

Volume 3, no. 11. ~ November, 1961



The

GLACIAL

DRIFFTER

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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.

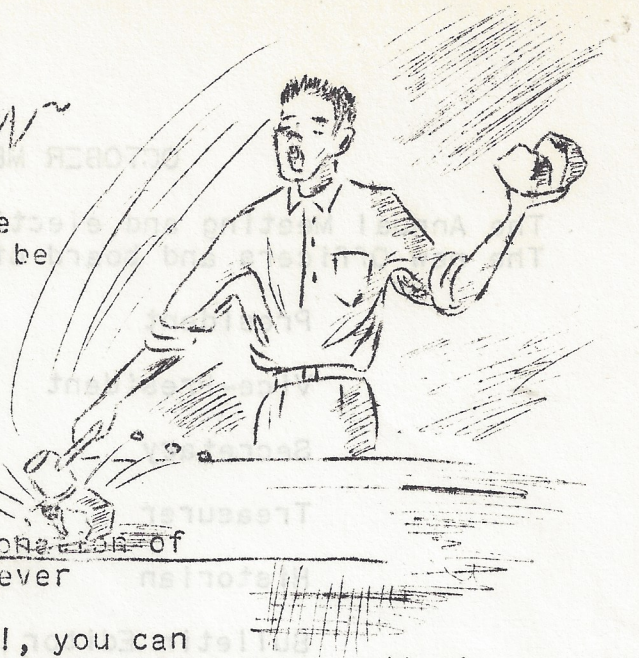
All material to be published must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 25th of the month preceding publication.

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ROCK AUCTION

The regular monthly meeting of the Grand Rapids Mineral Society will be held at Riverside Elementary School on Wednesday, November 8, at 8:00 p.m. and will feature our Third Annual Auction.

If you have not already done so, have Auction Chairman Henry Tchozeski or one of the Board of Control members pick up your donation of rocks, mineral specimens, or whatever you are planning to give to help support your club, or better still, you can help even more by delivering them yourself at the earliest possible moment to Henry's home, 2941 Edgewood N.E., to allow time for pricing and making out the slips used in the Silent Auction.



Bring your walking shoes and money and out-bid the other fellow for that special piece that you will want for your collection or that slab that looks promising. The silent auction will be run as it was last year. If you wish to bid on an item put your name on the sheet provided. If yours is the first bid, be sure that it is the minimum bid or higher. If you are out-bidding the last name on the list add your name beneath the last bidder's and list your bid which must be higher by 5¢ or 10¢ than the preceding one. The amount that a bid must be raised will be announced. When time is called no further bids will be allowed and everyone must step back from the table. Then the person whose name is last on the sheet will be allowed to pick up the prize and take it with the bid sheet to the cashier who will be stationed at the end of the table. There will be men to help you at each table and to see that whentime is called bidding stops.

Bring a basket or bag or some other means of collecting and keeping your loot. It will be much easier for you.

Along with the silent auction, we will have the services of an AUCTIONEER who will present the more interesting and unusual offerings for your bids. Bring your sense of humor and enter into the bidding when he starts his chant.

* * * * *

LAPIDARY GROUP MEETING

The Lapidary Group will meet at the home of group leader Joe Hanna, 2319 Riverside N. E. at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 11. There will be a demonstration on "Dopping" and if time permits a Sawing Demonstration also.

OCTOBER MEETING IN REVIEW


The Annual Meeting and election of officers is now history.
The new Officers and board of control members are:

President	Leslie Pearl
Vice-President	Willis Atwell
Secretary	Jane Cichaniewicz
Treasurer	Lucile Pearl
Historian	Marian Jennings
Bulletin Editor	Nina Rozema
Liaison Officer	Dr. Richard Rose
Directors	Virginia Franzen Joe D. Hanna Edna M. McDowell Charles Moore

The Mineral Society should have another very successful year with such a fine board, especially with the knowledge that at least three persons were willing to run for almost every elective position and will be available to help with the many jobs necessary for the efficient running of the society. The continued enthusiasm and willingness to help of the club members is the life blood of any group and there is no evidence of any let-up in this department either. Good luck on your coming year, Les Pearl.

The potluck arranged by Phyllis Hanna and Betty Tchozeski, and their committees for last month's meeting would be hard to beat. The variety and quality of Rockhound wives cooking, if this was any indication, is amazing. This type of meeting, however, should definitely be limited to once a year to prevent the formation of a new group, The Rotund Rock Rollers. A few more potlucks added to all the eating that goes on on the field trips as was evidenced by the pictures shown by Bill Atwell in his pictorial yearly report plus the harvesters lunch and dinner (see the President's Corner) should just about do it.

