

the
GLACIAL
DROFFER

Volume 2, No. 1

February, 1960

Official Publication of

THE GRAND RAPIDS MINERAL SOCIETY
A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION
1355 Hollywood N E
GRAND RAPIDS, Michigan

Affiliated with

The Midwest Federation and the American Federation
of Mineral Societies

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
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| Paul M. Chase | Vice-President | 3816 Collingwood S.W. |
| Jane Cichaniewicz | Secretary | 809 Franklin S. E. |
| Henry Slater | Treasurer | 816 W. Ellis, Belding |
| Robert R. Rozema | Liaison Rep. | 1355 Hollywood N E |
| | Midwest Federation | |
| Phyllis Hanna | Historian | 2319 Riverside N.E. |
| Nina Rozema | Editor | 1355 Hollywood N E |

FEBRUARY 10 MEETING

The regular meeting of the Grand Rapids Mineral Society will be held at the G. R. Public Museum on 8:00 p.m. on February 10th. Program Chairman Paul Chase has secured a very excellent program for this evening. Mr. Ellis W. Courter of Detroit, Chairman of the Community Relations Committee of the Michigan Mineralogical Society has prepared a slide presentation, together with a taped background narration and music, which tells the story of Michigan's many wonders - the tourist attractions or physical features that nature has carved from the foundation rocks - the treasure troves left behind for our industry - all fitted together with the geological story of how through the chemistry of the years Michigan's foundation has been created. This program will be of interest not only to the science minded, but to the traveler or sightseer as well.

ATTENTION!!! JUNIOR MEMBERS

Mr. Gerald Battjes is planning on meeting with the Junior Group at 7:30 on Wednesday, February 10th. Each junior is asked to bring a rock and be prepared to tell something of interest about it. Let's have a good turn out for this meeting and then join the general meeting and see the excellent program announced in the opening paragraph.

SWAP TABLE A SUCCESS

Jerry Morris and Leo Hoogerhyde did a good job of getting the SWAP TABLE off to a good start at the last meeting. We hope more of you will participate in the swap session from 7:30 to 8:00. Any one having material for swapping is welcome to step up to the table and spread out his wares. You can make your own deals. If you don't have any swapping material, pick some up at one of the rock shops advertising in the Drifter or at the Rock Sale Table.

ROCK SALE TABLE

Henry Tchozeski and his son Steve are still running the rock sale table, but are in need of more material to sell. All money taken in at this table goes into the treasury to help defray expenses of the operation of your club. Please bring your spare rocks and minerals and help give your treasury a shot in the arm. The sale table will be open from 7:30 until 8:00 and will re-open after the meeting for a short time. Please cooperate by doing your buying before the meeting starts and after it is over.

GIFT GIVEN TO CLUB

The Board of Control wishes to thank Miss Esther Hall for the stencils she donated to the club. They are sincerely appreciated.

GIFT GIVEN BY CLUB

At the January Meeting the club presented our past president, Robert Rozema with a beautiful Ebony and silver cigarette box. Bob wishes to thank the membership for this kind thought so beautifully expressed.

APRIL 10 thru 22nd SHOW DATES

Here's the information on the Mineral Show to be put on by the Grand Rapids Mineral Society. This show is not in any sense competitive. There will be no judging nor will prizes be awarded. This is to be an exhibition to show the people of this part of the state what the society is doing and what it has accomplished in the short time it has been in existence. We also hope to interest others in our hobby.

Every member is urged to participate in the exhibition. We all have something of which we are proud. It may be a fossil, mineral specimen, gem or piece of jewelry. Let us know. Cases will be set up with mixed entries, each piece will be identified with the owner's name. Please be sure your entry is well marked with your name so it may be returned to you after the show. Enter your best. Emphasis on quality!!!

Due to the possibility of not enough space, certain limits must be set at the start. Should more space be available, members will be notified and additional material may be entered.

MINERALS AND FOSSILS

Limited to not over 15 specimens per entry. Specimens must not exceed 6"x6"x6". Specimens must be identified, including place where found. In a few cases certain fossils and crystals will exceed these dimensions, these will be considered by the committee.

