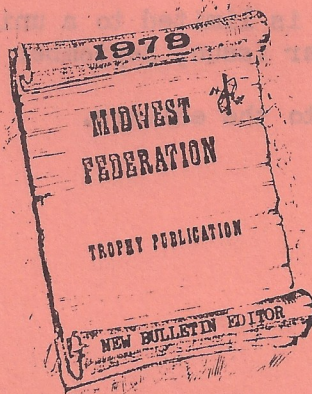


OCTOBER 1980



REB  
175



# BOARD OF CONTROL

President	Mary Honton	241-4001	1746 Kalamazoo SE G.R. 49507
Vice-president	Pat O'Beshaw	453-5944	3262 Rypens NW, G.R. 49504
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Editors	Bob & Ruth Beauvais	534-3871	3308 Wilson SW, Grandville 49418
Liaison Officer	Bob Beauvais	534-3871	3308 Wilson SW, Grandville 49418
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	Art Hoekwater	361-8937	223 Comstock Blvd. NE, G.R. 49505
	Thea Fleming	241-3854	3854 Chamberlain SE, G.R. 49508
(2 years)	Bob Tuinstra	453-0383	0-304 Lake Mich. Dr., G.R. 49504
	Charles Jarmoloski	458-7517	815 Houseman NE, G.R. 49503
	Lois Jarmoloski	"	"

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 on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted) in the Multi-purpose Room of the East Building of the Grand Rapids Public Museum. Summer meetings are at various parks in the area as announced.

Membership dues are \$7 per year for a family; \$5 per year for an individual membership and \$3 per year for a student under 18 years of age. Dues are payable to the treasurer in September of each 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.

All material for publication shall be in the hands of the editor no later than Monday after the regular monthly membership meeting.

Permission to reprint articles appearing in THE GLACIAL DRIFTER is hereby granted provided proper credit is given.

Advertising in THE GLACIAL DRIFTER is limited to a uniform size of one-third page at the rate of \$3 per issue, September thru June.

Exchange bulletins should be sent to the editors.



# THE GLACIAL DRIFTER

## VOLUME 23 NO. 2

## OCTOBER 1980

### G.R. M.S. CALENDAR

Wednesday, Oct. 15 6:30 p.m. Our 22nd Anniversary Pot Luck

Bring a hot dish, plus salad or dessert.

Program: An Eye-Witness Account of the Eruption of Mount St. Helens by Vern Hodgson - and a geological sketch of the mountain by Gus Gonnason, geologist.  
Pot luck in the Garden Center - program at 7:30 in the Multi-purpose Room of the Museum

Monday, October 20 7:30 p.m. Board of Control Meeting at the home of Bob and Ruth Beauvais, 3308 Wilson SW Grandville

Wednesday, November 19, 1980 7:30 p.m. Our annual Silent Auction. Start looking for your auction items now!

### COMING SHOWS

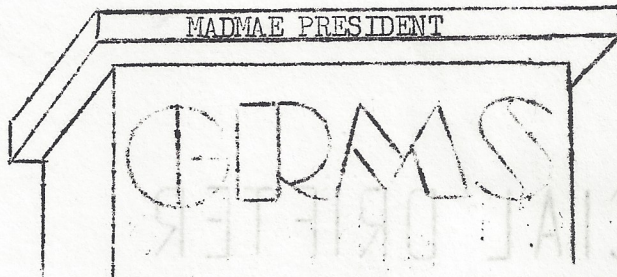
Oct. 12-14 DETROIT, MI Michigan Mineralogical Society Greater Detroit Show, Detroit Light Guard Armory, 4400 E. 8 Mile  
Satellite Shows at Holiday Inn and Flying Dutchman Motor Inn, 11777 E. 8 Mile Rd.

Oct. 17-29 LANSING, MI Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society Show, Michigan National Guard Armory, 2500 S. Washington

Oct. 25-26 HARRISON, MI Clare Rock & Mineral Club Show, Mid-Michigan Community College

Nov. 1-2 BRIDGEPORT, MI. Tri- County Rock & Mineral Society Show, Bridgeport Spaulding High School.





The first meeting of the GRMS has come and gone. I hope that many of you shared the very good presentation that Larry gave us on the geology of the Upper Peninsula. It was nice to greet those in attendance after having spent the summer along Lake Superior's shores.

Before the September meeting and a goodly amount of time since then has been spent trying to figure out a way to get more people active in the club. I'm not referring to dues paying members; I'm referring to countless others who come to the meetings but are never really involved. This club is more than the elected officers and the Board of Control, yet it seems that these people and a few other old faithfuls are the ones who make the club function.