If Bill is asked to repeat his performance next year, and the club will make a mistake if he is not asked, we could possibly see rockhounds unable to bend down to pick up the little gems that they have just spotted instead of attacking the rocks with the enthusiasm shown by such ardent rockbusters as Bob Rozema and others as shown on the slides. Bill and his photographers did a fine job.



OUR PRESIDENTS CORNER

Amazing --- I didn't know that so many rockhounds wanted to pick corn. After the publicity the club received in the Press I have been deluged by phone calls wanting to know "How come we didn't know?" If the paper hadn't got wind of our Saturday field trip you might never have known. I understand, however, that about twenty of our members now have an ear of corn prominently displayed in their mineral collections. Corn is organic and cannot be classified as a rock by the best imagination, so they must be there as a conversation piece, so you might have heard, and therefore I should explain.

The report of extensive hail and wind damage to Dale Rosel's corn was received on a Wednesday. The field was wet and the corn down to such a degree that mechanical corn pickers could not get in to some spots without bogging down. Other areas were so flattened that the picker would not pick up the stalks, it sounded as though a little old fashioned hand picking might be necessary. Dale could have done it, I suppose, if he had worked all fall on the job, but I understand that all farmers do not get paid for not raising crops and I know Dale does not live on government subsidies, so other necessary work would have necessarily been skipped in favor of getting in the winter feed for the cattle. After all, he did offer to milk the cows for us for the potluck and he has done a lot of work with the young people, so who more deserved a helping hand in a time of need. A little inquiring lead to the feeling that the help was needed and that, if offered, would not be resented.

A few members who knew Dale, were called. They contacted others, and before we knew it, about twenty volunteers were ready to surprise Dale the next Saturday morning. Incidentally, the paper also heard about it, thus the publicity. This was not intended as a publicity stunt. It was not published in the bulletin and all members could not have been contacted even if we had tried in the short time available. If you were one of those missed who would have like to have helped, we thank you for your thought.

Unfortunately, I don't think the Rosel's made any money on us, even with the championship corn husking style of Sarah Gates. We had all brought our lunches, but Mrs. Rosel insisted on feeding us a harvester's lunch, then later an equally large dinner, perhaps "supper" would be a better term. I wish that you could have seen that table - it looked like the tables at the potluck before the hungry hords were turned loose. By the way, if you didn't get enough food at the Annual Meeting, you can blame Henry Tchozeski. You are lucky you didn't get him for your next president. He even stole the food from his own son. He claimed he wanted to get that whole pie that he walked off with on the first time around before the hoarders got to it. Back to the dinner table at the Rosel's. Mrs. Rosel knew hungry

(continued)

President's Corner (continued)

harvesters all right, and we made short work of what looked like a small mountain of food. And for desert - your choice of a large wedge from one of five different freshly baked pies. I personally know that the cherry, wild blackberry, and pumpkin were delicious. If the huckleberry and apple were equally good I can't tell, I just couldn't find room, and I love pie. This, of course, should not be considered in the same category with Henry Tchozeski's absconding with the pie at the potluck, I was merely tasting these so that I could honestly report their quality to you.

We didn't find many rocks, but we did learn a few of the farmers' problems. If you think that all farmers live on subsidies I can assure you that you are wrong. My aching back on Sunday testified to the fact that they do work, and my sore hands did not come from counting the cash collected from the soil bank. We only hope that we were of some help to Dale and as I hinted earlier this was probably one of the most enjoyable field trips that we have had. I'm sorry all of you couldn't have been there.

* * * * * Richard W. Rose, President * * * * *

MINERALOGY GROUP MEETING

The Mineralogy Group met at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Jack Kirkwood, Cedar Springs on October 26. Jack showed his collection of geodes from the Keokuk formation of Iowa and gave a very well prepared talk on the subject.

Next month's meeting will be held on the 30th of November at 8:00 p.m. at the home of Mrs. & Mrs. Leslie Pearl. The subject for discussion will be "Quartz Family". The meeting is being held on the 5th Thursday because of Thanksgiving. Anyone interested in learning more about rocks and minerals is invited.

