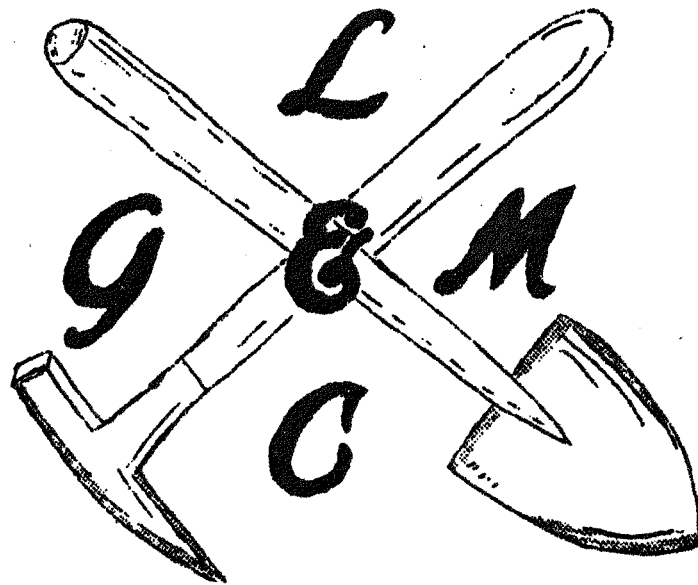


Feb 1969

THE PICK & SHOVEL



MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE

LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

FEB 1969

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.

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Historian & By-Laws - Mrs. Frances Tracy, 3601 South St. 68506	488-5341
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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	

1969 Show Chairman-Lloyd Lederer

Publicity Chairman-Mrs. Barbara Allen

Calling Committee- Mrs. Ruth Weber, Chairman

Assistants-Linda Plock & Mrs. Eugene Hilton

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Reporters - All 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

REGULAR MEETING: Saturday, Febr. 22nd, 7:30 PM
WOW Bldg., 734 S. 27th St.

PROGRAM: Dr. John F. Davidson, Professor of Botany at the University of Nebraska, will speak on the process of the formation of petrified wood. Program chairman, Florence Boring, suggests that we bring some of our prized pieces of wood for viewing. Door prizes will be given.



REFRESHMENTS: Served this month by Mr. & Mrs. Fred Claus, Evelyn Ulrich and Glenn, Harold Eno and Lloyd Lederer.

LATEST COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: Show Chairman - Lloyd Lederer
Publicity Chairman - Mrs. Barbara Allen
Calling Committee - Mrs. Ruth Weber, Chairman
assistants - Linda Plock and Mrs. Eugene Hilton

NOW SHOWING: Handmade jewelry with gemstones, at Sheldon Art Gallery
(details on inside pages)

SPECIAL EVENT: Dr. C. Bertrand Schultz presents "Nebraska's Fossil Wealth", Morrill Hall, Mar. 9th at 3:00 PM

OUR ADDRESS: For centralized mail distribution - send all correspondence to - Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club
Attn: (Proper person or committee chairman)
P. O. Box 29356
Lincoln, NB 68529

NEW ADDRESS: Pvt. Terry L. Weber RA 68054307
Co. Z C/U. School BDE U.S.A.S.C.S.
Fort Monmouth, NJ 07703

DUES ARE DUE... March 1st is due date for your 1969 dues. Contact Ralph Ulrich, Treasurer, at the meeting or send your check to LGMC, attn. Treas., Box 29356, Lincoln, NB 68529. Dues are \$3.00 per adult member, \$1.00 per member under 16, or \$7.00 for the entire family. Payment of dues entitles you to membership in LGMC, subscription to the Pick & Shovel, listing in and copy of Who's Who for 1969. Don't be left out... get your checks in the mail now! Also notification of any changes of address or additions may be mailed to Ralph or to one of the editorial staff for inclusion in the current issue of Who's Who coming out in March.

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. 18-20	Central NB Rock & Mineral Soc. Show, Hastings, NB
Apr. 19-20	Illowa Gem & Mineral Society Show, Bettendorf, IA
May 3-4	All Iowa Rock Swap, Pattee Park, Perry, IA
May 10-11	Cedar Valley Rocks & Mineral Society Show, Marion, IA
May 24-25	Central NB Rock & Mineral Rock Swap, Crystal Lake Rec. Grds. Ayr, NB
June 12-15	Midwest Federation Field Trip & Convention, Murdo, SD
June 13-15	Wyoming State Gem & Mineral Show, Gillette Fairgrounds, Gillette, Wyo.
June 19-22	Nat'l. Gem & Mineral Show & Conventions of American & Rocky Mountain Federations, Salt Lake City, Utah

JANUARY RECAP

After the business part of our meeting last month the guest speaker was Mr. Claud Clary, President of the Nebraska Association of Earth Science Clubs, who explained the Nebraska State Association to those present. He informed us that the association is young, having started in Oct. 1966, at North Platte as a non-profit organization filed with the State; that only Nebraska gem and mineral clubs are members of the NAESC organization; that the approved Montana State by-laws were followed; that to date two shows of the State organization have been held (one at Kearney and one at North Platte) and that the 1969 show will be held at Omaha Labor Day weekend. The association is financed by dues only (15¢ per person); a newsletter is printed bi-monthly; they are in the process of making a slide program for exchange within the State organization. At present there are 14 clubs in the association. Mr. Clary went on to say that the organization feels they have succeeded in joining the Nebraska rockhounds together at the 100th Meridian even though they are divided at that point by membership in two separate federations, the Rocky Mountain and the Midwest Federations.

He first explained that a Federation is a group of states and that an association is a group within a state; that the state organization must hold a meeting in May or have a show that year with hosting of the show being on a voluntary basis by member clubs; that the host club furnish a meeting room for delegates of the association and election of officers; that a member club is entitled to one delegate for each 1 to 25 paid members, up to 100; that at present the shows are non-competitive; and that all association shows will be publicized by newsletter.

A question and answer period followed his presentation after which everyone enjoyed the lovely cake furnished by the refreshment committee, who went all out in the decorations to celebrate the 14th anniversary of our club, and to honor our past presidents. (Thanks much girls, it was great.) Door prizes were won by Paul Greenwade, Hazel Bigley, Mrs. Ray Sincebaugh, and Jim Oliver. (Lucky ducks!!!!)

ATTENTION LGMC MEMBERS... Each year MWF prints an Official Directory with vital information of member clubs, a new gem locality guide, and a complete listing of shows, swaps, and field trips near you. These directories are available to individuals at 50¢ per copy. If interested contact Ralph Ulrich, treasurer, at 423-0419, or mail payment and order to LGMC, Attn. Ralph Ulrich, Box 23956, Lincoln, NB 68529.

ALSO... the official magazine of MWF, "Earth Science", is available at the rate of \$2.50 per year. If we come up with 5 new subscribers we can get a free subscription for a recipient of our choice. Any member interested please contact Ralph on this matter also.

