CRYSTAL GAZING --- the president's page

available to you far enough in advance that you will have time to fine

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THE GLACIAL DRIFTER

BULLETIN OF THE GRAND RAPIDS MINERAL SOCIETY and Jon Ilida at al

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Volume 34 9dd not amenil a October 1991 9dd to and Seno Number 2 top a odw back, sides, and bottom. I'd like to see it used. These cases are

was delighted to get it.

tune your display.

CLUB CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Indian Mounds Club is planning a bus trip to the Eddy Geology Wednesday, Oct. 3 - 7:00 p.m. We will meet as usual at no means you pea one of Grand Rapids Community College (formerly assa vsqms

Junior Collegel, in Room 247 - Geology

Dept.

Speak up! We

Rich and I will welcome any and all suggestions from you as to the The program will be a slide presentation, to be says and dit applicable "Secrets in Stone" - a geological history bear dinas of Big Bend National Park in Texas. Rich a redmen is also obtaining a program from the MWF

Ruth and I spent an hour or so Monda's ary for us and an or so hour or so minerals in the display case at the Community College Take a few minutes on meeting

and no size The show season is on. Try to make some this incin and of his on the list before it's too late. a valgab cussonib

is renim the meplaces to Go - THINGS TO DO a beviene aw yab renio en

Open House Eddy Geology Center; Programs, Johnson Valous

Guided Geology Hikes, Demonstrations,

Camping, Food, Swap/Sell. Waterloo

Club inviting four of our members to their annual Christmas party on

Recreation Area, 17030 Bush Rd, Chelsea, 1000 002

Oct. 11-13 Show Michigan Mineralogical Society's Greater Detroit Gem & Mineral Show "Treasures of the Past" - Light Guard Armory, 4400 E.

8 Mile Rd. Detroit

Oct. 25-27 Show

the Cottonwood

much as 500 pounds

Grit via Rock Dobber

efore, the reason

Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral - Commonwell Society, - "Rough Rocks to Gorgeous Gems" and year between Michigan Ave. & Saginaw St.,

SKATING ROCKS In the high and isolated part of

each, are too big to be moved by any IM , garang

15-16 Show slick, when

for their movement has been a mystery for Midwest Faceter's Guild Fair, Dearborn

Civic Center, Dearborn, MI and Anguer Andrew Velley surface. wind blows, it moves the rocks over the slipp

Nov. 19 Demo \_benitsb-

Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club Demonstration Night. You are invited to come and "see how it's done."

Sunset Park Church of God. Michael Ave.

north of 36th St. SW

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### CRYSTAL GAZING----the president's page

It is still not too late to make arrangements to put a display in the Lansing show, and my offer to loan a display case is still valid, so who's going to use one? One of the cases does have liners for the back, sides, and bottom. I'd like to see it used. These cases are available to you far enough in advance that you will have time to fine CLUB CALEMDAR OF EVENTS tune your display.

The Indian Mounds Club is planning a bus trip to the Eddy Geology Geology Center on October 5, and there is a slight possibility of some empty seats. I will know for sure by our meeting night, and also the Junior Collegel, in Room 247 - Geology cost.

Rich and I will welcome any and all suggestions from you as to the type of programs you'd like to see at the meetings. Speak up! We can't read your minds, and we want to make the club meetings fit the members' interests. Mal ni Masa Isnoitsk bros pis do

also obtaining a program from the MWF Ruth and I spent an hour or so Monday putting putting minerals in the display case at the Community College Take a few minutes on meeting night and look it over. We brought Karl Bruder up to date on the dinosaur display plans and also took the mineral chart in to him. He was delighted to get it.

The other day we received a letter from the Kalamazoo Gem and Mineral Club inviting four of our members to their annual Christmas party on Sunday, December 15. The time is 1:30 PM, at the county fair grounds. If you are interested, let me know at the meeting. Camping, Food, Swap/Sell. Waterloo

See you there - at the meeting, that is.

Oct. 11-13

### Michigan Mineralogical Society's Greater

the Past" - Light Guard Armory, 4400 E.

Sunset Park Church of God. Michael Ave.

SKATING ROCKS In the high and isolated part of the Cottonwood Mountains of Death Valley, California, there are rocks that skate. They are found on a dry lake bed in an area reached by winding dirt ocation: Warshall St. Armory..

The rocks, estimated to weigh as much as 500 pounds each, are too big to be moved by any person. Therefore, the reason for their movement has been a mystery for years.

