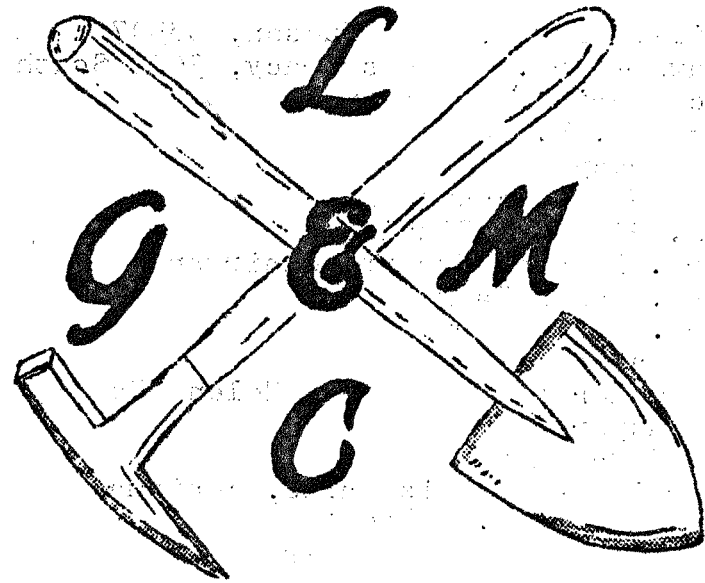


Jan 1969

THE PICK & SHOVEL



MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE

LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

JAN 1969

LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.
2217 W. 13TH ST.
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68502

Official Publication of

THE LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC., LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

The purpose of the corporation shall be to study, promote an interest in, and disseminate knowledge of lapidary and various Earth Sciences, including but not necessarily limited to geology, paleontology and mineralogy. It shall be a particular purpose of the corporation to provide education in these fields to its members and the general public, particularly youth and student groups.

1969 ELECTED OFFICERS

President - G. W. (Mac) McKinney, 6720 Ballard, 68507	432-3707
1st Vice Pres. - Louise Baugher, 7415 Englewood Dr., 68510	488-4274
2nd Vice Pres. - George E. McGinnis, 3444 Somerset Ave., 68504	466-7987
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Treasurer - Ralph Ulrich, 3909 Pace Blvd., 68502	423-0419
Board Member - Frank Rule, 6333 Kearney Ave., 68507	466-0453
Board Member - Tod Ashmun, 2640 Sewell, 68502	423-8496

APPOINTED OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN

Liaison - Mrs. Lillie Lewis, 6225 Judson, 68507	466-7289
Historian & By-Laws - Mrs. Frances Tracy, 3601 South St. 68506	488-5341
Program - Florence Boring, chairman Professor W. H. Foxwell Maurice Tracy	
Hospitality - Judy Weber, chairman Mrs. Glenna McGinnis	
Refreshments - Mrs. Eleanor Rupert, chairman Mrs. Hazel Bagg Mrs. Marie Carveth	
Education - Roger Pabian	
Scholarships & Commemorative Stamps - Helena Baegl	
Rock Swap - Larry Rupert	
Field Trips - Lloyd Baugher	
Housing and Properties - Phyllis Parks, chairman Wm. Holdorf Floyd Fellows	

Other appointments will be announced as they are made.

BULLETIN STAFF:

Editor - Norma Miller, 931 Cottonwood Dr., 68510	489-3956
Asst. Editor - Phyllis Parks, 2435 S. 19th St., 68502	423-6798
Art Asst. - Jim Parks	
CLUB News - Marie J. Carveth	432-9100
Reporters - <u>All</u> Club Members	

Articles published in THE PICK & SHOVEL may be reprinted if credit is given and a copy of the publication is mailed to the editor. Annual subscription for THE PICK & SHOVEL (which is automatically included with full club membership) is \$2.00 per year.

AFFILIATED WITH
MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

CALENDAR

REGULAR MEETING: Saturday, Jan. 25, 1969, 7:30 PM
 WOW Bldg., 734 S. 27th St.
 Door prizes will be given.

PROGRAM: Mr. Claud Clary, President of the Nebraska Association of Earth Science Clubs, will speak to us concerning the state organization. He hopes to make this a panel presentation, and they will be glad to entertain questions from our group.

Also, slides of the field trip to Wyoming last June will be shown by the Howard Taylors, Jim Parks, and Lynn Wells.

REFRESHMENTS: Mrs. Larry Rupert, chairman
 Mrs. Hazel Bagg and Mrs. Marie Carveth assisting.

CLASSES TO BEGIN: Silver Smithing class will start Wednesday, Jan. 22, 7:00 to 9:30. \$10.00 for 10 weeks.
 Silver Casting class will start Saturday, Jan. 25, 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon. \$15.00 for 10 weeks.
 Both these classes will be held at Lincoln High School Craft Shop, Rm 146. Instructor-L.A. Stachura.
 Registration through the Adult Education, ph 475-1081, ext. 325.

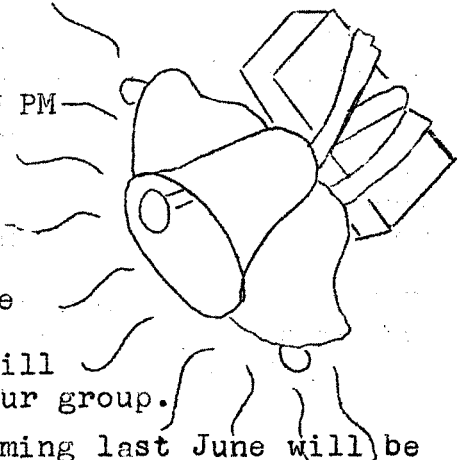
Lapidary classes start soon at Recreation Center #2, 23rd & O Sts. You may register through the City Recreation Dept., ph 423-2391.