MINERAL BILL... (Lincoln Sunday Journal & Star, January 26, 1969)
Washington (UPI) - The Senate has received a bill that would establish a national policy on minerals. Sen. Gordon Allott, R-Colo., who introduced the bill, said imported minerals are coming into such use that "we tend to lose the ability to find and produce these minerals domestically."

REQUEST.... Judy Weber, Hospitality Chairman, asks everyone to be sure to check in on the attendance roster at the door at each regular club meeting so she can give an accurate report of total number of members and guests present.

Our president has been out of the city on business for the past 10 days and we do not have a message from him this month. However, he contributed an article by Harold G. Coffin, Ph.D., from the magazine "The Youth's Instructor" from which we print the following:

FIRE IN THE SEA

Surtsey was born the morning of Nov. 14, 1963. Crew members on a fishing vessel off the southern coast of Iceland were first to note its appearance, a "rock" in the distance in the twilight. No rocks were charted in this area and upon investigation through binoculars smoke and eruption columns were seen rising practically from the water's surface. In a few hours an island had pushed up. For many months it was uncertain that the island would stay in existence as heavy seas would quickly erode away the soft sand and ash to eliminate the island. New eruptions would build it up again and about 4½ months later lava began to spill out over the crater and form an apron over the island. At present it has a shore line of between 4 and 5 miles and consists of a little over 1 square mile of lava and volcanic ash.

Geologists really do not know what produces the heat in the earth and why molten rock is catapulted periodically onto the earth's surface. From what depths did the ash and basalt erupt? Where had this matter been before the eruption?

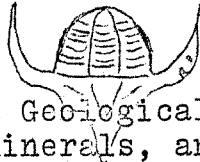
Surtsey is a good example, on a minor scale, of the kind of volcanism seen on the main island of Iceland. The large volcanic mountains, big cones, great lava flows, and extensive lava tube caves are all represented on Surtsey by smaller counterparts. Lava tubes are streams of lava, the centers of which have drained out after a crust formed on the outside, leaving long, winding tunnels. Surtsey island was a network of such tubes, but few were large enough for a man to stand upright in. Beaches exist around most of the island. Where basalt flowed to the water, waves have cut back cliffs and left strands of black sand. Most surprising was the erosion and abrading of the basalt blocks considerably less than one year old into rounded boulders and cobbles. Round stones of the basalt that had been thrown up onto the lava bench by storms, subsequently were covered by the next flow of lava. If the history of Surtsey were not known, it would be difficult to arrive at a correct knowledge of its age from a study of the rocks alone.

The rate of erosion of the cliffs and the rounding of the blocks by the force of the waves was unexpectedly rapid. Even the rate of cooling seemed faster than expected. Surtsey should cause scientists to be cautious about jumping to conclusions concerning the rates of geologic processes. Parts of the island are now several years old, but almost nothing has succeeded in getting a growth foothold on the ground. Surtsey has been a geological laboratory where the cataclysmic forces of nature can be studied.

(An interesting article Mac. How about it fellow members, got one for me for next month?)

PRESS TIME:...Just received word that Ruth Lederer, wife of our Show Chairman for this year, has suffered a broken arm. She has been discharged from the hospital and is at home recuperating. (Take it easy, Ruth, have Lloyd wait on you for a change.)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: Experience is what you get when you're looking for something else. (from Tele VIEWS)



FLASH.....

.... Word is that the Nebraska Geological Survey is soon to publish several booklets on fossils, minerals, and gemstone of the State. The booklets are intended to be guidelines for identifying materials from Nebraska. The booklets will be illustrated. Word as to when and where these booklets will be available will appear in the Pick & Shovel as soon as it is available. It seems these may help fill a sorely needed gap in the students library and collectors information.

=====

REPORT ON SHELDON....Members are urged to watch the newspapers and the Sheldon Gallery Calendar of Events for jewelry displays.

A recent display of great beauty at Sheldon features the work of Ruth Roach, a prize-winning craftsman of Plainfield, Iowa. This is a dazzling exhibition of silver jewelry combined with a wide variety of gemstones - turquoise, jade, moss agate, opal, garnets, coral, quartz, sapphires - each piece a work of art of great beauty. One of the outstanding pieces utilizes an exquisite small pink geode. Other intricately sculptured pieces are made of human figures, flowers and animals. This collection is on display now through February 23 in gallery B. Don't miss it.

Also, don't forget to attend Dr. Schultz's presentation, "Nebraska's Fossil Wealth" to be given March 9th at 3:00 PM at Morrill Hall.

submitted by Edith Holdorf

=====

VISUAL EDUCATION:.... Dorothy Engelhart reports that she has lectured on Rocks & Minerals to the 4th grade at Prescott, 4th & 5th grades at the Ceresco school, and this week will make a presentation to the combined 6th, 7th & 8th grades at one of our country schools where 3 different schools are consolidating their efforts. She also reports that Gene Eno presented the Pleezy Story to the 4th grade at Prescott. The study of "Earth Science" is growing and the students and teachers are eager to use these visual aids whenever possible.

=====

NEWS TO NOTE.....We're pleased to see the name of Phyllis Parks listed on the ballot as candidate for secretary-treasurer for NABE (National Association of Bulletin Editors)...Good luck Phyllis! And here's a special salute - to a good past-editor:

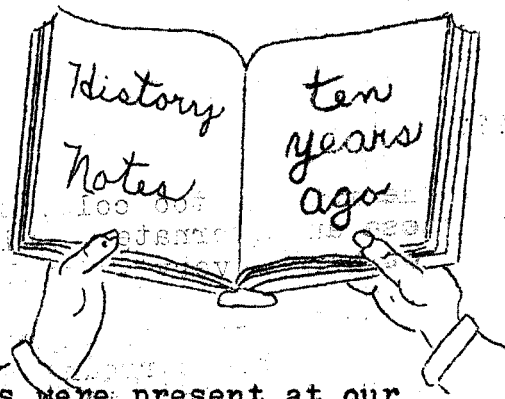
A REWARD FOR VALOUR

An editor knocked at the Pearly Gates
 Her face was scarred and cold
 She stood before the Man of Fate
 For admission to the fold.
 "What have you done." St. Peter asked,
 "To gain admission here?"
 "I've been an Editor, Sir," she said,
 "For many and many a year."
 St. Peter's eyes were warm and kind
 With just a tinge of mirth
 "Come in," he said, "and choose your harp,
 For you've had your share on earth."

CFMS BULLETIN EDITORS' 1968 Conference
 via The Rockhounds Call

=====

????? Is this your last copy of The Pick & Shovel????? It is if your DUES are not paid in February.



from the notebook
of our Historian,
Frances Tracy

-- February --

-- 1959 --

Thirty-seven members and seven guests were present at our February meeting at Morrill Hall.

Frances Tracy was chosen as the delegate for our club to the Rocky Mountain Federation meeting at Wichita on April 24, 25 and 26.

October 3 and 4 were the dates set for our first show at the National Guard Armory!

John Lewis demonstrated several makes of black lights which helped illustrate his talk on fluorescent minerals.

ITEM OF INTEREST...from the National Wildlife, Febr-Mar 1969.

