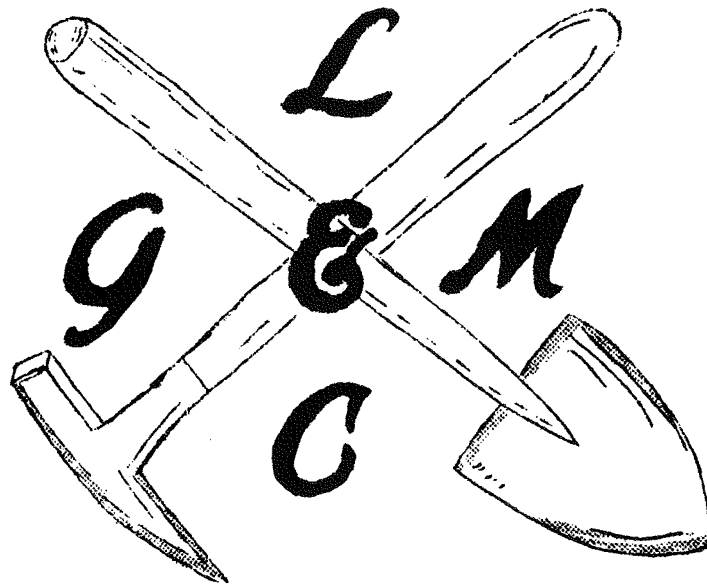


May 1964

THE PICK & SHOVEL



MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE

LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

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Affiliated with:

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



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FIELD TRIP

It is a gloomy Monday

That I cannot see

For my thoughts are for Sunday

A Field Trip waiting for me.

Attending will be guests of renown

Causing me to be in a whirl

Perplexing my brow in a frown

Inside the grey antter is a whirl.

Minerals, fossils, and bones they are seeking

But do they like fried chicken and pie,

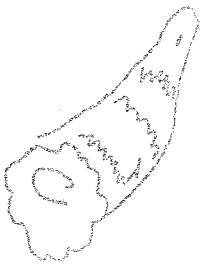
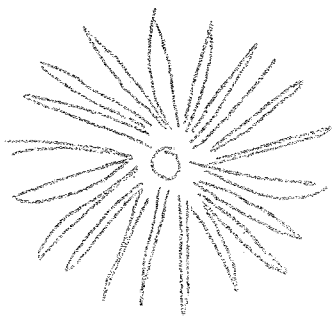
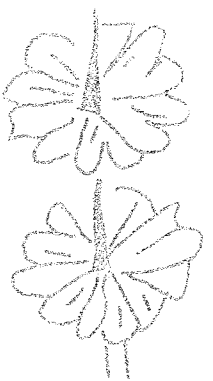
My ears, wanting to hear all

The words they are speaking,

Food, facts, fossils,

All I can say happy am I.

-Dorothy Engelhart



THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

An enthusiastic group was gathered at the Drew Gravel Pits, Fullerton, Nebraska on May 3rd for our first club field trip of the year. The day turned out to be a perfect rock hunting day and most of the members went home with material, memories and some slightly touchy sunburns. Those who went on the trip will lay claim to the fact that Nebraska does have gem material for the lapidarist and fossils for our paleontologists. The mineral collector was not left out as mud balls at the pit were discovered to have celestite crystals in them.

