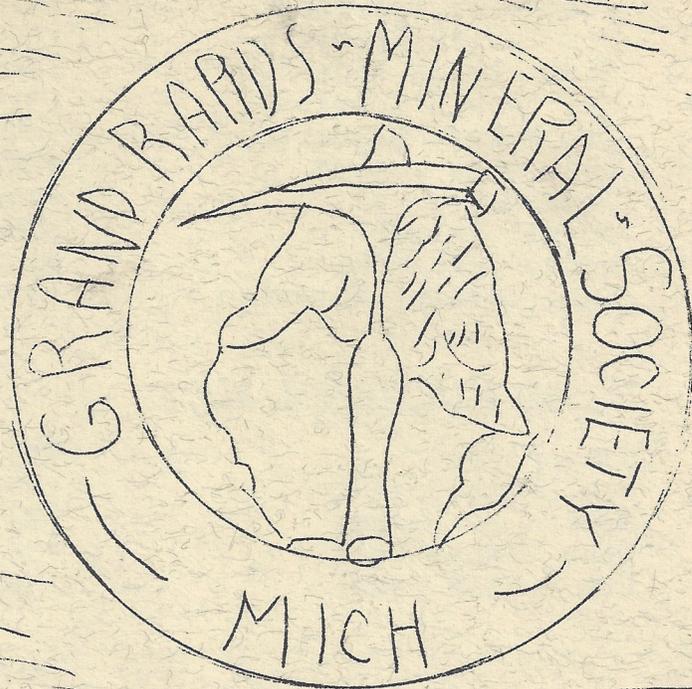


Volume 8, no 2 ~ October 1965



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 Ridgeview Junior High School, Rosewood at Burton S E (September through May) Summer meetings are at various parks as announced.

Membership dues are \$3.00 per year for a family, \$2.00 for single adult, and \$1.00 for students under 18 years of age. Dues are payable to treasurer - year is from Sept. 1 thru Aug 31 of following year.

Advertising in the GLACIAL DRIFTER is at the rate of \$3.00 per issue (Sept. thru May only)

All material for publication must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 25th of the month preceding publication, unless an earlier closing date is announced.

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

Member - Bulletin Editors Association (National)

# October Meeting

Our regular monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 13th at 8:00 P.M. at Ridgeview Junior High School, Rosewood at Burton SE

On hand to greet members and guests will be Mr & Mrs Fay Reed, with Mr & Mrs Bob Teunis at the Hospitality Table to see that all have name tags.

The Dr. Robert B Smith family will have the Display-of-the-Month. Their theme will be fossils. They will be on hand both before and after the meeting to answer any questions you may have.

We are fortunate to have for our guest speakers Mr & Mrs Joe Kreps of the Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society. They will show slides of the mineral locations visited by them on their three-month vacation this past summer. We believe this will be another program you won't want to miss.

The large calcite specimen shown last month will go to the holder of the lucky ticket. If you didn't get your tickets last month, be sure to see Mrs. Dorothy Waterman before the meeting - your's may be the lucky one.

Door prizes will be awarded on the new (1966) membership cards. Be sure to pay your dues before the meeting if you haven't already done so. Mrs. Lucile Pearl will be on hand to collect family membership dues of \$3.00, single membership's of \$2.00, or student (under 18 yr of age) \$1.00. Be sure to know your ZIP code number. We must - must - have these if you are to receive your bulletins.

Club emblems are available from Mrs. Pearl at only 75¢ each. Let's all have an emblem to wear at the meetings and when attending rock shows and field trips.

Silent Auction sheets will be available for your donations to the Auction which will be the feature of the November meeting. Get enough sheets to have one for each item you donate. Fill out before the November meeting. If you are unable to bring your donations to the meeting, or would like to have them picked up contact any of the board members and someone will see that they are collected.

