

Volume 9, no 10 ~ June 1967



The

GLACIAL

DRIFT



BOARD OF CONTROL

President	Mrs. Nellie Mead	GL 92016
Vice-President	Mr. Don Crabbs	4523586
Secretary	Mr. Casey Doornbos	9495069
Treasurer	Miss. Marion Jennings	4548629
Historian	Mrs. Davena Lett	CH 36588
Past President	Mr. Richard Damstra	4542217
Liaison Rep.	Dr. Robt. B. Smith	9494093
Editor	Mrs. Robt. B. Smith	9494093
Board Members	Miss. Marie Spielmaker	5385125
	Mr. James Van Vuren	5380826
	Mr. Joe Parish	LE 29135
	Mr. Henry Tchozeski	EM 11405

GLACIAL DRIFTER STAFF

Editor	Mrs. Robt. B. Smith
Publishers	Mr. & Mrs. James Van Vuren
	Mrs. Ruth Steele
	Miss. Marie Spielmaker
	Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Littlefield

\* - - - - -

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 second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 PM at the Grand Rapids Public Museum, Main Building. Summer meetings 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 September 1, through August 31 of the following year.

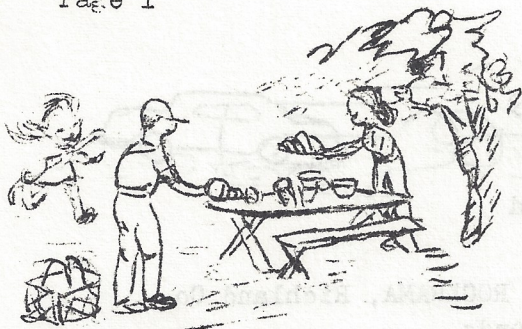
Advertising in the GLACIAL DRIFTER is at the rate of \$3.00 per issue, September through May only.

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

Permission to reprint article appearing in the GLACIAL DRIFTER IS HEREBY GRANTED, PROVIDING PROPER CREDIT IS GIVEN.

Member--National Bulletin Editors Association.





THE NEXT THREE MEETINGS  
WILL BE PICNICS !

The County Parks are all reserved.

Meet at 6 p.m., rain or shine. Bring your own supper.

Wed., June 14, at Fallasburg

Wed., July 12, at Caledonia

Wed., Aug. 9, at Townsend

Programs are being arranged -- the June 14 program will include some new, never-before-shown slides on club members and club events.

**IMPORTANT:** Bring a wrapped package containing a mineral or fossil specimen, so that you can join the fun in our game of ROCK-O....bring one package for every person, young or old, planning to participate.

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, Mineral Group members will meet at the Home of Mr. and Mrs. Horace H. Merrick, on Mona Lake, 523 Lakeshore Blvd., Muskegon Heights, for a potluck dinner at 2 p.m. Bring your own table service and a dish to pass...AND a gift-wrapped mineral specimen for a surprise exchange at the table. (In case of rain, meeting will be June 18.)

LAPIDARY GROUP will not meet again until fall....giving the dozen or so members meeting at Henry Tchozekki's last month a chance to try out a few of those carving tips, over the summer.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*Congratulations and best wishes to our new officers who take over in September. We're all especially pleased with Jim Van Uuren's acceptance of the vice-presidency. Your Board has promised to help in securing programs. Here's your chance to have your favorite type of program scheduled, and help us at the same time. So make your wishes known.*

*Our sincere thanks to Mrs. Littlefield and Mrs. Waldron for a beautifully organized potluck. I had a sample of most everything and it all tasted delicious. The slides of the Lizzadro museum made us all wish for another trip there, and Casey's jade pieces complemented a memorable program.*

*Those who stayed away from Grand Ledge, missed a splendid field trip, on a perfect day. Many thanks to Mary Jane, and congratulations to the Lepidodendrum finders. You can't say the rest of us didn't try!*

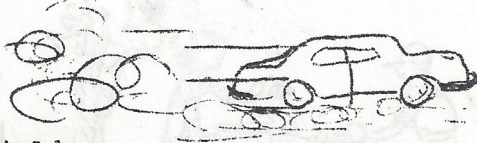
*The field trip to Sylvania on the 3rd and 4th should be fun, too, and there's lots to find, as we know from the many trilobites owned by a great many of our members.*

*And to all of you who may miss some of the summer park meetings while taking trips, "Happy hunting".*

*Keller & Mead*



IN CASE YOU'RE GOING SOMEWHERE ? ---



June 3 & 4, State Line Gem & Mineral Soc. annual ROCK SWAP at Frontier City near Onstead, Mich. (following our Sylvania Field Trip June 3).

June 17 & 18, Richland Lithic & Lapidary Soc. ROCKRAMA, Richland Co. Fairground, Mansfield, Ohio; camping on grounds.

June 24 & 25, Miami Valley Mineral & Gem Club -- Swap, Trade, Sell, Picnic & Auction...No charge, but bring specimen for Silent Auction and one for participation prize. Lunch served on grounds. At Headley Park, 6 mi. west of Springfield, Ohio on Rt. 440 (1/4 mi. no. of Donnelsville).