LAPIDARY AND JEWELRY

No minimum limit, but maximum not to exceed 20 pieces per entry. Bookends, spheres, carvings, mosaics, etc. should be those cut and polished by exhibitor. Jewelry stones must be cut and polished by exhibitor. Handmade jewelry will be so marked in the exhibit. Commercial mounts will be accepted, and so marked. Faceted stones must be cut by exhibitor and may be either natural or synthetic.

ALL MATERIAL MUST BE WELL MARKED WITH THE EXHIBITORS NAME AND THE TYPE OF MATERIAL, ALSO, WHERE FOUND.

Below is an entry blank. Please fill out and return it to the chairman of the committee. This entry must be in the committee's hands on or before the February meeting. It is necessary to have this in order that the material may be catalogued and space allotted to each entrant.

FRANK CHRISTIE 547 CHERRY STREET, GRAND RAPIDS 2, MICHIGAN

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

TYPE OF EXHIBIT

() MINERAL () LAPIDARY () JEWELRY () FOSSIL

Space Required _____

SOMETHING ABOUT MICHIGAN
by Dr. Richard Rose

During the Paleozoic era the seas made some six major incursions into the Michigan basin with many minor ebbs and flows. For a period of more than 315 million years the Michigan Basin was at times filled with a sea, at times land, desert, or swamp.

About 350 million years ago the Devonian Sea, the fourth of these six major seas deposited limestone and shale nearly 3,000 feet thick in the approximately 35 million years that it was present. It must have been a warm and rather shallow salt water sea because the same Genera and species of compound, reef-building corals are found from Hudson Bay southward to the Falls of the Ohio. The famous "Petoskey Stone" is a fossil coral commonly found in the Traverse Formation limestones. The species is Hexagonaria, variety Prismaticophylum perornatum - it has a pattern like a series of tiles of hexagonal outline fitted closely together. In the center of each are many thin webs which radiate outwards to meet the exterior wall. The size of the individual segments varies up to 3/4 inch in diameter. Many individual segments are found joined together in "colonies" forming rounded masses as large as eight to ten inches across. Some colonies may reach up to fifty pounds but seldom is a Petoskey stone of this size cutting quality.

Favosites or Honey-Combed coral and solitary cup and horn coral also make interesting cutting and polishing material and are found in many Traverse formation outcrops.

Localities where Petoskey stones are numerous within the tier of northern counties including Antrim, Alpena, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Presque Isle, especially along the south shore of Little Traverse Bay from Charlevoix to Petoskey. Good finds are available on the beach at Magnus Park to the cement plant in Petoskey. Also try the railroad cut along the shoreline.

Other collecting areas reported are at Stony Point, and near Charlevoix, along the shores of Burt Lake and near the Columbus Beach at Indian River, also along the shores of Torch Lake; and in dumps of the Rockport Quarry, 11 miles northeast of Alpena, just south of Presque Isle county line.

For more about collecting, cutting, and polishing of Petoskey Stones don't miss the February meeting because Jerry Morris has agreed to let us in on some of his secrets.

CLUB EMBLEM

Do you like the emblem at the right? Could you design a more interesting one? If so, please get to work and let us see what you can come up with. All entries will be judged at a future date to be announced by our President Joe Hanna. A committee of judges will be appointed and a prize will be awarded.

DOOR PRIZES

The piece of Montana Agate donated by Henry Tchozeski was won by our new member Douglas Zoet. We are happy for him and know it will be a fine addition to his collection.

The door prize for the February meeting will be a pair of baroque pearl earrings donated by Mrs. Gerald Bloomfield.

Tickets for a piece of opal will be available before the meeting. See either Eva or Bill Brimmer and get yours.