We want the monthly meetings to be something special to you, but what about you? What would you like? how can you help? If you do want to be involved, please let us know. If some chairperson or a committee member asks you for a little of your time to help at a given meeting, are you ready to make your contribution? We've got some programs coming up that will need your help. The silent auction in November is in need of good, identified specimens. The show at the museum from February 1-22 is our service program to the community. We will need persons to display their treasures, to help set up and take down the displays. We will need help in making up mineral specimens for young people. How about some new faces added to the active list of the club members who, even though they are busy, will find and take the time to be of service.

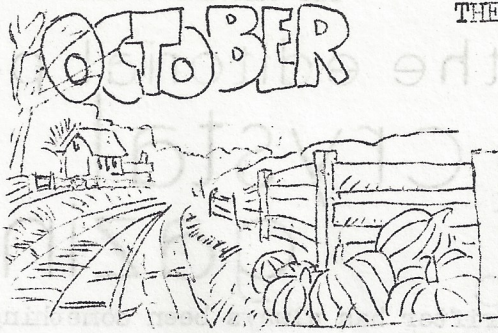
If you have an idea about what you would like for a program, just discussing it with a neighbor does not mean that it will get back to the elected officers....tell them!

This is your club....membership means involvement, it is not just a ticket to whatever program is scheduled for that particular meeting.

-Mary C. Honton

By the time the Board of Control met in September we had 26 renewals and one new member: Kitchener B. Tassell. Welcome, Kitch! Now if you haven't renewed yet, please be prepared to do so at our October meeting - and if you can't come, mail in your dues - it's that time of the year.





To celebrate our 22nd anniversary we will have a pot luck dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. Bring a hot dish plus salad or dessert and join us in the former garden center area (where we had our last show). Faye King, Bette Tchozeski and Lois Jarmoloski are taking charge of arrangements, decorations, and will see that we have rolls and beverages. We have invited guests from several area clubs, so be generous with the food. Some of you will be asked to host these guests - please be willing!

We have two speakers .....

VERN HODGSON He was the right man in the right place at the right time when Mt. Saint Helens erupted on May 18. And his camera was ready. He took the only set of photographs that document the entire eruption from the north face of the volcano. He has two stories to relate. First is the story of Mt. Saint Helens; the second is how he took the historic photographs and how he survived the ordeal. This will be a slide program, but there will also be a display of his photographs.

GUS GONNASON. A geologist with the Grand Rapids Gypsum Company, he is familiar with the area around Mt. Saint Helens and has done a lot of mountain climbing there. He will give a brief story of the geology of the mountain before the eruption.

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR ABOUT AN EVENT YOU NEVER DREAMED WOULD HAPPEN IN YOUR LIFETIME! An active volcano inside the continental United States!

The program will be in the multi-purpose room of the museum so if you can't attend the pot luck, come at 7:30 p.m. for the program. Bring your friends. This is a bang-up way to celebrate our anniversary.







bob

# the editorial page crystal gazing



ruth

The Glacial Drifter has always been something special to me. I remember back when we were fairly new members, when I was a busy mother who stayed home much of the time. The arrival of the Drifter was a big event and I loved to sit down and read it all through. I often envied those who wrote about their rock hunting trips and told about their finds.

And one of my favorite pastimes is reading back through the old bulletins. One question does not seem to be answered in the issues we have collected: Who named The Glacial Drifter - and how was the name chosen? Think back, old members, and see if you can help.

In Topeka, Kansas, the Topeka Gem and Mineral Club also calls their bulletin The Glacial Drifter and it predates ours by more than a year. Since they are in the Rocky Mountain Federation, there is not too much confusion caused by the duplicate titles. However, I often see an article credited to The Glacial Drifter and have to read it carefully to see if it came from their bulletin or ours.

In a back issue of the Topeka bulletin I found an article telling how their publication was named. The late Elmer L. Banion wrote: "In choosing a name for the new member of our family, we, like most parents, had a long list of names to choose from, most of which had to do with various facets of the gem and mineral world, with perhaps now and then a facetious twist of the commoner terms of the rock hobbyist tossed in for good measure. Not that we set out to be different, but we did feel that the least we could do would be to select names that, if possible, would be descriptive of the rocks and minerals or geology of the area."