June 29 - July 2, NATIONAL GEM & MINERAL SHOW, Washington, D.C.---the result of 4 years' planning by the National and Eastern Federations.

July 6, 7, 8, & 9, Muskegon Co. Rock & Mineral Assoc., SEAWAY FESTIVAL ROCK & GEM SHOW, L.C. Walker Sports Arena, Muskegon.

July 8 & 9, Western Maine Gem & Mineral Exhibition, Rumford Center, Maine.

July 15 & 16, Livermore Falls (Maine) Gem and Mineral Show.

July 27-30, "OUR WORLD OF STONES", Illowa Gem & Mineral Soc., in connection with Midwest Federation Convention "167", Rock Island, Ill.

Aug. 3-6, "Thunderegg Days", community celebration, Nyssa, Ore.

Aug. 15, Local ROCK SWAP at Douglas Walker Park, Byron Center (one mile west of U.S. 131 on 84th St.), sponsored by Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club, starting at 7:30 p.m. Bring swap material and spend the evening.

Sept. 16 & 17, Lake Erie Gem & Geological Soc. Rock Swap & Display, Lorain Co. Fairgrounds, Wellington, Ohio.

WHEREVER YOU GO --- WEAR YOUR G.R.M.S. SHOULDER PATCH !

I'm thankful I'm a member  
Of that nature loving band  
That explores the mountain fastness  
And seeks the secrets of the land.  
We have no need for any pills  
Or use for LSD  
To shed the scales from off our eyes  
And let the soul go free!  
We do not need the city crowds,  
We dare to be alone.  
We see glory in a sunset,  
And beauty in a stone.

(-- "Achates", Austin, Minn.)



## FIELD TRIP SUCCESSFUL --- MORE PLANNED

The Grand Ledge field trip on May 7 attracted about thirty members who enjoyed good hunting and marvelous weather. The presence of Mary Jane Dockery, geologist from the G.R. Public Museum, was of great benefit in telling people what to look for, and in identifying what they found. Fossil flower seeds, fern leaves, lepidodendrum, coal with sulphur, etc. were turned up.....with Lloyd Heaton finding an outstanding branch piece of lepidodendrum (a Pennsylvanian spore-bearing tree), showing sharp leaf scar impressions. This field trip was enjoyed so much that the VanVurens and the Littlefields went back the next Saturday.

JUNE 3 and 4 --- a Field Trip to Sylvania, Ohio and Frontier City at Onsted, Mich. is planned. Meet in the parking lot at the Medusa Quarry at 9 a.m. Saturday morning.....find Chmn. Jim VanVuren and sign a liability waiver before you go into the quarry or do any hunting. Stay off the ledges in the quarry --- just a week or so ago a 17-year-old fell 36 feet from one of them. Trilobites are the main thing to look for here; also crinoids, brachiopods, etc. This trip is a joint one with the Heron Hills Lapidary Society of Ypsilanti.

In the afternoon we will leave for Frontier City, Onstead, with Jim DeZwaan in charge of this part of the trip. Here we can enjoy a rock swap, silent auction (bring a specimen to donate to this), and an evening's entertainment for those who can stay overnight (free campsites available). The program will continue for Sunday as well. No charge to any rock club member showing a membership card or dues receipt in a regular club --- be sure and wear your GRMS shoulder patch!



DIRECTIONS: Leave G.R. on I-96 all the way to Brighton. Take Highway 23 south (right) to Sylvania, Ohio; go through Sylvania to Sylvania Ave.; go west (right) on Sylvania Ave. approximately  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles to Centennial Rd. Turn north (right) on Centennial Rd. 1 mile to Brint Rd. Quarry is on northwest corner of Brint & Centennial; parking across road.

To get to Frontier City, get on Highway 223, go beyond Adrian, and watch for Onstead sign. Go through Onstead to M-50; left to Frontier City.

It is about 160 miles to Sylvania, so it will be possible to make the whole trip and all activities in one day, but it will be a long day.

Climbing over rocks and crags  
 Putting rocks in pockets and bags  
 Walking in mud till each foot weighs a ton  
 Getting wet and calling it fun  
 Hiking thru miles of brush and vines  
 To hunt the dumps of abandoned mines  
 Looking in holes in gravel pits  
 Cracking big rocks into little bits--  
 Doing all this may take some guts  
 But these are the reasons they call us nuts.

(--"Highgrader", Issaquah, Wash.)