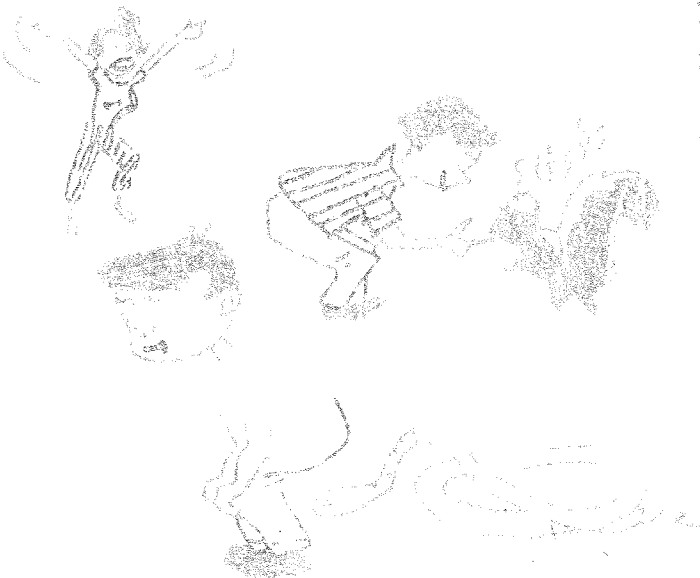


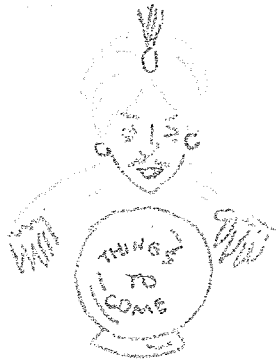
As we enter into another year of field trips and collecting we should take time to review our safety habits and field trip manners. The Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club has a set of safety rules for our members to abide by but perhaps the best single safety rule is to think safety. We should pay attention to these rules, apply it to ourselves and make suggestions to others when we see them doing something dangerous.

Two more field trips have been scheduled and more trips are in the process of being planned. The next field trip will be to Holmesville, Nebraska and is being opened for the first time to a club field trip. Many of our members have been in this quarry to collect and have returned with nice mineral specimens. Read your Things to Come Page thoroughly before making this trip. Take a few minutes to check your equipment as without it good specimens will be for the other man who remembered.

Our show plans are progressing nicely. I'm sure you members are beginning to work on your displays. I find a great deal can be learned from a show such as ours. The opportunity to work with your fellow members in the same hobby as your own and the chance to view the others work can be most rewarding. Be willing to sign on committee and be eager to do your part in THIS --YOUR SHOW.

Thomas Simmons
President





SATURDAY - MAY 23, 1964

Regular meeting - 7:30 p.m.

Program - "How to recognize structures of folds and faults" is the topic our speaker has chosen for the evening program. Roger Pabian will show slides of the San Pete Valley, Sevier Valley and High Plateaus located in central Utah.

Study - Grown Crystals. (See following page for details)

Roberts Dairy Party Room
211 South 20th Street

* * *

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

Charles Reece III

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Krejci

Krista & Mrs. Johason

Thomas Simmons

* * *

FIELD TRIP #2

May 24 --Holmesville, Nebr. -- Haith Quarry -- Pit open at 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. -- Meet at the quarry -- You will need to bring your lunch, drinking water and suntan lotion if day is bright. Sledges, wedges and pry bars. Your rock hammer, boxes and packing for fragile specimens. Look for signs marked "ROCK HUNT". First sign will be at the second school house and by the Holmesville sign.

FIELD TRIP #3

June 7 -- Marysville, Kansas -- Pink Gypson nodules -- Evelyn Trump Hostess -- Necessary to walk $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 mile in. -- Pry bars, rock hammers. -- Bring food, water and suntan lotion. Copperheads have been reported in this area. Dress and act accordingly -- \$1.00 charge a bushel for specimens taken. To find collecting grounds go south on #77 almost to Marysville, will run into #36 junction but don't turn right, turn LEFT towards Marysville. It will be marked with a "ROCK HUNT" sign. Short distance so keep alert, rest road marked with signs.

MINERAL OF THE MONTH
STUDY AID FEATURE

The Study Aid Feature for the month of May will be turned over to our junior members crystal growing display.

Since the March issue of the Pick and Shovel was printed many have decided to try and grow crystals. So if some grownup pebble pup just couldn't resist (and who could) the material we are inviting them to bring their crystals to the meeting also.

The mineral of this month is:

"CRYSTAL GROWING"

For reference you will be able to find the information in the March Bulletin under Pebble Pup's Corner.