The Glacial Drifter was the chosen title because, says Mr. Banion, "The Northeastern corner of Kansas during the late ice age saw two invasions from the north of the continental ice sheet that covered a fan shaped area extending southward roughly to Manhattan, Topeka, Lawrence and Kansas City. The marks of these age-old glaciers are the glacial drift; which contain the countless hundreds of those tough old quartzite boulders that range in size from pebbles to giants of a hundred tons or more which came to rest long ago in the terminal moraine when the ice sheets retreated, never to return."

We, too, are in a glacial drift area. Is that why we carry that name? Someone, please tell us, if you can! At any rate, it's a great name.

*Luck*

DUES ARE DUE!



GLOSSARY OF VOLCANIC TERMS

(in preparation for our October meeting)

Andesite - A volcanic material of intermediate silica content and intermediate viscosity when in a molten state.

Ash flow - An avalanche consisting of volcanic ash and gases, highly heated, traveling down the flanks of a volcano.

Caldera - A large basin-shaped depression formed either by collapse or by explosion, usually at the summit of a volcano.

Dacite - A volcanic material, intermediate between rhyolite and andesite, with a higher silica content than andesite and less than rhyolite.

Detachment plain - The surface along which a landslide disconnects from its original position.

Dome - A steep-sided mass of viscous lava, forming a more or less dome-shaped mass over the volcanic vent.

Fumarole - A volcanic vent from which fumes or vapors issue.

Hydrothermally altered rock - Rock that has been decomposed or chemically changed by the prolonged action of hot steam and geothermal fluids.

Lahar - A torrential flow of water-saturated volcanic debris down the slope of a volcano in response to gravitative force; a type of landslide.

Nuee ardente - A French term applied to a highly heated mass of gas-charged ash which is expelled with explosive force down the mountainside with hurricane speed. Also known as a glowing avalanche, the incandescence is not always observed, especially during the daylight hours. Although most of the material moves laterally along the ground surface, great clouds of ash usually rise thousands of feet above it.

Peleeen eruption - Volcanic activity characterized by large explosive events with nuees ardentes, pyroclastic flows, moderate to heavy ash expulsion, and dome formation.

Pumice - A high vesicular, frothy natural glass with a high silica content formed through volcanic activity.

- next page, please



VOLCANIC TERMS (concluded)

Pyroclastic - A general term applied to volcanic material which has been explosively ejected from a volcanic vent.

Rhyolite - A volcanic material of high silica content, equivalent to granite in composition, with a very high viscosity when in a molten state.

Stratovolcano - A volcanic cone, usually of large size, built of alternating layers of lava and pyroclastic material; also known as a composite cone.

Tephra - A collective term for all clastic volcanic material, including ash, cinders, bombs, etc.

Vulcanian eruption - Volcanic activity characterized by strong explosions which produce pumice and large ash clouds, occasionally accompanied by crater of fissure lava flows. The term vulcanian activity usually referred to the eruption of large ash clouds to great vertical heights.

-thanks to Heritage Hill Photographics

THE POSTMAN BROUGHT US A LETTER...

from Florence Hill, Michigan State Director, who recalls these highlights of the national show at Lincoln, Neb.:

"A beautiful case of Michigan minerals was prepared for the Michigan state exhibit by Bob Beauvais of the Grand Rapids Mineral Society and Nancy Ammerman of Indians Mounds. Thanks to them, and to their club members who loaned their treasures for the display. Thanks also to all the people who helped set up, take down, and checked our state booth during the show.

"The Tulip City Club members brought their famous windmill for a special display. They also hosted a Michigan get-together Friday night at their campsite on the State Fair Campgrounds. Thanks to Chet and Bette Smith, Carol Harner, Don and Sue Lake, with their son and Don's parents, and Gordon and Jeannette Boone for your hospitality.

"Michigan was much in evidence among the demonstration booths....Many Michigan people brought exhibits, both in

the competitive classes and non-competitive ....There were at least 69 Michigan people at the show. That was by actual sighting. There may have been more....."

Thank you, Florence, it was a pleasure.

Rich Van Beek brought to our attention the death of Dr. Edwin H. Palmer, who was once a member of the club. Rich remembers a program he once gave. At that time he was a pastor in a Grand Rapids church. Before his death he was part of a Bible translation team for a local publisher.

TUMBLING TIP - Ever try Knox gelatin (unflavored) for a thickener? One pack per six pounds of stone.

