

volume 3, no. 10 - october, 1961



The

GLACIAL

DRIFTER

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The Grand Rapids Mineral Society is a Non-Profit Corporation affiliated with the Midwest Federation and the American Federation of Mineral Societies.

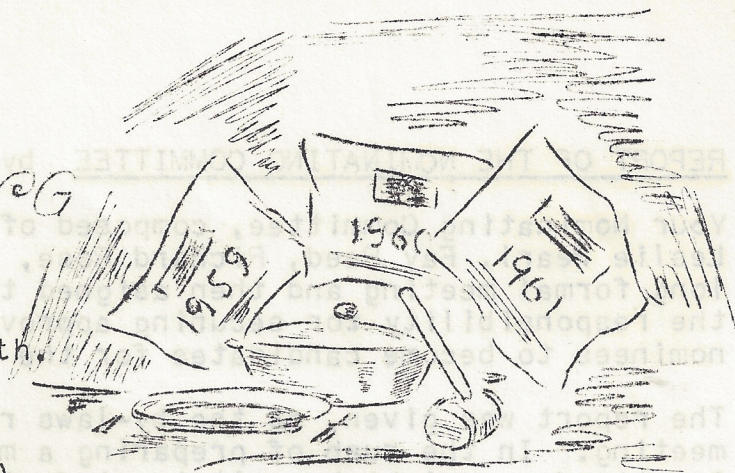
Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 8:00 p.m. at Riverside Elementary School.

Advertising in the DRIFTER is at the rate of \$3.00 per issue.

All material to be published must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 25th of the month preceeding publication.

Permission to reprint material appearing in the DRIFTER is hereby granted provided proper credit is given.

ANNUAL MEETING



October is Annual Meeting month. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 11th at RIVERSIDE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL. (Note change of meeting place).

The business meeting will be preceded by a buffet dinner which will start at 6:30 p.m. We have asked eight of our neighboring clubs to send two of their members to be our guests at this meeting.

Be sure to bring your dishes and silver. If you have not made your reservation, please do not wait until the last minute, as space is limited and Mrs. Hanna and her committee must know how many to plan for. If you are unable to come for the dinner, please plan to come for the business meeting which will start at 8:00 p.m. and will include election of officers and Board members for 1962.

Following the business meeting there will be a program with Bill Atwell in charge.

Several of the officers and Board members have donated door prizes. Your ticket for a chance at one of these will be at your place at the table.

Use the parking lot behind the school and enter the building from this lot directly into the cafeteria.

ANNUAL AUCTION IN NOVEMBER

As has been our tradition, the November meeting will feature our Annual Auction, the one large money-raising project for the year. Each member is asked to donate at least one mineral specimen or piece of cutting material to this project. Henry Tchozeski is chairman, assisted by Claude Norton. Joe Hanna, Gerry Morris, Leo Hoogerhyde, and Dick Rose will be in charge of the tables. Miss Virginia Franzen will be head cashier, assisted by Miss Jane Cichaniewicz and Mrs. Nina Rozema.

Please see that your material is in the hands of one of the above just as soon as possible so the committee can get the bid sheets ready. Please help by having your specimens identified, and if you know the value, please give this also.

Henry Tchozeski and Claude Norton will be very happy to receive your material at the October meeting. If you cannot have it there, please see that it is delivered to one of them, or call and someone will pick it up.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE by Bill Atwell, Chairman

Your Nominating Committee, composed of Messrs. Charles Moore, Leslie Pearl, Fay Reed, Richard Rose, and the chairman, held one long formal meeting and then assigned to the committee members the responsibility for securing approval from the agreed-upon nominees to become candidates for the various offices.

The report was given, as the by-laws require, at the September meeting. In the rush of preparing a mimeographed report so those in attendance might have it to study there was one error in names which was pointed out when it was distributed. There has been a question about the necessity of nominating a Liaison Officer in the committee meeting, but it has been agreed the nominee would be the immediate past president, if a nominee was required. This would follow the tradition and was so stated in the verbal report. The by-laws list this nomination and, therefore, it is included in the following report and will be on the ballot. Due to an oversight by the chairman in preparing the written report for the September meeting, which was followed in the verbal presentation the name of one nominee for the Board was inadvertently missed completely, but after consultation with the President and Board is now included. This report also reflects the reconsideration of one candidate who withdrew his name, after nomination.

