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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 Ridgeview Junior High School, Rosewood at Purton, 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.

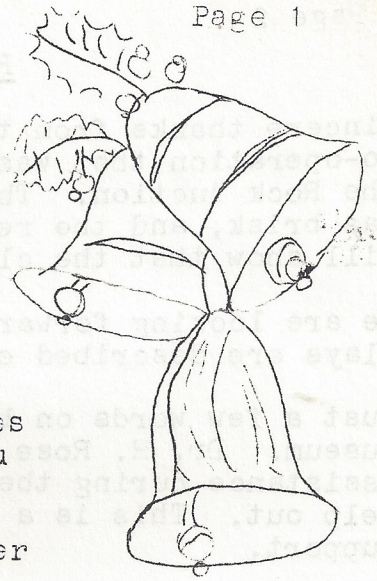
Advertising in the GLACIAL DRIFTER is at the rate of \$3.00 per issue (Sept. thru May only).

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)

Seasons Greetings



Seems mighty early to be sending Christmas Greetings, but none the less that season is upon us again. And we do send our best wishes to all of you. May each and every one of you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The Staff of The Drifter

DECEMBER MEETING - CONSERVATION

The regular monthly meeting will be held on December 8, at 8 P.M. at Ridgeview Junior High School. Our speaker will be Miss Eette Walton who is a teacher at Furr Oak School. She was the recipient of the Les Pearl Scholarship to Houghton Lake Conservation Camp this past summer. She will tell of her experiences at this camp. We will also have a movie along the same line, with emphasis on rock and mineral conservation.

Mrs. Waterman will have some door prizes and some lucky person will be taking home a hand-made piece of jewelry donated by the Damstras. Be sure to get your tickets before the meeting.

Our display of the month will be by Mr & Mrs Roger Hawkins who will show and tell Thomsonites and where to find them.

See you at the December meeting.

* * * * *

LAPIDARY GROUP NEWS

Every member of the new Lapidary Group did have a polished stone at the last meeting, ranging from inlay efforts to hand-polished stones, and all were equally interesting. Remember, all are welcome to attend; you should bring a newly-polished stone to each meeting because the purpose of the group is to encourage lapidary efforts at all levels, but if you have been too busy, don't let that stop you from attending. Everyone has a little leeway, and the penalty is merely a contribution to the next month's program.

Last month Dr. Smith built a short quiz around many points of interest as the care and use of lapidary equipment.

This month the group will meet at the home of Mr. & Mrs Roger Hawkins, 2940 Plainfield N. E. (EM 1-6158). Date: Wednesday, December 1. Time 8: 00 P.M. Again, those attending are asked to bring some newly-produced lapidary effort for discussion and comment, but all are invited to attend.

Mrs. R F Smith

FROM OUR PRESIDENT'S BENCH

Sincere thanks from the Board of Control and myself for the fine co-operation that was shown by all our members and committees for the Rock Auction. The donated material was really swell, buying was brisk, and the report we will receive at the December meeting will show that the club made a fine profit. Thanks again to all.

We are looking forward to the December meeting. The program and displays are described elsewhere in this issue.

Just a few words on behalf of our club-sponsored Junior Group at the Museum. Dr. R. Rose will be calling many of our members for assistance during the winter. Please do everything possible to help out. This is a very worthwhile endeavor and deserves your support.

Annual Show committee chairmen have been named. They will also need assistance, and will call various members. However, your displays, exhibits, and educational layouts are the secret of a good show. The time to start is now! Show will be March 5 thru March 27.

See you all at the December meeting!

Dick Damstra, President

MINERAL STUDY GROUP

There will be no meeting of the Mineral Study Group in December. Look for particulars of the January meeting in the next issue of the DRIFTER.

COLLECTING ROCKS

I think that there shall never be,
An ignoramus just like me
Who roams the hills throughout the day
To pick up rocks that do not pay.
For there's one thing I've been told:
I take the rocks and leave the gold.
O'er deserts wild, or mountains blue,
I search for rock of varied hue.
A hundred pounds or more I pack,
With blistered feet and aching back,
I pick up rock where're I go.
The reason why I do not know,
For rocks are found by folks like me
Where God intended rocks to be.

Submitted by Elaine Smith

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- December 1 - Wednesday, 8:00 P.M. LAPIDARY GROUP MEETING at home of Mr & Mrs Roger Hawkins, 2840 Plainfield, just north of Three Mile Road. Plenty of parking in the lot to the north of their home. This will be flood-lighted, so be sure to drive into the lot. Do not park beside the highway, it's not safe. Bring a newly completed piece of lapidary work.
- December 8 - Wednesday, 8:00 P.M. Regular monthly meeting at Ridgeview Junior High School, Rosewood S E at Burton. Miss Bette Walton will tell of her stay at the conservation camp at Houghton Lake where she spent a week this past summer as recipient of the Les Pearl Scholarship Award.
- December 13 - Monday, 8:00 P.M. Board of Control meeting at the home of Dr. & Mrs Robert B. Smith, 1445 Breton Rd.
- December 25 - A Merry Christmas to all
- January 1 - A Happy and Prosperous New Year

MIDWEST FEDERATION'S NEWSLETTER (balance of November letter)

A MESSAGE FROM OUR 1965-66 PRESIDENT Mrs. Walter Steinbrenner

Greetings to all members of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies.