TV SPECIAL: NETV, Channel 12, will carry another program in honor of Dr. John G. Neihardt at 7:30 PM on Jan. 30.

NEW ADDRESS: We now have a post office box number for centralized mail distribution. All mail for Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club should be addressed to the proper person, P.O. Box 29356, Lincoln, NB 68529.

COMING EVENTS: Febr. 20-22: Scottsdale Rock Club Show, Scottsdale, AZ
 Mar. 7-9: Greater Kansas City Gem & Mineral Clubs Show, National Guard Armory, Kansas City, KS
 Mar. 15-16: St. Louis Rock Hobby Clubs Show, Moseley Auditorium, St. Louis, MO
 Apr. 19-20: Illowa Gem & Mineral Society Show, Bettendorf, IA
 May 10-11 Cedar Valley Rocks & Mineral Society Show, Marion, IA
 June 12-15: Midwest Federation Field Trip & Convention, Murdo, SD
 June 19-22: Nat'l. Gem & Mineral Show & Conventions of American & Rocky Mountain Federations, Salt Lake City, Utah.

DUES ARE DUE... You may pay at the club meetings or mail a check to Ralph Ulrich, treasurer, P. O. Box 29356, Lincoln, Nebraska 68529. (Use our new box number)



CONGRATULATIONS... to Larry and Eleanor Rupert, as their son, Jim, was named outstanding English student by the National Council of Teachers of English. He was among 6 Nebraskans cited in national competition out of 3,500 students entered in the national contest. Another of our young people who are making a place in this world. Keep up the good work, Jim, we know your parents are proud of you.

NEWS TO NOTE... Watch next months bulletin for a salute to Dr. John G. Neihardt, poet laureat of Nebraska, who celebrated his 83th birthday January 8th.

CONGRATULATIONS... to Kay and Ralph Ulrich, proud grandparents who received word from their son and daughter-in-law in Edmonton, Canada, on the birth of a son, Rowan Adrian Ulrich, born Dec. 31.

SICK LIST... Lillie and John Lewis are recovering from a bout with old man flu. (enforced R & R).

INJURY... Harold Eno is still in Bryan Memorial Hospital with a painful whip-lash due to involvement in a car accident.

NOTICE TO CLUB MEMBERS... thanks to a suggestion by our youngest board member, Tod Ashmun, your PICK & SHOVEL bears a commemorative stamp this month. We hope each of you will save them and return to Helena Baegl for the stamp program.

SYMPATHY... to friends and family of R. D. Ferguson, fellow club member, who passed away in December.

SYMPATHY... also to the Walter Moser family at Hickman. Walter's mother passed away last week.

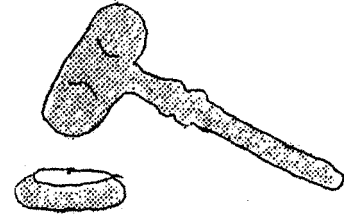
NOTE... there was no meeting in December of the Community Arts Council so we have no report from our representative this month. Watch for the February bulletin.

CONGRATULATIONS... to Roger and Margaret Simmons who will be celebrating their 3rd wedding anniversary in Gulfport, Mississippi, this week. Roger is attending his annual active duty for the Naval Reserve there and Margaret will join him on the 17th. Have fun kids!

NOTICE - All copy must reach the editor by the
5th of the month to be sure of inclusion in the
current issue of the Pick & Shovel.

**Time
FLIES**

DUES ARE DUE



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another year has passed and with it another page in the history of our Club has been written. When we think of the accomplishments, the growth of our club, the fun times, and the pleasant association with our fellow members, our memories of our problems are short lived.

The year of 1969 will of course have some problems. Our Club, working as a team rather than as individualists, will most certainly overcome any obstacles without difficulty.

Our various committees are planning some very interesting events for the year and as soon as plans are complete, I'm sure they will let us know of those plans.

Since we have committed our Club to the National Show, it is not too early to begin thinking of this and obtaining all the information available so that we may profit from the experience of others.

The response, to the request for committee workers, was most gratifying. Everyone asked was most willing to help, however some had obligations that prevented them from accepting too great a responsibility. There are some committees that have not been filled so don't be surprised when you get a call.

See you the 25th.

Mac McKinney

Happy New Year and along with the new year for LGMC comes a new president, a new board member, new committee chairmen, and a new editor. Elsewhere in this bulletin I am writing as a member of Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club but here I am writing as the new editor. Phyllis Parks, our able editor for the past several years has done a tremendous job of printing, sometimes under terrific pressure. Her accomplishments were many and included winning national honors in the "best bulletin" contest! With this honor she has the privilege of helping judge the contest for the two following years. A very able person and patience personified in teaching me the rudiments of editorship. With the record she has established I have much to live up to and I truly tremble in my boots!!

I first started helping with printing the bulletin in answer to a plea for help from Phyllis. You will note on the inside cover of past bulletins I never allowed myself to be called "assistant editor", just "assistant". At one stage I even made the remark "You couldn't give me job of editor!" But since November, when Phyllis made it known she was giving up the editorship, I have been persuaded to become the editor on the condition that she will stick with me for some time as assistant editor. I have much to learn and will need her knowing hand for some time. Most people are not aware of the many hours she has spent over the years, working behind the pages of copy for the good of the club. She and Jim, Linda and Pa, and Grandma too, are to be commended for endurance beyond the call of duty.