ROCKHOUND NEWS  
and MICHIGAN GEM NEWS



# Midwest Federations NEWSLETTER

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



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TREASURER  
William Parch  
Oakdale, WI 54649

October 1980 - Issue No. 207

THE MIDWEST NEWSLETTER... A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE PAST... A FEW ABOUT THE FUTURE

## YOUR NEWSLETTER HAS A NEW EDITOR

*By Haydon Peterson*

20 years ago the late Gus Brown of Des Moines, sensing the need for communication between the Midwest clubs, inaugurated the "Letter-A-Month" which was mailed to all clubs in the Midwest. It was usually confined to a single subject. Being an acquaintance of Gus, both in local rock clubs and my ownership of a printing business, I got the job of printing the monthly "Letter".

Upon Gus' untimely passing, the late Floyd Mortenson, then President of the Midwest, asked me at a Midwest annual show if I would assume the job of getting the "Letter" out each month to "help out". I replied that I would "help out".

That was 207 issues ago... 20 years...! During that 20 years we changed the "Letter", in September 1965, Issue No. 57, to the Midwest Federation Newsletter and made various additions to its content. Always striving to make the "Newsletter" better and of greater service to the member clubs.

I have been your Editor for all these years and have enjoyed working with all the fine officers and members of the clubs. It has always been my goal to continue to make the Newsletters better. *Thank you all for your help and confidence.*

Now I have decided it is time to pass the Editorship on to someone else and declined to accept reappointment for a 21st year. So, beginning with the November issue you will have a new Editor. Mrs. Chester (Bette) Smith, Zeeland, Michigan has accepted the appointment as the new Editor. Bette is well qualified to continue production of the Newsletter. She is a member of the Tulip City Gem and Mineral Club and a past Editor of their monthly bulletin "Tulip City Conglomerate". She is a Title Examiner for a Zeeland, Michigan abstract company.

Thus, beginning immediately please note the address changes.....

SEND ALL NEWS AND ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION TO THE NEW EDITOR....

MRS. BETTE SMITH, 10607 MARY ANN STREET, ZEELAND, MICHIGAN 49464

SEND ALL ORDERS FOR NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE ABOUT THEM DIRECTLY TO....

PARROT PRINTING SERVICE, 2125 FOREST AVE., DES MOINES, IA 50311



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Now that the fall season is under way, and well before the holiday rush, I want to urge each of you to find a copy of the 1980 MWF Directory (two free copies were sent to each club), and really look it over.

I'm referring particularly to the "white pages" and especially the brief resume of our Federation. This covers the purpose of the MWF, membership requirements, how the Federation works, finances (and to answer a question some of you have asked, no officer or member of the Executive Committee receives any kind of salary. They are provided with stationery and are allowed postage and telephone expense. They pay their own expenses to and at meetings and donate hundreds of hours of their time and skill to the Federation...\*)

The white pages will also help you to understand the State Director system, the numerous committees which are at your service, the process for selecting Scholarship recipients... plus much more.

Why use valuable Newsletter space to repeat what is in the directory? Sad to say, in some cases club mail is not brought to the attention of the members, or may be briefly passed over as being of interest only to the "Board". Since new people will be assuming offices and committee chairmanships, it seems appropriate.

As you know, our theme this year has been Understanding... to promote understanding between the club and the Federation. When all members understand what the MWF really is... and organization to coordinate the work and efforts of the clubs... only then will clubs get full advantage from their membership!

CURRENTLY IN PREPARATION is a program to assist State Directors in talking about the MWF.

UNDER CONSIDERATION is some type of MWF service for club librarians.

ALMOST READY, a new show manual.

We've noticed increased interest in swaps, more emphasis on education at club meetings and elsewhere, bigger and better seminars, more clubs working with museums

## OMITTED LAST MONTH

In the list of clubs participating in the Scholarship Auction during the show and convention in Lincoln, Neb. last June, published in our September issue, Wisconsin was omitted.

The Wisconsin clubs were: Wisconsin Geological Society, \$79.30; Coulee Rock Club, \$82.25; Driftless Area Gem and Mineral, \$9.75; Kettle Moraine Geology Society, \$5.50; Neville Public Museum Geology Club, \$79.35; Oshkosh Earth Science Club, \$7.25; Valley Rocks and Mineral Club, \$19.95.

and in community service.

We are all very much concerned with the availability of collecting areas, the means to attract younger members, and the effect of growing inflation on rockhound activities.

Your officers and Executive Committee realize the years ahead hold many challenges, and we are preparing to face those uncertain situations with confidence.

