animals. Some cells move around, digesting food or distributing it and collecting wastes. Other cells build fibers of tough spongin, or make sharp-pointed spicules of calcite or silica. They form the skeleton of the sponge, the part which is fossilized.

There are three groups of true sponges. The simplest, but not necessarily the most primitive, are the limy sponges. They have skeletons of calcite or aragonite. Their spicules were needle-shaped or arranged with 3 or 4 branches. They may be separate or fastened together in firm but porous masses. Earliest fossils are found in the Cambrian as small branched masses. In the late Paleozoic they developed into overlapping spheres in chains. They became even more varied in later times. Modern limy sponges live near shores of shallow seas. American fossils are found in Permian and Pennsylvania deposits in the Southwest.

Glass sponges have skeletons of silica spicules with six rays, one being longer than the others. Most ancient sponges of this group lived in shallow waters, but modern ones live at depths from 300 to 17,000 feet. Earliest fossils of

(next page, please)

SPONGES (concluded)

glass sponges are found in the Cambrian, and a variety of species had appeared by mid-Cambrian times. A quarry in British Columbia is the best place for Cambrian glass sponges. Few remains are found in Ordovician and Silurian deposits. Devonian fossils indicate a resurgence, with fossils of hardened fillings showing the shape of the animals and impressions of their long spicules. They declined after the Devonian, but are still alive today.

The largest group of sponges used a combination of glass and horny material. Some sponges have needle-shaped or four-branched silica spicules which may or may not be supported by spongin. Others (including many living species) lost all spicules and grow only spongin for skeletons. Spicules from this group have been found in the Eozoic, with bodies discovered in the middle Cambrian. These sponges were in spheres, vases, and some irregular shapes. The best fossils are found in the Jurassic and Cretaceous deposits of France and Germany.

via THE CARNY HOUND and TULIP CITY CONGLOMERATE



Mr. & Mrs. Robert Redd (Ann) and son, Jim Redd (student member) live at 7180 Thornapple Drive in Ada. They specify general collecting and minerals as their rockhound interests.

Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Oversmith (Marian) are old G.R.M.S. members who were unable to participate in club activities because of ill health, but now, they are back with us, because, they say they "couldn't stay away." They live at 2647 Manitoba Ct. NE and are interested in minerals and geology.

Mrs. Sharon Wasilewski, 1249 Kinney NW is interested in lapidary and silver-smithing. Her children are Mike, Christine, Carol, Kathy and Cindy - she doesn't say if they are rockhounds.

Please make our new members welcome!

TREASURE IN A BUCKET. . .

George Stepp of Carthage, Ark., found a four-carat, 25 point diamond in a bucket of dirt he carried home from his 13th visit to the Crater of Diamonds State Park at Murfreesboro. The diamond is reported to be a deep canary yellow and "appears to be flawless." It is the largest canary diamond found since the crater became a state park in 1972.

Stepp had no luck in a search at the park last month, but found the diamond during the following weekend when he sifted through a bucket of soil he took home.

He will be allowed to keep the diamond.

The above comes from an article in the Grand Rapids Press; thanks to Rich Van Beek.

FOR SAFETY'S SAKE

by Stan Conway

Well, we're off and running!—Elmer, LOOK OUT! That big stone! Oops! Too late—another accident. Do YOU, the rest of you, run without looking? Boy, I hope not. Anyway, I did not mean actually running, I meant literally running. The SILENT AUCTION is coming up and do you have your specimens ready? No, not that one for the doctor!...Oh, boy! You know the one I mean.

So, you are getting things ready for the auction. Looking them over and putting them back, etc. Do YOU have the big ones on the shelf so they won't fall on your feet?

O.K. So you're going to cut some. Do YOU have the gear all checked over for bad drive belts, frayed wire, bumpy grinding wheels and all this summer's new rocks collected and piled on the shelf?

Everything sounds good...it sure is in ship shape order...but HOLD IT! How about ventilation so that dust, fumes, mist and other baddies are driven out? Do YOU have a suction vent and a fan to bring in fresh air? I know that YOU are wearing a mask but some of this nasty stuff can get into your blood by absorption thru the skin. The suction vent should be at your work taking all no-goodies away and a fan in back of you helping to keep the stuff moving out thru the exhaust. Do YOU, huh? Do YOU?