* * *



USED MOTORS

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CABOCHONS

ROUGH CUTTING MATERIAL

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* * *

The MWF has responded very well to the request for funds to help start and support the AFMS Scholarship Fund. Many clubs in the Midwest have sent in donations from their treasury and several individuals have also contributed. The Betty Crocker Coupon Plan is beginning to show very active results. This plan is gaining momentum and a flood of coupons is beginning to be converted to financial aid to the Scholarship Fund. We want to encourage the clubs and their individual members to continue their publicity about the collection of coupons. As of February 21 the AFMS Scholarship Fund had reached a total of \$3,504.73. The fund is off to a good start but to reach the \$50,000 goal we must continue to publicize it!

The Lincoln Gem and Mineral Scholarship Chairman, Helena Baegl reports she sent in 996 General Mills coupons for the scholarship fund. This is a real nice start for our club. How about more?

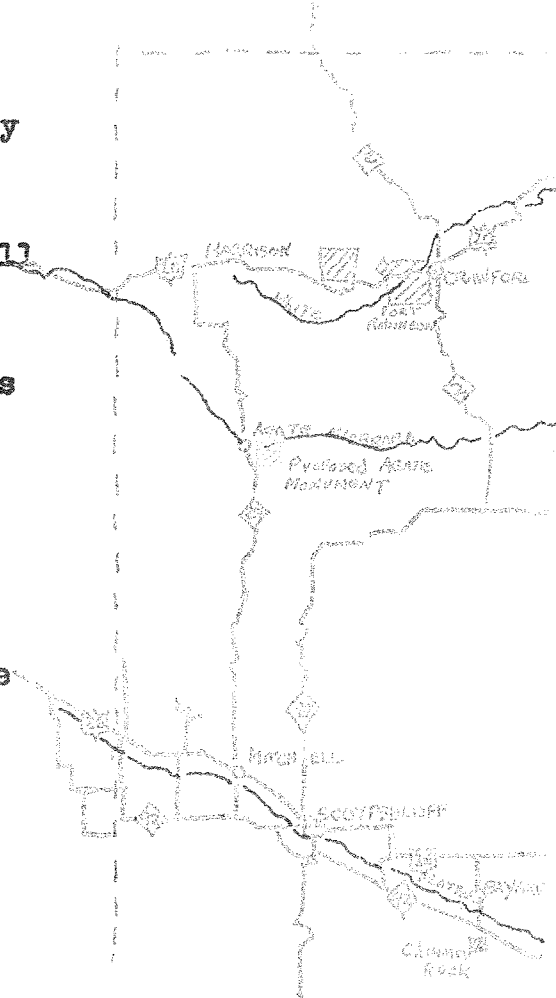
It is with great interest that we in Nebraska who are rockhounds, and particularly those of us who collect and study fossils, watch for and listen to news concerning the possibility of "Agate Fossil Beds National Monument" becoming a reality. There is a bill pending in Congress now and many groups are eagerly hopeful of its approval by summer.

The area which they hope to designate as a National Monument is located in Western Nebraska, Sioux County, renowned for its rich concentrations of the fossil remains of mammals and consists of approximately 3,150 acres. It includes University Hill and Carnegie Hill excavations, Devil's Corkscrew area, the Agate Springs Ranch (pioneer headquarters for scientific expeditions and home of the Cook family on whose ranch most of the fossil deposits are located.)

The fossils are large mammals of the Miocene period which were prevalent upon our Nebraska grasslands 8 to 20 million years ago. They are primarily in a three-foot layer that runs through the middle of the two hills. It is one of the richest mother-lodes of prehistoric animal bones known to science. Among the most promising fossils found are the Stenomylus, a little camel; the Diceratherium, a small two-horned rhinoceros; Dinohyus, or Terrible Pig; Moropus, not like any one animal; Palaeocaster, little beavers similar to the prairie dog of today; and beaver burrows called Daimonelices, casts of which are found and are responsible for the name "Devil's Corkscrews".

Many other forms of prehistoric life are evident at this site and it has been estimated that about 75% of the fossil-bearing portions of these hills are undisturbed. One slab quarried here with an area of 44 square feet, contained 4,300 separate bones and skulls.

