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# OUTDOOR MEETING SET FOR AUGUST 10th

Dr. Richard Rose, Program Co-chairman, advises that the August meeting will be held at RIVERSIDE PARK the evening of August 10th. Bring your supper, or drop out after you have eaten. The program will get under way shortly after 6:00.

This month's program is designed to help in learning to identify local rocks and selected rock forming minerals. A list of rocks and the key for the identification of selected minerals will be handed out at the meeting. Most of the rocks and minerals mentioned and a few others will be shown at the meeting. They will be arranged and numbered, but not labeled. Each member will be asked to attempt to identify the specimens using the key, or any other personal identification aid, but it is requested that identification be made without the help of any other individual as a prize will be given to the person making the highest score. The specimens will be identified and discussed after the Rock Quiz. Dr. Rose hopes to have the Quiz part of the program completed no later than 8:00. Therefore, it is suggested that you come early to give yourself plenty of time to make your identifications.

The following are some of the specimens which will be included in the Quiz: granite, diabase, gabro, pumice, obsidian, rhyolite, a porphory pegmatite, coquina, sandstone, shale, limestone, conglomenite, slate, a schist, a gneiss, agate, Petoskey stone, chain coral, horn coral, brachiopod, honeycomb coral, chalomites. We hope you have a good book to help you bone up before the quiz.

#### ADVANCE NOTICE!!!!!!

The September and October meetings will be held at RIVERSIDE SCHOOL. As you all know, the present auditorium at the Museum is too small for our needs. Until the new auditorium in the East Building of the Museum is completed, the Board has decided to hold our meetings at Riverside School. We hear that the new auditorium will be ready for use about the first of the year. We hope it will be sooner as we enjoy the association with the Museum and want to get back there as soon as possible. But in the meantime, plan to attend the September and October meetings at Riverside School. The DRIFTER will keep you informed on the meeting place.

# SECOND ANNUAL AUCTION SET FOR NOVEMBER

The Board has set November as Auction Month. Now is the time to look over your collection and make a selection to donate to this money raising project.

# GIFT TO G. R. LIBRARY

The Board of Control voted to give \$50.00 to the Grand Rapids Library for the purchase of books relating to our hobby. If you have any suggestions for books which you would like to see and read get in touch with one of the Board members and your suggestion will be passed on to the library.

# MIDWEST CONVENTION REPORT by Robert Rozema

Our Jeep Station Wagon, Crazy Horse, puffed up to the Birchview School in Ishpeming late Thursday afternoon, June 30th, foilowed by Archie and Bernice Billings with whom we had spent a few days in Minnesota. One of the first friends to greet us was Lowell Palmer who had saved a little gasoline cost by travelling the last sixty some miles behind a wrecker because of a broken axle. Lowell's shiny, new station wagon was already low on its springs in true rockhound style. It was parked behind the school with its tailgate down cozily cooking up a swap with a nearby Cadillac and a couple of Fords.

We said hello to a few other friends and checked in for the Twentieth Annual Field Trip Convention of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies, after which we set up camp just east of Negaunee in what was vertiably a little Grand Rapids for the next few days. Archie and Bernice Billings, in their house trailer, Dean and Donna Antonopulos in their car, Sylvia Delacher and Marie Speiland maker sharing a cabin to our north, Paul and Eva Rumps and their children in a tent to the south of us and Reggie and June Vos with their family in a tent next to the Rumps. Mrs. Rump's sister, Freda Olshewski and a friend were also with the Rumps.

Friday morning twenty motor caravans took off from the parking area behind the Birchview School and headed in different directions to the collecting areas assigned them for that day. The collecting was fast and furious and good representative specimens of the iron country minerals were readily available with an occasional exceptional one being found by some lucky person. Archie Billings, Lowell Palmer and I enjoyed the hospitality of the Pickands Mather Company in the form of conducted tours of the Mather A mine in Ishpeming and the Mather B in Negaunee. We had the rare privilege of seeing a working mine in operation and rejoined cur field trip groups in time for lunch and the afternoon field trips.

The four days of the convention were completely filled with field trips except Sunday morning when we were free to attend the church of our choice or be "just lazy". About 4:00 each afternoon we returned to our camp and got cleaned up for the evenings which we spent in eating, swapping, greeting old friends and making new ones. Grand Rapids friends we saw at the school were Edna Mae McDowell, Jane Cichaniewicz Casey and Sena Doornbos, Pat Hubbell, Dr. Dick Rose, and Joe Hanna. Any time two rockhound cars were parked together swapping was in progress. Many times I saw rockhounds who were swapping cagily with an advanced collector practically give a few choice pieces to a beginner. It was terrifical It was colossall Our big swapping box came home as full as it left, but with different rocks.

Saturday's barbeque was excellent and the silent auction which followed it provided lots of action, the quality of material contributed was exceptional and made one proud to belong to an organization who members so generously gave of their best material for the good of the organization, and to help the beginner in the hobby to improve his collection. There were some lovely little Pugh Quarry calcite groups which went as low as  $35 \beta$  and fine museum type specimens that brought as much as  $35 \beta$ 0.00 to 40.00. With very few exceptions everyone got a real bargain. (continued on the next page)

It is always interesting to watch some of these specimens at an auction the way in which a few of them will catch the bidding fancy and rise in price way above the normal value is very perplexing. Often it is the beginning collector who is carried away by the general appearance of a particularly colorful or showy specimen so that he continues to bid after the more seasoned collectors have dropped out. When I spend over \$5.00 for a specimen or piece of cutting material I study it over pretty carefully. Remember, that big showy crystal group is going to make you pretty sick when you get it home and find it has two broken terminations right out in front on its best side. Mind you, if you really like the specimen, b uy it, but do see the broken terminations before you pay the high dollar and not after.

