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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, 2420 Coit N E (Sept. thru June) Summer meetings at different parks as announced.

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.

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

Member - Bulletin Editors Association.

APRIL MEETING? YES, SIR!

Same place - Riverside Elementary
School, 2420 Coit N.E.

2nd Wednesday - April 10, 1963,
at 8:00 p.m.

Get your 1963 dues paid. This
gives you an "in" for the door
prize, and you know what that
means:

And what a PROGRAM!

* * * * *

APRIL MEETING FEATURES "AGATEER"

That cutter of agate, the man with the lapidary ability the rest of us wish we had, is going to demonstrate his versatility of ability at this meeting. You who have heard him before know him to be "tops". Mr. August Post will take us on a cross country tour from the Mexican border to the Columbia ice fields. Don't miss it!

Also on the agenda will be the report of the

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Mr. Gerald B. Morris, Chairman, Mr & Mrs. James Waldron, Mrs. Charles French, Mrs. Henry Tchozeski, and Mr. Donald Crabbs constitute the Nominating Committee for our annual election to be held in MAY. The slate of officers selected by the committee will be announced at the April meeting, at which time nominations can also be made from the floor. Be sure to give this a good think and make your choices known at that time.

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"THE LESLIE G. PEARL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP"

One of the joys of being a "rock hound" is getting out of doors, and some of the joys of getting out of doors are the beauty and bounty of nature. But, as we go our way collecting rocks and minerals we learn that unless we have a sense of responsibility as stewards of this beauty and bounty it will, before long, be either used up or so badly damaged as to be useless. Les Pearl had this sense of stewardship and tried to instill the "conservation" idea in the young people he taught. It was this strong conviction that made him the choice of the Garden Club for the recipient of one of their scholarships to the Conservation Camp at Higgins Lake. And when he came back from that week in camp he was thoroughly sold on the idea of scholarships to be given to people who come in contact with the youth of Grand Rapids. And being sold on an idea it was the habit of Les to do something

Scholarship (concluded)

about it. It was not difficult to put the idea across to the Board. A committee was appointed to look into the mechanics of the project to make scholarships available, and then it seemed fitting that the whole idea be made a memorial to the man who started the project.

The committee recommended that one scholarship each year be made available to a teacher, or a leader in the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., or some related activity in the City of Grand Rapids. Anyone who has anything to do with youth groups is eligible. Applications and literature will be sent out this month and any applications received will be screened by the committee. The recipient will be given one paid week at the camp at Higgins Lake. At the request of the Conservation Department, this scholarship will not cover transportation, field trips, or tuition for credit (because this week gives one credit in college for students desiring it). The field trips are not expensive and are worthwhile.

Members of the Grand Rapids Mineral Society may also apply but only if they meet the requirements. No special consideration because of their membership. The committee and the Board feel that the knowledge acquired at the Conservation Camp can be of use only if passed on.

It was the recommendation of the committee that the person who replaces Les Pearl in his work with the young people at the Museum should be the first recipient of the scholarship this year. But it seems Les is not easy to replace, so this may have to wait another year. If you are interested in applying and feel that you meet the requirements, get in touch with the Editor and an application will be sent to you.

The scholarship recipient will be announced in the May
DRIFTER.

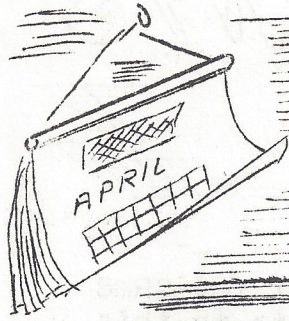
Marian Jennings, Chairman
* * * * * Scholarship Committee

FOSSILS - A Golden Nature Guide, a companion book to ROCKS AND MINERALS, by Herbert S. Zim, has just been issued. Authors of FOSSILS are F. T. Rhodes, professor of Geology at University College of Swansea, Wales, Paul R. Shaffer, professor of Geology at the University of Illinois, and Mr. Zim. It has 160 pages and 481 color illustrations. Excellent for the price - \$1.00

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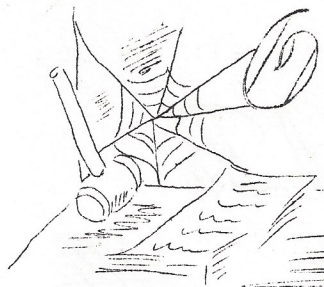
ROCKS AND MINERALS OF MICHIGAN - published by the Michigan Department of Conservation - has just been reissued. This is a MUST book for Michigan rock hounds which has been out of print for several years. The fossil section has been extracted, but is available as a separate publication.