We are so fortunate to have a hobby such as ours - one that takes us to the great outdoors where we may enjoy the wonders and beauty that our God has created for us. At our Iowa Rock Swap this spring there was a motto by Harry Litwin, on the wall of the room where we had our meeting, that interested me .. "Lay your hands on something that God has made and the troubles man has made will leave you."

We not only have a hobby that will help us to forget our troubles but it is one that we can use to bring joy and knowledge to others.

This past year Merton Young has used as his theme "To Learn and To Share." At our banquet in Evansville, Merit Award Certificates were presented to eight of our member clubs. A great amount of learning and sharing went into the projects that earned for them their awards. There was also work and service involved for these clubs were all serving and helping others. So for this coming year we have selected SERVICE, especially SERVING OTHERS to use for our theme.

You are serving ... when you accept and cheerfully, to the best of your ability, fulfill an office in our Federation or in your own club. My father, a small town doctor, firmly believed that we only get out of life what we put into it and he thoroughly instilled this philosophy in me - that we each must pay our way through this world by serving and doing for others.

We are all serving ... when we contribute to the American Federation Scholarship Fund, either with cash gifts or by saving and sending in Betty Crocker coupons. How wonderful it would be if every member club would appoint an enthusiastic person to collect the gifts and coupons and mail them regularly to our Scholarship Treasurer. If this could be done, perhaps by the end of our 1965-66 year we would have every one of our Midwest clubs proudly displaying their 100 percent certificate.

You are serving...

When you present rock and mineral collections to schools and children camps. Also when you assist the science fair programs and encourage our young students in the study of the earth sciences that they may become the scientists of tomorrow.

When you prepare a display and take it to our convention and to club shows so others may see, enjoy and learn.

When you assist a museum or an archaeology group with their projects by donating hours of man power labor.

When you ask for commemorative stamps at the postoffice to use on your mail and when you save the used commemorative stamps you receive and see that they are sent to the Old Timers Club so a hungry child may receive food.

(continued next page.)

MIDWEST NEWSLETTER (continued)

When you remember the "HELP ELIMINATE LITTER, PLEASE" program and leave a camp ground or rock area in a better condition than it was when you arrived.

When you assist in our conservation program and help reclaim unused strip mine and quarry areas so they may be enjoyed by rockhounds as well as others.

When you enthusiastically PARTICIPATE in and ENJOY the projects of both your Federation and of your own club.

Most of our clubs are serving in other ways. There is just no end to the ways that we can serve and so help others. We do hope that every club will respond when the information blanks for the Merit Awards are mailed this winter. Then at the banquet next June we will all be amazed when the Awards for Meritorious Service are presented, at the many ways our clubs have found where they gave service.

As you make your plans for the coming year I wish to share with you a poem that came to me by way of Walt's desk:

Make no little plans,
They have no magic to stir men's blood
And probably themselves will not be realised.
Make big plans;
Aim high in hope and work,
Remembering that a noble, logical diagram
Once recorded will never die
But long after we are gone will be a living thing,
Asserting itself with ever growing insistency."

High school senior classes often have as their motto "Hitch your wagon to a star". This year let us fill our "wagon" with "Big Plans", then hitch it to a star, and if we truly work to carry out these plans and serve others we shall have as our reward a year full of pleasant memories to treasure forever.

The December newsletter advises that there are five new slide programs available to member clubs. We will probably be seeing one or more of these during the coming year.

There is also a letter of thanks from the recipient of the AFMS Scholarship Award. Prof. Richard M. Pearl quotes from a letter from Prof. Bruce F. Curtis, Chairman of the Dept. of Geological Sciences, University of Colorado:

"It is good to have your letter and check for Victor Lee. I hardly need say he was delighted with the award. In view of the manner in which the funds were gathered, I think it's especially appropriate that they go to a man who told me straight-forwardly that he feels he should be independently making his own way. It's surely heart-warming to find some students, at least, still possessed of this vanishing but sound philosophy".

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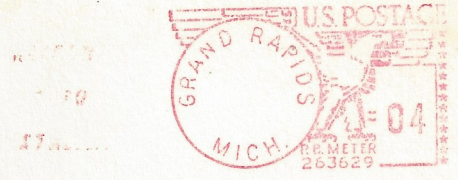
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