Everyone had a good time at the Banquet on Sunday night, including Jane Cichaniewicz who was the lucky winner of a very nice specimen of micaceous hematite. After talks by Dr. Ben Hur Wilson and Professor Kiril Spiroff, it being too dark outside to swap, everyone went home to bed. Monday night's smorgasbord was high lighted by a talk on "Gems of the Bible" by Jay Farr of ESCONI.

Tuesday, Archie and Bernice Billings and Nina attended an all day workshop on silversmithing conducted by Tolson Ratloff of Lincoln Park while I bagged up rocks and took them to the trucking company for shipment home. Judging by the rows of burlap sacks in the warehouse plenty of rockhounds found plenty of rocks to ship home. We also took away from Ishpeming some friendships that we will value more than the rocks, For four days we collected, swapped, and ate with a lot of darned nice people from a lot of places. People from California, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Manitoba, Canada, and of course, Michigan.

I am going to take the liberty of including all of the Grand Rapids Mineral Society members who attended the Convention in this my-personal note of thanks to the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club. We had a wonderful time and think you are grand people. As hosts your kindness, courtesy, and generosity were only suppassed by your rocks for which we would also like to thank you.

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# JULY EXPEDITION TO TERRE HAUTE SUCCESS By Leslie Pearl

Well, the Grand Rapids Mineral Society volunteer expeditionary force of rockhounds, ably seconded by one from Milwaukee, Wisconsin assaulted their objective, the open pit mines southeast of Terre Haute, Indiana on Saturday, July 23.

In the terrific heat we found a group of people loyal to their hobby and above all, considerate of their fellows well-being. We were ably guided by that wonderful fossil collecting couple from Michigantown, Indiana, Mr. & Mrs. Merton A, Young whose prime interest brought this place to our knowledge through the happy meeting of the Rozema's at the Jackson Rockrama last May. This may sound like a vote for the Federation but the truth is, only through the meeting of others is this rock seeking going to continue to delight the hobbyist, for in all places, the stranger is looked on with taboo.

Mr, Harold Harder and Mr. Paul V. Fuller were the two intrepid hunters from Milwaukee who gave the a group a congenial seconding.

Our Michigan group, in five cars, arrived at the designated meeting place -- some early, some late - despite the detours which made an otherwise easy 350-mile trip into an obstacle race which heavy rain and poor visibility did not enhance; yet, at the mine, it was hot, dry, and dusty. They were Mrs. & Willis Atwell and son, Charles; Mrs. Nellie Mead and daughter, Marian; Mr. James DeZwaan and son, James; Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Gates and children, Rich and Susan; Mr. Joe Hanna; Mr. & Mrs. Robert Rozema; Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Pearl.

Everyone came away with a good supply of material which is best classified by using the I!linois State Museum publication "Leaves and Stems from Fossil Forests" by Raymond E. Janssen. This book is the museum's Popular Science Series, Vol. I and costs \$2.50. Enquiries may be made to the Museum Director at Springfield, Illinois.

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### TWO FOUNDING MEMBERS LEAVING CITY

We will miss Ray and Jane Kerr when they move to Milwaukee, but Jane tells me that they will continue as members of our club. As you all know, Jane was the first club secretary. Ray has accepted a Job in Milwaukee and we wish him much success and happiness in his new position. And we wish the family lots of fluck as they leave our city.

## SAGINAW FAIR - September 10 thru 18th

Application blanks for show space at the Saginaw Fair are available from Bob Rozema or Joe Hanna. These must be in the hands of the Fair Committee at Saginaw by September 1st. NOW is the time for you to get your application in and get your display lined up. If you are hesitating because you have no way to get the material to Saginaw please contact Bob Rozema and he will see that your material is taken to the show and set up. He will also see that it arrives back in Grand Rapids after the show is over. GET YOUR ENTRY blank today. Let's have a good showing. We can do it if we want to.

#### DRIFTER SCOOPED

The disadvantage of being a monthly publication is that a weekly or a daily can scoop you. That's what happened when Charlie Moore of the Grand Rapids Press heard about Jerry Morris and his Royal Rock-hound friend. However, we want to add our congratulations to those Jerry has been receiving from all who read the article in the July 25th Press. In case you missed it, Jerry is sending three Petoskey stones to King Gustaf Adolph of Sweden, a royal rockhound; "one plain, another that is the start of an original cluster growth of the distinctive fossils and a third he is polishing".

# EMBLEMS TO BE SOLD AT SEPTEMBER MEETING

At long last we will have emblems for your use. These are such that they can be sewn to your jacket, or made into an armband by sewing on elastic, or - by using tie tacks - they can be fastened to any part of your clothing. We will be selling them at cost. In order to give us an idea of how many to order we would appreciate it if you would fill in the order blank below and send it to us; These emblems will sell for 000 to 000, exact amount will be known by the August meeting.

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