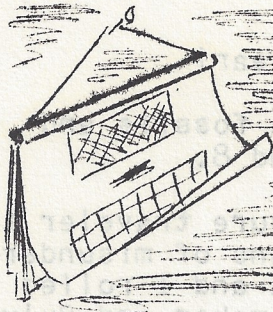
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YOUR COMPLETE SATISFACTION IS GUARANTEED

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CALENDAR of EVENTS

- November 4 - Saturday - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
11 Junior Group meetings at Grand Rapids Public
18 Museum with Les Pearl as group leader. The
25 charge for this 22 weeks course is \$1.50 per
December 2 child.
- November 8 - Wednesday - 8:00 p.m. Regular Monthly Meeting at
Riverside Elementary School. ANNUAL AUCTION.
See details elsewhere in DRIFTER.
- November 11 - Saturday - 2:30 p.m. Lapidary Group Meeting at
home of group leader Joe Hanna, 2319 Riverside NE
Demonstration on "Dopping" and, if time permits,
a sawing demonstration.
- November 13 - Monday - 8:00 p.m. Board of Control Meeting at
home of Dr. & Mrs. Richard Rose, 3244 Springbrook,
Comstock Park. 1961 and 1962 Officers and Board
members meeting jointly.
- November 30 - Thursday - 8:00 p.m. Mineralogy Group Meeting
at home of Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Pearl. Bob Rozema,
group leader.

DUES FOR 1962 ARE BEING COLLECTED

Why not beat the rush by paying your 1962 dues at the next meeting? In case you have forgotten, the dues for a family are \$3.00 per year; for a single adult, \$2.00; and for a Student (thru high school), \$1.00.

rozema's rockpile

776 Lenoard NE (At Eastern) Grand Rapids 5, Michigan
Phone: 742-3383 Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily

Mineral specimens - cutting materials - lapidary equipment

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GRAND RAPIDS' OLDEST COMPLETE ROCK SHOP

FIELD TRIP - A REPORT - by Leslie G. Pearl

To Terre Haute and Brown County, Indiana for fern fossils and fossil geodes! Saturday and Sunday, October 7 and 8.

Yours truly, not having heard from but one as a sure traveler to the area, there bloomed one of the nicest reactions of misunderstanding we could ever find. So, when Bob Rozema and I rolled up to Stuckey's, we figured one car with Marie Spielmaker and Sylvia Delacher to be there. We were there but a moment when in rolled Mr. & Mrs. Cornelius Doornbos followed by Mr. & Mrs. Gus Beuker with his sister, Miss A. Beuker and their three friends from Indianapolis, Mrs. Pogue, Mrs. Vandervoort, and Miss Fisher. The Gerald Bloomfields, those intrepid rock-chasers about, appeared on the scene in their mobile home followed by Joe Hanna and a car load from Elkhart, Indiana chauffeured by Mrs. Winifred Leinbach. It being much after the hour appointed, 10 a.m., we decided to hit the mine where we were joined by Mr & Mrs Gerald Young, and later in the day by Lowell Palmer.

There was quite a bit of concern expressed for two of the party, as on one side of the road there was mud into which some of the troupe mired. But these two were on ground supposed to be firm, yet from where we stood, it looked for all the world that there were two rugged fossil slammer-bangers getting deeper and deeper into the earth, until all we could see was two heads bobbing about level with the ground. No, the heads were not detached! That's where the concern came in. If it was only a head bouncing around, there would be no worry to that, but knowing two bodies were attached to those heads, just gave us a start and down there we went to haul the luckless ones to safety. Well, to make a short story longer, Bob and Lowell were just up to their ears in a nice ditch lined with fossil nodules and have a real bang-up time. So we pitched in at their invitation.

Along about three o'clock, most of the party having all the fingers bruised they wished to have, a sort of straw vote without straws was taken on the question of waiting for morning and then going to Brown County or moving over at once. It was agreed eighty miles done then would give us more time for geodes and at the Indianapolis Rockrama on Sunday.