Truthfully, I could not do the job without her help! And I will need your help too, my fellow club members. Your comments and suggestions, articles and material, and your criticism, too, will be welcome. I hope you will all contribute in one way or another to make the job of editor a pleasure for me rather than a chore. Thank you for your cooperation... I'll do my best to please you.

Norma Miller, editor



MUSEUM LECTURES

Five members of LGMC attended a most interesting illustrated lecture by Dr. Samuel Treves, geology professor and head of the department at the University of Nebraska, on his scientific trips to Antartica, January 12, at Morrill Hall. Dr. Treves studied rocks and plotted their location on maps which will help determine geological history. He also explored volcanic rocks and the only active volcanoe on the Arctic continent, a fascinating afternoon for rockhounds.

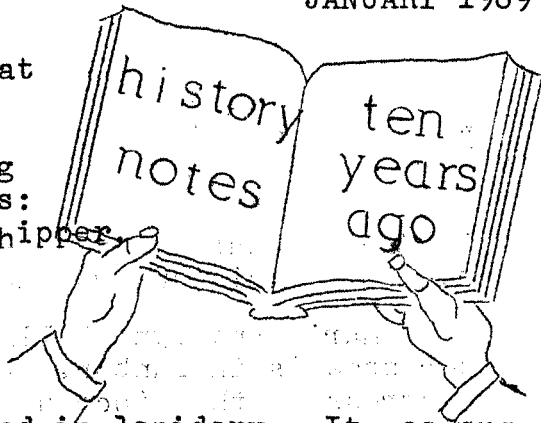
On March 9, at 3:00 PM, Dr. C. Bertrand Schultz will speak on "Nebraska's Fossil Wealth". We hope a good number of our club members will take advantage of this opportunity.

Mrs. Wm. Holdorf

TODAY IS THE TOMORROW YOU WERE GOING TO KNOCK 'EM DEAD IN YESTERDAY!!!!
(from GEMS of Kalamazoo)

Our January meeting was held on the 19th at Morrill Hall.

Irl Everett, President, called the meeting to order and welcomed the following guests: Dr. Douglas Brown, Charles Elikor, Dean Shipper, Frank Fisher and Van Ashmun. Thirty-four members were present.



Tom Simmons spoke in behalf of Explorer Post 41 of Westminster Church. There are twenty-five boys, ages 14 to 18, interested in lapidary. It was suggested that 5 members who have lapidary equipment in their homes invite 5 of these boys for a demonstration.

Sixty-five mineral and rock specimens were displayed by members for a "Rock Quiz".

- - - -

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

In rivers, the water you touch is the last of what has passed and the first of that which comes; so with present time. (DaVinci)

The trouble with the future is that it usually arrives before we're ready for it. (Rock Licker via Magic Valley Gem News)

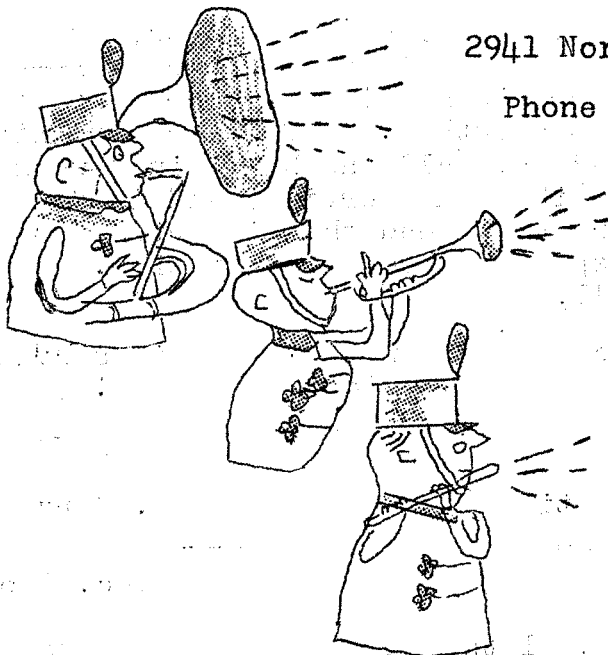
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 DID YOU KNOW.....

We are going to share our Christmas letters with you at this time, we know you will enjoy hearing from former Lincolmites, Arthur and Velma Bloyd and son Clifford.

Christmas is past, but the memory lingers on - many useful gifts in our lapidary field were received at Christmas time. Virg Carveth re-did his diamond wheels and also is enjoying a new book on carving.

Marie and Lynn Wells had her mother as a Christmas house guest, her home is in Dunbar. John, the Wells son is very encouraged with his progress at the Lincoln Veterans Hospital.

Our sympathy is extended to Mr. Ewald Paul, his father passed away recently, and also to Mrs. Irl Everett who lost her mother. Our Prayers and thoughts are with you.

Due to blizzard conditions many family gatherings were cancelled, however in one instance a change of plans brought eighteen guests to the Carveth home for a Christmas dinner!

Maurice & Frances Tracy drove to Cortland, Nebr., over the ice-covered highway to be with her mother on the big day. The Tracy's are entertaining their pinochle club on Saturday evening.

Mrs. Parks has a lovely new kitchen as her Christmas gift - a beautiful provincial style.

