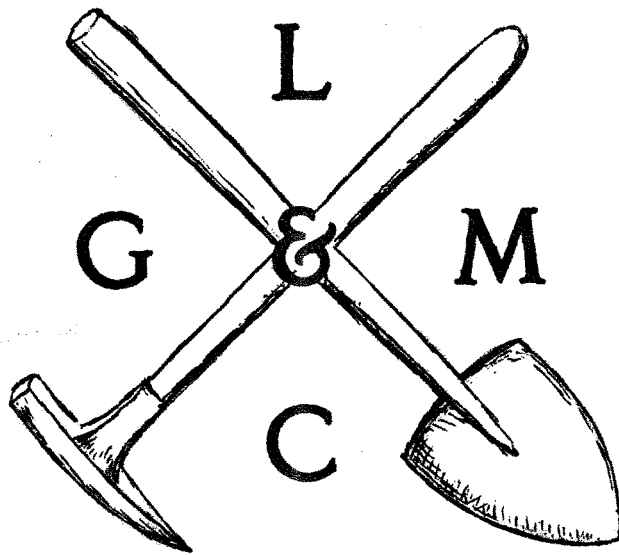


# THE PICK & SHOVEL



OCT - 1976

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
**LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB**  
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.  
P. O. Box 5342, Lincoln, NE 68505

The purpose of this 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.

MEMBER: Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies (MWF)  
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)  
Nebraska Association of Earth Science Clubs, Inc. (NAOESCI)  
Community Arts Council of Lincoln (CAC)  
Nebraska Recreation League (NRL)

Regular Meetings: 4th Saturday of the month, September through May, 7:30 P.M.  
1976 - IOOF Hall, 1101 No. 56th St., Lower Level

1976 ELECTED OFFICERS:

President . . . .	Larry Bigley	6126 Hartley	Lincoln, 68507	466-0211
1st Vice Pres . .	Flossie Litzenberg	1435 No. 24th St.	Lincoln, 68503	432-5672
2nd Vice Pres . .	Don Carter	1101 Driftwood Dr.	Lincoln, 68510	489-3442
Recording Secy. .	Nelda Oliver	5700 Otoe St.	Lincoln, 68506	489-5222
Treasurer . . . .	John Harrison	Hickman, Nebr.	68372	792-3825
Board Member . .	George McGinnis	3444 Somerset Ave.	Lincoln, 68504	466-4878
Board Member . .	Norma Miller	931 Cottonwood Dr.	Lincoln, 68510	489-8840
Board Member . .	Howard Taylor	910 New Hampshire	Lincoln, 68508	432-3707
Board Member . .	Evelyn Ulrich	3521 So. 48th St.	Lincoln, 68506	488-9051

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

Program	Roger Pabian	Liaison	Phyllis Parks &
Hospitality	Virginia Green		Marita Bigley
Historian	Lois Everett	Refreshments	Bud & Helen Wasser
Librarian	Joella Olson		Edwin & Vivian Johnson
Membership	Marita Bigley	Education	Marie Wells
Field Trips &		Scholarship	Florence Boring
Safety	Tom Simmons	Publications	Art Howlett
Calling Committee		Housing &	
& Vaya Con Dios	Marie J. Carveth	Property	Larry Bigley
NAOESCI Reporter	Luella Paul		
1976 Show Chairman	Jim Marburger		
1977 Show Chairman	Roger Pabian		

PICK & SHOVEL STAFF:

Editor - Evelyn Ulrich, 3521 So. 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506, Phone 488-9051  
Typist - Flossie Litzenberg  
Artwork stenciling - Jim Parks  
Publisher - Phyllis Parks  
Reporters - Club Members

Contributions from members are welcome and needed. Deadline for material is the 1st of the month to be printed. Please send copy to the Editor.

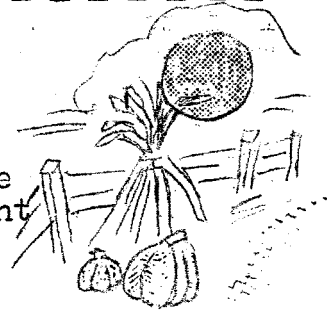
Subscriptions to the Pick & Shovel are \$3.00 per year - mailed.

Advertising by a rock-hobby business or interest is permitted with approval of the Board, at a rate presently set at \$10.50 per full page per insertion, with approximately 10 inches x 7 inches of copy. 1/2 page is 5.25, 1/3 page 3.50 and the minimum size ad is 1/4 page at \$2.75 per insertion.

Articles published in THE PICK & SHOVEL may be reprinted if credit is given the author and the bulletin, and a copy of the publication is sent to the Editor.

Regular meeting... Saturday, Oct. 23, 1976 7:30 P.M.  
IOOF Hall, 1101 North 56th St.

Program..... Roger Pabian will present a slide program on Montana Agates. These are new slides of agates found on a recent trip to Montana. You won't want to miss this very fine program.



Official business. Nominating Committee Report

Door Prize ..... Don't forget a pony case will be given as a door prize at the October meeting. It isn't often that a prize of this value is given, so be sure and come to the meeting and test your luck

LGMC Board Meeting. Thursday, Nov. 4, 1976-7:30 P.M.  
Home of Larry Bigley - 6126 Hartley

Change of Address. Please add to your Who's Who the present address of:  
Gladys M. Workman, 6110 Oakridge Dr. 488-6351 ---68516  
Edward Ridge, 5228 Lexington, Lincoln, Nebraska--68504

Field Trip ..... None scheduled for October.