NEW STUDY GROUP

The group interested in the study of Rocks and Minerals have decided that they would like to meet as a study group on a day other than the regular meeting. Mary Jane Dockeray has been approached with the idea of conducting possibly a five week course on rock identification. There will be a small fee for this course. Those interested please fill out the blank below and mail to Dr. Richard W. Rose, 422 North Park Street, N. E. Grand Rapids 5, Michigan

There will be no obligation as this is only a survey to determine if enough are interested to make a class advisable.

In any case, starting next month we will hold at least one meeting for the group interested in addition to the regular meeting. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Misek have volunteered the use of their home in Comstock Park for the February meeting. Time and date will be decided after the next regular meeting.

Dr. Richard W. Rose
422 North Park St., N.E.
Grand Rapids 5, Michigan

Dear Dr. Rose:

I would be interested in attending a short course in Rock and Mineral identification sponsored by the Grand Rapids Mineral Society. Fee to be discussed at a later date.

Signed _____

NEW MEMBERS

We wish to welcome the following new members into our club:

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Zoet
3595 - 52nd Street
Grand Rapids 4, Michigan

Miss Kathy Knoll
R. R. # 1
Holland, Michigan

Mr. & Mrs. Willis W. Atwell
152 Fuller Ave. S. E.
Grand Rapids 6, Michigan

Miss Margery Turner
256 N. Main Street
Rockford, Michigan

Mr. & Mrs. Reginald H. Voss
1829 E. Leonard Street
Grand Rapids 5, Michigan

Mrs. Nellie C. Mead
1063 San Lucia Dr. S. E.
Grand Rapids 6, Michigan

Miss Elaine F. Reynolds
50 Stewart St. S. W.
Grand Rapids 7, Michigan

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth B. Hocking
2304 Riverside Dr. N. E.
Grand Rapids 5, Michigan

Miss Norma M. Becker
1137 Ottilia St. S. E.
Grand Rapids 7, Michigan

We are sorry that the Zoet's were listed as new members in the last Drifter. An oversight. If you know of any other new member who has been omitted from the New Member list, please contact the editor so the name and address will appear in the next issue.

CUTTERS MEET AT CHASE HOME

On Wednesday evening, January 27th, about 16 or 17 of those interested in cutting and polishing met at the home of Paul Chase. A couple of brave novices, Bernice Billings and your editor had the fun of cutting and polishing their first stone. And fun it was!! Neither of us came up with a perfect job, but those agates sure shine and in the right light you can't even see the little, tiny, scratches in my gem. As soon as I have some spare time I'm going to go after those scratches and then cut another for a pair of earrings. So, one of these meeting nights I'll be wearing my own creation.

JACKSON CLUB TO HAVE ROCKRAMA

Mrs. Frank Fisher, President of the Jackson Club told us that their club is having a Rockrama this summer. More about this later.

BLOOMFIELD ROCK SHOP
17 Mile Road Cedar Springs

ROUGH - SLABS - TUMBLES

JEWELRY

OPEN ALL HOURS
STOP IN AND SEE US SOON

r o z e m a ' s

o
c New specimen and cutting
k material arriving every
p week. Findings - Tumbles
i Kona Dolomite
l Frantom Lapidary Equipment
e

1355 Hollywood N E EM 1-6880
4:00 to 7:30 or by appointment

MEMBERSHIP DUES PAST DUE

Have YOU paid your 1960 membership dues? There are a number of those who paid dues in 1959 but who have not paid their 1960 dues. If you are one those who has not found it convenient to see Treasurer Henry Slater or Membership Chairman Phyllis Hanna at the meetings you may fill out the application blank below and either bring it to the February meeting, or send it to Henry Slater, 816 W. Ellis, Belding, Michigan. If Henry receives your check before the date of the meeting, your membership card will be ready for you and your number will be put in the box for door prize drawings.

THE GRAND RAPIDS MINERAL SOCIETY

Family \$3.00____
Individual 2.00____
Student 1.00____

NEW _____
RENEWAL _____

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

If Family membership, indicate here the names and ages of participating children.

(do not use space below)

PAID \$ _____ DATE _____

SIGNED BY _____

ISSUED MEMBERSHIP CARD NUMBER _____

BOOK REVIEW BY X.L.S.