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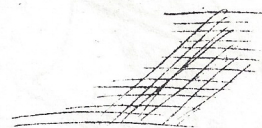


CALENDAR of EVENTS

- April 10 - Regular monthly meeting at Riverside Elementary School, 8:00 P.M. Report of Nominating Committee. Lapidary Competition, door prizes. Slide program by August Post.
- April 15 - Board of Control Meeting at home of Miss Jane Cichaniewicz, 809 Franklin S. E. 8:00 P.M.
- April 20 - Saturday - Field Trip to Glenn, Michigan for septaria. Trip Leader, Mrs. Robert Smith. For further details contact Mrs. Smith, phone CH 5-1389, or get directions and time of meeting at the April 10th meeting.
- April 25 - Thursday at 8:00 P.M. Mineral Group Meeting at home of Mr & Mrs Joseph Parish, 2212 Thornwood SW
- May 8 - ANNUAL MEETING - Potluck and election of officers Riverside Junior High.
- May 11 - Saturday - Field Trip to Sylvania, Ohio for trilobites, brachiopods, etc.
- May 25-26 - Saturday - Sunday - KALAMAZOO GEM & MINERAL FAIR Free admission. Door Prizes. Programs. Dealers. Displays. Silent Auction. Swapping area.
- June 8-9 - Saturday - Sunday - Field Trip to Rogers City.
- June 12 - Regular monthly meeting at Fallesburg County Park.
- July 10 - Regular monthly meeting at Caledonia County Park.
- August 14 - Regular monthly meeting at Townsend Park.
- JULY 17/21 - MIDWEST CONVENTION-FIELD TRIP. Hibbing, Minnesota.



OUR PRESIDENT'S CORNER



March has been a busy month for many, many members of the GRMS and attendance at the "big show" in the Museum attests to this activity. Between the show committee, the demonstrators, the exhibitors, and the hosts and hostesses, a large majority of the membership has been involved. Jim DeZwaan has done a superb job as chairman and a tip of the fedora to him along with a couple of salaams.

It has been interesting to see the difference in TV attitudes toward the show. The local outlets were not interested enough to even invite us to the studio, but WWJ-TV - the Detroit News station - sent a team here to take movies in color, write a script and edit the film for a 10 minute color cast on Channel 4 on March 19th. There was a substantial investment in time, film and TV prime time devoted to our show. Actually, this meant we played to a million or so viewers instead of a few thousand. By the way, we have asked to borrow the film for a club showing in the near future.

It was good to have Dick Rose back on the program in March: 1) to get the lapidary competition off the ground; 2) to revive the short feature each month on identification and some of the mineral families. For those who missed the excellent March program Arnold Wendt won the blue ribbon for lapidary and Dick talked a bit about cleavage as a basis for identification. Thanks, Dick, and the same to the lapidary contestants. Maybe we can have a trophy for the grand winner at the end of the year.

There seems to be a considerable interest in field trips. We hope it will result in some members actually turning out. On April 20th, Elaine Smith will lead the pack along the shores of Lake Michigan for septaria, which the Smiths have found polishes nicely. (For the one or two Drifter readers who share my ignorance, septaria - which is the plural of septarium - are pseudo-fossils, or fake fossils, which the uninformed think are petrified turtle shells when they are really mud cracks between which are fillings of calcite, barite, etc.) Leo Hoogerhyde has again obtained permission from U. S. Steel for us to hunt in the world's largest limestone quarry at Rogers City on June 8, and also the 9th, if enough members are interested to make it worthwhile to ask U. S. Steel to give us guides. If you want to hunt corals, brachiopods, gastropods and trilobites, sign up at the April meeting. In May we expect to make a jaunt to Sylvania in hopes of finding a few trilobites - WHOLE - or at least a few pyrite replacements of brachiopods, worm borings (?), or whatever. Tentatively, this is set for the 11th. Better start planning, too, for the big Midwest field trip to Hibbing in July.

Speaking of field trips, we now have an offer which will let you go and pay later. This results from our pestering the President of Leonard Refineries to get on their "Michigan Outdoors" show in March. He has now offered to supply our club members with Leonard Travel Cards. If you are interested, let me know.