The most common explanation is that after one of the valley's infrequent rains, the lake bed is wet and slick. When the wind blows, it moves the rocks over the slippery surface. movement of the rocks is easily traced by the well-defined tracks they ation Night. You are invited make.

enob a di won -Originally from Grit via Rock Dobber

# was elected to fill Kathy Miller DNA HTUOS NI DAMAPH TI Committee. The

An ideal place where the Midwest Federation Convention and Show was held is the Century Center located beside the St. Joseph River which meanders through the center of the city. These "bends" are obviously the reason for the city's name. The glass wall on the river's side of the center provided a picturesque view resembling a painting. Rocks placed at a point where the water changes to a lower level effected rapids. They were placed in lines very artistically to produce these rapids that in turn produced a picture waiting to be painted. Later Jack and I took in other views of the river.

Jack and I arrived and settled at the Howard Johson motel five miles north early Friday in order to register at the show when it opened at 10 a.m. After being welcomed by the host club members at the registration desk, we pinned on our I.D. and went into the sales and display area. The dealers had a large variety of rocks, fossils and lapidary items but one thing was apparent: there were more lapidary items for sale than minerals and other rock items. Gone are the days when there was lapidary equipment for sale by several dealers present. Displays were being judged, and although they were not identified by the owners, they were being viewed by all desiring to do so. One display of wood from Utah made an impression. A cycad was outstanding in that case. In thirty years of rockhounding I have never seen one quite so complete or perfect as the first picture in a field guide. That was one of my first dreams, finding one on some future field trip. Until now, even seeing one in existence did not materialize. Museums and shows never seemed to have the best examples. Later that evening Jack and I were invited to join a group of people at a social "ice-breaker" for convention attendees and we met the proud owners of the display. They were MWF President Margaret Heinek and her husband Bob. Many good displays were there along with Bob and Ruth Beauvais' borax minerals with the twenty mule team train, a display worthy of pride and admiration. It stood prominently as a most unusual as well as a professional exhibit. There were many good displays of lapidary and minerals as well as fossils. One display of lapidary was of very colorful butterflies. I can't describe them all!

After a late lunch and walk outside the building, we passed an art gallery and museum in the same building with the show. Then after more show we went back to our motel and retired.

Rising early Saturday morning we registered for the show with Ruth Beauvais greeting us at the entrance of the meeting and Bob near by. As Bob reported, we had a very accomodating room for the meeting called the recital room. I can really appreciate this as the accoustics and lighting were par excellence. The committee reports were brief and concise and were followed by discussion of the much tabled discussion of insurance coverage of field trips by the Federation. It was decided to pursue it further as contact with the insurer was not finalized in time for the meeting. This insurance may not be accepted because of added assessment on members in the Federation to cover cost. A conclusion was that many members would like to see this matter resolved after such a long period of deliberation.

Election of officers followed. Elected were: Glen Hanning,
President; Kathy Miller, 1st Vice-President; Marve Starbuck, 2nd VicePresident; Jean Reynolds, Secretary; Norman Hanschu, Treasurer. Bob Beauvais
and Chuck Collins were elected to the Nominating Committee. Carol Anderson
-Next page, please

measures only a square inch.

-from Gems -a long time ago (I've been digging)

October 1991

SOUTH BEND (concluded)

was elected to fill Kathy Miller's term on the Nominating Committee. The meeting adjourned at noon completing all the business. We spent lunch enjoying the delicious food and good company. We saw Bob and Ruth that day as they had been busy with meetings on Friday. Object betacol results yourned end at bled and

Thank you for allowing me to represent our club. It seemed good to see some of the same familiar faces and to see the same names still active in the hobby after 30 years. —Ruth Steele, Delegate

very artistically to produce these rapids that in turn produced a picture

Bob's Note: The case of butterflies Ruth mentions was done by Bill Stehower of the Kalamazoo club and he took a trophy for it. If memory serves me right, miles north early Friday in order to registe 10 a.m. After being welcomed by the host club members at the register saw arose aid

desk, we pinned on our I.D. and \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* sylay area. The dealers had a large variety of rocks, fossils and lapidary items but one thing

## rock items. Gone are the days when there was lapidary t

The Eddy Center is located at 17030 Bush Rd., in the Waterloo Recreation Area, just west of Chelsea, Michigan. There is a map on the flyer. A daily State Park Permit (sticker) is necessary to enter. Hours will be 10 AM to 5 PM Saturday and 10 AM to 4 PM Sunday.