The first requirement for a rockhound, of course, is some rocks, but the next requirement is a sound pocket size book that will help him in studying and identifying his finds. A FIELD GUILD TO ROCKS AND MINERALS by Frederick H. Pough, published by Houghton Mifflin Company at \$3.95 is well qualified to furnish such help. The back cover bears the imprint of a 7 inch ruler, and the end papers carry diagrams describing geological formations and occurrences to supplement the text. 46 photographic plates, many in color, illustrate the minerals which are simply described in easy to understand language, both as to physical appearances and as regards simple easy to perform tests for identification. On the page directly opposite each photographic plate are corresponding drawings of the mineral crystal shown in the photograph.

An old friend to most rockhounds, of considerable experience, Frederick Pough's book will be a happy discovery to the novice who will find in the first few chapters the help he needs to change his pile of pretty rocks into a collection in which he will find ever growing pleasure and knowledge. My own battered copy goes with me whenever we go in search of rocks or the talk of rocks. But whether it be this book or another let's all of us own and use a good field manual.

WITH OUR VACATIONERS

We had another letter from the Ray L. Fox's. They tell us that the weather has been unusually bad - for rockhounding. They have been having lots of rain and the reservoirs of the Salt River are full now, 400,000,000 acre feet. Ray had a caller from Alberta, Canada the other day who told him about good hunting grounds up there, and to quote Ray "He had me crazy to get up there." They were fortunate to meet some new friends who are interested in lapidary work and have bought a Frantom machine but know nothing about using it, so they are very anxious to have Ray help them and insist that he use the machine any time. If any of you have the time you should drop the Fox's a line. Their winter address is 2700 N. Hayden Rd, Scottsdale, Arizona.

We don't have the winter address of the Otto Weisner's, but have heard that they are in Florida for the winter. Also know that the Lester B. Walter's have a winter home in Florida but do not have their address either.

Special Purchase!!!!
Golden Tigereye 75¢ per lb.

Many Beautiful cabinet specimens
GEM rough for the lapidary
jade, chrysocolla, malachite

GRAND RAPIDS ROCK & GEM SHOP
3850 Loraine S.E. GL 2-2086
By appointment

WILPER ROCK SHOP
234 Bond Street Allegan, Mich
Phone 537
Highland, Park, B&I Gem Makers
Ultra Violet Lights. Many
other names of Lapidary Equip.

Large stock of findings & baroques
See Us and Save \$ Open Evenings
And Week-Ends

MIDWEST FEDERATION'S LETTER 1 A - MONTH

Greetings fellow rockhounds of the Midwest. It has been my honor to have been drawn from the rank and file, and made President of your great Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies, and it is with humble feelings and great pride that I introduce you to the very newest "baby" of the Midwest, The Letter-A-Month. This idea came originally as a suggestion from Hayden Peterson, editor of News Nuggets - the publication of the Central Iowa Mineral Society. It was developed by Gus Brown, chairman of the Membership-Publicity Committee of your Federation with the help and encouragement of many others.

We hope to bring you interesting news and useful information of many things being done for you and your hobby. These messages will come to you through the channels of your club bulletin, and as messages to be read to you by one of your officers. Each month you will receive an interesting and important message from an officer, director, or committee chairman. It is hoped that through these monthly messages you will gain a clearer understanding of the importance to you, and your hobby of your Federation functions and a greater realization that you are part of your Federation.

To start this letter your way, I shall kick off with the news that your Board of Directors has just concluded a two day session at Downers Grove discussing and acting on such matters as the following: --- constitutional revisions. (you may expect many changes to be proposed) "rockramas" (invitations are enthusiastically extended to hold Rockramas in your district -- contact Division Chairman, Russ Kemp) New position of Executive Chairman with Advisory Committee, (this matter to be developed by a committee of Past Presidents). Creation of Convention Show Committee (this committee to be headed by Fred Renzel) has promised to come up with some real good material for use in future conventions), appointment of Dick Brush as Southwestern Regional Vice-President (look for great things from the Southwestern region). Heard reports of two hard-working Regional Vice-Presidents Morille Wilson of Central and Floyd Mortenson of Eastern. The Eastern region has caught fire under Mr. Mortenson's expert guidance. More about that as time elapses.