The following are the Candidates for the Officers and Board for 1962:

PRESIDENT: Gerald B. Morris, Leslie G. Pearl, Henry Tchozeski

VICE-PRESIDENT: W. W. Atwell, Miss Marie Spielmaker, Edmund J. Wasel

SECRETARY: Miss Jane Cichaniewicz, Miss Esther Hall

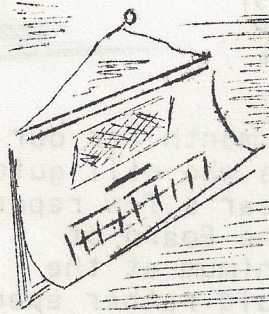
TREASURER: Mrs. Leslie G. Pearl, Mrs. ReedWaterman

LIAISON OFFICER: Richard W. Rose

BULLETIN EDITOR: Mrs. Robert R. Rozema, Mrs. Raymond J. Tomaszewski

HISTORIAN: Miss Marian Jennings, Mrs. Charles R. Sweet

DIRECTORS: (Four to be elected) Miss Virginia Franzen, Joe A. Hanna, John W. Kirkwood, Miss Edna May McDowell, Mrs. Nellie C. Mead, Charles H. Moore, August Post, Fay A. Reed, Dale Rosel, and Louis Witte.

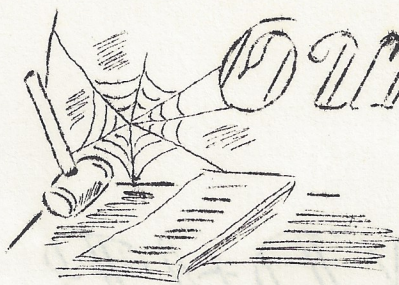


CALENDAR of EVENTS


- October 7 - 8 Saturday and Sunday. Field Trip to Terre Haute, Indiana for fern fossils; Brown County, Indiana for geodes; and Indianapolis for the Rockrama. Meet at Stucky's Candy place south of Terre Haute on US 41 at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday. Terre Haute is approximately 350 miles from Grand Rapids.
- October 11 - Wednesday. Annual Meeting. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Business meeting, including election of officers, at 8:00 followed by program. At Riverside Junior High School. (Note change of place.)
- October 16 - Monday at 8:00 p.m. Board of Control Meeting at home of Mr. & Mrs. Joe D. Hanna, 2319 Riverside Dr. N.E.
- October 14 - Saturday at 2:30 p.m. Lapidary Group meeting at home of Joe Hanna, 2319 Riverside N. E.
- October 26 - Thursday at 8:00 p.m. Mineralogy Group meeting at home of Jack Kirkwood, 13543 Pine Lake Rd., Cedar Springs. Subject "Geodes". Bob Rozema, group leader.
- November 4 - Saturday at 10:00 a.m. First meeting of the Junior Group in East Building of Grand Rapids Public Museum. Fee for the 24-week course is \$1.50 per person. Les Pearl, leader.
- November 8 - Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. Annual Auction. See announcement elsewhere in DRIFTER. Henry Tchozeski, Chairman, Claude Norton, Assistant.

ROCK SALE TABLE DONORS

The Rock Sale Table is indebted to the following for the material which they donated: Arnold Wendt, Dr. R. Rose, Fay Reed, Frank Van Loan, Miss Esther Hall, Charles Moore, Joe Partish, Cornelius Doornbos.



OUR PRESIDENT'S CORNER



October has been designated in our by-laws as the month for our Annual Meeting at which time we elect the officers who will guide the club through the coming year. We will also hear a few reports from committees and from the various officers. The Board of Directors wisely decided to keep business at a minimum at the regular club meetings feeling that the members would rather spend the available time on the program and matters concerning our hobby. We always ask if there is any business that might be brought up from the floor and of course the Board of Directors meetings are open to anyone who wishes to bring any business to their attention. But the Annual Meeting is your time to shine.

The nominating committee has presented a very good slate of candidates for you to choose from. There is no lack in numbers and the list found in the DRIFTER should be studied well. I hope that we have a large turn out for our election. September was a little disappointing, perhaps there were not as many interested in silver work as expected. I talked with Mrs. Hanna and reservations are coming in good for so early in the month. The list of foods being brought for the dinner sounds good enough to encourage a large turn out of hungry men and boys, if no others.