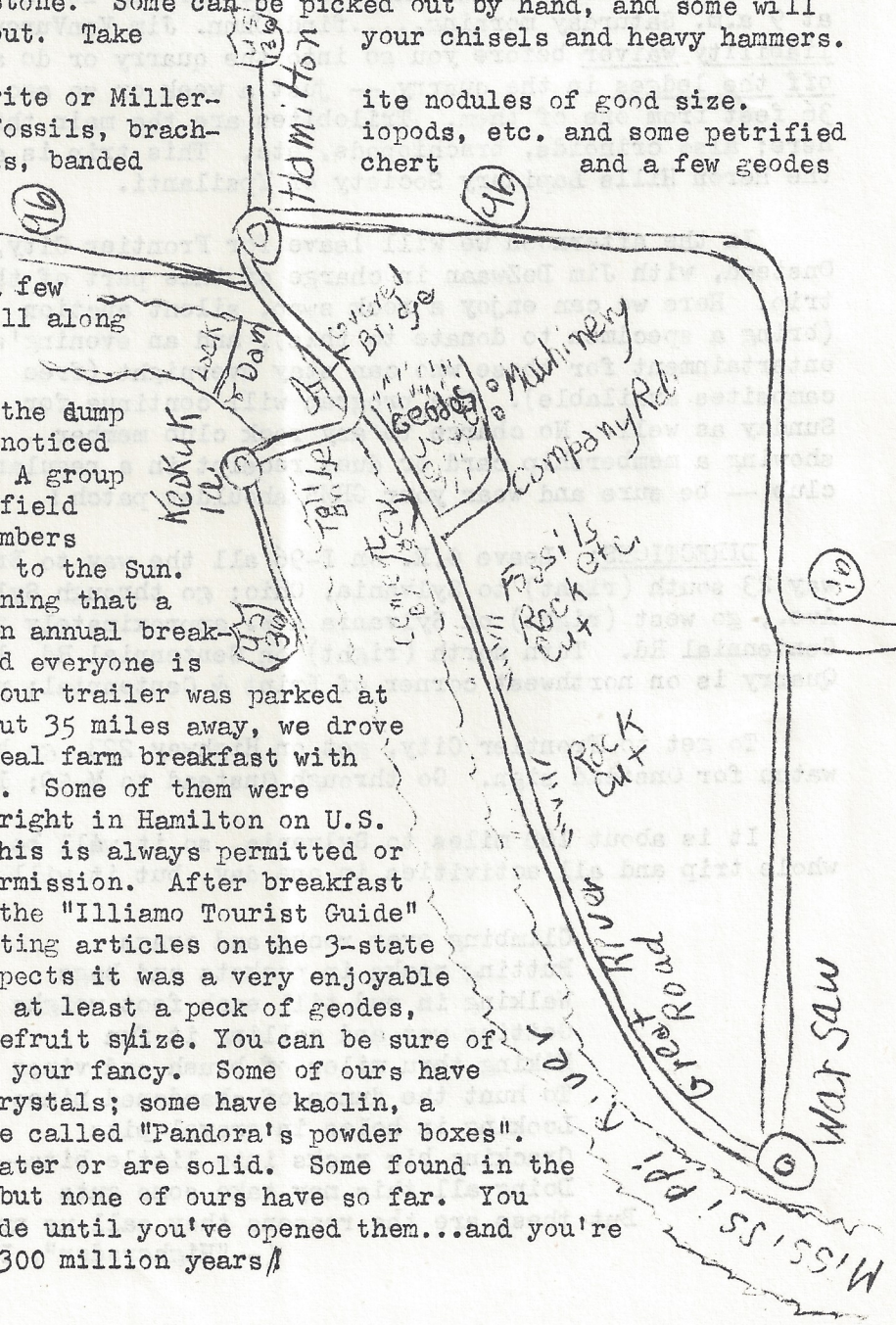
GEODE HUNTING IN ILLINOIS -- by Art Ferguson

Recently we had the good fortune to spend a weekend in Illinois, geode hunting. The results were much above our expectations. In order to locate a good spot, we contacted a local rockhound in Carthage, a Mr. Allen. He has a yard full of geodes, coral, and mineral specimens. He directed us to a site where the quarry operators dump the overburden and unwanted material. This is located at the S.W. edge of Hamilton, Ill. It is not far from a covered bridge and is also near the toll bridge to Keokuk, Ia. The accompanying map shows the location. Parking is allowed on the company road as long as you leave a lane open. The trucks bring in new material quite often, so the best hunting will be farthest from the main road, where they usually dump. The geodes are found loose, leached out, or locked solid in the pieces of limestone. Some can be picked out by hand, and some will have to be chiselled out. Take your chisels and heavy hammers.

We also found pyrite or Millerite nodules of good size. There were also some fossils, brachiopods, etc. and some petrified chert and a few geodes at a road cut about two miles S. of town along the Great River Road. We also found a few jaspers in the road fill along the shoulder.

ite nodules of good size. iopods, etc. and some petrified chert and a few geodes

While we were on the dump picking up geodes, we noticed several cars from Wis. A group from Madison was on a field trip. One of their members asked if we were going to the Sun. a.m. breakfast, explaining that a local family puts on an annual breakfast for rockhounds and everyone is welcome. Even though our trailer was parked at Argyle Lake St.Pk. about 35 miles away, we drove back Sun. to enjoy a real farm breakfast with the folks from Madison. Some of them were camped in a city park right in Hamilton on U.S. 136; I don't know if this is always permitted or if they had special permission. After breakfast we received copies of the "Illiano Tourist Guide" which has many interesting articles on the 3-state area. In all respects it was a very enjoyable trip. We brought back at least a peck of geodes, from golf ball to grapefruit size. You can be sure of finding enough to suit your fancy. Some of ours have pyrite flecks in the crystals; some have kaolin, a white powder--these are called "Pandora's powder boxes". Some are filled with water or are solid. Some found in the area have oil inside, but none of ours have so far. You never know what's inside until you've opened them...and you're the first to know, in 300 million years!