Bulldozing for Jade: Anyone who doubts that the United States mining laws need revision should visit Federal Public domain lands in Wyoming where prospecting for jade is done by bulldozer. Prospectors use the 'dozers to open broad swaths of soil so erosion by wind and rain will open lodes of jade, valuable for jewelry. When the lode is found, the "miner" can file a claim on the property and gain a patent on it. Under present laws, the Interior Department is powerless to stop the practice.

submitted by mjc

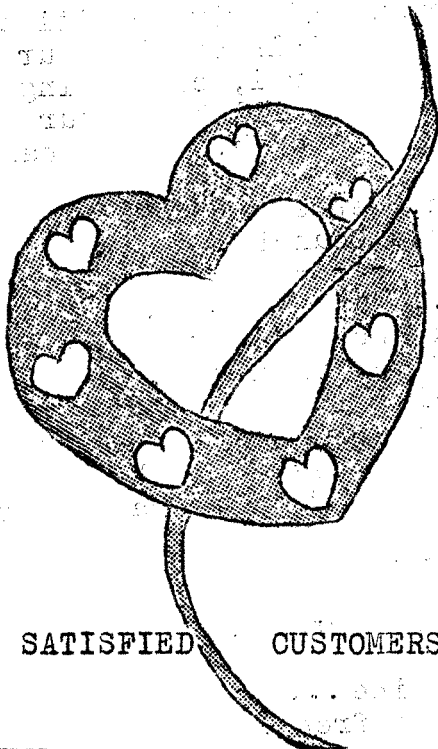
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WHY SUPPORT THE ARTS???

Venice is too hot, the moon is too cold, the earth too contaminated, and it is too late to choose an alternate. Unless the arts can improve our environment, we may not have a very enjoyable place to live.

Large business organizations seek to improve the environment for people so we may have more enjoyable surroundings... No city can be considered much of a city to live in unless it has a community theater, an art center, and a museum. Have you ever tried to give a definition of a museum? It may be more difficult than you imagine. A museum holds classes, collects items of historical and educational value, and has displays of the arts. It is nevertheless a museum and must be supported. Some people make odd remarks about federally supported art activities, however, do not be too eager to heed those remarks or add to them. The development of art programs, the opportunities for young people to enter the field of art, and the preservation of great works of art are a concern of the entire population of any country.

The present Federal government administration has a rather weak financial aid program outlined. It is rather like putting your finger in a cloud and trying to pull something out. The program is not very definite. The most reliable support for the promotion of art in all its forms would appear to stem from the many organizations within the artist coterie, such as the Arts Management Council, the Nebraska Arts Council, the Nebraska Art Association and many other similar groups.

These are some of the thoughts left with us by Charles P. Parkhurst, director of the Museum at Baltimore, who spoke to the members of the Nebraska Arts Council and the Nebraska Art Association at their membership luncheon, held at Sheldon Art Gallery, Monday, Jan. 27th.

He went on to urge the members to educate the public, discuss financial difficulties with foundations, business and private citizens, and that these groups should write government officials at all four levels of government - city, county, state, and federal, concerning the importance of cultural activities. "Public support will keep your institutions alive but private support gives them growth," he emphasized.

Report by Ralph Ulrich, Representative
Community Arts Council

NEWS ITEM from the Daily Sun of Beatrice, Nebr., dateline Jan. 15, 1969, informs us that the Homestead Gem & Mineral Club presented their assistant school superintendent with a travel case of 40 different types of rock samples to be used in the four grade schools and the Junior and Senior Highs, and have hopes of completing three additional boxes, one each of igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks. Most of the rocks collected by club members came from out of state but include barite from Odell and prairie agate from Western Nebraska.

Oh, the wonder of it all....
how snowflakes form and drop to earth...
And cling to every tiny twig...
each needle of the spruce and pine...
Until all is soft- and white - and fresh.

(excerpt from book by Gwen Frosdic)mjc

THE 1969 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

(As witnessed by Helena Baegl, member
of the State Central Committee,
Republican Party of Nebraska)

What a thrill, when the opportunity came to go to the Inauguration of our 37th President! Our chartered plane with Gov. and Mrs. Tiemann aboard left Omaha in a blizzard Jan. 17th, about 10:30 AM. We arrived at Dulles Airport in a warm, foggy drizzle, 22 miles from downtown Washington. It took almost as long to get to our hotel from Dulles as our flight. We were housed at Hotel America (formerly the International) and a very nice place.

Friday evening we attended a reception for our Nebraska Governor at the old Senate Building, where we enjoyed some delicious hors d'oeuvre, a 3-man combo, and visited with the Governor, Sen. Curtis, Reps. Cunningham, Martin, and Denney, former Chancellor Hardin, et al, after which some of us went to Hogate's for a seafood dinner, although I settled for oyster stew, which was super.

On Saturday, a friend from York and I decided to spend some hours at the Smithsonian Institution. I had been in Washington twice before but each time missed seeing this wonderful place. This time I saw the marvelous gem and mineral display (being a 'rock hound' this was my first objective), and I was thrilled to see the Hope diamond and many other fabulous gems and minerals. The security in this area is awesome!

Saturday evening the Inaugural All-American Gala was to be held at the National Guard Armory at 9:00 PM. Tickets were hard to come by, but that afternoon Mrs. Dwight Burney of Polk met a friend and obtained two \$10. tickets. Two of us had none, but at Mrs. Burney's urging we all piled into a cab and went out to the armory in hope of getting tickets by some hook or crook. Tickets were \$10-25-50-75-\$100. A man in a station wagon at the armory was giving out tickets to those who had ordered far in advance, so we got in line, hoping to get two more. While there, a handsome young negro woman in a blue uniform of some kind (I never did learn what she did) came in, and just on a hunch, I stepped over to her with my big Nebraska GOP button on my bosom and said "Do you know where we could get two tickets for the Gala? We've come so far and would love to see the show." After a moment's hesitation, she said "Come out here," and went down the steps and outside. We followed, and she brought out of her pocket an envelope and gave us four tickets. We could not prevail on her to take payment or even accept a tip of any kind. I tried to tuck a \$10 bill into her pocket but she firmly refused. So we four had \$100 seats to the wonderful gala, where all the Services Glee Clubs sang, the wonderful Marine Drum & Bugle corps marched in with the 50 state flags, Doc Severinsen played a beautiful horn solo, Ed McMahon introduced a large group of Congressional of Honor medal men. Opera singer Jan Peerce sang, pianist Roger Williams played, Tony Bennett and his sweet trumpeter appeared, and many, many more top entertainers appeared. One of the highlights was the rousing George M. Cohan musical act put on by Joel Gray and his New York company. It was simply great, and in a \$100 seat 13 rows back directly in front of the stage, it was even greater! Vice Pres. Agnew and family, and the Nixon girls and escorts were in a box high up at the back of the room, and Mr. Agnew made a short talk at the end of the show. So far as I can ascertain, this show was not televised.

(continued next page)

1969 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION (cont'd.)