The importance of Geology to Geography is that, without Geology, Geography would have no place to sit. (Achates)

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Man is the only animal that laughs and weeps: for he is the only animal that is struck by the difference between what things are and what they ought to be. (Gems)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PENCH

How pleased we weretto see the wonderful turnout at the September meeting. To our many old and faithful members, new members, and visitors, we extend our thanks.

Our thanks to Dick Rose for his wonderful display of Michigan mineral locations. This guy certainly saved our members a lot of gasoline and shoe leather by divulging his locations. We are looking forward to the October display of fossil study which is described elsewhere in this issue.

And Mary Jane Dockeray! This gal never fails to show us a very outstanding and interesting program. How fortunate we are to have her in our community and our organization. Thanks again, Mary Jane. We usually present our speaker with a gift of appreciation from the club, but since Mary Jane has put on so many fine programs for us, we have exhausted our normal gift itinerary. The only appropriate suggestion we have had for this last program was a mink coat with Petoskey stone buttons! We'll work on this, the buttons have already been donated.

Speaking of Mary Jane and the Museum, we could assist them in their new project. They are developing a "Rock Walk" directly adjacent to the Gaslight Village, and are looking for large local specimens of "Puddin' stone", jasper conglomerate, folded and faulted specimens, limestone with crystals, etc. These specimens should be bushel basket size or larger. Any local person could provide a fine community service if you can locate some of this material. The Museum will pick up and haul.

We all look forward to an exciting year ahead. The many committee chairmen are bursting with ideas. Suggestions from the membership are welcomed. See any board member.

We will look forward to seeing you October 13, for a fine program.

Dick Damstra

Native lead is found in nature but is rare, excellent specimens have been found at Langban, Sweden

Diamonds and gold are sometimes found in the same alluvial deposits, and such ground should be examined for the precious gem.

Heated in air to 800°C., diamond will volatilize to form carbon dioxide.

# Calendar of Events

- October 9-10 Saturday and Sunday - FLINT'S FIRST ROCK & GEM SHOW  
Northwestern High School, G. 2138 W. Carpenter Road  
Flint, Michigan. W. Carpenter Rd is north of M-21  
and can be reached by taking Clio Road or Saginaw Rd.  
north after crossing I 75 on the outskirts of Flint.
- October 13 Wednesday, 8 PM regular meeting at Ridgeview Junior  
High School, Rosewood at Burton S E. Exchange  
program with Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral  
Society - Mr & Mrs Joe Kreps.
- October 16-17 Saturday and Sunday - Michiana Rock & Gem Club 4th  
Annual Show at New National Guard Armory, 1901 So.  
Kemble Street, South Bend, Indiana
- October 18 Monday, 8 PM Board of Control meeting at the home  
of Mr & Mrs Casey Doornbos, 1917 Rosemont S E
- October 20 Wednesday - 8 PM Organizational meeting of the  
Lapidary Group at the home of Dr & Mrs Robert P.  
Smith, 1445 Ereton Rd. S E Call Elaine so she  
will know how many cups of coffee to have on the  
fire.
- October 25 Monday - 8 PM Mineral Study Group meeting at home  
of Mr & Mrs Robert R. Rozema, 1355 Hollywood N E
- November 6-7 Saturday and Sunday - Michigan Mineralogical Society  
Show at the Community Arts Center Building, State  
Fair Grounds, Detroit, Michigan. The building is  
on State Fair Road, Gate 2, between 8 Mile and 7 Mile  
Road East of Woodward Avenue.
- November 10 Wednesday 8 PM ANNUAL AUCTION. Pick up Auction  
sheets from the table at the October meeting, or  
obtain them from any board member. You will  
need one for each item you donate to the Auction.

ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT  
May 17, 1965

Balance on hand May 13, 1964 377.78

Receipts May 13, 1964 thru May 17, 1965

Memberships	345.00
Advertising in Drifter	57.00
Rock table sales	16.05
Silent Auction	258.06
Sale of chances	145.25
Sale of club emblems	12.00
Sale of books	4.35
sale of subscriptions	9.85
Miscellaneous	<u>29.31</u>

Total Receipts 876.87

Total \$1254.65

Disbursements May 13, 1964 thru May 17, 1965

Glacial Drifter expense	251.70
Annual Show expense	65.14
"    "    insurance	40.00
Midwest Federation dues	30.75
"    "    convention expense	50.00
Annual rental	155.00
Program expense	138.19
Junior Program Expense	100.00
Science Fair Award(1965)	25.00
Conservation Scholarship(1965)	36.00
Treasurer's Bond	10.00
Mich. Corp & Sec. Com. filing fee	5.00
Miscellaneous	45.80
Subscriptions	<u>5.95</u>

Total Disbursements 958.53      958.53

Balance on hand May 17, 1965 296.12

Total \$1254.65

How many of you would like to learn how to polish the stones you collect, or to improve your results and technic in polishing? There is much creative satisfaction in taking a rough hunk of undistinguished looking stuff and turning it into a polished beauty. Those of us who have already found this to be true can help others, and gain in an exchange of tips and information among ourselves, too.

In the belief that it is time to develop more club interest in the lapidary aspects of rockhounding, we propose to start a lapidary group this year. Here are a few general proposals for initial guidance - the specific program can come from the group itself.

First, this will not be a lapidary class and no lapidary work should be done at the meetings. Second, every member should expect to produce at least one polished stone. Beginners with no equipment can at least do hand-polishing. If one has patience even agates can be hand-polished, and there are softer materials to learn on. Hand lapping can be done too, with very little expense. Fancy equipment only saves time. So don't stay away for lack of equipment if you want to learn about rock polishing.

For those with equipment that is gathering dust, this group could get you going with a rock-of-the-month display or competition. Everyone could work a variety of feldspar, or agate, or jasper, or obsidian, etc. Bring your cab and compare it with your friends'; trade ideas and experiences.

There are group projects to be worked on. For the March museum show, how about a case of hand polished stones (what an encouragement this would be to those who have always stayed away from this hobby because of the expense); a case of 100 cabs all of different stones; a case of lapped (flat) stones? This might even be projected into a semi-permanent display of G.R. Mineral Society lapidary skill which could be sent to various rock shows in other places, or featured from time to time at the museum.

All this may be fine, but if no lapidary work is to be done at the meetings, what is there to do but talk? That's right, talk about correct naming of specimens, how to improve technic, useful polishing combinations, useful gadgets, how to judge the quality of rough material, where to find the best sources of rocks, field trips one has been on, what books to read. Discussions could be both formal and informal. We might even have a joint meeting with the mineral group and learn a little about chemical composition, crystal structure, and identification. But most of all let's get together and share a common interest.

As time goes on we might find some faceting, rock carving, and other advanced procedures showing up. But we won't if we don't get started. So let's get to the first meeting at the home of Dr. & Mrs. Robert S. Smith, 1445 Breton Rd. S.E. on Wednesday, October 20 at 8 P.M. Please call Elaine at 949-4093 so she'll know how many cups of coffee to have on the fire.

FIELD TRIP TO JERRY'S PLACE

The long awaited field trip to Jerry Morris' place at Omena will become a reality on October 23 and 24. To reach Omena, take M-37 to Traverse City where it bumps right into M-22. Take M-22 west and northward to Northport, but stop at Omena, where Jerry will be waving you to a stop. Right side of the road. When you can read the sign "Omena" you are there. There are camping facilities at Traverse City - also good motels. More information will be available at the October meeting, or contact Jerry or Lowell Palmer, Field Trip Chairman.

MINERAL STUDY GROUP

In September the Mineral Study Group met at the home of Mr & Mrs Hollis Merrick in Muskegon. Several cars had trouble finding the place but all arrived in time for the lesson presented by Mr Merrick.