*Enthusiastically... Bernice McCloskey*

## NEW EDITOR FOR AFMS NEWSLETTER

Haydon Peterson, editor of the American Federation Newsletter since 1974, did not accept reappointment for 1980-81. Dan Caudle, President-elect of the AFMS has appointed Mrs. Dalton "Consie" Prince, 5021 Augusta, Houston, TX 77007 to succeed Peterson beginning with the November issue. All items for publication in the AFMS Newsletter should be sent to "Consie" at this address.

1981... JUNE 4-7  
AFMS SHOW AND CONVENTION  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH



ANNIVERSARY ROCKS

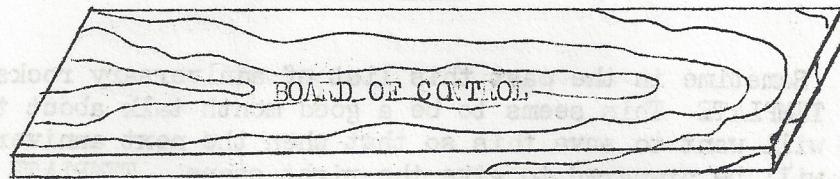
Sometime in the past this list of anniversary rocks appeared in the TEMPLATE. This seems to be a good month talk about them. Perhaps you will want to save this so that when the next anniversary comes up, you will be prepared to give the right stone. TEMPLATE credits the list to "The Daily Review."

1st	onyx	31st	amber
2nd	jasper	32nd	chrysoberyl
3rd	sard	33rd	golden beryl
4th	bloodstone	34th	aventurine
5th	rose quartz	35th	coral
6th	chrysoprase	36th	spinel
7th	moss agate	37th	kunzite
8th	tigereye	38th	pink pearl
9th	carnelian	39th	labradorite
10th	golden pearl	40th	star ruby or ruby
11th	citrine	41st	tanzanite
12th	jade	42nd	malachite
13th	amethyst	43rd	rubellite tourmaline
14th	ivory	44th	rhodochrosite
15th	crystal or colorless diamond	45th	sapphire or star sapphire
16th	garnet	46th	green beryl
17th	turquoise	47th	chrysocolla
18th	lapis lazuli	48th	andalusite
19th	moonstone	49th	sphene
20th	aquamarine	50th	gold or green diamond
21th	opal	55th	emerald
22nd	blue pearl	60th	chrysoberyl catseye
23rd	zircon	70th	alexandrite
24th	morganite	75th	pink diamond
25th	silver or canary diamond	... anyone have a blue pearl for the G.R.M.S. 22nd anniversary?	
26th	green tourmaline		
27th	peridot		
28th	iolite		
29th	amazonite		
30th	black pearl		

I am not sure I like (or agree with) these suggestions; there are some which have little appeal to me. However, early next June, before the 11th rolls around, I would not be unhappy if you would remind Bob that a very lovely spinel, preferably blue, and in a ring (not a crystal), would be most appropriate for our anniversary. Then the next year would bring kunzite (m-m-m-m!) and eventually we'd get to that ruby, and maybe to tanzanite and perhaps to alexandrite! Dream on!

-Ruth





### Minutes of the Meeting - September 22, 1980

The regular meeting of the Board of Control was called to order by President Mary Monton at the home of Nellie Osbun. Mary was the hostess. Present were Art Hoekwater, Lois and Charles Jarmoloski, Ted and Marie Duprey, Ruth and Bob Beauvais, and Rick and Pat O' Beshaw.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed in the bulletin. The report of the treasurer was received. Ted Duprey said he had several comments from members to the effect that they did not realize how much it cost to publish The Glacial Drifter. It was published for that reason, and in the event the board will have to levy additional dues if funds are not sufficient.

Our program for October 15 will not be the same as planned. We have the opportunity to have Vern Hodgson, the photographer who took the first pictures of the eruption of Mt. Saint Helens on May 18 as guest speaker. Rick O'Beshaw will contact Gus Gonnason, who was to be our speaker and either arrange for another evening or ask him to give some remarks about the mountain before the eruption as he is familiar with the area.

Betty Tchozeski, Faye King and Lois Jarmoloski will be in charge of the October pot luck. Mary Monton will invite guests from neighboring clubs. Ruth Beauvais will handle publicity for the program.

We will have the silent auction in October and Mary will place small ads in the G.R. Press and the local papers about it.

Mary has made the following appointments: Raffle, Danny and Cecil Sefton; Refreshments, Marie Duprey; Hospitality, Lois Jarmoloski; Mineral identification, Jim Vanderley.