Sunday morning the 19th, several of us attended services at Luther Place Memorial Church just across the street from the hotel, and while we heard a fine sermon there, when we came out who should we see emerging from the Christian church on the other corner of the same block but LBJ, Lady Bird, and Billy Graham! 'Twas ever thus---I always seem to go to the wrong place.

Sunday afternoon we went to the Governors' Reception at the Sheraton Park Hotel. The 50 states and 6 territories had booths around the wall of the ballroom, and we could go to any booth, shake hands with that Governor and his lady, and visit a few moments. I was able to get to Gov. Reagan's booth without having my clothes quite torn off, (he was by far the popular man there), shook his hand and got his autograph. My invitation is autographed by Reagan, Colorado Gov. John A. Love, our Gov. Tiemann, and Montana Gov. Forrest H. Anderson. (Any bids?)

Monday of course was the oath-taking on Capitol Hill. You home folks probably got a much closer look at the principals than we who were standing on the wet, cold lawn! But 'we was there' and it was a moving experience to hear it all firsthand. Monday afternoon we had excellent seats at the parade, which was beautiful, but the bitter cold forced us to leave before the end. The marching services bands, colorful floats, VIPs in cars, etc., were inspiring.

Monday night came the rain, and how! But it did not deter us stalwart Nebraskans. Our group had tickets for the balls at various hotels, and four of us went to the Statler-Hilton; a gorgeously glittering ballroom, Bob Crosby's band, richly dressed women in \$1,000 boxes (seating 8 people) around the ballroom walls. Ours was the last ball the Nixon party came to at 1:30 AM. The Agnew party came earlier in the evening, and we happened to be on the mezzanine when they came up the stairs, and so were within a few feet of them, but the security men kept everyone back until they reached the special box in the ballroom.

We got back to our hotel about 2AM after which we attended a lovely cocktail party in the suite of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Schorr, Jr. of Lincoln, who generously invited the entire Nebraska group.

Tuesday morning we breakfasted with First Dist. Congressman Denney. Sen. Hruska, tired but cheerful, appeared to say Hello to us, but Sen. and Mrs. Curtis were ill with the flu. At noon we prepared to start home-ward. Leaving the hotel in continuing rain, our bus took us out to Dulles airport where our plane was delayed about an hour by fog. We learned afterward that Omaha sanded a special landing strip for our plane only because the Governor was aboard and needed to get home, else who knows when we might have been given clearance to come in? We arrived in Omaha about 5:45 PM, and I was home at 7PM, just in time to go with my sister to the Pro Musica concert at the Stuart Theatre at 8 o'clock!

A memorable five days, exciting and wonderful despite unpleasant weather. We have a new President - the country's 37th. May God give him wisdom to lead the nation, and strength to bear the great burden of the office.

Helena Baegl

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: How beautiful a day can be when kindness touches it.

GEM DISCOVERY

A new and hard-to-get item is causing some stir in gem circles. According to Time Magazine (January 24, 1969), a "precious stone that precious few people have ever seen" is a sapphire-like gem called Tanzanite, discovered in East Africa in 1967.

Although resembling the sapphire uncannily, Tanzanite is actually three-colored, showing flashes of purple and green through the predominant deep royal blue. A gemologist at Manhattan's Tiffany & Company, Henry B. Platt, spotted it in a jeweler's tray while visiting Idar Oberstein, Germany, the lapidary center of the world. Eventually it was identified as a version of zoisite, a gray granite-like stone of the sort often used for ashtrays.

Mr. Platt, who gave the stone its name, has called discovery of the Tanzanite "the most exciting event of the century," for two reasons: blue seems the most popular color in gems, and Tanzanite will retail for a maximum of \$400 a carat - certainly much cheaper than top-quality sapphires.

However, lapidary enthusiasts needn't expect to see any of these gems for some time. Tiffany's is the only U.S. jeweler with any substantial supply, and prospecting in the area of the original find has been accompanied by claim-jumping, shotgun guards, and an increase in the local crime rate. According to Tanzanian officials, until three months ago no Tanzanite left the country legally; they are now attempting to control the export of the gems. Tiffany's only has about 60 stones in its vault, and Mr. Platt won't sell any loose stones! Pity.

--Bobbie Allen

advertisement

--- SIMMONS

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SALUTE TO THE POET LAUREATE

We salute you, Dr. John G. Neihardt, with all the respect and admiration expressible in our inadequate language!

Officially named Poet Laureate of Nebraska in 1921 by Legislative Act, you were the first to be so recognized in the United States. Since boyhood you have received countless well-deserved honors and citations. Your world-wide acclaim has come from the most competent critics, from commonplace admirers and from people of all age levels; and the rapport steadily increases.

By action of United Poets Laureate International in 1968 you are now Prairie Poet Laureate of America, by official citation. The attendant gift of a golden laurel wreath from His Excellency, President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines, expressed the feeling and appreciation of a great patron. With your flowing silvery hair the wreath is an appropriate crown.

At the University of Missouri in 1968 you received the Thomas Jefferson Award, one of Missouri's highest honors. In their library they dedicated a bronze bust of you, cast from the original sculpture by your talented wife, Mona. A similar bust was dedicated in Nebraska's capitol in 1961, and it is still the only one there honoring a living person.

Your achievements with pen, voice and hands bespeak your unrivaled genius. Probably the only "rejection slips" of your work have come from yourself, your own severe but masterful critic. To list all of your writings and honors would require pages. Their variety and scope is astounding; to read, hear and see the products of your talents is most rewarding.

Again, Doctor Neihardt, we salute you; we congratulate you in your 88th year which began January 8, 1969. The television special, "Neihardt, A Journey Home", premiered that evening, endeared you to us more than ever. We take great pride in calling you our friend and fellow-craftsman. Undaunted by the 88 strenuous years and two recent cataract operations, you are still refining the choicest gems from your literary crucible.

May you enjoy many more glorious years!

submitted by Julius D. Young

APRIL THEOLOGY

"

"O to be breathing and hearing and feeling and seeing!
 O the ineffably glorious privilege of being!
 All of the World's lovely girlhood, unfleshed and made spirit,
 Broods out in the sunlight this morning - I see it, I hear it!

"So read me no text, O my Brothers, and preach me no creeds;
 I am busy beholding the glory of God in His deeds!
 See! Everywhere buds coming out, blossoms flaming, bees humming.
 Glad athletic growers up-reaching, things striving, becoming!"

"O, I know in my heart, in the sun-quickened, blossoming soul of me,
 This something called self is a part, but the world is the whole of me!
 I am one with these growers, these singers, these earnest becomers -
 Co-heirs of the summer to be and past eans of summers!"

-- John G. Neihardt

WHY ALL THE FUSS ABOUT ROCKS?

From the time that man was first fascinated by the glitter of a pebble to the present day no one has been able to adequately explain just what it is that has caused him to become so attracted by gemstones, crystals and fossils. Men have devoted an entire lifetime to the search for specimens, and huge fortunes have been spent collecting precious gemstones. Kings have diverted the wealth of their countries to assembling fabulous collections of jewelry adorned with the precious stones, yet each individual would no doubt use a different expression to state his reasons for wishing to be the owner of one of those collections.