A thought for the day - three months from now - it will be Easter - then field trips for the rock hounds cannot be far behind!

Our dear friend, Dr. John Neihardt had a birthday. Our belated best wishes to him, who has given us so much to enjoy. He is an inspiration to all who have the pleasure and privilege to know him! Dr. Neihardt will spend some time recuperating from eye surgery in January. Let us all shower him with get-well wishes, please, all of the LGMC members. Send mail to him in care of J. D. Young, 5835 Vine St.

Terry Weber spent a Christmas leave with his parents, Everett & Ruth Weber, and his sister, Judy. He made it home after being delayed 23 hours due to the snowstorm. Terry is stationed at present at Fort Lewis, Wash., and will go to Fort Monmouth N.J., for more training. His mother reports Terry stands 6 ft.-3 in. tall and has gained weight and he is looking like a million! He likes the service, and is finding his field very interesting. The Weber family had the misfortune to have the flu, which has put Judy in the hospital at the present time. She is at St. Elizabeths. Hurry and get well, Judy!

At our Christmas party I discovered young Tom Rule is serving as a draftsman with our State Roads Department. Nice going, Tom!

Our many good wishes to the new board of the LGMC. May you have a successful year!

Until next time, Marie J. Carveth

Marie & Virgil,

Merry Christmas from Arizona. I thought I'd like to send along with this card my thoughts that I have each month to you. Marie, Art and I enjoy so very much your column you write in
(continued next page)

Dec. 1968

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ARIZONA (continued)

the bulletin. It is so full of the news of the club members that we so desire to hear. We wish to thank you. May you continue to write this column.

I hope you and Virg have a lovely Christmas and a very Prosperous New Year.

Art & Velma Bloyd

Later in December, 1968

Dear Virg & Marie,

Excuse the writing paper but I was so pleased that you wrote on your Christmas card that I wanted to answer right away. Since my stationary was used up, I just borrowed some of Cliff's school paper.

The weather here is quite marvelous and the country outside of the town is beautiful. At times I think it is God's country, it is so beautiful. We are all nice and tanned. So tanned that I'm afraid someone will take me for a Mexican.

We have a lovely 6 room home here. It is not large and I did have the feeling when we moved in that the ceilings were going to sit on my head, however I've gotten used to them now. I've always had a big home with high ceilings before.

Clifford is doing very well in school. He was on the honor society last year. He has a 1 average at mid-term again this year and has been notified that if he can keep his grades as

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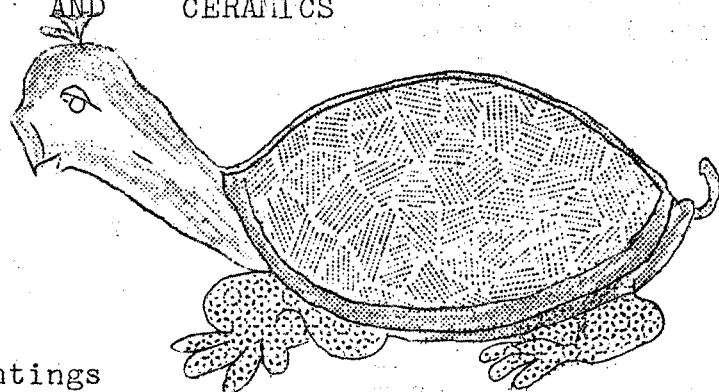
Got the feeling things are standing still???

We have stones for those mountings you received for Christmas...

COME OUT AND VISIT

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Letter from Arizona (continued)

they are, he will once again have this honor bestowed on him. We are very happy for him and of course very proud.

Art is doing quite well health-wise. Much better than we had ever dreamed could be possible. He has had only two bronchial asthma attacks since we have been here and both of those were in three months after our arrival. The doctor has cut his medication down to about half of what he was taking. I feel the move we made was worth every bit of the difficulties.

Virgil, Art is working for Hallcraft. I'm not sure if you are familiar back there with Hallcraft homes. They are custom made homes in the range starting at \$40,000. on up. He is a finisher for them. They are of stone construction with a concrete floor. Poured but the floor in the finished home is of wood. The wood is layed over the concrete slab. They are beautiful homes.

How are you? I've often wondered. Marie, if things work out alright we will be coming back for a short vacation this year. When we come, I have some things I kept because they reminded me of you. One is a Mansanita branch that is twisted. It should make up beautiful in one of your arrangements you make.

I would like to hear from you if you have the time in the meantime. May the Lord bless you and Virg and have a happy holiday.

Velma

JANUARY BIRTHSTONE - GARNET, SYMBOL OF VIRTUE

In ancient times garnet was considered a talisman against lightning and was probably the stone called "carbuncle" in the high priest's breastplate. Garnet is from the Latin word granatum referring to seeds, especially those of the pomegranate.

The "Garnet Group" consists of six distinct species of closely related minerals with colors from black, white, and many others, including hues in most colors of the spectrum except blue. These species are abundant in metamorphic rocks but also found in igneous rocks. Garnet belongs to the Isometric System and crystals are found in the form of trapezohedrons or dodecahedrons, singly or combined. Specimen are plentiful but usually not large in gem quality.

Garnet is usually brittle and heat sensitive. It will withstand ordinary dopping but dry-sanding should be avoided. Polishing is very fast on leather using Linde A or chrome oxide.

Today it is found throughout North America from the Arctic to Mexico as well as many other locations about the world. The largest garnet mine in the world is a metamorphic deposit of almandite, the Barton garnet deposit, at Gore Mountain in east-central New York where crystals as large as three feet in diameter have been recovered. The product is used as an abrasive on hard wood and other materials.