## GETTING TO KNOW YOU --

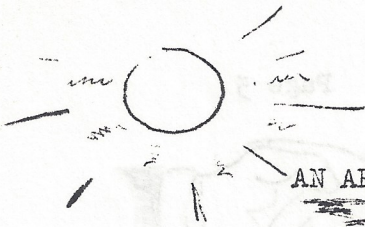


-- is a little hard to do when you're the Simons, and put on a wonderful club program, and then find the Simcoe's getting the thanks for it! Blame it on the Drifter Editor, who somehow lost her copy of the President's message, which had to be reconstructed at the last minute over the phone. We're sorry for such a mistake, and it's certainly never too late to report that the pictures and artifacts (and music and dancing) which the Ken Simons showed gave us all a most enjoyable evening.....Anne Gifford is now home, following surgery, and doing well.....Lloyd Heaton went into the hospital for surgery May 21; we all wish him a speedy recovery, too..  
 ...Mrs. Clyde Littlefield accidentally picked up someone's cake server at the May potluck supper. You can claim it by calling her at OR7-3386...  
 ...The Max Ross's will show some of those beautiful, color-keyed combination mineral and floral display groupings at the Muskegon Seaway Festival Rock Show in July; the lapidary GRMS Emblem will probably also be included..This will be an outstanding show, so we hope you all plan to attend.....The James VanVurens are planning an Iowa camping trip, and will officially represent us at the Midwest Federation annual meeting. If anyone else plans to attend, please call Nellie Mead and tell her about it.....At the time of our May meeting, Davena Lett was sitting in on a rock club meeting at the University of New Mexico, enjoying a program on some of the diggings out there. She received comment on her GRMS shoulder patch (it pays to wear it), and left them a copy of the Drifter. This particular group seemed to have a few problems--the secretary had forgotten to write the minutes, and by the end of the evening, the group had voted to join another club.....This month's happy winners include Joe Parish, who took home the pyrite and calcite specimen donated by the Potters of Lowell; B. Iteen, a fairly frequent winner, got the Oregon thunderegg given by Frank VanLoon; while Mrs. Littlefield gained the quartz specimen which Mr. Iteen had donated; Jim VanVuren and Dr. R.B. Smith won the marcasite nodules from Pickstown, S.Dak. which had originally been given by Lowell Palmer. Congratulations to all, and please don't forget to furnish a prize yourself, one of these days.

HAVE YOU HEARD about Casey Doornbos' outstanding jade strike in Wyoming? Anyone who missed seeing his jade specimens at the May meeting, missed a real treat. No, Casey hasn't been out luttung home green boulders. He and his wife simply went to an estate auction sale in our neighboring city of Wyoming and had the great good fortune of seeing a group of 21 jade carvings put up for sale by an auctioneer who did not know what they were. Casey bought one through bidding; was offered the others--and bought them--for just \$3. each. (He has already been offered \$500 for them, but isn't about to sell.) The carvings are detailed and exquisite, the little bowls, boxes and dishes are highly polished and in various colors; several are charming animals and birds. Everyone who sees these is a lovely jade green with envy, but we congratulate Casey on acquiring this gem of a collection, anyway.

IT SAYS HERE--For transporting materials from one part of the country to another, rockhounds are almost as good as glaciers.





AN ARIZONA VACATION -- as told by Marie Spielmaker

Marie Spielmaker and her 12-year-old niece recently enjoyed the kind of Arizona vacation that rockhounds dream about. In Phoenix they attended a meeting of the Maricopa Lapidary Society, and found that clubs everywhere have the same budget and procedural problems (although Maricopa's are on a somewhat larger scale, with \$5,000 in the treasury). Martin Koning, guide and prospector as well as field trip chairman for the club, took our two Michigan travellers out on a day's trip into the mountain wilderness, to a spot where they found thundereggs, carnelian, and desert roses. Mr. Koning also does outstanding custom jewelry work, and showed Marie many beautiful specimens. On another day, Marie went to a hill west of Wickenburg for quartz crystals. The first time she tried to find this spot, she got lost and ended up at the huge Bagdad Copper Mine.....which resulted in a long conversation with several of the mine personnel, a trip up to the quartz level, and being given specimens of copper crystals, chrysacolla, and molybdenum. When they did finally find the Wickenburg hill, it was so hot they used the piece of rug they had brought to kneel on, for shading their heads instead....and easily filled a shoe box with crystals out of one hole. A "thieves market" in Scottsdale yielded carved onyx fruit for \$1 or so; shopping in Nogales, across the border, turned up more bargains in carvings as well as in leather goods. Marie and her niece also went through the Petrified Forest; and found a rock shop near Deming that had lots of specimens, very reasonable prices, but a heavy dust storm at the time. All in all, a most successful trip -- rocks, plus that wonderful Arizona sunshine!

MEET THE NEW OFFICERS: The following officers were elected at the May meeting of the GRMS and will take over their official duties in September. President, Don Crabbs; Vice-President, Jim VanVuren; Secretary, Gordon Williams; Treasurer, Bob Teunis; Liaison, Dr. R.B. Smith, Editor, Elaine Smith; Historian, Davena Lett; Board of Control, Max and Harriet Ross, Ruth Steele, and Lis Littlefield.