This area has been the scene of scientific research since 1891, when the landowner, the late Captain James H. Cook, made it available to scientists from museums and universities. Since then the Agate Springs Ranch has been a headquarters for paleontologists from all over the United States. Fossils taken from here are on display all over the world.



AGATE FOSSIL BEDS
(continued)

The actual designs and plans for the project would be developed by the National Park Service personnel but many interested groups are trying to contribute helpful aid by various means.

Now being incorporated is the Agate Fossil Beds National Monument Association to help promote the legislation and promote the monument when and if it is established.

At the same time the Agate Springs Foundation, another non-profit corporation, is being formed to receive substantial grants of private funds and try to secure grants to aid in building a residential facility for scholars doing field work and a small auditorium where lectures and slide presentations may be made for school groups and other visitors.

Plans for development of the area include in-place exhibits of exposed fossils, interpretive tours of the vicinity, museum exhibition of reconstructed skeletons and auxiliary library and reference material as well as laboratory facilities to preserve the site as a research center.

The University of Nebraska has maintained a very active interest in this area since before the turn of the century. In fact, the late Professor E. H. Barbour with a group of students first visited the fossil hills in 1891. In 1905, with four students, Barbour opened a quarry which came to be known as University Hill. (Scientists from Carnegie Museum at Pittsburgh had earlier opened quarries at Carnegie Hill.) The University Museum, Morrill Hall, contains many fine and complete examples of the collections from this area.

Of more recent interest has been the work of the senior students of architecture. They had a class assignment calling for plans and designs for the proposed National Monument. Their efforts were shown and explained to members of the National Park Service, scientists and other interested persons and these plans were judged for excellence. It is possible that some of the student ideas might be incorporated into the facilities if the bill is passed by Congress.

The establishment of such a National Monument would be of great significance to the visitor who would receive a ready understanding of the meaning and life of the geologic past shown and of the important contributions made here by early pioneers of scientific research.

-Phyllis Parks

* * *

Announcing a new member to our group. Be sure and put his name in your Who's Who.

IRVIN WEBER
6910 Adams
466 2214

* * *

- Hey, Where Pete Going?

- Said He Heard Something
New Was In!

- Yeh! I Know, but
Where's he going?

- Said, It Was Deluxe!

- Yeh! I Know, but Where's he going?



- Said He Was Going To Beat
The Bird To The Worm!

- What Bird? Where?

- No Bird, Just Deluxe
Opal Dublets!

- Yeh! Deluxe Huh!

- The finest, with

Matched Pairs.

- Where? Where?

- Didn't I say? Why



From the iridescent red jasper of Texas to the rich green malachite of South Africa to the brilliant blue lapis lazuli of Afghanistan, Paul A. Broste, of Parshall, North Dakota, has easily the most colorful living room on record.

Actually, it's no longer a living room at all. It's a museum for the bulk of a collection of some 10,000 rocks -- assembled from every corner of the world during the past 22 years.

Paul Broste, 76 is a "ROCKHOUND".

Since 1941 Broste has accumulated, on trips through the United States and from dealers around the world, a hoard of odd-shaped, varicolored rocks. They now threaten to crowd him out of his small, five room farm home.

The collection is valued at \$250,000 and considered to be potentially priceless if ever it can be catalogued and displayed in a formal museum. The Parshall Junior Chamber of Commerce has this in mind.

In November 1963 a fund drive began aimed at raising the local share (\$30,000) of a stone-walled, \$60,000 "Paul A. Broste Rock Museum". This is to be erected this summer in Parshall, North Dakota. Broste will provide the other \$30,000. He will act as curator of the museum and live in the quarters provided. "I was going to build a new house, anyway," said the retired Parshall farmer. "This is even better."

The museum will be built of native granite, with a 60 by 60 foot display room inside. Destined to be a major attraction is a 16 by 16 foot "Room of Mirrors" -- four wall-sized mirrors surrounding a surrealist maze of spiraling pieces of steel tubing that Broste built in his machine shop last summer. Small wooden stands attached to the tubing will hold 250 startlingly attractive rock "spheres" -- pieces of rock ground into perfectly rounded shapes and sanded and polished to a high sheen. The spheres, 700 in all, vary from marble to bowling-ball size and dominate the Broste collection.