Ancient burial grounds and the remains of prehistoric cities have yielded evidence of certain minerals being used for personal adornment by the aboriginal inhabitants. In America, particularly in the west, turquoise was favored by the American Indian for this purpose. Even today many of the jewelry stores stock replicas of their work. The desire for items of personal adornment has been handed down to our present day civilization. The department stores display for sale many bright and shiny articles cleverly fashioned from metal, glass and plastic.

Some individuals would acquire a good gemstone because the market value has historically increased during the past several hundred years and the market is universal the world over. Their reason is simple and well understood, but there are other reasons that are more complicated and less apparent.

There are those who wear certain selected stones because they believe good fortune will be theirs while they are thus adorned. At the beginning of the 16th century Francis Bacon wrote these words in an effort to explain the function of those selected stones, "There are many things that operate on the spirits of man by secret sympathy and antipathy. That precious stones have virtue in the wearing has been anciently and generally received and they are said to produce several effects. So much is true, gems have fine spirits as appears by their splendor and therefore may operate by consent on the spirits of man to strengthen them and exhilarate them. The best stones for this purpose are the diamond, emerald, hyacinth, and yellow topaz."

The Chinese placed jade above all other gemstones and made it the symbol of the five cardinal virtues, charity, modesty, courage, justice, and wisdom. Twelve signs were used early in history to symbolize the Zodiac, and whatever these symbols were, stones were ascribed to them. It is thought that from these stones come the birthstones of today. Some of the ancient Romans with enough superstition would have twelve separate rings and wear each when a certain planet was thought to influence man's daily activities. The high priests in the early days ascribed certain stones to positions on their breastplate. It seems quite clear, according to historians, that these stones had some symbolic meaning.

There is another group who appreciate stones but they are not necessarily acquisitive, are generally vague about values and are content to own a particular stone for a short while, then will either trade it for a new variation or may even give it to someone who has admired it. They are not particularly impressed with a gemstone unless it has some unique characteristic. These are the ones who recognize the breath-catching exclamation that is so often heard when a rockhound sees a good piece of

(continued next page)

WHY ALL THE FUSS ABOUT ROCKS? (continued)

opal, some good banded agate or any one of the many beautiful gemstones found in nature's trove. Have you ever gazed into the depths of a well-cut stone and watched the light move about from facet to facet, then suddenly, when the light is just right, it will glare forth and seemingly overpower the light source itself?

Thus we could say that the beauty of a stone is what you, yourself, see in it. You may have found yourself disappointed when tradition or custom has told you that the ruby is the finest of gemstones and you should, therefore, be dazzled by it. You may not like the red of the ruby but you may catch your breath at the sight of a good blue spinel, a much less popular stone. This is to your credit, for your own preference should govern your choice. Nature has provided gemstones in all colors of the rainbow so no matter what your favorite color is, if you respond to beauty you will be attracted by one of several of them.

The popularity of any gemstone seems to be related to, if not governed by, fashion and durability along with other basic considerations. Zircon with all its brilliance and color dispersion will rival the diamond in splendor but it occurs in nature as some shade of brown or brownish orange. It was for several years one of the more popular gemstones, however, in recent years it has become less appealing to the present taste. The favor today is with the more bright neon colors, but the merits of this stone may again be more widely appreciated when beauty, rather than color, is the vogue.

Strangely enough, the turquoise has been in fashion for several thousand years. It was a favorite in medieval times to inlay thrones, sometimes set with coral, or surrounded by diamonds. Then of course we are more familiar with the many applications, usually set in silver, by the American Indians. One is likely to find it for sale in almost any jewelry store.

The amethyst has been in and out of the circle of popularity since early times when the Egyptians and the Greeks even used pale or streaky crystals and set them with emeralds, rubies and topaz. Then in about the 18th century, perhaps because the lively Siberian amethyst was discovered, or possibly because the brilliant cut had been perfected which made it a very different stone, the popularity of this colored stone increased remarkably. Today it is accepted with a very limited degree of enthusiasm. Keep it in mind however because it is about the only purple stone readily available and will always have a place among the gemstones.

The Romans were very fond of the precious opal but it was not especially popular in their day. It was after the beautiful black opal was discovered in Australia and Queen Victoria did her best to augment its acceptance and encouraged the Australian miners, that it came into its greatest flurry. Today the opal is definitely in the fashion circle in spite of the rumor that it is an unlucky stone. The really large examples of superb beauty are hard to acquire but no other stone can match it for color or beauty.

One would not question the beauty of the delicate flower, the velvety texture of the ripened peach, or the glory of the rising sun. The flowers have a season as does the peach, and the sunrise may last for a few transitory moments. But consider a beautiful tourmaline crystal which
(continued next page)

WHY ALL THE FUSS ABOUT ROCKS? (continued)

we find in the solid earth. It was formed so slowly that an entire civilization could develop and then regress to obscurity while nature was assembling this single work of beauty. We then realize that the stone not only pre-dates us but outlasts us. For example, many of the stones fashioned by the early Chaldeans are around today and are as non-perishing as they were the day they were worked by the lapidarist. We cannot add to the beauty of nature's handiwork, only uncover or emphasize what is already there, for no matter how skilled the lapidarist may be, he cannot reveal the same display of color in quartz that he can in a diamond. The fine silky luster of the star sapphire can only be revealed if it was put there by nature. And all of these gems will endure eons of time unchanged, unfaded and unperturbed.

The next time you approach the lapidary wheel with one of these jewels of nature, take time, time to ponder. What will future civilizations have to say about the handiwork of the creatures of your culture?

--submitted by Ralph Ulrich

Clear epidote, when cut into gems, is dark-green in one direction and brown in another.

A single block of marble weighing 56 tons was required for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. It came from Colorado.

In England Smithsonite used to be called calamine.

via GEMS

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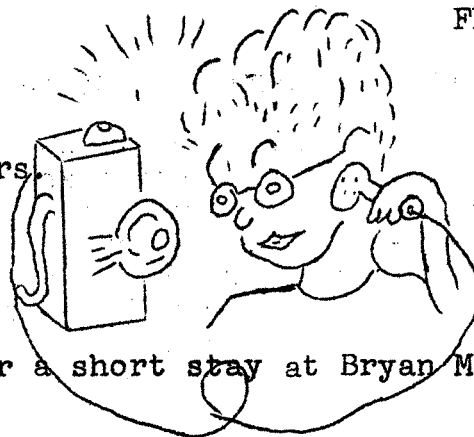
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THE "DO-IT-YOURSELF" SHOP.....

DID YOU KNOW....

Dr. Neihardt is recovering very nicely, at home with Mr. & Mrs. Young. He returned from the hospital Jan. 16. The bandages were removed Jan. 25, and all reports are very encouraging.



Mrs. Frank Rule is back home after a short stay at Bryan Memorial Hospital. Keep well now, Mrs. Rule.

Florence Boring received several Christmas messages from Sister Florian and Sister Mary Pierre, science teachers who spent the summer at Wesleyan, and who joined us in many activities. They remember many pleasant hours, it was nice to hear from them.