The next board meeting will be at the Beauvais home. Main business will be titling the show, naming the show chairman, and making further plans for it. Show is scheduled for Feb. 1-22 in the east building of the museum.

Meeting adjourned and delicious refreshments were served by Mary.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Beauvais, Secretary  
Pro-tem



## REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Checking Account balance, Aug. 25, 1980

88.50

Income: Membership dues

187.00

15.50

Advertising (Aleta's)

30.00

212.50

301.00

Disbursements: Quick Print

(Drifter covers)

42.43

State of Mich.

Filing fee

10.00

R.M. Museum guard

5.00

Larry Pegal (speaker)

20.00

MIF News letters

28.60

Bank charges

.15

106.18

Check Account balance, Sept. 1980

194.82

194.82

Savings Account Balance, Aug. 25, 1980

241.82

Income - coffee

8.43

8.43

Savings Account balance, Sept. 22, 1980

250.25

250.25

Memorial Account balance, Aug. 25, 1980

1.00

(Statement savings)

Income: Interest

.01

.01

1.01

Memorial Fund (30 month certificate)

500.00

Total of all funds, Sept. 22, 1980

946.08

-Theodore R. Duprey,  
TreasurerA L E T A ' S   R O C K   S H O P1515 PLAINFIELD HT  
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Friday 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.



ANNIVERSAIRES are a time for remembering....so let's go back through some of the old GLACIAL DRIFTERS and see what happened. . . .

FIVE YEARS AGO Ruth Steele is president. Dorothy and Art Ferguson present a program on Red Rocks Country. A "field trip" thru a wholesale rock dealer's workshop where large agate slabs are tumbled and lapped for clocks and book ends is planned for November. Herm Prins has an article on Colorado High Country.

TEN YEARS AGO Art Ferguson is president. Karl DeBack shows slides of the International Gem Show in Chicago. The Junior Rockhounds are meeting at Blandford Nature Center. (I believe that Larry Fegel was the leader) A field trip was held at the now-closed Cheney Quarry at Bellevue. Joan Afton writes about her "hero" - Les Pearl. The Beauvais' have an article about a trip to Illinois and Missouri for geodes with the Wendt's, the Doornbos' and Petersens's. This was your editors' first real camping/collecting trip.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO Richard Damstra is president. The club meets at Ridgeview Junior High in Grand Rapids. The Robert B. Smith's have a display of fossils at the October meeting. Mr. & Mrs. Joe Kreps (could it be Krebs, who have had such a fabulous display or copper and datoline for many years?) give the anniversary program on their collecting trips to the upper peninsula. They are from Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Club. A lapidary group is being formed. Roger Hawkins has an article on collecting thomsonite in Minnesota.

TWENTY YEARS AGO This was the first annual meeting and Dr. Richard Rose is elected president. The program is on jewelry making by Doris Kemp. Her husband, Russ, is later president of the MWF, and is the author of several books on the rock hobby. Both are now associated with the Lizzadro Museum in Elmhurst, IL. The field trip for November is to Clay Center, Ohio, for celestite. Les Pearl is field trip chairman.

-----

THE SITUATION IS NOT WITHOUT HUMOR - One headline says, "No silver lining at treatment plant (AP): In Providence, Rhode Island, the collapse of the silver market is being felt at the city sewage treatment plant.

A consultant says the plant is now discharging only \$4,300 worth of silver a day into the Providence River, compared to \$17,000 worth in January - before the silver prices plunged.

The city's large jewelry manufacturing industry accounts for the flow of silver into the sewage plant and the river.

-OSHKOSH QUARRIER

(Question: Does anyone ever try panning there?)



SOMETIMES YOU CAN'T WIN FOR LOSING  
-reprinted from Outdoor Unlimited,  
Inc., April 1979 Issue

Ray Childers, executive vice-president of the Montana Rural Electric News, came up with the following little tidbit that makes one wonder where will it all end?

"Down near Vernal, Utah, there's an oil field being developed by Chevron. A botanist with the Federal Bureau of Land Management was poking around and found locoweed. Well, I don't have to tell a Montana audience that locoweed poisons livestock.

"Therefore, ranchers have tried to eradicate it and they almost did. But do you know what?...because it is rare it is on the Endangered Species List and because it is on the list it must be protected. Chevron thus was forced to reduce its drilling and make other costly adjustments. Cattle raisers were upset, and naturally a bit puzzled.

"Apparently whoever put locoweed on the precious list didn't have the foggiest idea of what locoweed was or what it did.

"The Vernal Express newspaper had this comment about the incident, 'It's just too ridiculous to be true. It is bureaucracy gone bananas.'