Bill Atwell and his committee have worked out a program of slides and a pre-edited commentary which should prove humorous as well as interesting. I have seen some of the pictures and I warn you not to be surprised if you see yourself in some rather undignified situation. These slides will also give you an opportunity to see what you have missed in case you did miss some of the year's club activities. We hope that it will whet your appetite enough to make you want to join in the next year's activities even more than you did this year.

By the way, there is a large, lighted parking lot behind the school (Riverside Junior High) and you can enter the building from the parking lot directly into the cafeteria. There will be signs to follow, thanks to Jerry Morris; and name tags at each place at the tables. Please fill them out, see that our guests fill out theirs, and have a good time. Also bring your 1961 Membership Card to assure your eligibility to vote. Bring a pencil too. **AND DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR OWN DISHES AND SILVER AND A GOOD APPETITE.** I hope to see you all there.

Richard W. Rose, President

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SEPTEMBER MEETING

For those of you who missed Tolson Radioff last month I will attempt to summarize what I felt were his most important comments on working with silver.

Design: Design and practicality go hand in hand - the design must wear well besides being aesthetic. Have in your mind's eye what the finished product will look like - put it down on paper. Then take from or add to it as you go along. If you get an idea get it down on paper before you lose it. Try to make the mounting correspond to the stone. The bezel is nothing but a frame - the less silver and the simpler the design the better.

Equipment: Mostly equipment found around the house. As you get better and more interested you can add the specialized items. For soldering a Prest-O-Light acetylene tank known as a "B" tank and hand torch. Mr. Radioff stressed the point that he feels this set up is more economical in the long run and much more efficient than the bottled gas or gas and air blow pipes. The mouth (air) operated blow pipe, although the least expensive and used by many successfully, is inadequate in his hands and in the hands of most beginners he feels. A few small files, soldering tweezers, black iron binding wire and a piece of sheet asbestos are necessary. He does not use charcoal or asbestos soldering blocks as they take too much heat away from the work slowing up the soldering. He likes curved plate shears for cutting metal in preference to a jeweler's saw whenever possible though the saw is a necessary piece of equipment and is very inexpensive.

Soldering: Sterling silver is 925 parts pure silver and 75 parts pure copper. It can be hardened by working (bending, pounding, etc.) or by heat treating. It can be softened by heating to 1100-1200°F (light cherry red) and air cooled or quenched in water. Heat above 1200°F tends to cause grain growth with roughening and possible cracking. The solder used is easy-flo 1450° flat strip solder. He does not advocate for general use more than one heat or step soldering. This facilitates repair if necessary and the necessity for care in not mixing up the solder. Also the color is uniform and with proper play of heat only solder is necessary. Heat the metal to be soldered, not the solder. Solder flows toward the highest heat. You MUST have good, close joints to flow silver solder. Solder will not fill a void. Joints must be CLEAN. Sparex #2 for pickling (removing oxidation or cleaning) is safe with no corrosive, obnoxious or poisonous fumes.

Flux: "Battern's" Self Pickling Flux makes it possible to solder many times without cleaning, does not expand and move or heave the material like many borax base types do.

Technique: Form well adapted joints.

Pickle: Clean well.

Hold the binding wire or soldering tweezers. Heat evenly but do not overheat. Bring the work to the torch, if possible; rather than bringing the torch to the work. Touch the solder to the joint. (continued on next page)

September Meeting (continued)

He does not advocate placing the solder on the joint then heating it until it flows. He feels that the tendency is to heat the solder rather than the silver causing balling of the solder with the necessity for more heat and possible burning.

Clean by pickling and remove excess solder with a file. Polish on a flannel wheel rather than muslin as it has less tendency to catch and throw the finished product. Use Bendick or tripoli - rouge is too dirty - finish on buff with nothing to give high shine.

Oxidizing - darkening with liver of sulphur. Thumbnail size pieces dissolved in a pint of warm water. Soak entire piece in the solution, the longer the darker. Then polish with Bon Ami tripoli, etc., to the desired brilliance the parts not wished to be dark.

Anti-flux: Yellow ochre.