Mr. Frank Rule is serving on the jury at the present time.

Pvt. Terry Weber is now stationed at Fort Monmouth, NJ, where he is in electronics school. He is also a member of the Ceremonial Honor Guard, a drill unit which takes part in parades, military weddings, visiting nobility, etc. This represents a special effort on Terry's part, and he is to be commended. I imagine he would love to have mail from the members of the LGMC...here is his address...let's flood him with mail, please...

Pvt. Terry L. Weber RA 68054307
Co. Z, C./U. School Bde. U.S.A.S.C.S.
Fort Monmouth, New Jersey 07703

Mr. Michael Lederer, the son of the Lloyd Lederers, was a graduate at the mid-year commencement recently at the University of Nebraska. He received his degree of Bachelor of Arts in Education, and will soon be going into the service, namely the Army.

Mrs. Larry Pope, Joanna to many of us, will be spending ten days in Hawaii, with her husband, Captain Larry Pope. Larry is with the Air Force, serving in the Vietnamese area, with headquarters in Saigon. Have a grand time, Jo, and give our best regards to Larry.

Mr. & Mrs. James Parks are the proud grandparents of a new grandson, the parents, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Crawford, Washington, DC.

Mr. & Mrs. John Lewis had a 25th wedding anniversary recently. Congratulations to you...

Mr. Lloyd Baugher is Chairman of Field Trip Coordination for the Midwest Federation; where are we all going this summer, Lloyd?

Virg Carveth is recovering from the popular bug, the flu.

Our first meeting of 1969 was held Jan. 25, and we had a large attendance. How nice to see so many old friends, and also to welcome the many new friends and guests who were as follows: Mr. & Mrs. John Olson, Rod Woodcock, Mr. & Mrs. George Balke, Rev. Raymond Pfeiffer, Delia Rankin, Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Gesch, Hazel Bigley, Mr. & Mrs. Claud Clary, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Schafer of Omaha and Frank Vokoun of Omaha, also Mr. Mrs. Lawrence Van Cleave of Lincoln.

Congratulations to our President, Mr. McKinney, for a very interesting presentation and a real fine start on his year in office.

(continued next page)

DID YOU KNOW... (continued)

A title to the next subject of interest could be "Profile in Miniature", because I am going to write about Mrs. McKinney, our President's First Lady! Her favorite subject would naturally be six fine grandchildren, who live in Simsbury, Connecticut; their father is the McKinney's son, Gordon W. the second. However, distance is of no concern because they flew to Nebraska to spend a month with their grandparents last summer. Their ages range from 13 years down to 3 years. Gordon is connected with the Dexter Paper Co., Windsor Locks, Conn. The McKinneys also have a daughter, Verna Johnston, who lives here in Lincoln. Mrs. McKinney tells me something very interesting in connection with her church work. The Womens Fellowship Group, of the Christian Alliance Church of Havelock, meets once a month to sew for the missionaries who are in the far east, as well as all over the world. These devoted people spend four years in the field, and then have one year's leave of absence. When they are on leave, they must choose what they will need for the four years away from home, in the way of clothing, linens, childrens clothing, etc. A tremendous chore I would think. A Lincoln couple, Betty & Ray Rexilius (Betty was born and raised in Lincoln) are at present located in Saigon, and on recent tapes these people have sent, one could hear the sounds of war in the background. It is for people such as these that Mrs. McKinney and her friends work at their charity projects, gathering together the needs for living in faraway places. These things we here at home take so for granted. A truly worthwhile and rewarding work indeed. A fine person, Mrs. McKinney.

until next time - Marie J. Carveth

P.S.: Just heard Mr. & Mrs. McGinnis are on their way to Florida!

PRESS TIME: Word was just received that Floyd Fellows is now a patient at Bryan Memorial Hospital. Hope your stay is short Floyd, and that you will soon be back in our ranks.

A DREAM COME TRUE!!! (continued from last month)

Airborne at 37,000 feet, we crossed the Equator - an event that has been noteworthy since the dawn of travel history. To mark the occasion we will receive a certificate in our own name as part of the ceremony. We deplaned at Brazzaville for refueling where, not too many years ago we read of bloody uprisings, now all seemed peaceful. The small airport contained a lovely curio shop well-stocked with carvings of ivory and ebony, leather-work and original paintings, was staffed by courteous black men. We were served an orange drink, though uniced it was greatly appreciated as, at 7:40 AM, the temperature stood at 74 degrees and the air was very humid.

Three hours later we were greeted at Jan Smuts Airport at Johannesburg, South Africa, by our "son", his fiancee, and his parents! A heart-warming reunion.....In spite of the 6 intervening years since Brian left our house he kindly told us we hadn't changed, and of course he hadn't either. It's odd, isn't it, how love hides the marks of passing years?

In spite of the impending wedding, a busy week of activity was arranged. Previous to leaving the States contact was made with a fellow "collector",
(continued next page)

A DREAM COME TRUE (continued)

and true to the 'profession' he allowed me to view his collection of minerals!!! FABULOUS and MANY. Most of them he has collected personally in various parts of Africa. He was born and raised in S. W. Africa, an area rich in minerals, and at present is employed as a mine ventilation engineer. A great guy! Even though I am an amateur I know enough about xls to know that his collection would be hard to beat, anywhere, and would do justice to a museum. He kindly offered to take me hunting quartz xls - the nearest collecting material available.



Not one to turn down a personal guide on a field trip I gladly accompanied him some 20 miles into the green countryside, where, in the bank of a roadcut, we collected many nice specimens in two hours. These crystals were found in the loose red soil in crevices of the dolomite hillside. They were not difficult to remove, you just had to find a seam, follow it along its course, and gently pry the crystals loose. It was a lovely spring afternoon and I think my benefactor enjoyed the collecting as much as I. With such limited time as we had on this trip and with so much planned by Brian's family, it was my only chance to go collecting but I will never forget my wonderful friend, nor the patience and consideration he showed me, not to mention the lovely specimens he gave me to add to my collection.

The next day we started on a three day trip to Kruger National Park (an area about the size of our state of Pennsylvania), a wild game reserve proclaimed a national park in 1926. It is a natural habitat for over 1/4 million impala, many kudu, baboons, giraffe, zebra, hippopotamus, lion, rhinoceros, elephant, crocodile, and many other animals and birds. There are campsites and cottages (rondavel) available for your stay in the park. You must be in the gate of your designated camp by 6:30 PM or pay a fine. Each day we drove outside the gates for several hours morning and afternoon to sight the animals in their native state. One is not allowed outside the car as it is too dangerous. Picture shooting was the rule of the day and that was fine with us. The camps are equipped with an open fireplace stoked by natives, a big central stove to cook on and a huge vat of hot water always ready for the usual cup of tea. There is a modern store within the camps but we carried our own food for cooking and at each mealtime, a native broiled our meat over the open fire. He is given a tip of approximately 10¢ per day and some food each meal, in addition to a small salary of about \$40.00 per month as he is employed by the park department during the regular daytime hours.