- Bill Atwell

* * * * *

RUNDOWN ON THE MARCH PROGRAM

If you were not at this meeting you missed a dinger! Lowell Palmer used color slides to illustrate his experiences from the National Gem & Mineral Show to the Herkimer Diamond diggings in New York. Lowell's interesting specimens were displayed exceptionally well on the stage and he satisfied all questions with detailed explanations of each item. The lowly fossilized river ooze (as termed by Dr. Richard Rose) formed good swapping material for many of the specimens and oil geodes Lowell has added to his collection.

Our capable speaker also brought out that pyrites can be soaked in acid to remove any objectionable coal and that a good brushing with soap and water will add a luster to these specimens.

Nice programming there, Mr. P.

* * * * *

A HIGHLIGHT OF THE ROCK & MINERAL SHOW

No flash bulbs or fanfare greeted them as they entered the Museum - in fact, they were so small that hardly anyone noticed them at all.

The largest of the two - he must have seen at least 12 summers - was the guardian of the smaller second boy who bore a gift of stone of such proportions it seemed all he could carry. Would we identify it? His father found it when he was tearing down a building. Would we want it? We did, and we thanked him for his thoughtfulness. There seemed to be a swagger of satisfaction as these two left the Museum to continue their outdoor activities. They were dressed that way - leather helmets, worn jackets and shoes that had obediently carried their masters through many an alley and vacant lot.

An hour or so later, another boy about the same age as the older of our two heroes, but dressed in Sunday finery and in company of his father, was made joyously happy as he carried a new-found treasure home.

Your Observer - Maynard

* * * * *

MINERAL SHOW A SUCCESS !

By the time you read this our Fourth Annual Gem and Mineral show will be history. From the remarks that have been passed along from club members and persons who attended the show the consensus of opinion seems to be that this was our best effort to date. This is as it should be and we have every right to believe that the next show will be better than any previous show. Each year we should learn a little more about displaying our exhibits and about helping out as host and hostesses, demonstrators and the like.

Some facts of general interest concerning the show are the following:

1. More than 75 members had a part in exhibiting.
2. About 50 of our members served as Host and Hostesses.
3. Approximately 35 to 40 people helped in the giving of demonstrations.
4. Nine individuals worked actively as a show committee.
5. More than 20,000 people attended the show. This includes approximately 600 school children who were transported to the museum on Thursday afternoons for special programs by club members.
6. People from Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Ontario, Canada and almost all parts of Michigan came to Grand Rapids especially to see our show. Other folks from as far away as Arizona and California visiting in the area made definite efforts to attend. (These we know about, there are no doubt others).

It was my intention as I sat down to write a brief item concerning the show to thank each individual who had a part in making the show a success by name. As you can see by the foregoing, it would be a monumental task and we would be sure to miss some. The success of the show was definitely a club effort. Never in any of the various groups worked previously, have any of us seen such fine cooperation. May it always be like that. It is a real tribute to a fine group of people.

For the show committee, I would like to thank each member who helped with any detail of the show for a job well done. In addition to this, I would like to thank particularly those who worked on the show committee as I feel the efforts they made really contributed in making my task as Show Chairman much easier.

Thanks again for the excellent spirit of cooperation and the opportunity to work with each of you!

Jim Dezwaan, Chairman
Show Committee

LAPIDARY AWARD OF THE MONTH

MARCH WINNER - Arnold Wendt, with a very nice cab of epidote. Mr. Wendt will receive one of the blue ribbons, which have now arrived, and we hope that he will try for a second ribbon this month. Two cabs, both of epidote, were entered and both were well done. Perhaps we can learn the technique that he used and pass it on to you next month.

We also had three other entries, so for the first month this wasn't too bad. Now that you have felt us out, I hope that more of you will submit an entry. Perhaps we have been extra critical of your work looking for the more minor flaws, but this is only meant to help you improve on your next attempt. If we see a scratch we will let you know about it, so try to get the scratches out. Just remember our criticism is meant to be of help, rather than just for the sake of criticizing.

Adrian Rigney had some very nice opal. Opal isn't a stone to be afraid of. It isn't nearly as fragile as most books would lead you to believe. It is quite soft, so you must work slowly, especially in grinding, or you may over-grind. But, all in all, if you start with a good quality stone you should be able to come up with a very nice cab. Just don't get it too warm.