These are some of Mr. Radloff's ideas and techniques. He does not say that these are the only methods but that they work well in his hands and he feels that they can be used by you with success.

There are certainly other ideas and techniques available for you to choose from. He only hopes that he has helped you a little with his presentation. For this we sincerely thank Mr. Radloff.

Richard W. Rose

FIELD TRIPS - A REPORT

Dear Editor:

September 25, 1961

With much enthusiasm, a small but dedicated band of our Club members Sunday, September 10, descended into the quarry of the Maybee Stone Co. in search of sulphur and celestite crystals.

This quarry is located in Monroe County, Michigan and is in the Detroit River formation of the Ulsterian group of the Devonian series. The dolomite and lime stone which is dug here is used in chemical, agricultural and construction. It is gray, buff, brown, banded and laminated and contains anhydrite, celestite, sulphur, and occasional beds of pure calcium carbonate.

The quarry was dangerous as the rubble had been removed up to the quarry walls and a new charge was in process of being set, so all the nice looking materials were high on the quarry walls with only a few scraggly ones which others had not cared for, as plunder.

Those who participated in the trip were Mr. & Mrs. Charles Moore, and children, Doug, Marilyn, Ken and Bob accompanied by Jon Childs. Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Youngs who also braved the heat, about 100 degrees and no shade. Then there were Mr. & Mrs. Alexy Dudkin and son, Peter who had been to Norwood the day before, while no trip is complete without Marie Spielmaker and her pal, Mrs. Sylvia Delacher to supervise the gathering of minerals. (continued)

Field Trips (Continued)

Les Pearl acted as guide and narrator who wishes to take this opportunity to thank them one and all for their loyalty and help in making the trip a success.

The Clay Center annual trek has been trucked! Though no blasts have been shot for better than two months, all those who enjoyed Saturday, September 23 there, found plenty to talk about, thrill about, and lug back home. The minerals found beside calcite, and celestite which are the primary ones sought after, were sphaalerite, galena, fluorite, and marcasite on calcite, plus fossil forms.

Those who signed in at the quarry were James, Mary, and Wayne Halpin of Conklin, Fred Andresen of Marne, Miss Marie Spielmaker and Mrs. Sylvia Delacher, Mr & Mrs Gerald Youngs and Les and Lucille Pearl. The weather was perfect with a breeze giving the hammer bangers a relief every now and then.

It can be said a rock club without field trips is like a pie without filling.

After our foray to Basic, Inc. Pit where most of us stayed until 6:30, we headed out for home or motel. Lucille and I planned to stop at Sylvania, but at the last moment decided to hit Maybee again as we knew a charge was about ready to be shot when we were there before. We were in luck, and with permission of the watchman went into the quarry where we met Cal Gettings of Toledo and as nice a heap of new blasted rock as one could want. By hard work we beat the Sunday downpour in that area by about thirty minutes and headed north with our loot of celestite crystals that will make any rockhound's heart skip a beat. We got sulphur, calcite and celestite plus some celestite with petroleum on it.

Again a hearty thank you to all who made the trip possible.

Yours truly,

Les Pearl.

OCTOBER 7 and 8 FIELD TRIP

A two-day Field trip to Indiana for fern fossils and geodes, and a stop at the Rockrama in Indianapolis is planned for the weekend of October 7 and 8. We will meet at Stucky's Canuy store a mile or two south of Terre Haute on US 41 at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday. The fern fossil field is directly east from this location. We will hunt fern fossils on Saturday and meet on Sunday morning at the same spot and proceed to Brown County and a good geode hunting spot. For those who cannot make it on Saturday, plan to meet us on Sunday at 8:00 a.m. After lunch we will head for Indianapolis and the Rockrama. Anyone wishing to skip the geode hunt may proceed on to the Rockrama and we will see you there.

SILVER CLASSES

Some of the local rock shops will be starting silver classes soon. One already has. These will probably be held to relatively small classes with considerable individual instruction and without a doubt will be well worth while to those interested in this phase of our hobby. Your club also has the opportunity of offering a course in silver work. Tolson Radloff, last month's speaker, has agreed to conduct classes on either Monday or Friday nights to any interested. A summary of his program along with some of his beliefs about jewelry design and thoughts on silver work can be found in the discussion of last month's program.