Ref.: John Sinkankas
Ned Seidler
Richard M. Pearl

contributed by Phyllis Parks

A DREAM COME TRUE!!!

by Norma Miller

Many of you have asked me to write of our recent trip so here goes...

Since 1962, when we bid farewell to our American Field Service 'son', Perry and I had often dreamed of traveling to Brian's country, South Africa. In August, 1968, We received an invitation to Brian's wedding on Dec. 14, and within two weeks had made the decision to fly the 9,500 odd miles to attend the ceremony. We arranged for Grandma to stay with Les and Randy, and with good wishes ringing in our ears headed for Omaha on Dec. 3rd to board a plane for New York. There we transferred to another plane bound for Amsterdam, the first leg of our three week journey. We had a good tail wind, and with the moon light reflecting off the plane wing, and the soft white clouds below us, we felt as though we were in another world.

Our agenda called for two days in delightful Amsterdam. We were astounded at the fast pace of traffic with their small cars, narrow streets, and their thousands of bicycles ridden by men, women, and children. The city of one million people (600,00 of whom ride bikes daily) was in a festive mood preparing for the celebration of Sint Nicolaas Eve, the eve when a bishop rides through the air on a horse dropping gifts down the chimney for children who have placed a wooden shoe by the mantle. The weather was dark and chill (32 degrees F) but we were soon warm in an enclosed excursion boat on a canal tour with an English speaking guide, a pleasant way to see the sights of the city without the rush of street traffic. Amsterdam, meaning a dam in the middle of the Amstel River, is an amazing city, built on 90 artificial islands. Forty per cent of the land is below sea level but they are slowly reclaiming the land from the sea by first building a dike around an area, then digging a canal behind the dike. Electric pumps atop the dike pump the water out of the enclosed area, over or through the dike, into the canal, which empties into the North Sea. At one time there were 12,000 windmills to do this pumping but now they use electric power and there are only 954 of the picturesque mills left. Amsterdam harbor is the 7th largest in the world, we were told, and is 50 feet deep. Many ships were docked there, some in dry dock for repair. Two weeks in dry-dock means a loss of \$30,000. to the shipping company concerned. A new tunnel for automobile traffic under Amsterdam harbor has just been completed at a cost of \$54,000,000. Housing is a precious item in Amsterdam due to the land reclamation and many people live in houseboats on the canals. The houses themselves are tall and narrow and built adjoining each other.



We attended a "Kleine Komedie", a light musical comedy in their native language, in the evening. It was very enjoyable in spite of the language barrier. A quick tour by taxi of several night spots brought out the fact that night time entertainment there is similar to that in our country with a musical group playing for your dancing pleasure, drinks available, etc.

The next day we visited the Ryksmuseum where we viewed many original paintings of famous artists, including Rembrandt, Ver Meer, Van

(continued next page)

A DREAM COME TRUE... (continued)

Ruisdall, etc. We toured a diamond cutting factory, employing about 12 persons, where they use electrically powered machinery designed after the hand tools of the past. They worked so well they could see no reason to change the design. They said it takes 10 hours to cut a one-carat diamond in half at 2000 revolutions per minute; that size, color, and imperfection determine the value of a diamond; that they have a technique of cutting two diamonds at the same time; and that the black diamonds are used for industrial purposes. An inquiry regarding the availability of uncut diamonds brought a negative response, however, we were told in Amsterdam you get the best value in the world for your money when buying diamonds!

A hurried lunch then gave us time for a visit to the House of Ann Frank, a stark realization of the terror which must have reigned in Amsterdam at one time.

Our afternoon bus tour took us into the countryside, which is very level, lined with ditches dug for drainage such as we here in the states dig for irrigation purposes. The tour took us to the island of Marken via a dike some miles out in the Zuider Zee. The island is inhabited by 1700 people belonging to only 14 families. The people still wear the native costume and wooden shoes. Both boys and girls here are in dresses until age 7, at which time the boys get their first hair cut and get their first pair of trousers! A quaint, round, little lady, self-named Mae West, graciously showed us through her three-room home, colorful and antique laden. We proceeded by boat then to the village of Vollendam, a seaside fishing village with many small shops. One shop famous for it's delft ware always proves alluring to the tourist.

From here we proceeded on to a cheese factory, electrically powered now and still housed in a portion of a home. Here they showed us the process used in the making of Edam and Gouda Cheese. The factory-made cheeses of this sort which we can purchase here in the States are made of pastuerized milk; but at this factory they are still made of unpa-
steurized milk. Delicious! I ordered a 2 pound cheese mailed home and it cost me more to mail it than to buy the cheese itself. However, it will be authentic and we will recall a bit of the charm of Amsterdam while we enjoy the flavor back here in the States.

Our stay in Amsterdam was nearing an end - all too soon as we were just becoming acquainted with the lay-out of the town, the transportation system, and their monetary system of guilders.

....more next month

RETURN OF THE NATIVE. "It's good to be home," says a traveler, "where you can be swindled in money you understand."

Derek Harrison in Personality, South Africa,
via Reader's Digest

Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing.

Abe Lincoln

MOTIFS IN JEWELLERY

by Bernice Langton
Maple Ridge Lapidary Club
from The Canadian Rockhound

Modern Jewellery shows a close affinity to the earliest attempts at shaping metal and setting stones. This may be partly due to the unchanging constituents and properties of the materials on which we work. It may also be due to the lack of alteration in the basic purpose which was mainly the acquisition, display, and safe-keeping of wealth. Since the wearing of their precious stones and metals was the safest way to keep it, ornamentation of their articles of jewellery soon followed.