Don't let all the DON'TS and DO'S scare you none, Bunky. There are a lot of things you can do to take good care of yourself. Just keep reading this column. So, DO watch out, DO wear safety goggles, hats, and masks. DO yourself, family and friends a favor by being safety wise...
FOR SAFETY'S SAKE.

YOU'VE GOT WHAT?

The longest word in the 3rd edition of the unabridged Webster's is

PNEUMONOUltramicroicsilicovolcanoconiosis

This is ailment caused by inhaling very fine silicate or quartz dust. Rock-hounds take warning and take precautions when dry sanding. The word may be long - the cure longer.

-ROCK ROLLERS and other bulletins

NOW READ THIS!

JADE POLISHING....One last word to you people who have trouble getting a good polish on jade. I decided to do all my finish work on a worn 400 grit sanding belt running 1725 rpm, then the final sanding was done dry with very little pressure. I could hardly believe my eyes when it came off the 600 belt. I had a pretty good polish already. I put the final polish with a horizontal lap with wool rug running 800 rpm. (Caution: Do not get the stone too hot. Also, start with good jade.)

-Bob Granger,
CRYSTAL LOG via REAR TRUNK

So, take care...as Stan would say...
For Safety's Sake!

A western hat manufacturer has come out with a diamond hat band for its diamond jubilee. The hat, which is a rancher's best friend, sells for a mere \$32.000.

-AFMS NEWSLETTER

COPPER COUNTRY CALLING AGAIN!

or

G.R.M.S. Members on the Indian Mounds Club Field Trip

by Don Bowers

Mabel and I left home before noon on Friday, August 19, for our trip to the Copper Country with the Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club. This was early because we had friends we wanted to visit at Lake Leelanau -- they have a beautiful home on the lake and there is a good trailer park only 1/4 mile away. By Sunday morning we were on our way to meet the field trip at Deerton State Forest Campground. Marie Spielmaker (and George, her dog) were already there and had registered for us. While we were jamming the trailer into a parking space Bill and Nancy Ammerman arrived--almost as if we were in a convoy! Nice timing.

Monday at the traffic light in Champion we met the Potter Family (Eldon, Joyce, Larry and Gary) then continued on to the Champion Mine dump for specular hematite and garnets. The iron ore was plentiful but the garnets eluded us. Then it was on to a site north of Champion and only a short way back into the woods at some old iron prospect pits. The piles were pretty well covered with vegetation but a little digging brought up some pretty nice specimens. The material is stalactitic goethite--it looks like small icicles in a bunch, or shaped like ice when water freezes running down a flat surface--interesting forms.

Next we planned to look for pyrolusite north of Alberta. Nancy (our field trip chairman) said the road was narrow and had big pools of water but we tried anyway. The first few puddles weren't too bad, but the further we went the worse they got and we finally "chickened out." Then we had to turn three vehicles around on a one lane road with a drop off on one side and a small soggy ditch on the other. Thanks to power steering and a lot of shouting we got turned around without getting stuck. (Don drives a GM Suburban with a 22' travel trailer--imagine turning that around!) On we went to Baraga State Park where Potter's were set up and we planned to spend the night.

Tuesday we headed for Mass City and copper, stopping at the old Lake Mine. Some bulldozing had been done in various places and the copper was hard to find. The next stop was the Minnesota (yes, it's spelled right) Mine near Rockland. There's a big dump and lots of places to explore. I found a nice copper specimen about the size of my hand. Marie found a nice piece; others in the group did well, too, and we all enjoyed ourselves. The story of the Minnesota Mine makes interesting reading if you can find the story. (Try BOOM COPPER by Murdoch)

The color of the trees in the entire upper peninsula was out of this world even though there had been no frost. We camped that night at Emily Lake State Forest Campground.

Wednesday we went to Houghton and through the college museum. They do not have it all set up yet, but it is open to the public and they have some beautiful material. Of course it's real strong on copper and pretty good on silver. There are quite a few half-breeds (part silver, part copper). Native silver also occurs in some of the mines in the area. This night we planned to stay at a
(next page, please)

COPPER COUNTRY (continued)

private campground north of Calumet but when we looked it over and learned the fee we decided to try McLain State Park. It's generally jammed this time of year with families of college students; fortunately we got the last four places in the overflow area.

Next morning we went to Calumet to go through the Opera House. It is well worth seeing; is being refurnished and fixed up. Some of the city offices are in the building and the ballroom is under the same roof. Be sure to visit this old opera house if you are in the neighborhood.