His fee to the club will be \$30.00 per night. We will also have to furnish a place to hold the classes. Obviously the larger the group, the less the cost per individual. At this time we have the names of 5 persons who are interested. If we would meet at someones home with this number the cost would be \$6.00 per night which probably would be prohibitive to many. If you are interested in joining this group please contact either your president or Charles Moore. You will not be obligated in any way at this time.

After we find out the number interested we will work out a fee and at that time set up our class schedule if you are willing. The fee for this type of class will have to be collected in advance as we cannot expect the club to underwrite something for only a few members. Also the student will be expected to furnish his own silver and supplies and at least some of the small tools. The soldering torch will be furnished by Mr. Radloff. The number of classes would run from a minimum of five to be of any value at all, to preferably ten, and more if enough are interested. Silver and tools are available in at least one of the local rock shops, or you can order from catalogues from the many out of town establishments. The club, of course, would like to have you keep the advertisers in the DRIFTER in mind. We are sure they will do their best to help you on special orders if you wish.

Richard L. Rose

r o z e m a ' s r o c k p i l e
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Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are happy to welcome the following new members:

Tristan Sierz
Conklin
Michigan

Dale Zimmer
Conklin
Michigan

Paul Twork
Route 2
Conklin, Mich

Mr & Mrs. Milton Doane
Conklin
Michigan

Mr & Mrs Marlin Sheridan
Conklin
Michigan

Mr & Mrs Alvin Wilson
Conklin
Michigan

Mr James Voyce
1144 Underwood S. E.
Grand Rapids, Mich

Mr Joseph H. Martin
854 Cambridge Dr. S. E.
Grand Rapids 6, Mich

1962 MEMBERSHIP DUES

The Membership Committee is taking dues for 1962. As you know, the dues are for a calendar year and are due prior to January 1st for the following year. Although a member is not considered delinquent until after the March meeting, it is well to take care of this matter as soon as possible. Immediately after the March meeting the Committee will prepare a membership roster, and of course, only those with their 1962 dues paid will be listed.

Dues are \$3.00 for Family membership, \$2.00 for Single Adult, and \$1.00 for Junior (High school and under).

JUNIOR LAPIDARY GROUP WINS TROPHY

The Junior Lapidary Group from Conklin sponsored by Dale Rosel and Russ Girard won the trophy for best Club Display at the Saginaw County Fair. Bill Rosel won a First and Sweepstakes for his lapidary work, Bill Atwell won a First for his Educational Display, and Jerry won a Second for his carvings.

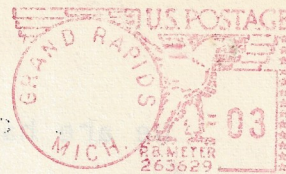
It is people like these who make the shows we all love to see possible and create in others a desire to take up our hobby. We are all proud of these members.

HOW WAS YOUR VACATION?

Did you have a good vacation? Did you do some rock hunting that you would like to tell others about? If so, please write up your experiences and send them to the editor of the DRIFTER. We will be happy to print them.

Anyone interested in having a Paleontology Group this year? If so, please contact Dr. Rose and we will get a group under way.

The Grand Rapids Mineral Society
1355 Hollywood N.E.
Grand Rapids 5, Mich.
Return Postage Guaranteed



Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Wilson
Corkin
Michigan

Mr. & Mrs. Milton Wilson
Corkin
Michigan

Mr. Joseph W. Martin
Corkin
Michigan

Mr. James Joyce
Corkin
Michigan

Mr. Kreigh Tomaszewski
333 Richard Terrace S.E.
Grand Rapids 6, Mich.

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JUNIOR LABORATORY GROUP WITH TROPHY

The Junior Laboratory Group from Corkin reported by Dale Ross and Russ Gifford won the trophy for Best Club display at the Grand Rapids County Fair. Bill Ross won a first and second place for his laboratory work. Bill Ross won a first for his Educational Display, and Betty won a second for his carrying.

It is people like these who make the group so all love to see possible and create in their hearts to take up our hobby. We are all proud of these members.

DO YOU WANT YOUR VACATION?

Did you have a good vacation? Did you do some rock hunting that you would like to talk about? If so, please write up your experiences and send them to the editor of THE MINERALIST. He will be happy to print them.

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