We enjoyed the excitement of sighting the many animals but soon were headed back the 300 miles to Johannesburg with a tour of a cyanamide factory for a change in pace. Here they showed us the process and machinery of making cyanide. Calcium and sodium cyanide is the mixture used in the gold mines to dissolve the gold out of the predominating rock. Gold mining is BIG BUSINESS in this area. We were told that mining operations have left tunnels under the whole of Johannesburg, a city of 2 million people, no small city. We visited a gold mine but were not allowed to descend the shafts. We were told it was the deepest in the world, 5,190 feet, with an incline shaft of 13,500 feet underground! Safety is a prime factor in the operation of the mines, there is a \$25. fine if any worker descends the shaft without his hard hat or headlamp.

(continued next month)

---Norma Miller

AN APPROPRIATE THOUGHT: All people smile in the same language...

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. 92 - February 1969

MEET YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

By June Zeitner - MWF President

Each month I hope to introduce you to the people who are working for you. They are well qualified people who are giving of their time, talents, and experience and training, because they believe in YOU, the CLUBS which make up the Midwest Federation. The order in which these mini-biographies appear has no significance. I urge club officers and members to read these, because they tell you what these committees are for and how these committees can help you, and how you can help the committees. USE the services of your committees.

How are these people picked? The Permanent Committee Chairmen serve 3 year terms, some of these people were appointed by me, and some by past presidents. These Chairman are chosen for their qualifications, plus their willingness to take the job, and also partially because of their home base. As much as possible we want to see all states well represented on the Executive Committee. Other factors are involved such as do certain committees need to work together? (In which case chairmen should not be too far apart). Will the nominee cooperate with the elected officers and prior members of the Executive Committee? Can the proposed chairman get along well with other members, being able to lead and also to delegate work? The Special Committee Chairmen are appointed by the president and have no defined term, many (such as the auditing committee) serving just one specific purpose, and some being chosen only when agree to be present at our annual convention (credentials). Each club has a copy of our by-laws. If you have any questions, read them, or if you wish, write to me.

Now... here is our first "Meet Your Executive Committee" Chairmen...

Public Relations Committee

Paul and Nancy Schulze, Muskegon, Michigan

A new and vitally important committee for the Midwest Federation is the Public Relations committee. Co-chairmen are Paul and Nancy Schulze of Muskegon. In line with our policy of trying to get the best qualified people possible for each Federation position, it was imperative to find someone who not only understood the field of Public Relations, but was also an enthusiastic hobbyist and club member. So I am proud to introduce the Schulzes, who are partners in a professional Public Relations firm, Tempo Enterprises. Their specialty is communications, and it is here the Federation has the greatest need. Nancy is a journalist and editor, and Paul is an educator and editor. Both are interested in photography. They are totally absorbed in rockhounding, specializing in minerals and fossils.

The Midwest Public Relations Committee is charged with helping our Federation and its member clubs develop a better Public Image. Our clubs are involved in wonderful educational and social service activities, but we are not getting the scope and importance of our work across to the general public. Schulzes want to help you learn more about your Federation and help the public learn of our great contributions to American Life. Won't you help? Every club member should read Paul's message to us, and every Club President should immediately appoint a Public Relations Chairman to work with Paul and Nancy.

Thanks, June Zeitner, President

* * * * *

To All Midwest Federation Clubs:

Sound Public Relations is not a simple thing. There are no magic formulas, no short cuts to acceptance of an idea or activity. It is an on-

going effort by everyone with common interests to do good things and then let those good things be known. While every member is involved with a public image, leadership to innovate programs, guide effort and tell everyone all about accomplishments, must be identified. We hope that every Club IN THE MIDWEST FEDERATION will appoint a committee to oversee its Public Relations functions and coordinate the work of the club with the Federation Committee. PLEASE send the name of your Public Relations Chairman to:

Paul Schulze, MWF Public Relations Chm.
3061 Eastland Road
Muskegon, Michigan 49441

Thanks, Paul and Nancy

* * * * *

LEGISLATION AND CONSERVATION

Chairman, Cal George, in addition to being the watch dog for our Federation of all the active and proposed legislation and conservation is serving the AFMS in a similar capacity with Public Relations included. In keeping with our policy of using the talents of the professional people in our organization, Cal was selected because he is a successful lawyer as well as a hobbyist. Cal and his wife Harriet call Naperville, Illinois home. They are interested in fossils and are trophy winners in competitive display. Cal is currently president of ESCONI, one of our largest and most active clubs. The Georges have three sons and a daughter. Cal's committee is charged with helping your club keep its collecting areas, and keeping track of Public Land developments, and providing us with information, which if we use it, will prevent us from making mistakes in regard to hobby activities. If your club has a question about legislation, write to Cal.

NEW MIDWEST SLIDE PROGRAM

Mary Anderson, our Program Chairman, announces a new slide program which is now available to all Midwest clubs. The program covers the gem, mineral, and fossil areas of the Badlands of South Dakota. You can get a preview of some of the areas to be included in the Field Convention of the Midwest Federation on June 12th thru 15th. The program was made by the Albert Zeitners, the Robert Wilsons, and the Paul Reutters. The program runs 35 to 40 minutes. Order from Mary now. Ask for "Dakota Field Trips".

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

Please order your copy of the Midwest Federation Directory now. At 50¢ each these Directories of YOUR Federation contain many dollars worth of information which will help you participate more fully in your hobby. There is vital information about our 206 clubs, a new gem locality guide, and a complete listing of shows, swaps, and field trips near you. In order to know who many copies to print we need your order now. Reserve your copy through your club president.

TWO \$50.00 PRIZES ANNOUNCED AS FEATURE OF GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

As a feature of the Gem and Mineral Show of the Kansas City Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 7-8-9 two \$50.00 prizes have been announced. The two individuals or groups, the one amateur and the other engaged in earth science materials as a business or profession, who offer as donations to the Geology Museum of the University of Missouri at Kansas City, during the March show, the specimen, collection or display judged most desirable by the Department of Geology as an accession to the permanent collection, will each be awarded a cash prize of \$50.00. The award for the amateur is provided by the Association of Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City, the other by a friend of the Department of Geology.

Entries will be displayed during the show at a designated table, the ownership marked, and will remain the property of the owners. On Sunday, March 9, at 3:00 p.m., the Geology Museum will announce the selection and formally accept the winning entries, the donors of which will receive the awards along with written acknowledgments of their charitable gifts.

Plan to attend this big event.....

MIDWEST FEDERATION FIELD TRIP CONVENTION
JUNE 12-13-14-15, 1969
Headquarters—Murdo, South Dakota

A LOOK AT THE FEDERATION

By Gerald Huber

As Reported at Madison, Wisconsin, November 9, 1968

One of the fringe benefits of retiring from any office is that it provides one with a license to indulge a bit more in his freedom of expression. With your permission, let's put this license to work. Having served as your treasurer for the past two terms, I have enjoyed an opportunity that only a very few of you could have ever shared. That is, the documented means of taking a hard look at the overall picture of our Federation and the supporting means of delving into any particular facet of the organization, in complete detail.