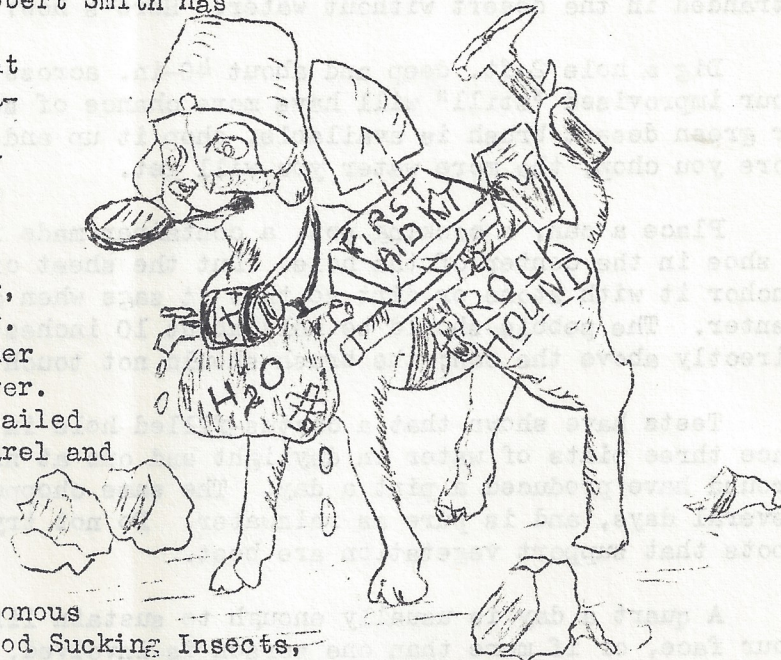
WOULD YOU LIKE TO enlarge your contacts with noted speakers, outstanding geologists, rock specialists & collectors, and learn about other club activities? Then rush to the phone, call Nellie Mead, and apply for the newly-created job of corresponding secretary-assistant to the program chairman. Jim is doing so many other jobs for the club that he really needs this help in looking for good program material. How about it?

IT'S GARAGE-CLEANING TIME, so NOW'S the time to set aside a special box of extras to bring to the Sept. meeting for the club Rock Table which will be started again in the fall. Put them in sacks marked where they're from and what they are, if you know. The rock table is a good place to get different material at a reasonable price (kids always get an especially good break), and your extra, unwanted material will help make enough for all. We will have a cabinet at the museum for storage, and Henry Tchozeski has volunteered to take over this project again.



## NEW SAFETY MANUAL RECEIVED

Liaison Officer Dr. Robert Smith has received a copy of the new "Safety Program" booklet put out by the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Soc. (with this charmingly safety conscious Rock Hound on the cover). The booklet is excellent--really too long to reproduce in the Drifter, but well worth your reading. We will have it at the summer meetings for you to look over. The 25 chapters include detailed information on Wearing Apparel and Items to carry on Field Trips; Safety Rules for Field Trips; Care of Car; The Junior Rockhound; Camping Hints; Snakes; Poisonous Lizards, Spiders, Bees, Blood Sucking Insects, Vermin, Centipedes, Scorpions, Ticks, Mites; Poison Ivy, Oak and Sumac; Heat Disorders; Injury to the Extremities (frost bite, blisters, bruises, sprains); Ticks; Blasting Caps and Dynamite, Cyanide Guns, etc.; Hazards of Entering Old Mines, Shafts, etc.; Lapidary Safety; Electric Hazards (lapidary and otherwise); Chemicals; Artificial Respiration; Shock and Fainting; Burns; Stretches, a "Carry", etc.; Fractures; Hemorrhage; Everybody Loves to Eat; Your Car Can Be a Life-Saver; and International Ground-Air Emergency Code.



The booklet is illustrated, and its information is very practical. We will try to secure additional copies for the use of club members, but we suspect every rock club member in the country will be wanting one of these. Congratulations to the Northwest Federation on a worthy project.

#### A GEOLOGICAL WALK

We followed the path a glacier took Over a meadow, down a brook,  
And saw its scratches on every stone. One great boulder, overgrown,  
Had come south from Saskatchewan. No telling where the rest had gone.

We sat for lunch on a windy plain On top of a terminal moraine,  
On top of a miscellaneous mass Of dirt and rocks subdued by grass,  
Dour travelers with no relation Except their means of transportation.

Out of a field of ice-borne stones We chose two smooth striated ones  
High on the side of a ravine, Tourists of the Pleistocene,  
And brought them home. Here they sill stop  
Till the next glacier picks them up.

(Betty Bridgman, Minneapolis, "Minnesota Geologist")



HERE'S A SURVIVAL TRICK YOU CAN TRY  
(and let us know how it turns out)

A 6x6-ft. plastic and a tin can could save your life if you were stranded in the desert without water. Here's how:

Dig a hole 2-ft. deep and about 40-in. across, in a wash if possible... your improvised "still" will have more chance of success there. If cactus or green desert brush is available, chop it up and put it into the hole. The more you chop, the more water you will get.