The meeting night has been changed to Monday, and will probably be the 4th Monday of each month. The October meeting will be held at the home of Mr & Mrs Robert R. Rozema, 1355 Hollywood N E on the 25th - a Monday - at 8:00 P.M. Mr Arnold Wendt, Sr. will present the lesson.

All members and friends who are interested in learning about the earth's formation are invited to attend this, and future, meetings.

INVITATION TO EXHIBIT

Mr. Floyd Mortenson of the Michigan Mineralogical Society has invited members of our club to exhibit at the second big show to be held in the Detroit area.

They are labeling their show "THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH" (and the pun IS intended). It will be held on November 6 & 7 at the new spacious COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER at the STATE FAIR GROUNDS, Detroit, Michigan.

If you, as a member of the Grand Rapids Mineral Society, would like to display a case of your minerals, fossils, lapidary work, or craft in this show you may obtain an application blank from Nina Rozema or Lucile Pearl. They would like to have the applications in by October 8th. If you do not have a case to use they will furnish one.

The exhibits will be on a non-competitive basis and there will be no judging whatsoever.

Even if you don't exhibit, you probably will want to attend this show, it should be outstanding.

OUR THOMSONITE ADVENTURE by Roger Hawkins

My wife and I had long planned on a trip to the north side of Lake Superior, at Grand Marais, Minnesota, to look for some Thomsonites. Early this summer we took this trip, which turned out to be most beautiful, and rewarding. We saw five deer, one black bear, one moose, and many beautiful birds. I believe that the scenery along the way is equal to any spot in the country. And, the people were very congenial and friendly.

The first night out, we stayed at Michigamme, in the Upper Peninsula in a nice motel on the beautiful Lake Michigamme, where I did a little fly casting to no avail. We had our dinner at the Mount Shasta restaurant, which is a must, located right on the mountain. After dinner, the proprietor invites you to look for garnets. We found a few, but the flies soon became so thick that we did not stay long. I am sure that if you were to go there in the daytime, armed with insect repellent, you could find many specimens. We found a few in the short time we were there.

The next day proved to be just as interesting for us. We stopped at Iron River, Wisconsin for films, and there met a man who had a stone display in his store. We spent about an hour there. He informed us that if we were to look along the G.N. railway, many agates could be found. At noon we had lunch at a Swedish restaurant north of Duluth, Minnesota. They also had a display of agates and crystals, so if you are in a hurry don't let them know you are a rockhound.

We arrived at the Cascade Lodge in Cascade State Park, where we spent two nights. The proprietor of the restaurant next door also had many rocks and minerals. After dinner we drove five miles east to the Thomsonite Beach Co which was the most fascinating experience of our trip. Mr Maurice Feigal is a very educated, interesting, and congenial person, and he surely knows minerals. We made arrangements to meet him the next morning.

Mr Feigal was waiting and ready to take us to the place where Thomsonites can be found. The day was tiring, but profitable. You are allowed to take out 50 pounds if you are strong enough, as the going is rough. We have a few pictures to show the rugged terrain. This is the only place where you are allowed to look for Thomsonites in the area, which is noted for the finest and most beautiful eyes. The prize ones are green and blue, of which we have a few. Be sure to take a rock hammer, chisel, and protective glasses with you. Thomsonite is a member of the zeolite family with a hardness of 5-5<sup>1</sup>, but the matrix is much harder, so there is work ahead. They are rather brittle and break along the structural lines. We have some of ours in the tumbler, hoping that they will turn out well. I will bring one of our specimens to the club meeting just to show. Some gems are worth \$1.25 to \$9.00 per carat. This is one of only two places in the U. S. where gem Thomsonites can be found. There are also agate beaches and amethysts in great abundance in this area. The Grand Marais locality is referred to often in mineralogical literature, and it is a highlight for every rockhound. (continued next page)

THOMSONITES (continued)

We visited a Mr. Schmiel who lives six miles west of Grand Marais. We had expected to stay only a few minutes, but were there for about two hours. He is one of the most interesting men to talk with, or listen to, as he does most of the talking. He is 90 years old, was a famous photographer, who would try to leave the lines and character in the face. He would recite poem after poem, from memory, and most of them by Edgar Guest, with whom he went to college. Since retiring, he has built a collection of Thomsonites which is the best in the country, and is to leave it to the Minnesota U. There are about one thousand, all polished by hand, mounted, and framed, a marvelous display. He has bird feeding stations outside his house so that you can see the many rare birds come and feed through his picture window. He also feeds humming birds and had one that will light on his lips and kiss him, of which he has a picture that has been published. This is another must if you are in this area.