A native of Pekin, North Dakota, Broste as a child always had his pockets so full of rocks his mother complained. Not until 1941 did he set up shop in his basement and seriously become a rockhound. It's been a losing battle with space for them ever since.

Dorothy Sincebaugh

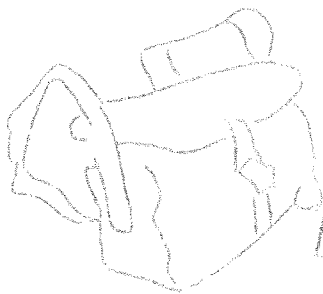


In the February issue you were given an article on how to make jewelry from colored beans. In the March issue an article was published for you on how to grow crystals. It was stated the May meeting would be used for you to show your efforts to the adult members of your club. Many adults became interested in the growing of crystals and have been asked to bring theirs to show.

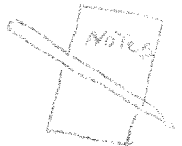
There will be display cases for you to put your crystals and jewelry in. Labels are a must. The name of the chemical used, food coloring and your name should be on this label. Any additional information that you wish to display along side your specimen may be used if neatly printed.

The bulletin staff hopes that you have enjoyed working these projects and we will include more articles for your enjoyment in later issues.

* * *



130



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What is my part in this many-sided, fascinating hobby of ours? After meeting a man last night who collects Mason fruit jars, I took stock of myself and I'm sure that I get much more out of my hobby of being a rockhound (not the actual collecting but the fringe benefits.)

These include a gorgeous sunset after a day in the field, the rainstorm or a rainbow. When I think I'm all alone and around the bend comes another collector, then the Gab Session that follows always quickly makes the stranger of a moment ago, a friend.

Social contacts are one part of the many objectives of a social or hobby group. To be able to hunt, swap, talk or lie; to hold group meetings and field trips are most satisfying. The institution of the field rock hunting trip in the great outdoors is a priceless adjunct to our well-enriched hobby, accompanied by the good fellowship which seems to thrive with added zeal over a campfire with a can of beans.

I've just decided that one doesn't need to know a thing about mineralogy to be a rockhound, a silly statement but it is true. The finding of the source or location of a certain mineral is an adventure, a thrill never to be forgotten. A desire to collect beauty, variety and rarity are all that's needed. The Calcite Group alone are numbered in the 3,000's and each of these 3,000 forms are of boundless beauty. My point is that you can possess all of this without a degree.

Rockhounds, I've found, are always curious, always wanting to know more; so of course this leads you to Geology. After the feast of beauty my eyes beheld, with my curiosity I ran head first into a wall of complete ignorance, so I must attack this problem and my waging war of study continues to find me grinding away at books. I'm sure with all the winter nights of my lifetime I'll never get done. What I've planned so far will take 100 years.

Of course, in the meantime the art of tumbling, lapidary, silver-smithing, sphere making and the polishing of slabs become enticing. Then beware of the next lovely trap -- faceting those lovely crystals that are sitting on the shelf.

Well Field Trips are here again. Yes it is truly a never-ceasing fascination --ROCKHOOUNDING.

Dorothy Engelhart

ROCKY NUGGETS

On our recent field trip to Fullerton, Nebraska Jim Parks found some beautiful celestite crystals in mud balls, a nice tooth and agatized wood. Linda Parks, although only three months old, made her debut to the rock hobby.

Walter Moser brought his grand-daughters to the field trip. He found some nice material but one piece of wood must have been outstanding. I missed seeing it but I heard the talk, "Did you see what Mr. Moser found?" No, I didn't but I sure wish I had.

Claude and Rosalie found an agate with dendrites the size of a tea cup, some other unusual dendritic agate and a nice fortification agate. I'll be waiting to see what happens when she cuts that unusual piece.