There is a rock shop in town that everyone wanted to go to for copper cleaner and various other things. From there we went to the Centennial Mine to look for copper (what else?) and related minerals. We found a small amount of copper and some nice epidote and quartz crystals in the basalt vugs. Homestake Mine was the next stop. There were a bunch of drill cores laying under the mine sign on the way into the property - take all you like! At the office permission was given to go through a stock pile placed in the parking lot for rockhounds. The ore is a conglomerate called Calumet lode - similar to Kingston lode but enough different to have another name. Copper content is from 3 to 8%. This was an experimental mine to see if it was profitable to exploit it. The company geologist came back from lunch while we were there and he and Marie had a swap session. Boy, did Marie get some wonderful specimens! Next stop was the Kearsarge Mine -- copper and related minerals are there. The Potter's found some very nice copper specimens using their metal detector - these are almost a must now on all these dumps, it seems.

Fort Wilkins was our next stop - when we got settled down we found the Van Dyke's (Don, Lois and three sons) already there, and had been for a day. They'd looked for us at McLain but missed seeing the overflow area. Next day the Mandan Mine (really the Medora) Mine was the object of our search, this time for greenstones. You find a piece of basalt with greenstones in it and break it up and hope they fall out in one piece. Sometimes they do and other times they don't. The larger the greenstone the luckier you are. Some nice prehnite and copper was also found on this dump. It takes a nice polish. The pink and light green and white prehnite and copper makes very pretty cabs.

Since we had been having trouble keeping our car battery charged we decided to buy another, finding one in Houghton, but we had to install it ourselves. On the way back north we stopped at Central Mine dump and found the Potter's there. They had collected some very choice specimens of copper. A man from Pontiac was using his metal detector for the first time and found a half breed weighing about three pounds. He wasn't even a rockhound and didn't know what the "white metal" was! It was a museum piece. We learned a pot luck supper was planned that night -- it was news to us so it was back to camp and hurry, hurry, to get our contribution ready. About the time we finished Bob and Ruth Beauvais pulled into camp and found a spot nearby.

Saturday morning the Potter's and VanDyke's left and we took a little ride back to see the old town of Mandan. There are some houses in the town, or what's left of the town, which are still being occupied. The road in there leaves a lot to be desired. What is often called the Mandan dump on the east side of US41 is really the Medora dump - the Mandan is back in the woods on the west side out of sight. We walked around looking for a while but found nothing

(concluded on next page)

COPPER COUNTRY (concluded)

worth while. There is the foundation of a fair-sized building back there and what probably was a mine shaft now filled by a bulldozer.

Sunday morning Mabel and I with Bob and Ruth went to church in Calumet (the Ammermans left for Houghton). It was a beautiful old church with marvelous stained glass windows and the minister had a very good sermon. After dinner in Houghton at the Douglass House (try the buffet brunch) we drove back north stopping at Centennial for copper and epidote crystals then to Homestake again for conglomerate and drill cores (for the Beauvais!) and on to the Kearsarge to look for more copper.

Just as we pulled into camp the car engine cut out cold. Dead battery! New battery! I put the charger on and left it on all night. In the morning I had the owner of the Shell station in Copper Harbor check the battery and learned the alternator was not working - and Monday was a holiday!

On Labor Day we moved our rig to Hancock City Park and Marie moved with us. On our way we stopped at Owl Creek and dug some thomsonite. Ruth and Bob had headed south earlier.

First job Tuesday was to get the car into a garage and the alternator rebuilt. Then we hooked up and took off for Minnesota to look for Lake Superior agate. We stayed at a nice park at Sturgeon Lake. The ground at the camp had agate in it but it has been well looked over. We did find a few small agates. We looked for an active gravel pit, those we did find were dormant and the agate picking was poor. We did the best picking off the gravel roads.

The outing was worth the time and expense, any specimens or cutting material was just frosting on a good time, and we made some new and good friends.