The Open House will feature programs and live demonstrations scheduled throughout each day. There will be a Rock Swap and Sell, sponsored by MGAGS. Paticipation in the swap is open to all, but pre-registration is necessary. Guided Geology Hikes will be scheduled periodically, weather permitting. Food will be available with proceeds going to the Waterloo Natural History Association. Camping will be available at the Big Portage campground in the Waterloo Recreation Area. This campground has electricity at every campsite, water available, modern toilets and a sanitary dump station. a professional exhibit. There were many good display

Phone 363-5394

ns bessed ew partitud ALETA'S ROCK SHOP is nonul est s restA gom rette ned 1 . Work 1515 PLAINFIELD N.E. se odt at muer Owner wellen tas GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49506 Section and Rudy Jauw Switches Rising early Saturday morning we registered for the show wr

I can't describe them all

Beauvais greeting us at the entrance of the meeting and Bob near by. A616 serA Jewelry Supplies Supp

Rough and Tumbled Gemstones Tumbling and Cutting Materials

trips by the Federation. It was decide2NUOHpursue it further as contact with

Open Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Sunday and Monday to esuated best one of ton

Election of officers followed. Elected

Twenty thousand laborers worked daily for 22 years in building the Taj Mahal, world-famous monument in Agra, India. A single flower, typical of those used in 1st Vice-President: Marve Starbuck, 2nd Vic the inlay work throughout, contains over 60 different pieces of stone but measures only a square inch.

-From Gems -a long time ago (I've been digging)

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING - SEPTEMBER 11, 1991

The regular meeting of the Grand Rapids Mineral Society was called to order at 7 p.m. Minutes of the last meeting were accepted as printed in the Glacial Drifter. The Treasurer presented his annual report showing a balance of all accounts of \$2,026.43.

A letter offering a sample order of Dominican amber was read. It was decided to contact the writer by mail for clarification of some details.

Bob Beauvais will put a display of minerals in the Community College case to give us time to plan the dinosaur exhibit. Members were invited to a "dinorsaur case planning session" at the Beauvais home on Thursday, Sept. 19.

Following the meeting a video on the eruption of Mount St. Helens was shown. Emphasized were the lessons learned from the eruption: theories about life destroyed were changed and new theories were conceived only to be replaced by newer theories.

Present were Ted and Marie Duprey, Peter and Crystal Boogaart, Rich Marie Duprey Van Beak, Ruth Steele, Bette Baker, Marguerite Petersen, Bob and Ruth Beauvais.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Beauvais, Secretary Protem (18 1011)

Addenda: On Sept. 19 several members met at the Beauvais home to plan the dinosaur case. Marie Duprey will work on the background and plans to make some trees. Deb Valentine offered to do the explanatory text. Of More discussion will be held at the October meeting.

### \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

SMITHSONIAN FUND (Excerpt from AFMS Minutes - Ventura)

A new hall of Geology, Gems and Minerals has been planned. The new hall will cost approximately \$12 million. The museum has entered a campaign to raise from private sources at least \$6 million for this hall. The campaign has already raised one third of this amount in contributions and pledges. They have already received support of the American Mining Congress and American Gemological Society.

The Museum of Natural History has over six million visitors a year from all over the world. They sent pictures and a floor plan of the proposed hall layout. They are requesting that the AFMS participate in the raising of funds for the new hall. They say if a certain amount is donated they will name a hall the AFMS Hall.

A committee has been formed to get the information about this project out to the clubs and how and where to send donations. For the next several months we will be getting more information on the project.

-AFMS Newsletter Sept. 1991

Bulletin expense 135.67  Programs:  MWF programs 15.00  m Phone call 4.48  UPS chgs. 6.51  Program expense 25.99  Total Expense 195.16
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-Ted Duprey, Treasurer leave to show

SMITHSONIAN FUND (Excerpt from AFMS Minutes - Ventura)

certain amount is donated they will name a

PETRIFIED.

The Virginia City, Nevada, assay office was in an uproar over a strange mineral that could not be analyzed. Nothing like it had ever been seen before. It was the size and color of a coconut, and see but when chipped open it revealed dazzling, ripply stripes of bright red, white and blue.