Comment... WRA Activities...from the Oregon Rockhound. "At this rate, in another few years, the desert will have the tumbleweeds on the endangered species list. Besides, I am not so sure it's all that endangered. Has anyone checked with New Mexico lately? One New Mexico cattleman I knew would have said, 'That man has gone plum loco'!"

-AFMS NEWSLETTER

Did you know? Nearly all of our common laundry detergents make use of a whitener for clothing. When it is used for minerals or polished pieces, this whitener often remains as a film, leaving them dull and lifeless. Additives to dishwashing soaps do not have this whitener. If used for your final mineral washing, it will leave your specimens bright and shiny.

S.I.E.S NEWS

via ROCK ROLLERS

FIRE AGATE

by Jack Brasig

So-called "fire agate" is actually a chalcedony with a layer of iridescent limonite (a type of iron oxide) which is trapped between layers of chalcedony. The layer is so thin that it is sometimes less in thickness than a breath upon a window pane. The deposition of limonite is such that a dense spot is formed and this thins out toward the edges. This dense spot is where the best colors are usually dominant. The form of "fire agate" is almost always botryoidal. Fire agate should be worked with a great deal of caution:

1. First study the stone before sawing or grinding.
2. Grind slowly on 100 grit wheel wetting the stone often and examining to see that "fire" is still there.
3. Do the same on finer wheel until satisfied that "fire" is coming to the surface.
4. Start sanding, checking stone periodically to see that you have not sanded the "fire" away. Keep wetting all the time, as the stone is heat sensitive.
5. When satisfied that you have the "fire" at the top of the cabachon, finish on leather buff with tin oxide.

-THE GUILDER via  
THE GLACIAL DRIFTER (Topeka)

HINT Remove scratches in your work by buffing across the scratch, never with the scratch. Never buff with a solder seam, it will become indented as it is softer than the parent metal.

-Dick Roew in  
SMOKE SIGNALS





## FOR SAFETY'S SAKE

One of the most basic gimmicks ever used to attract customer attention was the old trick of completely covering a show window except for one small peep-hole. Above the hole was placed a sign that read; "Don't look in here."

It worked. Human nature being what it is, an awful lot of people just couldn't resist taking a peek.

Human nature sometimes works against drivers in much the same way when certain warning signs pop into view.

Signs like "Curve, Slow, 30 mph" or "Slippery When Wet," or "Do Not Pass On Hills Or Curves" - they sometimes seem to work like the peep hole. Even though they've noted the sign and are well aware of the warning, drivers want to find out if it really means what it says. Have you ever gotten a sticky finger because you tested a surface that was labeled "Wet Paint?" Same thing.

Well, the wet paint won't hurt you, but tangling with those traffic warning signs could be a horse of another color. **READ AND HEED.**

from SAFE DRIVER

It's not difficult to carry this advice a little further. How many rockhounds have read a no trespassing sign and then climbed the fence? The sign means, "Stay out!"

Most new rock hammers now carry a well-known warning: "Wear safety glasses when using" (or a similar statement. Do you? Better wear the glasses or a face shield!

And how tempting could those chemicals used for cleaning minerals be to a child, your own or a visitor, if they were labeled "Don't touch!" Put them somewhere safe where they can't be investigated!

Read the signs - read and heed...

## DON BOWERS SAYS...

You are sawing a slab and the oil flow quits! Stop the saw, jiggle the pump, add more oil, **nothing helps.**

There is too much mud in the tank. That means only one thing - the system needs to be cleaned!

I have to raise my saw unit out of the oil pan and it is heavy. The time before this I rigged a pulley system attached to the floor joist so I could raise it easier. After I got it up in the air high enough, I could see why the oil flow ceased.

I have a 5 gallon can with a colander in the bottom. In the colander I put a paper bag, the kind you bring your groceries home in. The plug is pulled from the oil pan and the oil is allowed to run into the bag. The sludge is also scraped into the bag. The whole is allowed to stand for a couple of days or more and the oil goes thru the bag and the sludge stays inside. The oil is poured off from time to time to keep the remaining oil going thru the paper. This is not a fast method but it separates the oil from the cuttings, allowing me to re-use the oil.

Would ~~you~~ like to see your name up there in print in capital letters? Like Don's?

The editors pledge to give you nationwide (well, almost) coverage if you send us your lapidary hint or collecting tip.

Share your expertise and let the rockhound world in on your knowledge!