In examining the earliest designs, two types are apparent - those designs depicting familiar forms in nature, and those having a superstitious or religious significance.

EGYPT used the sacred beetle, or scarab, as an emblem of eternity, as was the eye of the God Horos. They also used the lion, frog, cat, jackal, and hawk - all familiar animal forms. In their designs you also find the hand of the Goddess Nut.

In PERSIA they often used their own coins as ornamental forms.

In ASSYRIA the rosette was the commonest design, and they also used the fir-cone and the lotus.

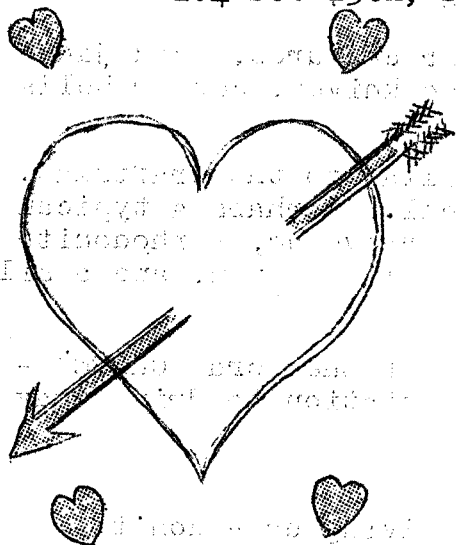
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MOTIFS IN JEWELLERY (continued)

In CHRISTIAN LANDS you find the Cross, Signifying our trust in the divine power.

CRETE used the hawk and goat.

The NAVAJOS used the squash blossom, a symbol of fertility, also nature symbols such as the sun, moon, and water.

The MAORIS had a quaint human figure in greenstone.

In the TYROLS they used a little cattle bell as protection from the evil eye.

In the FAR EAST you often find the crescent used as a design.

A common good luck symbol was a heart of amber. More familiar good luck forms are the horseshoe, rabbit's foot, and four-leaf clover.

The SCOTCH use the thistle in their designs and the IRISH use the shamrock.

3000 years ago the Swastika was used in GRECIAN pottery decoration, as a good luck symbol.

On CAMEOS the familiar design was a head of one of the Grecian goddesses.

Arrows were a common form of design from very early times.

In INDIA we find the lotus flower, an intertwined serpent, and the sacred cow.

In SIAM they use the butterfly, flower, fish and diamond.

In CHINA they use the dragon, their Zodiacal signs, and their symbol for water; also a sign cimilar to the Technochracy motif, signifying darkness and light, or evil and good.

In AFRICA they use for adornment, teeth and claws of beasts they have slain, also the Cowrie shell.

The INCAS used the snake, puma, and frog.

The MEXICANS, both Mayan and earlier cultures, used jade or serpentine axes, a plumed serpent, and obsidian knives, copper bells, and the jaguar.

All these designs depict forms familiar to the craftsman. How interesting it would be for us to do as well. Perhaps a typical charm bracelet for our poeple would be a jade arrowhead, a rhodonite heart, a carved brown agate beaver, a black argillite raven, and a silver snowflake.

Let me conclude with the definition of the word "CHARM" - from the Latin, carmen, a song - therefore an incantation to drive away the evil spirits, - a worthwhile project indeed!

- - - - -

When you feel discouraged and most like giving up - don't.

Martin Vanbee (via Wintertime IDEALS)

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



Issue No. 91 - January 1969

STATE VICE PRESIDENTS SEMINAR AT NORMAL, ILLINOIS - JUNE 1968

June Zeitner, presiding and Roy Meyenberg, moderator and secretary.

1. Clubs should invite their State Vice Presidents and Assistants to shows and other events.
2. The show committees of clubs need to have better contact with the State V.P., they should be invited to sit in on meetings of this committee.
3. Club bulletins should mention the activities of their State Vice Presidents, especially when he attends their shows, meetings and gives talks before their club.
4. A budget for State Vice Presidents was discussed and was temporarily set at \$25.00 for postage and telephone calls and etc.
5. It was felt that an annual meeting of State Vice Presidents and Assistants and elected MWF officers with the show committee and long range planning committee might be very beneficial.
6. Each State Vice President and his or her Assistants should have an organizational and membership kit; also, they should have a copy of the latest Uniform Rules and the Exhibitors Manual. Also, copies of the Program Planners Manual. These should be kept on hand at all times.
7. The elected officers may need the State Vice Presidents advice about problems and appointments in his state.
8. The State Vice Presidents are members of the Rockrama and Membership Committees.
9. The club information blanks such as used

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to bring exhibits to Salt Lake City, which can be used for practice judging. These cases will be entered and judged in competition. The scores will be pulled for reference and the unscored case used for practice judging. No award or score would be posted until late in the show. We would like to have a high (88 to 92) point, medium (75 to 85) and a low (65 to 75) case for each Division. It would be particularly helpful if these cases could be kept unchanged and brought to Ft. Worth in 1970. They would also be useful cases to have for use in local shows, for evaluation of judging.

From: The AFMS-URC-Digest, John Pate Editor, 50 So. 25th Street, Boulder, Colorado 80302.

Margaret Yanasak
MWF Uniform Rules Chr.

by Roy Meyenberg, provided good information for State Vice Presidents.