Finally the assayer admitted his failure to the grizzled prospector, but persuaded the old fellow to show him where the mystery mineral came from. The "mine" was on the site of an old ghost town, right where the gambling hall burned down. The mysterious mineral was composed of racks of poker chips that had melted and fused together. of the proposed hall layout. then weathered for 50 years. -Gem Time via Color Country Chips (3/91)

-AFMS Newsletter Sept. 1991

MWF program for October will be "Michigan, Our Changing State" - How Michigan For the next several months we will be getting more into napidal do ot to

## CRYSTALS FROM SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

Southern Illinois and neighboring Kentucky have produced a wide variety of high quality mineral specimens in a variety of sizes. Most of us are familiar with the common colors of fluorite crystals from the district (purple, yellow and blue), but something I was not aware of until recently is that each color represents a different discreet age of fluorite growth. In addition, each stage crystallized under slightly different temperature and salinity conditions, as shown by analysis of fluids trapped as inclusions in the crystals.

The oldest fluorites are brownish to bright yellow. These often have rough faces which result from natural etching by later ore fluids. Good

specimens are highly prized, and not common.

White fluorite crystalized next, but usually forms a thin band

between yellow and younger colors, if it is present at all.
Crystals of dark or light blue fluorite form the third stage. These often form very sharp, well-developed crystals, sometimes with yellow or white centers, and make attractive specimens.

Purple fluorites, the most common color from these deposits, crystallized in two separate stages. The first followed the blue stage and these crystals sometimes have blue or yellow interiors. The second stage followed crystallizations of chalcopyrite, pyrite, marcasite, quartz, sphalerite and galena (in that order) and is sometimes associated with the fine crystals of one or more of these materials.

Scalenohedral and prismatic calcite crystals, barite and witherite

form the end of the mineralizing sequence.

Although this list is idealized, and the different stages overlap somewhat, it is helpful in determining the relative age or place in the crystallization sequence of specimens from the district. In addition, since individual mines often have a certain combination of colors and accessory minerals, an expert can often use this information to identify which mine a specimen came from. Such a man is Frank Ward Palmer, who operates the "Trading Post" in Cave-in-Rock, Illinois. He has a fine assortment of specimens at reasonable prices and it is well worth a visit if you are in the area. -Marc Wilson

Jaspilite via The Rockpile and others

Rubies sparkle vonder

(The Rockpile Editor adds: Marc Wilson is a native of Michigan; his father, Les Wilson, is a member of MMLSD (Dearborn). Marc presently is Mineralogist/Curator with the New Mexico Bureau of Mines & Mineral Resources. a division of New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology, Socorro, N.M.)

On every leaf and stem The Conglomerate, bulletin of the Michigan Mineralogical Society (Detroit) is celebrating the 50th year of publication this year. MMS, the oldest mineral club in the Midwest Federation, was founded in 1935. The Conglomerate was first published in 1940 and is the oldest, currently published, mineral club bulletin in Michigan and one of the oldest in the MWF. The Quarry (Cincinnati club bulletin) and The Trilobite (Wisconsin Geological Society) may be older. These clubs were organized in 1936 but the year their bulletins began is unknown. The current show flyer of MMS does not tell us when the Detroit show was first held, but as usual, lists some famous museums which will have special displays in the show which will run this year on Oct. 11, 12, 13. Let's go!

October 1991

# YOU SAY FOSSILS ARE USED FOR WHAT? STORT IT THE TOTAL TOTAL veriety of high quality mineral

If someone should ask you, "What are fossils used for?", what would your answer be? Possibly you would mention fossil fuel, such as petroleum or coal, but could you name the many other ways fossils are useful to man?

Fossils tell us where there were seas in the past and where there

was land. They show whether these seas were shallow or deep and the nature of the water. Besides acting as guides in geological chronology, they show the show they show the s changes in the climate and the former distribution of plants and animals have rough faces which and their routes of migration.

Index or guide fossils help identify strata and to date rocks and another strata and to date rocks and stratage containing similar fossils. Rings of growth in fossil trees indicate seasonal changes. Fossils show how today's living plants and animals have merged gradually from those of the geological past by the process of evolution.

Diatoms are used for testing the quality of microscope lenses; for filtering liquids in the refining of sugar and in the manufacture of paint and varnish to distribute the oil. Oil geologists make use of foraminifers to help locate possible oil-bearing strata. Phosphate made from fossilfollowed crystallizations of bones is used in agriculture.