A patient lying in a hospital bed, all bandaged up, was explaining to a visitor, "So I told my wife that when Monday night football was on T.V....it would take wild horses to drag me away from the set...I still don't know where she got them!"

from THE GEODE



## LAST MONTH. . .

Larry Fegel, our graduate junior rockhound - BS in geology, MA in environmental science (we are not sure of the terminology) gave us an excellent program in September. One could not help but be infected by his enthusiastic approach to his subject, the geology of the upper peninsula. There is no doubt that everyone present enjoyed it very much, and Larry's slides and commentary made all of us yearn for summer again and a vacation in the north.

When he left, Larry mentioned that his second child was due -- well, now (we see by the paper) he is the proud father of a new daughter.

Congratulations!

- - - -

Lightning Ridge in Australia is celebrated for its so-called black opal. But Virgin Valley, Nevada, has produced the world's only really black opal - black as a lump of coal, with glowing flames of red and green fire.

-MINERALOGIST  
via GEMS

## NEXT MONTH. . .

Our Silent Auction comes in November. We have only three means of funding our club and our bulletin: dues, the silent auction, and the sale of inexpensive rocks to children at the museum show. So in order to make ends meet - and our treasurer is very good at stretching dollars - we need good specimens for the silent auction. If you wish, you may have 50% of the selling price returned to you. We also need people to bid at the auction and that means bringing others besides our club members. Talk to your friends, your neighbors, and unaffiliated rock-hounds and bring them - and the general public. PROMOTE!

You craft people, bring your creations to the silent auction. We need all items related in any way to the rock hobby and maybe some which are not close relatives.

Start working now - if it's not good enough for the auction, it's good enough for the children at the show. And we'll need tumbled stones for the grab bags at the show. There's a lot you can do to help your club - just try!

**TUMBLING ABALONE SHELLS.** Place shells between several thicknesses of paper and break to desired size, or they can be cut with a band saw. Shell dust is toxic, so take care. Wear gloves or gauntlets to cover arms when sawing to keep the fine particles from working into your pores.

The shells should be tumbled in clean beach sand and water. Use enough to cover the shells. Tumble 24 to 36 hours. Wash thoroughly and dry. Fill the drum half full and add enough hardwood sawdust to keep the shells from hitting each other.

Add tin oxide or chromium oxide to polish. Use approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of polish to 6 pounds of shells. This mixture is run dry for 2 to 3 hours. Remove shells from tumbler, wash off sawdust and polish mixture and you have beautifully polished shells.

FLINT CLUB NEWSLETTER

via ROCKHOUND NEWS



...MATTER...

Our Silent Auction comes in November. We have only three months of finding our club and our bulletin. Guess, the silent auction, and the sale of inexpensive rocks to children at the museum shop. So in order to make ends meet - and our treasurer is very good at stretching dollars - we need good specimens for the silent auction. If you wish, you may have 50% of the selling price returned to you. We also need people to bid at the auction and that means bringing others besides our club members. Talk to your friends, your neighbors, and unaffiliated rock-hounds and bring them - and the general public. PROMOTE!

You can't people, bring your excursions to the silent auction. We need all items related in any way to the rock hobby and maybe some which are not close relatives.

Send working now - it's not good enough for the auction, it's good enough for the children at the shop. And we'll be in the shop a lot.

# THE GLACIAL DRIFTER

R. & R. Beauvais, Editors

3308 Wilson SW

Grandville, MI 49418

## ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL

TIME VALUE!

Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Beauvais  
3308 S. Wilson  
Grandville, Mich. 49418

Save your  
Commemorative  
cancelled stamps,  
and pre-cancelled,  
those of unusual  
denomination and  
those from foreign  
countries

They can be  
recycled for food  
for the hungry  
of the world.

Bring them to the  
meetings -  
It's an easy way  
to help.

...our graduate Junior  
in geology, he is  
science (we are not  
terminology) gave us an  
in September. One  
but he is interested by his  
approach to his subject,  
of the upper peninsula.  
There is no doubt that everyone pre-  
very much, and Larry's  
mentally made all of us  
summer again and a vacation  
Larry mentioned that  
his second child was due -- well, now  
(we see by the paper) he is the proud  
father of a new daughter.  
Congratulations!

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celebrated for its so-called black  
opal. But Virgin Valley, Nevada,  
has produced the world's only really  
black opal - black as a lump of  
coal, with glowing flames of red  
and green fire.

WILSONAOLIST  
via GUS

PLANT CLUB MEMBERSHIP  
via ROCKWOOD NEWS