10. The State Vice Presidents should send the elected Vice President copies of annual and other reports, so that the Executive Vice President can coordinate activities and be able to summarize progress.
 11. Printed instructions, resumes and carbon copies might help new assistants.
 12. Assistants can also send in reports for Executive Committee meetings.
 13. Some states with many clubs or a spread out territory may need more Assistants.
- Continued... please turn the page....



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO OUR FEDERATION CLUBS

"SALT TREASURE BENEATH DETROIT"

is the title of Ellis Courter's report of the tour he and fellow member Gerald Irvine of the Michigan Mineralogical Society made through the Detroit mine of the International Salt Company. An extraordinary account but he has photographs that don't lie. Earth Science magazine for January-February 1969 has the story. In the same issue Dale Douglas of the Elkhart Mineral Society Inc. begins a promising series "Midwest Fossils." Part I discusses collecting, cleaning, mounting, and displaying.

continued from page one, column 2

14. It is unnecessary to have an Assistant in the same county or city as the State Vice President.

15. The state could be divided up into geographical districts.

16. It would be desirable to have State Vice Presidents deliver the new clubs their certificates of membership.

17. The MWF Newsletter will be glad to print items submitted by State Vice Presidents.

18. The question was brought up of what happens to the Membership Certificates. It was brought out that some are handed from President to President at installation ceremonies.

19. State Vice Presidents wives should also wear some type of identification badge.

20. State Vice Presidents should try to be good correspondents; answering all mail promptly.

SCHOLARSHIP SCOREBOARD

400%

East Ohio Lapidary Club

200%

Indian Mounds Gem & Mineral Society

Grand Valley Rock & Mineral Society

Richland Lithic & Lapidary Society

100%

Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society

Huron Hills Lapidary & Mineral Society

White River Gem Society

Thanks for your continued wonderful support and keep those coupons and dollars for scholars coming in. -Kate Steinbrenner

RECAP OF FIELD TRIP SEMINAR AMERICAN-MIDWEST ROCK CONVENTION NORMAL, ILLINOIS - AUGUST 1968

It was concluded by the members present, that the following would help many clubs with field trips.

A. Interest quarry and mine owners in our hobby.

B. Controlled management of field trips.

C. Send "thank you" note after field trip.

D. Send owner a copy of your announcement of trip.

E. Every club should have a Safety Chairman in addition to Field Trip Chairman.

F. Wearing of safety boots, goggles and hard hats.

G. Field trip chairman should supervise trips and appoint people to help him with each trip.

H. A safety meeting should be held before each trip. Note should be made of any hazard that might be encountered.

I. An idea about what to collect in the particular area. A small display of specimens to familiarize participants.

J. Do not announce just where the trip will be. Just a place to meet and then leave.

The following extra ideas might help improve our image in the earth science fields.

1. Some kind of standard identification card using the AMF as agent.

2. Bulletin Editors should publish safety rules.

3. On the open range get permission from the ranchers.

4. Be sure to close all gates on any ranch land.

5. More and more there will be paid collecting areas.

6. Clubs should publish field trip booklets on your particular state.

From Roy Meyenberg, State VP for Ohio

OUR MIDWEST FEDERATION

Report made at Midwest Federation committee meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, November 9, 1968

By Russell P. MacFall, Historian

Our Federation president, Mrs. June Zeitner, has asked me to forecast the Federation's course in the 1970s and to suggest some of the opportunities open to it. One way to look ahead is first to look back, to see the man through the boy. The Federation founders were teachers and they created the clubs and the Federation out of a fierce determination to educate people in the earth sciences. The war blighted the Federation's growth in its first few years. The first three clubs expanded to ten in the first seven years; they added 43 others in the next eight years; 59 more in the next six years and 86 in the last seven years. This meant three in 1940, 13 in 1947, 56 in 1955. 115 in 1961 and 201 in 1968.

This growth is attributable to favorable conditions -- greater leisure, more money to spend, and easier communication and travel. Superhighways and collecting guides and hobby magazines made collecting easier. The accelerating growth of the Federation created need for a new type of leader, the organizer and administrator whose talents enabled him to guide this growth and take advantage of the wider opportunities it opened up to put gifted social, scientific and professional members to work in its service. Building as they have on solid foundations, they have made the Midwest Federation a leading institution of its type in the United States.

But what will the Federation be in the 1970s, which are so close at hand? The answer depends on how its leaders answer three questions: (1) What does the Federation want to be; (2) Does it really want these things or should it strive to accomplish more basic things; (3) What will it do with these things after it gets them?

At least two basic problem areas are involved here. (1) What do experts foresee about social, economic and governmental conditions in the future: (2) What will be the role of the Federation under changing conditions: These experts see the development of supercities by 2,000 A.D. -- one stretching from Chicago to Pittsburgh which they have nicknamed Chipitts; one from Boston to Washington which they call Boswash, and one from San Diego to San Francisco which, of course, they call Sansan.

Such supercities mean road congestion and loss of easily accessible collecting sites. Very likely we will have relatively few new clubs in such supercities. Our newest clubs are not coming from big cities. Chicago has not added a one in some years. But there will be more people of the type from which we draw our membership, as well as more active oldsters and precocious youngsters. We may look to the Senior Citizens' groups and the Boy and Girl Scouts as auxiliaries some day.