Dr. Robert Smith presented us with another soft, but beautiful stone. He had a very nice cab of malachite from the Congo. Believe it or not, Linde A does a very good job even on this relatively soft stone. A little hand polishing with Linde A on a soft cloth for a final finish will do wonders.

Mrs. Sam James, a new member, had a nice Lake Superior agate. Just the nub end of it, she said, but it had a nice pattern and she used it to its best advantage.

All of the entries were well done, but only one winner each month. So, won't you try to be the lucky one this month?

Dr. Richard W. Rose

* * * * *

C A S E S

If you want display cases for your collection we know of some with glass tops, fronts and ends, 25 inches wide, 67 inches long and 43 inches high; one solid shelf, but more can be added. One is available 25 x 95 x 43. Priced at less than \$20.00 each. For more details call Bill Atwell, who can tell you where to get them. No commission - this is a public service.

Willis W. Atwell

* * * * *

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING ON MAY 8th AT RIVERSIDE JUNIOR HIGH. POTLUCK DINNER AT 6:30 P.M. ELECTION OF OFFICERS for 1963-64. In case you have forgotten we have changed our fiscal year. It now runs from September 1 thru August 31 of the following year, and the election takes place at the May meeting.

SCIENCE FAIR PRIZE AWARDED

On Wednesday, March 27th, a \$25.00 prize was awarded by the Grand Rapids Mineral Society to John Avise of 1616 Boston, S.E. for the best exhibit in Earth Sciences at the Annual Science Fair.

John exhibited the results of four months of action due to temperature change and frost on rock. Each of four types of rock were broken into three pieces. One piece was put first into the oven and then into a freezer; the second was frozen in water and then thawed at room temperature. These cycles were repeated twice a day for four months. The third piece of each type of rock was kept as a control. John's findings were principally that, while temperature change had little effect frost or freezing action had a marked effect in breaking and crumbling the rock.

The judges, Mrs. Nellie Mead, Mr. Don Crabbs, and Mr. Lee Budd felt that this exhibit showed creative thought and method. It was on the basis of this and on a well written report that the award was made.

For those who were unable to attend the Science Fair, there were many marvelous exhibits. Those in the field of Earth Sciences included two mineral exhibits, three on the mechanics of volcanoes, one on the occurrence of gypsum in Paris Township, one of the production of gypsum products, a working model of a geyser, a display of copper together with the growth of copper acetate crystals, and finally the exhibit of John Avise which won the award of our Society.

The judges first want to congratulate John on his fine work, and second recommend that in succeeding years a first, second and third prize be awarded. There are so many fine exhibits, that it seems wrong to award a prize to just one.

Lee Budd, Chairman
Judging Committee

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MINERAL GROUP MEETING

Mr & Mrs Joseph Parish of 2212 Thornwood S W will be hosts to the Mineral Group for their April meeting. We've had some really interesting meetings and sure urge members to avail themselves of this opportunity to further widen their knowledge of rocks and minerals by talking it over with other interested people.

We'll be looking for YOU on Thursday, April 25th at 8:00 P.M.

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When an optimist looks at an oyster, he expects a pearl --
the pessimist expects ptomaine poisoning.