The pyramids are made from limestone which contains large forams and an large (fossiliferous limestone). Some other building stones are coral rocks and coquina limestone, containing large masses of fossil shells.

Radiolarians, as most rockhounds know, give us tripoli powder for most polishing. And let us not forget the fossil amber, coral, petrified wood, jet (from fossil coal) and turritella used for making jewelry.

The ancient Chinese used ground fossil bones as medicine to cure many ills. And, of course, what would we do without the modern-day plastics, by the which are a by-product of fossil petroleum.

-Doris Smith in Breccia

Post" in Cave-in-Rock, Illinois. He has a fine assortment of specimens at

# reasonable prices and it is we \*\* \*\* \*\* \*\* \*\* \*\* \*\* \*\* \*\*

# SPARKLING JEWELS

- Rubies sparkle yonder Where the woodbine tendrils twist. On every leaf and stem
  The asters by the roadway are The frosty diamonds glitter Scattered amethysts.
- !. Autumn spilled her jewels! 2. Garnets deck the oak tree. They rolled in gay confusion
  To cover all the countryside

  The wheatfields glow with amber. In colorful profusion. The birch is strewn with gold.
  - 4. And in the bright cold morning, On every leaf and stem is celebrating the .zmag radto add gnomA ion this year, the club in the Midwest Federation, was founded in 1935. The
  - 5. A reward of joy is offered you be to be a long to be a unknowns. The current show flashod sirod yd- not tell us when the Detroit show

was first held, but as u00/01 sentsfarmifacous museums which will have special displays in the show which will run this year on Oct. 11, 12, 13. Let's go!

### GRAND RAPIDS MINERAL SOCIETY Grand Rapids, Michigan Founded 1958

President	Robert Beauvais	534-3871
Vice-President	Val Katelnieks	874–6466
Secretary	Arlene King	532-6239
Treasurer	Ted Duprey	532-3841
Program Chairman	Rich Van Beek	459–3903
Historian/Librarian	Crystal Boogaart	451-3274
Past President	Donn Cuson	
Liaison Officer	Robert Beauvais	534-3871
Editor	Ruth Beauvais	534–3871
Publicity	Peter Boogaart	451–3274

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.

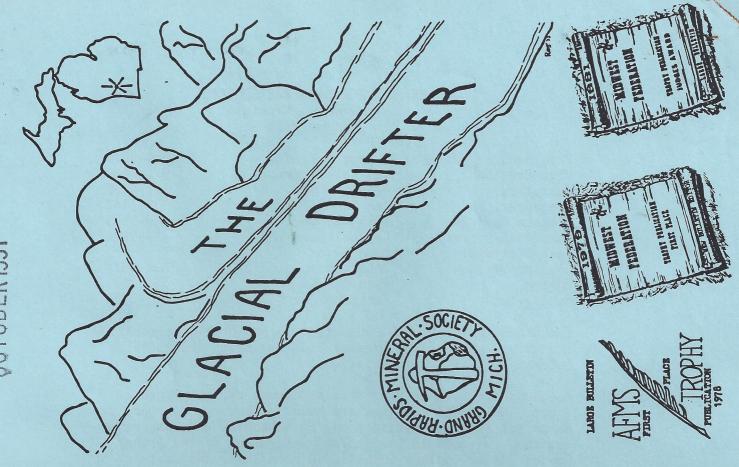
Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. No formal meetings are held in January, February or March but informal meetings may be scheduled and members so advised. We meet in the Geology Department of the Grand Rapids Junior College (usually in Room 247), 143 Bostwick NE, Grand Rapids. Summer meetings (June, July, August) are held at various parks or at members' homes and are usually picnics beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Membership dues are \$8 per year for a family; \$6 per year for an individual member and \$4 per year for a student under age 18. Dues are payable to the treasurer in September of each year. Those joining from March 1 thru 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 the third Wednesday of the preceding month. Permission to reprint articles appearing in THE GLACIAL DRIFTER is hereby given 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. Each member is entitled to one free ad per year.

Exchange bulletins should be mailed to the editor.

We extend a cordial welcome to visitors at all of our meetings and encourage them to join or return whenever possible.



Grand Rapids Mineral Society Robert E. Beauvais 3308 Wilson SW Grandville, MI 49418

FIRST CLASS

HERE'S YOUR GLACIAL DRIFTER!

M/M ROBERT E, BEAUVAIS 3308 WILSON SW GRANDVILLE, MI 49418