Place a can, a cooking pot, a container made from spare plastic, or even a shoe in the center of the hole. Put the sheet of plastic over the hole and anchor it with stone or dirt so that it sags when a pebble is placed in the center. The pebble should be held about 10 inches from the bottom of the hole; directly above the can; the brush should not touch the plastic.

Tests have shown that a cactus-filled hole in 90° temperature will produce three pints of water in daylight and one at night. Tests over bare ground have produced a pint a day. The same chopped up cactus will last for several days, and is pure as rainwater. Do not try this in a desert sand area; spots that support vegetation are best.

A quart a day is usually enough to sustain life. If you expect to wash your face, or if more than one person is involved, dig more holes.

BROKEN GLASS IS FOREVER!

Mort Neff, "Mr. Michigan Outdoors", is asking for a public campaign against throw-away bottles. He points out that broken glass never disappears. It never rots or rusts away like most cans. As it breaks into smaller pieces each tiny bit is needle-sharp, ready to enter a child's hand or feet, or a hunting dog's pad. Glass will not burn. It will not compress nor will it dissolve. To be harmless it must be buried underground--a costly procedure.

WRITE A LETTER...to your Congressman or Senator of course, for legislation can curb this menace. But more pointedly write to: J. Paul Austin, President, Coca-Cola Co., 515 Madison Ave., New York City; Donald Kendall, Pres., Pepsi, 500 Park Ave., New York City; W. E. Uzzell, Royal Crown Cola, 10th St. and 10th Ave., Columbus, Georgia. These men head companies that, unless policies change from your urging, will flood our outdoor world with broken glass through the hands of careless, conscience-less consumers.

We've waited too long for "somebody else" to do something about the throwaway glass beverage bottle. Water pollution is going to be licked in the years to come. Food and drug suppliers are warned against further delusions. Auto safety is a new watchword--all thanks to public pressure. Now let's talk about broken glass despoiling the nation. Let's YELL about it, loud and long. Write about it until suppliers see the light and return to the far less fragile re-usable bottle. (by Mort Neff, Mich.Outdoors Club Digest)



SORRY WE DIDN'T HAVE THESE IN TIME FOR THE POTLUCK !

ROCKY ROADS: Beat 2 eggs until thick. Add 1 cup of confectioner's sugar and let stand for at least 15 min., until sugar is completely dissolved. Cut up 18 marshmallows and 1 c. walnuts. Melt 4 squares of chocolate over hot water. Now, while the chocolate is really hot, pour it over the egg-sugar mix and stir in well. Then quickly stir in the marshmallows and nuts. Drop this mixture by teaspoons on waxed paper on a cookie sheet. NOW, THIS IS THE HARD PART. Leave it alone OVERNIGHT. The next morning you can peel them off the paper, and you have the ROCKY ROADS.

FOSSILS: Heat together  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup white sugar and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup corn syrup but don't boil, just dissolve well. Then add 1 cup peanut butter and 6 cups corn flakes. Spread in shallow pan, cut in squares. Don't squash down or you will lose you golden leaf "fossils". (Both recipes, "Calgary Lapidary Journal")

#### HOTTIES -- TWO POINTS OF VIEW:

The busy life we lead today  
Is often very taxing.  
With much concern, our doctors say  
We have to start relaxing.  
So if I seem to loaf a lot,  
Don't look with apprehension;  
I may seem lazy, but I'm not--  
I'm just avoiding tension.  
--Mesabi Media

Junior is collecting rocks;  
His mother fancies odd-shaped clocks;  
Sister puts her talents to  
Collecting any boy who's new;  
And, not to bow before these skills,  
I'm collecting unpaid bills.  
--Gem News

#### CERIUM OXIDE

Some 30 years ago in Switzerland, two technicians discovered the amazing glass polishing properties of Cerium Oxide. Soon it was being used extensively for the polishing of precision lenses in Europe.

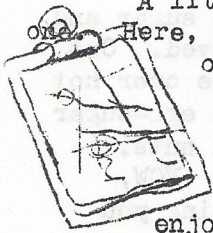
Then came World War II. Scientists in the optical industries in this country heard about Cerium Oxide...how it could polish faster and cleaner than any other known material. In a cloak and dagger operation, samples of Cerium Oxide were smuggled out of Switzerland. Tests confirmed the rumors... Cerium Oxide was it!

This was early in the '40's when Hitler held most of Europe and the Japanese were driving toward Australia. The urgency of our growing war effort was putting fantastic demands on the optical industry. Lenses for bombsights, range finders, periscopes and other military instruments were needed desperately. By war's end, Cerium Oxide had virtually revolutionized glass polishing practices in this country. Today it is widely used in the production of distortion-free TV tubes, fine quality mirrors and precision optical lenses. Rockhounds have found it to be an excellent polish for obsidian, opal, jade, and many other gemstones.