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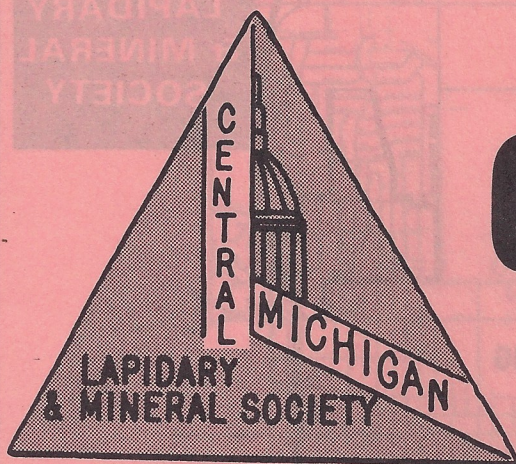
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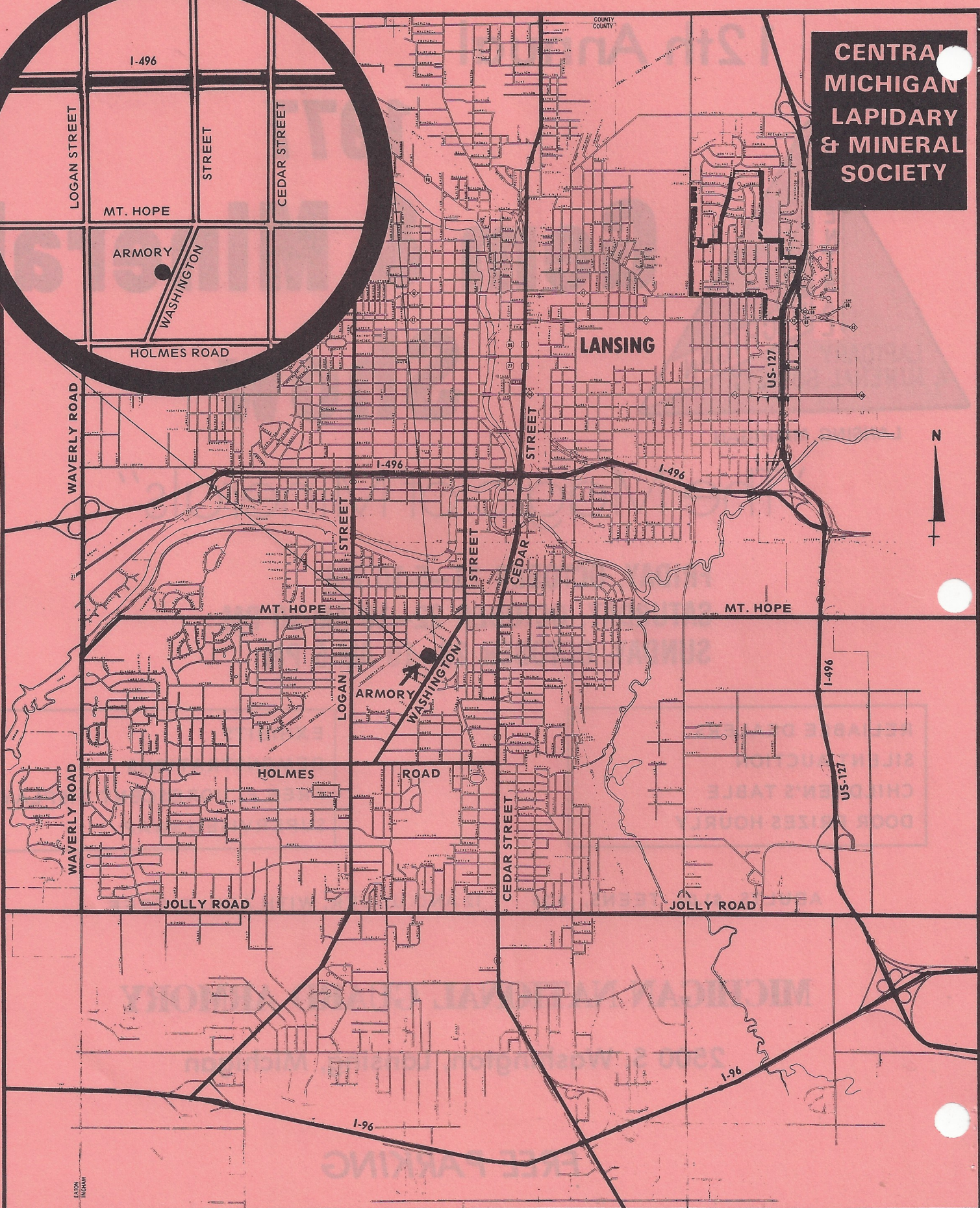
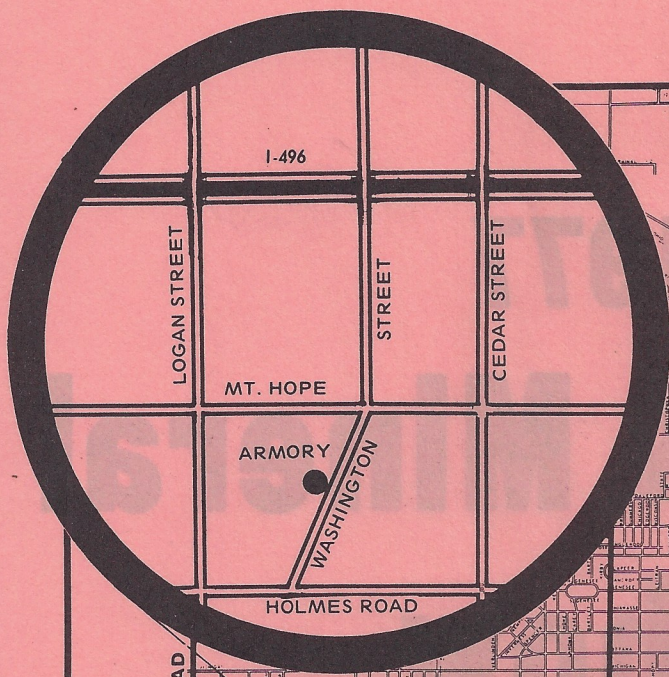
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MILWAUKEE FRIENDS COME CALLING. . .