Howard Taylor and his family found some lovely agates similar to the Sweetwater agates. They were quite large and I know something nice will be made out of that.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Baugher brought their daughter on the trip. I understand she had never been on a field trip. I wonder what stage of Rock Pox one young lady is in.

Mr. and Mrs. Clary went rock hunting with friends, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schafer, to Niabrara. Beautiful fossil wood was found and of the nicest quality. The material was divided in half and if the Schafers half is as beautiful as Claude's half was -- WOW.

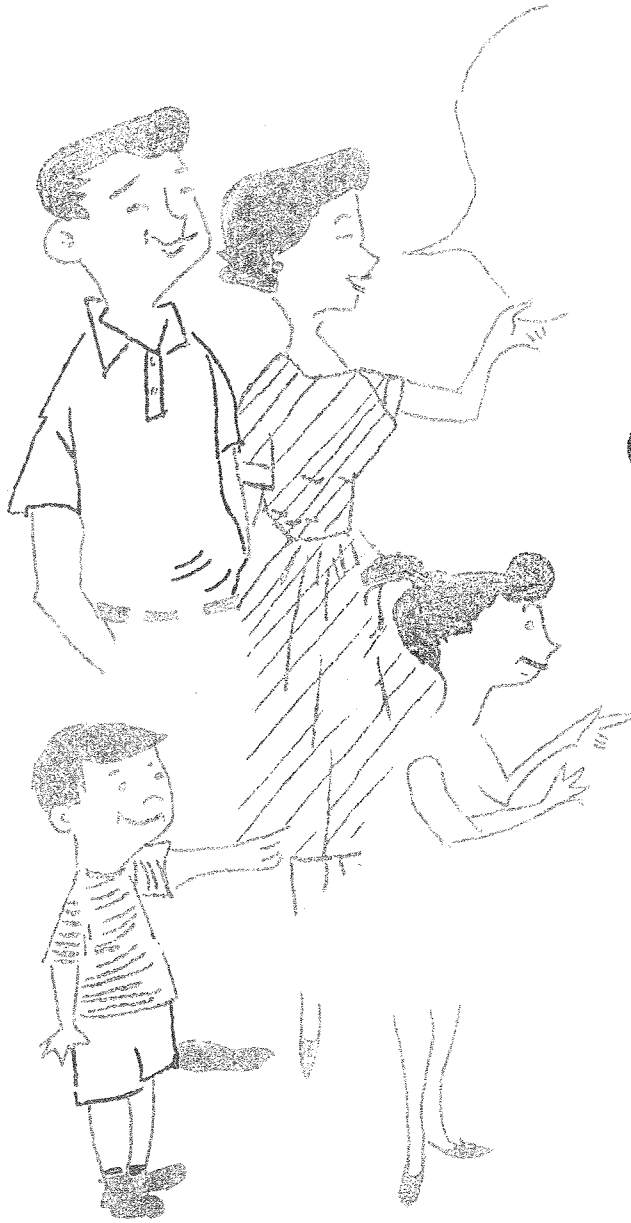
The Frank Rules and Glen Lymans made the weekend a nice outing for their family. They camped at the Morman State Park over night, fished and then rock hunted the next day.

Thomas Simmons had a set of walkie talkies out in the field for a try out. They worked to perfection for getting in touch with people who are not with in seeing distance of you. I think that they would be a good piece of equipment to have with you when on field trips.

I wish to say thank everyone who helped collect fossil bones at the Fullerton trip. Without your help I would not had the nice assortment.

While thanks are in order here, the Lincoln Gem and Mineral wishes to say Thank you to Mr. Cecil Drew, Fullerton, Nebraska; owner of the gravel pits we hunted in, for letting us come on his property. We enjoyed his visiting guests, his rocks and fossils.