-- Michigan Gem News



NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO--VACATION TIPS LIKE THESE MIGHT HELP YOU

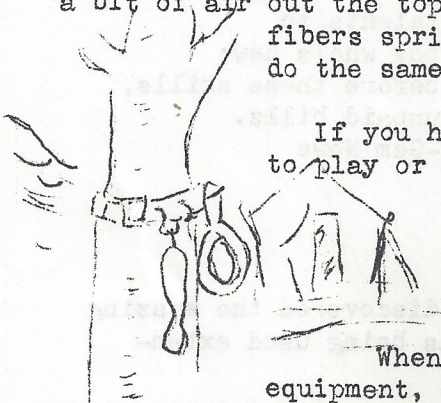


A little planning ahead can add to the fun of short trips or a long one. Here, culled from rock club bulletins such as Rockfinder, GeoLogic, and others, are a few interesting ideas.

To keep your marked map handy and easy to read, use a clip board, refolding the map to keep your position in view. Any traveller old enough to be responsible for reading a map will enjoy taking a turn as a navigator.

When starting to pack your auto for the trip, first take out your tire, jack and tire wrench. Proceed with your packing and when you are about finished, pack the three items in a spot that is accessible (but don't forget to put them in!) Saves a lot of roadside unpacking if you need to fix a tire along the way--especially with a station wagon.

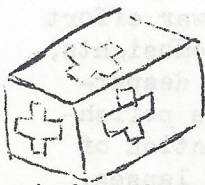
If you plan on doing a lot of hiking or walking, buy yourself a pair of trail shoes, making sure they are large enough to accommodate a pair of heavy wool sox--even in summer. Wool has a natural bounce, and will keep the bounce all day. When you step and your foot comes down on the wool sock, you force a bit of air out the top of the shoe, and when you lift your foot, the wool fibers spring back, drawing in fresh air. Cotton sox will not do the same.



If you have small children, you can provide a place for them to play or sleep by putting a card table on the back seat, using suitcases or rock boxes under the other end to keep it level. Take along a comforter to fold on the top for padding. The table can be handy for picnics along the way, too.

When you arrive at a campsite, and need a place to hang equipment, don't use a nail in the tree! Take along a man's old belt, with extra holes punched in it, and buckle it around a tree trunk. Peg-board hooks can be inserted in the holes, and makes a dandy place to hang gear.

A first aid kit is a must, with contents carefully planned to fit your family's needs, as well as standard first aid items. A few matches, safely wrapped in foil, and a small knife or scissors are useful additions. Common bicarbonate of soda is reliable and versatile. It's cheap...takes the itch out of bites and stings...soothes irritation caused by nettles, poison ivy, etc...relieves unburn and windburn, helps in any burn...limbers tired muscles (if you're lucky enough to have water to soak in)...sweetens ice chests as well as stomachs...removes odors of garlic and onions and fish...loosens bug spatter and traffic grime from windshields...and a box of soda could be invaluable in muffing out a fire at campsite or in your car.



Remember the Rockhounds' Code of Ethics!

Help Eliminate Litter -- leave every campsite or stopping place cleaner and better than when you found it!



# Midwest Federation's NEWSLETTER

Published monthly except July & August as a Service to Member Clubs.

Editor: Haydon Peterson, Route 5 - Box 229, Des Moines, Ia. 50317



## A TRIBUTE TO OUR EDITORS

by E. W. Courter, Vice President

Something tells me that each time Uncle Sam's handler of the mails makes his daily stop at the big metal box in front of our suburban El Rancho, he murmurs a few unsavory remarks about all people who are rockhounds. I say this because each day, in addition to the handful of routine stuff he has to sort out and deposit in our box, usually there are a half dozen or more mineral club bulletins to add to the pile. And these come from all corners of this great country of ours.

Frankly - even though the mail man may not like it - I am happy that I am privileged to receive them - some because they are interesting - some because they are uplifting - some because they are educational - and all because they are about people and things that are associated with our fascinating hobby.

Looking back over the past several years, I can see much improvement in many of our club bulletins and I think this indicates an improvement within our Societies themselves. Likely, part of this is due to the emphasis the Federation has placed upon the value of a good club bulletin. Again, some of it may be due to our annual bulletin contest. No matter what the reason - it is a healthy condition.

However, discussing the quality of our bulletins is not the purpose of this note. Rather I want to hand out a bouquet to the editors producing them, and I want to do this because of the way they are boosting the public good. Let me illustrate.

Recently, a crusade was started in the Detroit area. The editor of "The Rockpile", the official bulletin of the Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society of Dearborn, re-printed an item written by Mort Neff, an outdoorsman of TV fame in Michigan. The article was an appeal for help (continued page 2, column 1)

Issue No. 76 - June 1967

## THE CONVENTION

This years Midwest Federation Convention will be held on Thursday thru Sunday, July 27-28-29-30 at the Rock Island Armory in Rock Island, Illinois. The meetings will be held at the Blackhawk Hotel in Davenport, Iowa. The Convention is in conjunction with the show being presented by the Illowa Gem and Mineral Society.

The committee in charge of the show has been working many months to make this an outstanding event. Many fine programs have been scheduled for presentation and many impressive displays will be on view.