Examining 28 years of Federation history, one finds that there are two significant and outstanding facts that attributed to our present date growth and status. One was the hard work and cooperative effort displayed by our founders and their successors and the other is the well documented fact that the Federation's membership and strength grew in direct relationship to the increase and improvement of services provided to its affiliated societies. These are not only historic facts; they are accurate management yardsticks. Let's not ignore them. History books are crammed with the failures of countries and rulers who elected to ignore past history. There is nothing new "under the sun" where our hobby is concerned; even the yet-to-be-discovered minerals are eons older than the hobby itself and, believe me, there is little of anything new "under the sun" in the business of managing a corporation or a Federation such as ours. Let us therefore remember these yardsticks, cooperative effort and the relationship of growth to services rendered.

History is never self-generating as such - it must be made. Today's 13,900 Federation members are the direct responsibility of each and every member of this Executive Committee. Much has been accomplished recently in line with this responsibility but there are improvements yet to be initiated. Let's examine a few on each side of the ledger.

The Newsletter is a tremendous service and a real Federation asset. However it could be enlarged in size, scope and distribution. It is my firm belief that if it were so enlarged, even more clubs would subscribe to it for their own local distribution.

Our publications are another asset of strength, but there are some areas for improvement. Our Directory, the Program Aid with its current supplement and the publications obtained through other Federations such as the Exhibitors' Safety and Bulletin Editor's manuals are all excellent but unfortunately our supply of those manuals furnished by other Federations is now depleted. The Operations Manual should be up-dated and further augmented with separate detailed procedures for each office. It is also very apparent that up-date copies of our Constitution and By-Laws are in an almost non-existent supply. Would it be amiss to suggest including an up-dated copy in the forth-coming Directory?

Our newly created Long Range Planning Committee is a very definite improvement for the Federation. Their experiences and qualifications should help greatly in providing direction and motivation that will be needed to handle future problems. I am certain you will hear of their plans in detail a bit later in the meeting.

Now what about the future? Would a membership total of 25,000 in five years surprise you? I sincerely hope not, since all the market and growth studies related to the hobby indicate that it should reach nearly double that figure. This, of course, brings up many problems. For example, can you imagine a potential of 40,000 rockhounds attending a Midwest Federation field trip? This may be stretching the probabilities just a bit, but it does make an obvious point. Our future field trips and show conventions merit some immediate and serious study if they are to survive. The Federation is in dire need of a permanent mailing address, preferably one with storage, display and meeting facilities attached. Also, in this connection, we are not far away from the necessity of a full time secretary. Our affiliated societies are in a greater need for a permanent mailing address that is not associated with any given office and therefore not subject to constant change.

An educational training course should be established for developing qualified competitive display judges. Such a course should be complete with manuals, text books and a system of grading the trainees. The Feder-

ation's future should produce a technical research division whose services would be available to all members. Such a service might well lend to another possible Federation asset - a lending library open to all affiliated members.

Does this sound like "Blue Sky" thinking? Perhaps, but you may be required to consider these and many more in the future. Experience has taught me that you are qualified and you must be interested because you are still listening. Place your trust and confidence in yourself and in each other and there is absolutely nothing that is impossible. Did you know a company is judged by the people it keeps?

The most important item was left for last. It's what we like to refer to as our public image. After one of our past meetings which included discussions on this subject I overheard a gentleman say, "We certainly have a good man taking care of that subject". I agreed whole-heartedly, but the gentleman missed the point completely. This is not a job for just one man or one group; this is a job for each and every one. Development of a public image must start from within the organization. A case where "charity begins at home". If real enthusiasm can be developed in all areas within the organization it will radiate outwardly and develop a natural public image that can easily be molded and promoted by that "good man who is taking care.". How can this be accomplished? Remember our two historic facts mentioned earlier? By cooperative effort, by increasing and improving our services and now let's add another, your own personal involvement. If the Federation had a set of Commandments, certainly these would be the first three. In closing I would like to re-use a comment I made in a report some time ago. "As a Federation, we exist but for the service we provide".

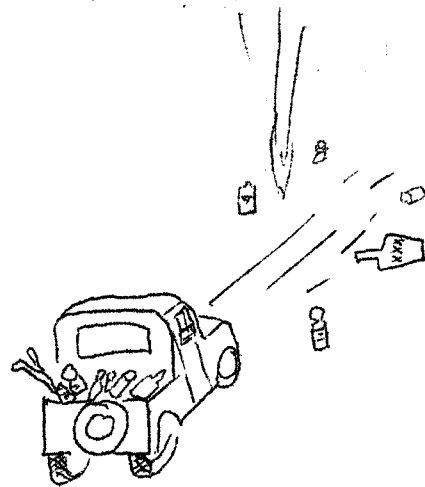
H. E. L. P. ?

Don't be a litter bug,
 Don't throw out that trash
 Besides being messy
 To remove, it takes cash.

These words are flashed at us
 Across all the land,
 To leave this land beautiful.
 Is the idea that's planned.

But somehow the idea,
 Even though it is good,
 When put into practice
 Doesn't work as it should.

It cleans our fair country
 Of much litter and muck,
 But it leaves my car looking
 Like an old garbage truck.



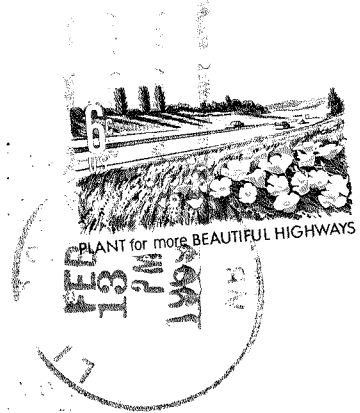
contributed by Gene Eno

*Time
 FLIES*

Forget the gossip you've heard,
 The nagging, unkind word.
 Forget your problems and their cause,
 Folk's short comings and their flaws,
 Forget the climate if it's bad
 The rainy holidays you've had.
 Forget even to think the blues --
BUT DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR DUES!

-From American Gem & Mineral Suppliers Assn.
 via Magic Valley Gem News

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club
 Norma Miller, Editor
 Box 29356
 Lincoln, NB 68529



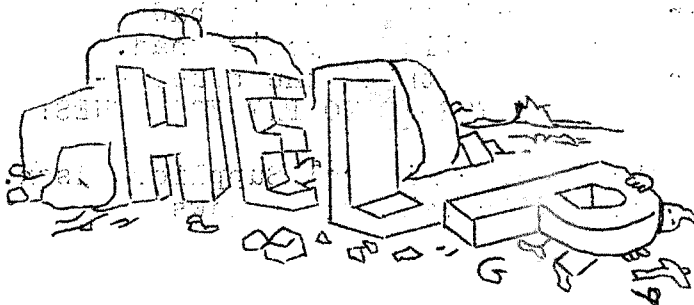
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"UNDERSTANDING, THROUGH EDUCATION, IS THE BUILDER OF TOMORROW"
 - MRS. JUNE CULP ZEITNER, MFW PRESIDENT



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