Giant cities have giant geological as well as social problems-- problems of avoiding or controlling flood plane and land slip areas for subdivisions, problems of water supply and building materials. Geological matters will be more in the news, especially when the world begins to mine the oceans and perhaps the moon. We can also expect more government control and limitation of freedom of choice, such as in collecting. Thus we can expect a greater interest in the earth sciences, slower growth in the number of clubs but larger clubs with more members. We can also expect lessened opportunity to base club membership on field trip interest alone.

What does the Federation see as its role under such new conditions? Bigger and better, more clubs and more members, or stronger, better informed and more dedicated members and clubs. Do we want a rockhound stamp and our pictures in the newspaper, or do we want to win the respect of professional geologists and of governmental agencies for our zeal to learn more about mineralogy, geology, archeology and paleontology, for our concern to preserve the natural wonders of the United States and our ability and readiness to help schools, universities and museums and to be the preferred agency to advise governments about earth science matters?

The assistance given Dr. Eugene Richardson of the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago is a concrete example. In preparing a monograph of the now world-famous fauna of Pit 11, a strip mine south of Chicago. Dr. Richardson sought and obtained invaluable help from informed amateurs who had collected at Pit 11. As a result, the museum knows something about the clubs and the Federation and has respect for them. A like con-

dition prevails at Lincoln, Nebraska, where museum and club have worked cordially together to their mutual advantage.

Lapidary interest has not been mentioned because this is the hobby aspect which brings the most newcomers into our clubs. But, as anyone who has been associated for a long time with a club knows, the members who stay and grow with the club are those who also develop a broader interest in scientific aspects of the hobby.

Like the clubs, the Federation's best preparation for the 1970s is to make itself a stronger and better instrument by building from within. It is an agency with only one fundamental role-- to serve the clubs and help them serve their members. It should not try to do what the club can do better, but it should stand ready and able to help if help is needed. This role the Federation has well performed in the past. One of the keys to this relationship is the vice-president for each state and his assistants. It is vital that he realize the importance of his office and that he enjoy cordial relationships with the clubs. It is the Federation's job to see that he is continuously active and effective. Maybe the clubs should ratify his appointment by the Federation's president, if this would make the clubs feel that he is their man. With the Federation's growing financial resources it should also be possible to undergird his work with financial subsidy perhaps derived from rockrama or convention profits.

In addition, it would be desirable goal to have a Federation officer speak at least once a year to each club. This would not be for the vainglory of the officers or the Federation but to promote closer understanding of the Federation's work and to gain cooperation from the clubs. Likewise, the executive committee might wish to invite a representative of each club in the state in which it holds its meetings, so that the clubs in this way could learn of the hard work, the dedication of time and money, and the concern of the Federation's leadership. Growth of larger and more sophisticated clubs, which seems probable in the future, should justify enlarging the monthly Newsletter.

The general climate of the 1970s for the Federation and its member clubs would indicate that the Federation's role would be to encourage them to improve educational services to their members by telling them how to form study groups and how to conduct them, to provide study outlines and bibliographies and lists of available speakers. Heavy responsibility for this will fall on the geology and mineralogy chairmen and committees of the Federation. It is touching on sacred ground, but one further avenue of communication would be a more intimate relationship, even organic union, with Earth Science so that the Federation would provide it with some 13,000 subscribers and the magazine would give the Federation an articulate voice. It is even possible to envision a magazine that would do for geology, mineralogy, paleontology and archeology what the Lapidary Journal has done for its specialty.

Furthermore, the Federation might consider sponsoring traveling exhibits, perhaps with or through the American Federation. The Federation can encourage closer relations of its clubs with universities and museums. A club that is seriously interested in a study program will get the assistance and respect of professionals. This is one favorable public image that counts.

The Midwest Federation also has a responsibility to the American Federation. Through a strong American Federation the regional Federations can escape from provincialism, share leadership and ideas, reach common ground on judging rules, and have effective representation on matters of governmental regulation and legislation and on tax exemption.

Finally, the Federation must remember two things-- that its clubs are the Federation, that the Federation, like the clubs, is a means to an end, and that that end is to help every member fully realize himself and enjoy our hobby to his fullest capacity. If it and the clubs do their parts, the 1970s promise to be our best years yet.

Don't count the years...they go so fast
Just count real friendships made...they last
Then count the memories of the past;

Memories of a fun-filled field trip
Sunshine glowing from the skies
All nature's glow that reached the eyes.

Don't count the years. Just think of days
That you have tried your best always...
That's how a youthful spirit stays

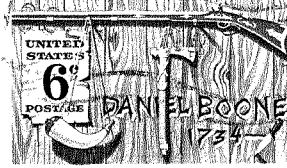
Don't count the years. Just count good things
That you have done, that each day brings.
You've helped someone and your heart sings.

Don't count the years now gone before
Just look ahead, look through life's door
And count the blessings still in store.

adapted
author unknown by this writer

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To

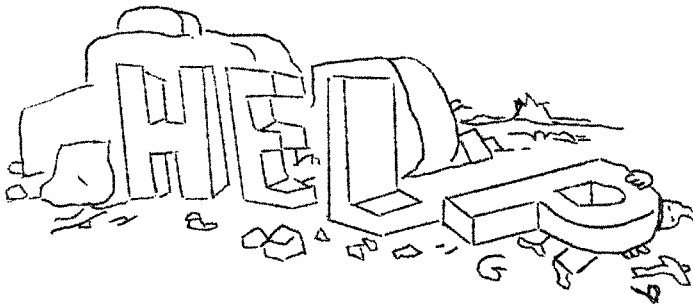
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