## A ROCKRAMA

On June 17-18... Saturday and Sunday... the Richland Lithic and Lapidary Society will present an official Rockrama in Mansfield, Ohio. Our Rockrama chairman, James Dugan has called to us that plans have been made by this club for an especially fine Rockrama. For the first time at a Rockrama a special section will be set aside for competitive displays. There will be a Cracker Barrel session, field trips, and many fine exhibits. Also camping will be permitted on the show grounds.

## THIS JUNE ISSUE

of the Newsletter will be the final one until September. The Midwest does not publish during the months of July and August. News and articles will be accepted however during the summer months for use in our fall issues and all are invited to send in material for use in the coming fall issues.



in halting the alarming increase in the amount of broken glass being strewn about our countryside by thoughtless users of the "no-deposit", "non-returnable" beer or soft drink bottle. The dangers - as well as the consequences - of th whole mess were discussed and all readers asked to do something about it.

Public-minded editors responded! Now as I leaf through my incoming bulletins, it is gratifying to note how our editors have picked up this item from their exchange bulletins, and how it is spreading like the measles from one bulletin to another. Although the results from such promotion are hard to calculate, I am sure it has - and will - do good, just as similar promotion has aided the Scholarship Fund, the AFMS H.E.L.P. campaign, and others.

This is but one isolated case. There are many similar opportunities for our editors to do public good - and most of them are quick to do it too - and as each constructive word is written, the public image of our hobby gleams a bit more brightly.

#### DO WE HAVE A CONSERVATION CONSCIENCE?

(The following article was sent to us by our Legislation and Conservation Committee Chairman, Calvin George. It is from the Wisconsin Conservation Bulletin and Calvin received permission from the Wisconsin Information and Education Division to reprint it.)

History tells us that civilizations have come and gone, and were buried by the very fact that they were lacking in a land ethic.

"Land ethic" is a term used by Aldo Leopold to mean an active conscience which will indicate what is right and wrong with the way we use our land.

We, as Americans, historically have lacked a land ethic, and in recent times have made very limited progress in achieving one.

Our conscience is at work daily facing questions which in many cases can be answered by man-made law. Most of us abide by laws. If we do not have laws to guide our land uses, then we must have something better - a land ethic.

The following example will show the lack of a land ethic. John Doe owns 120 acres of land. He is a regular church member, belongs to service organizations, has pretty good buildings, and seems to be a friend to everyone. From the viewpoint of most people, he is moderately successful and is respected.

Mr. Doe should not be gauged by these criteria alone. This landowner is not entirely the friend of society that he appears to be.

This man is allowing his cows to trample the stream bank, He burns his marsh and woods each year because his father did and his father before him. He is planting corn and other crops on slopes, which are too steep for cultivation - land which should be in permanent grass. His woodland is unproductive because he allows livestock to graze - soil is compacted and future tree crops are destroyed. In general, John Doe is misusing his land to a great degree.

If people had a land ethic, they would consider Mr. Doe a public disgrace. The fact is that most people do not have a land ethic, landowners and nonlandowners alike.

The reason most people are lacking in a land ethic is because it has not been considered a part of our way of life. We have failed to recognize that we are a part of the land and not just owners of it. A landowner by virtue of his conscience should leave his land in as good condition as when he became its temporary steward, or preferably better.

The only way we, as Americans, and more specifically, people of Wisconsin, can get a conservation conscience is to have a land ethic instilled in us from kindergarten through college. In schools it should be integrated with other subjects. Service organizations must begin devoting equal time to people and land, for in improving the land, they can make a long-lasting contribution to society. A land ethic must be part of our religious philosophy, for certainly God intended for us to be good stewards of that He has created.

An important step in developing a land ethic is recognizing that John Doe and his buildings will pass away, but if the land and other resources go with him, how long can our society and standard of living endure?

Is your conservation conscience active, Mr. Landowner?

#### SCHOLARSHIP

Mr. Paul Desautels in conjunction with the University of Georgia, Dept. of Geology, has named Robert Bigham Cook, Jr. to receive the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, scholarship for 1967.

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to the Lakeland Gem Club of Wisconsin for reaching the 200% goal. Congratulations also to the Kenosha Gem and Mineral Society of Wisconsin, the Austin Gem and Mineral Society of Minnesota and the Firelands Geological Club, Inc. of Ohio for reaching their 100% goal.

\*\*\*\*\*

May was designated as Scholarship Month to call attention to the member clubs that only \$2000 was needed to bring the MWF up to a 100% Federation. Since the letter was sent out calling attention to this fact some contributions have been coming in and it is hoped that enough more response from member clubs will be received by June 15th so that our Midwest Federation may become the second federation to receive its 100% Federation Plaque at the American Federation-Eastern Federation combination meeting in Washington, D.C. the last weekend in June.

Attention is called to the fact that each club in the Federation does not have to be a 100% club for the MWF to become a 100% Federation... only an amount of \$1.00 for each member of the MWF is required. Thus, any amount that you can send will help us toward our goal. Thanks!

Kate Steinbrenner, Chm.

#### SPRING MEETING

of the MWF was held in Kansas City, Kans., on Saturday, April 22 at the Holiday Inn in KCK, in conjunction with the Greater Kansas City Rock and Mineral show. Minutes of this meeting will soon be mailed to all member clubs.