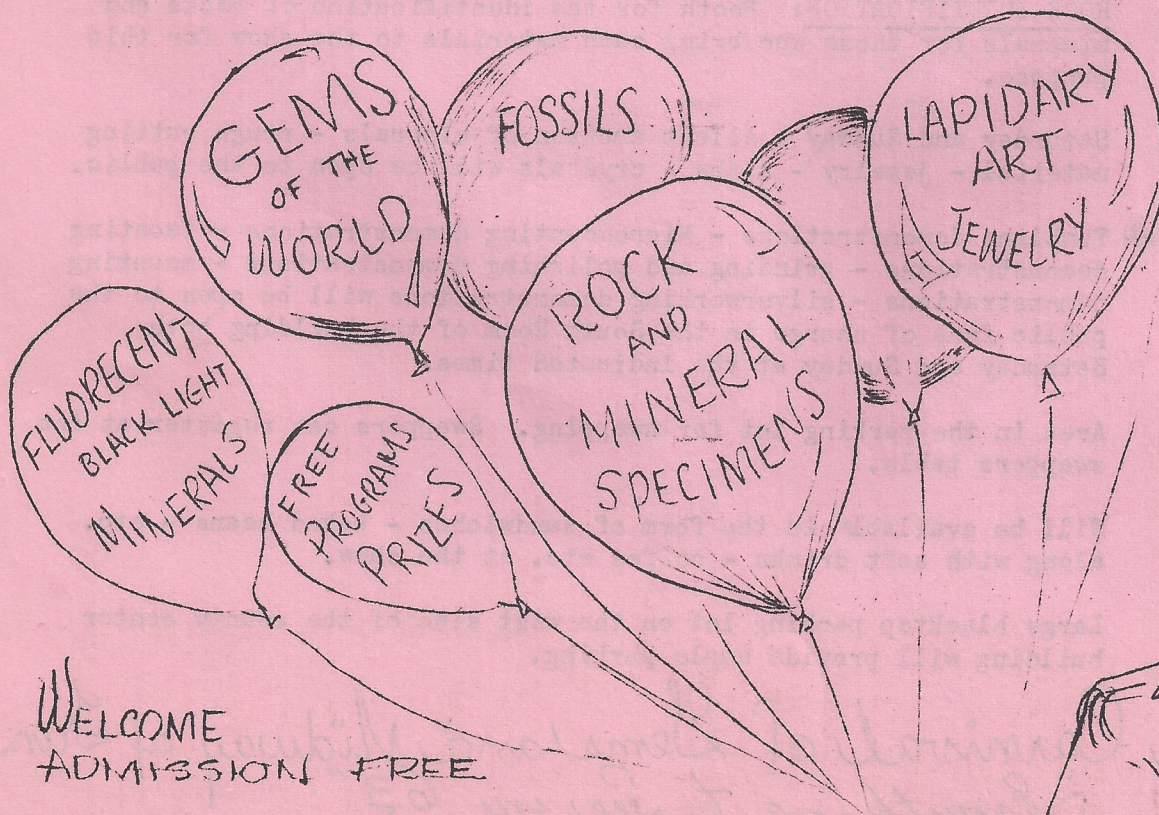
GEM & MINERAL



FAIR

MAY 25th + 26th

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1963 Kalamazoo "GEM AND MINERAL FAIR"

PLACE: Kalamazoo Michigan - On East Lake Street - Kalamazoo County Fair-grounds.

DATES: May 25th. 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM May 26th. 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

ADMISSION: F R E E to all.

DISPLAYS: Over 100 cases of Minerals - Specimens - Fossils - Gemstones - Lapidary Art - Jewelry - Working Displays - Micromounters booth - Faceting Booth - Sawing-Spectroanalysis - Large Fluorescent Display. Special Attraction Displays - Antique Whitby Jet - Autenite - Indian Arrowhead collection - Fluorite - Trilobites - Selenite - Carved Petoskey Stones - All Clubmember Display case. Junior and 4-H displays.

BOOTHES: Dealers displays of Gems, - minerals - slabs - rough stone for cutting and polishing - finished stones for mounting - jewelry mountings - gem and lapidary publications - guides for rock-hunters - Sawing and polishing equipment - tumbling equipment - fluorescent lamps and prospecting equipment.

CLUB BOOTH: For the sale of club members handiwork only. Includes jewelry - carvings - cabachons - tables - etc. made by club members.

FUN BOOTHS: Wishing tree - stone toss - dart toss - string pull for rock, mineral or jewelry prizes.

FISH POND: For the younger set - dipping for pearls and stones.

SPECIMEN TABLE: Club sale of common specimens. Calcite - Salt - marcasite - fossils.

ROCK IDENTIFICATION: Booth for the identification of rocks and minerals for those who bring such materials to the show for this purpose.

SILENT AUCTION Saturday and Sunday a silent auction of minerals - rough cutting material - jewelry - slabs - crystals will be open to the public.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS Tumbling demonstrations - Micromounting demonstrations - faceting demonstrations - grinding and polishing demonstrations - mounting demonstrations - silverworking demonstrations will be open to the public free of charge in the South Room of the building both Saturday and Sunday at the indicated times.

TRADING Area in the parking lot for swapping. Swappers can register at the swappers table.

FOOD Will be available in the form of sandwiches - baked beans - etc. along with soft drinks - coffee etc. at the show.

PARKING Large blacktop parking lot on the west side of the county center building will provide ample parking.

**A Carnival of Gems and Midway of Fun.
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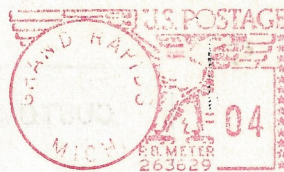
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