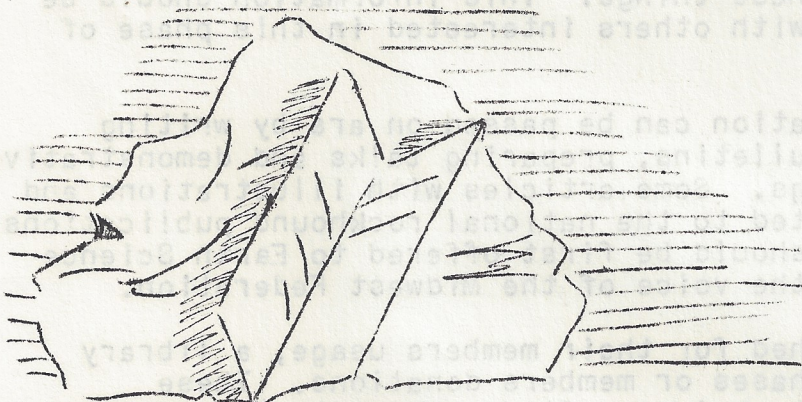
So Sunday a.m. Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sweet and family and Mr. Fred Andresen and party arrived at Stuckey's with no welcoming committee on hand. Now being in a strange country is all right when some one will guide you thither and yon, but arriving there and not one familiar face to greet you just cuts the bottom from under the effort. Our most humble apologies to you, but knowing Indiana folk for what they are, we are sure you had fun exploring the back roads up to Brown County.

There is more that could be set down, but suffice it to say all in all, I think we all learned a bit more of group organization and psychology to attain a good time and hope the experience of each trip will only be assayed in the spirit of brotherly compassion and mutual joy.

Do You Know ~



THAT THE HIGHEST POINT IN MICHIGAN IS THE PORCUPINE MTS. IN THE U.P. - 2,023 FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL - (CADILLAC AT 1712 IS L.P.'S HIGHEST)



THAT GYPSUM WAS FIRST DISCOVERED NEAR G.R. BY A TRADER IN 1827...



~ THAT MICHIGAN, ALMOST SURROUNDED BY FRESH WATER, PRODUCES ABOUT 1/3 OF THE NATION'S SALT.... (KNOW WHY?)

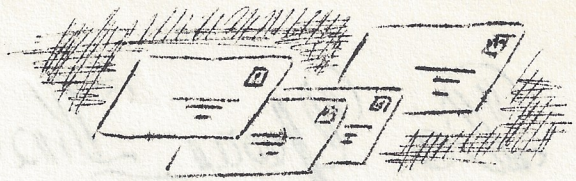
~ THAT GRAND RAPIDS AND KENT COUNTY HAVE MANY STREETS WITH GEOLOGICAL AND MINERALOGICAL NAMES:

- CLAY - SPARTA - WYO.
- CRYSTAL - GRANDVILLE
- DIAMOND - G.R.
- EMERALD - "
- FLINT CT. - "
- GLADSTONE - E. G. R.
- GOLD - G.R.
- OPAL - WYO.
- QUARRY - G. R.
- RUBY PL. - "
- SILVER - "
- STEELE - "
- STERLING - "
- STONE - "
- STONEY CREEK BLVD. -
- COMSTOCK PK.
- STONEY HILLS - WALKER
- TERRACE - G. R.
- UNDERHILL - "
- VALLEY - "
- YELLOWSTONE - GRANDVILLE

KNOW ANY OTHERS?

by: Willis Atwell

M.F.F.



LETTER OF THE MONTH

NOVEMBER 1961

Subject: Lapidary Division, Midwest Federation
By: Doris Kemp, Chairman

As the newly appointed chairman of the Lapidary Division of the Midwest Federation, it has occurred to me that the Letter-of-the-Month may be a very fine media for disseminating information about this division of your Federation.

There have been many books written on the art of lapidary and the methods of doing lapidary work. Many questions are answered in these books, some remain unanswered. Realizing this, the Federation some time ago, established the division to pass on information and new methods to members interested in lapidary work. At recent shows, particularly the Saginaw show, it is apparent that the art of lapidary is advancing rapidly in our area. Some of you have developed new methods of working with stones, making jewelry and displaying these things. This information should be passed on and exchanged with others interested in this phase of our hobby.

Several ways this information can be passed on are by writing articles for your club bulletins, preparing talks and demonstrative lectures for club meetings. Some articles with illustrations and pictures could be submitted to the national rockhound publications. Naturally, we feel they should be first offered to Earth Science Magazine, because it is the voice of the Midwest Federation.

Many clubs have established for their members usage, a library either through club purchases or members donations. These libraries are available to help you find answers to any problems you may encounter in your lapidary work. However, if you do not find what you are looking for, contact this division and we will attempt to answer your questions with the latest information.

We would like to stress that everyone can be creative in their efforts. This pertains not only to lapidary work but you will be surprised to learn, if you try, that with a little effort you can write educational, helpful articles and give programs that would be of interest to your fellow club members.

We will look forward to seeing some of the articles and programs in the near future.

Happy cutting and polishing,

Doris E. Kemp
19 E. 144th Street
Chicago 27, Illinois

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