While traveling through Canada, everyone was friendly and hospitable, asking if we were enjoying ourselves and if they could help us in any way.

When we came to the Customs Office, to return to the U. S. we were asked what we were bringing back. When we said 'rocks' he asked "Are you rockhounds?" Answering in the affirmative, we were allowed to go right through, so you see it pays to be a rockhound.

Without a doubt, this was the most interesting six-day trip we had ever taken. The mountains, rivers, cascades, falls, white birch, green pines, and wonderful highways, made this a very delightful trip indeed.

\* \* \* \* \*

ARTICLE NEED FOR NOVEMBER DRIFTER

The article on a New England Trip which we had hoped to have for next month will not be forth coming at this time as Mr and Mrs. Hansen were forced to postpone their trip until possibly next spring. They had guests from Lima, Peru for eight weeks this summer and Mr Hansen says they may very well become the recipients of some mineral goodies from Peru, Bolivia, and perhaps other areas. If so, we will hear more about it.

Who will give us an article on a vacation trip for our next issue? Please let me know at an early date.

\* \* \* \* \*

If at First you don't succeed, try, try again, and if that fails read the directions, if you can find them.

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# Midwest Federation's Newsletter

October 1965

## PROFESSOR RICHARD M. PEARL HONORED BY AFMS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

The AFMS Scholarship Award for 1965 was presented to Professor Richard Maxwell Pearl, Professor of Geology at Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado, co-founder of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

This award is given annually to an individual for outstanding contributions to the understanding, acceptance, methods, or knowledge of earth sciences.

Mr. Johnnie Short, President of the AFMS, presented the award to Prof. Pearl at the Federation in the Chinook Hotel, Yakima, Washington, on Sunday evening, September 5th.

The Award consists of a plaque and \$300 granted annually for a two-year period. The grant will be given to an institution selected by the award winner to establish a scholarship in his name, sponsored by the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, Inc., and is to be used to aid post-graduate student who is specializing in Earth Science towards a Master Degree. The recipient will also assist in the selection of the student.

Prof. Pearl, who has received this year's award is a graduate of the U. of Colorado and Harvard U. At present he is Professor of Geology at Colorado College. A Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Gemmological Association of Great Britain, and the Meteoritical Society, he has received honorary titles from national gem societies in a number of countries.

Prof. Pearl was born in New York, May 1913, and brought up in Michigan. Upon graduation from the U. of Colorado, he was employed by E. I. duPont de Nemours and Co., and was geologist for the Shell Oil Co. After receiving his degree from Harvard, he became associated with Colorado College in 1946.

He was the second president of the AFMS as well as the first president of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies. He also served as president of the Colorado Mineral Society and Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society.

Prof. Pearl is the author of twenty books on geology, minerals, and gems, including ROCKS AND MINERALS, GUIDE TO GEOLOGIC LITERATURE, SUCCESSFUL MINERAL COLLECTING AND PROSPECTING, POPULAR GEMOLOGY, and the famous paperback HOW TO KNOW THE MINERALS AND ROCKS, which has wide circulation.

Prof. Pearl, a scholar, teacher, author, an active man in the field, and a major contributor to the training of geologists and earth scientists, was selected by the Jury of Awards to be the first to be honored. Prof. Pearl has selected the University of Colorado to receive the grant. The student recipient will be chosen after careful selection and review of candidates.

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