Many other important matters too numerous to mention were effectively handled by the Board at this two day meeting.

Yours truly will use the rest of this page to pass on to you a hearty invitation from the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club for you to attend the Midwest's 20th Annual Convention (Fieldtrip) which will be held in Ishpeming July 1-2-3-4, 1960. Advanced reservations must be made 10 days prior to Convention time and lodging much earlier than that. Details will be published in the Earth Science Magazine and the Jaspilite beginning with the February issue. Important, Reservation Blanks will be in the hands of your Liaison Representative by the end of February.

Watch EARTH SCIENCE for details on 4 exciting days of collecting, and having fun, and in the meantime, good hunting ..we'll see you in '60.

Bob Markert, President Midwest Federation

MIDWEST FEDERATION'S LETTER - A - MONTH
EARTH SCIENCE IS WORTHY OF YOUR PROUD AND ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT

Does the Midwest Federation need an official magazine to help in the education of it's members and publicize it's activities? We thought so in 1952 and we formed a group of Medwest Federation members, laid our cash on the line plus all our spare time to bring the Earth Science Digest to the Midwest.

Yes, we have had our ups and downs and more downs than ups, but we are still in business, and have run for two years in the black thanks to the help given so generously by the Midwest Federation and it's associate clubs.

We are now in a good position to survey our activities, and we admit there is much room for improvement. Basically, however, we think we have a fine magazine unhampered by the limitations to any one phase of Earth Science subjects. Without sacrificing any of our previous contents we are about to publish much more material on lapidary work and it's associated skills, with particular emphasis on creative art. The services of people skilled in art and lapidary have been obtained to write such articles and review other articles submitted to us, you are encouraged to submit original articles to us in this and in all phases of the Earth Sciences.

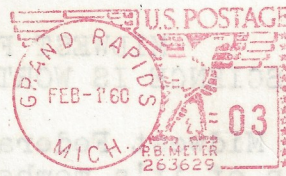
One of the things we must keep in mind about our Federation, however, is that an organization of our size can be a tremendous influence in the field of Earth Sciences. Hence it can mean more than conventions and rock hunting, and club work, it can be education in a tremendous way. Possibly the Federation is doing far more than it realizes when it sponsors "Earth Science", for it represents the educational side of your Federation.

How well this is being done can be judged best by a glimpse at our subscription list. You might like toknow where your magazine goes, for instance in this last year it went to the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm, to Johannesburg, South Africa - to France - England - Canada - Venezuela - Yugoslavia - Canal Zone - Japan - Australia - Hong Kong (18 copies) to Thailand plus many other countries. Could this be a good chance for international understanding and education?

It went to almost every State University in the country plus many Colleges and Universities, at least 50 High Schools and many museums and libraries. (The education of our youth.) It went to rockhounds new and old, and last but not least it went to prisons. Maybe through Earth Science a prisoner will discover an interest that may help him find himself, and that will be the finest reward of all. These are some of the things Earth Science is doing for the Federation and we thought you should know.

The new Lapidary-Art material should have a tremendous appeal to the many Federation members who like myself are happiest when working with their hands, brain, and ingenuity to create a beautiful lapidary article. This section of the magazine should be the frosting on the cake when you begin to realize that we are not just rehashing all the old techniques of gem cutting, but are embarking on a new and more esthetic plane where the use of our imagination to create new things will be encouraged.

W. H. Allaway, President M.W.F., 1952-1953



THE GRAND RAPIDS MINERAL SOCIETY
1355 HOLLYWOOD NE
GRAND RAPIDS 5, MICHIGAN
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

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MRS. BERNICE WIENRANK REXIN
3934 NORTH SHERMAN BLVD.
MILWAUKEE 16, WISCONSIN

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W. H. Allaway, President M.W.F., 1952-1953