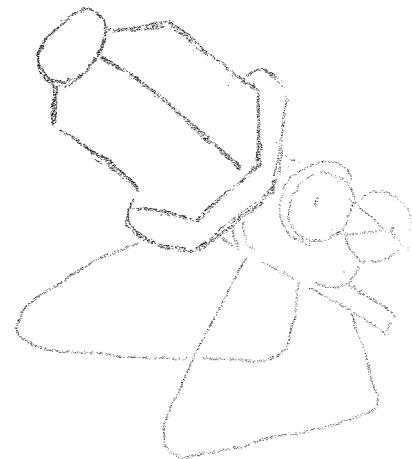
Dorothy Engelhart



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LETTER - A - MONTH
by June Culp Zeitner

LET'S HAVE MORE ROCKRAMAS!

When a club which was getting ready to put on a big show was asked to make it a Rockrama they declined. When asked why, I got an assortment of reasons beginning with, "We make enough money this way and with a Rockrama we'd have to share it with the Federation," and ending with "We've always done it this way."

Why sponsor a Rockrama? What are the advantages to your club?, to other hobbyists?, to the Federation if you make a local show a Rockrama?

First, people just naturally expect a Rockrama to be a little bigger and better, therefore more people attend the show. The Midwest Federation lends its prestige and know-how, helps with the advertising, plans special events such as meetings or Cracker Barrel sessions.

Successful well-attended Rockramas help the Public Image of the hobby. People cannot help being impressed by the distances traveled, the helpfulness of clubs from away, the enthusiasm of new rock hobbyists to whom a Rockrama is a very special event.

Some clubs which have put on their own show for many years get in a rut, somehow one begins to look like another. A Rockrama, by its very nature, injects a new challenge, a new reason to add the extra frills often talked of, but never undertaken.

It helps the host clubs prestige to put on a Rockrama, in fact it is the best training ground for Federation shows. The hardworking competent local officers and workers who sponsor a Rockrama come to the attention of Federation Officers in this way. Those who are willing and able to produce a Rockrama are the kind of new leaders we need to keep discovering.

The morale of a club which sponsors a Rockrama should be high. They are doing something worthwhile, educational, and unselfish. They are serving the Federation to which they belong and thereby the hobby as a whole.

Now, as to the money angle. Why should your club share the money of its show with the Federation? The Federation, after all, only exists to help your club and the other clubs. Your club and the Federation are both non-profit organizations. Any money which goes to the Federation only helps enable it to serve you more efficiently. Extra money from a local show may be the source of argument and bickering and may never actually achieve much good. Extra money in the Federation treasury is spent carefully for the good of the Midwest as a whole by careful administrators who have put years of selfless work for a hobby in which they are well trained and to which they are

LET'S HAVE MORE ROCKRAMAS!
(continued)

devoted. The Federation is what the member clubs make it. If your club helps the Federation by sponsoring these important sub-regional shows called Rockramas you can be assured your clubs benefits will be greater than you dream.

Do I hear some volunteers for Rockramas for next year? You and I need them. The Federation needs them! The hobby needs them!

Who's next?

June Culp Zeitner

* * *

EMERALD

Emerald, the gem dedicated by the Ancients to the Goddess Venus, seems always to have been the gem of the loveliest women. Napoleon's only gift of jewels to Josephine were emeralds and pearls. Catherine the Great's collection of emeralds and amethysts were sold in 1906 for \$770,000.

The emerald is the birthstone for May and many superstitions surround it. It was of Hope and Faith and was thought to cure epilepsy. Caesar was a collector of emeralds because of this last superstition. In early times, the stone was held in high esteem as a cure for troubles of the eye.

Emeralds in jewelry are a mystery as to their original source. That they came from Cleopatra mines of Ancient Egypt, rediscovered in the 18th century, now seems most probable.

Emeralds, of the finest quality are of velvet green grass color. It is the green variety of the mineral, beryl. The chemical composition of beryl is aluminum and beryllium, the color of the emerald is caused by chromic oxide. Only one percent of the material found is of fine gem quality. Flawless stones are almost unknown.

The Emerald is a hard stone, but strangely enough it fractures easily as it lacks toughness, and should, therefore, be given unusual care in wearing and handling. They should never be placed loose in a jewelcase with other jewelry as these other stones might damage them.

Velma Bloyd