At our July meeting we announced that a group from the Wisconsin Geological Society were coming to the gypsum mine and that we would meet them for dinner after their field trip. Several members met them for hunting at the mine and in the evening 23 rockhounds gathered for dinner at the Sveden House.

The October issue of THE TRILOBITE, bulletin of the Wisconsin Geological Society, has arrived and we share some of the comments of Gertrude Meyer, their field trip chairman.

She tells how they toured the mine with one of the employees and that "he left us with instructions on how to get back up should we need to. So we started out to the tunnel areas and found it was tricky stuff to walk in. Just ask me! Spent more darn time just plain stuck tight! About this time the group from Grand Rapids joined us. We were so relieved! We introduced ourselves and felt immediately that we had found new friends....They guided us in finding the right material. Roger King guided those that went for the alabaster...We were truly grateful...The time to leave came all too soon. It was at this point that our guides presented us with all the material they had collected! What a great gesture that was. Our group decided that this was to be door prizes for the September meeting, and in that manner, share the trip with all the W.G.S.

"After a delicious dinner, we were invited to the home of Roger King. He has an outstanding collection, especially the fluorite, and the material he has gathered from the gypsum mine was so fine. We all enjoyed seeing the gorgeous lamps he made from the alabaster...from there we were escorted to the home of Ted and Marie Duprey. If you think you have a collection, you should view theirs. All very beautifully displayed. Many in antique cabinets (restored by Marie)...Name it and they have it! A big THANK YOU to all of the members of the Grand Rapids Club for a most delightful time."

AND ISSUE AN INVITATION. . .

Gertrude Meyer, field trip chairman, has invited our members to join them in a field trip to the southwest Wisconsin area (Lancaster) on the weekend of Oct. 22-23. She does not say for what - we would hazard a guess that it would be for lead related minerals. If you are interested, please let me know and I'll relay the message - I am sure you would have a good time! Unfortunately we are committed for the Lansing show that weekend. I hope we have another opportunity to join them.

-Bob Beauvais

OUR FORMER JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS TRAVEL. . .

Thomas Sherry, who many of you will remember, joined the Marines about a year ago and is stationed in Iceland. He writes that he went on a three-day trip to a glacier and is still interested in rocks. He continues, "I plan on seeing a few geological points like in the town of Lefors where they have old geysers and waterfalls from long time ago; should be something interesting there."

He'd like to hear from our members. His address is:

PFC Thomas B. Sherry 366-56-3997
Marine Barracks, Box 20, Slot 62
FPO New York, N.Y. 09571

Gil Zinke, another of our members, has just returned to Wheaton College after spending the summer in Japan, where he did mission work for the Baptist Church. He, with his parents who had been in Japan for the past 4 years, returned by way of Europe and did considerable sightseeing. Gil writes, "We flew from Tokyo to Athens. In Peking we had a refueling stop and they hauled us off the plane because we were Americans. After we filled out forms and paid some money they let us back on the plane...We went to see the lapidary museum in Idar Oberstein."

-Rich Van Beek

DON'T FORGET THOSE DUES!!!

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