Dates to Remember

Oct. 16-17, 1976	Grand Island, Ne.	Grand Island Earth Science Soc. Show, Fonner Park
Oct. 23-24, 1976	Hutchinson, Ks.	Show - Convention Hall
Nov. 12-14, 1976	St. Louis, Mo.	St. Louis Mineral and Gem Soc. Show, Electricians Hall, 5850 Elizabeth Ave.

1977 Dates to Remember

Confirmed Dates for Nebraska Shows

Mar: 26-27	Lincoln, Ne.	Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club Show Nebraska State Fairgrounds
June 17-19	Hebron, Ne.	Fort Butler Rock & Gem Club Swap
Sept. 3-5	Omaha, Ne.	Nebraska Gem & Mineral Club Show
Sept. 9-11	Fort Kearney, Ne.	Nebraska State Show. Hosted by Fort Kearney Rock Club.

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies Show

July 20-23, 1977, Dayton, Ohio Hosted by Dayton Gem & Mineral Soc.

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.  
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Last month... In spite of the cold rain 53 club members and two visitors were present at the September meeting of the IGMC. The guest list included the following: Gusta Fandrich and David Eno.

A nominating committee was elected to prepare a slate of officers for 1977. Members of the committee are as follows: Tom Simmons, Roger Pabian and Wilfred Wittmann.

Ruthy Coleman, delegate to the Midwest Federation convention and show in St. Louis, gave her report to the Club and we are hoping to get a written report to publish in the November Pick and Shovel.

Larry Bigley, MWF Safety and Field Trip Committee chairman, reported upon plans being made to establish better relations between landowners and MWF rockhounds. He also requested that each officer and committee chairman prepare a written report outlining the duties and obligations connected with his office. This for the benefit of new officers.

Roger Pabian, 1977 Show Chairman, stated that Club members will be expected to exhibit at the 1977 Show.

The Club voted to have a potluck dinner for the Christmas party. Meat and icecream will be furnished by the Club. The party will be held on Dec. 11th at the regular meeting place - the IOOF Hall at 1101 North 56th Street..

An auction was held for the benefit of the AFMS Scholarship Fund..

Door prizes were won by Florence Boring, Linda Parks, Norma Miller and Glen Lyman.

Andrejs Zarins presented a slide program on the distribution of glacial till in the U.S.



-----  
VAYA CON DIOS - May God be with you.

Cards were sent to:

Glenna McGinnis - Get well  
Lynn Wells - Get well

-----  
October 1966



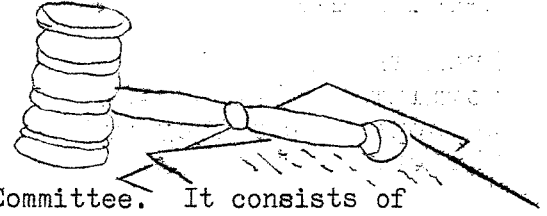
1966 Rock Show Slides -- Everyone was to bring his slides to Dick Hedges before the meeting. Slide Program -- A Field Trip to a Tri-State Mine. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hartman were welcomed into the Club as members.

From the notebook of Lois Everett, Historian

-----  
We were all very sorry to hear that Glenna McGinnis, who edits our Glenna's Gleanings had the misfortune of sustaining a serious back injury while attending the car races at the Omaha Speedway, Saturday evening, October 2nd. The bleacher upon which she was sitting broke injuring six people. The others were treated and released, but Glenna broke a disc and is hospitalized in Bryan Memorial Hospital at the present. Our best wishes are extended to Glenna. We hope her improvement will be rapid and complete.

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Club Members;



At the last meeting we elected our Nominating Committee. It consists of Wilfred Whittman, Roger Fabian, and Tom Simmons, who at last report are making headway and will present the slate of officers at the October meeting.

As the next three meetings are probably the most important ones of the year I would like to urge all club members to attend. Upcoming meetings consist of the Nominating Committee report and Christmas Party Committee reports. November will be the Silent Auction (with proceeds going to AFMS Scholarship Fund) and election of officers and Board of Directors.

The next part of my President's message by necessity of space will be two part and will be completed next month. It is the proposed letters to clubs and property owners from the MWF committee to open and reopen collecting sites. It will be on MWF letterhead stationery.

Current committee chairperson's address

Property owner's address

Dear \_\_\_\_\_;

The MWF is composed of 18,000 serious Rockhounds who are concerned about their image being blackened by the few groups and individuals exhibiting atrocious behavior. The very few are spoiling it for all. We are working towards the opening and reopening of collecting sites through cooperation with property owners.

The committee to Open and Reopen Collecting Sites has been organized to help property owners identify both responsible and irresponsible people who wish to visit and collect on their land. We are establishing a file concerning member activity while on field trips.

Groups that you allow on you land should leave addressed, stamped postcards and/or envelopes and stationery with you. If you will fill in the card as to behavior problems, listing specifics, we will file. We would also appreciate your time in filling in positive comments. Whenever an owner receives a request for a visit you may write the committee and we will give you a summary of their behavior on previous trips, both good and bad. This should help you decide as to whether they may collect on your site. You would be the sole judge as to admittance. Our role is an advisory one.

We wish to keep the procedure as simple as possible and will appreciate any suggestions you may have. We will notify you of any action we take. If any group or individual refuse to correct their actions we can, by our constitution, drop them from membership and will so advise you.

In closing I want to say that our message is simple. We enjoy the privilege of visiting your property and want to cooperate in any way we can.

Sincerely;

Chairperson  
Collecting Site Committee

*Larry E. Bigley*

From the Editor's Desk ...The time is at hand when the nominating committee will be seeking new officers for the coming year. It is to be hoped that they will not receive answers to their request such as the ones which follow:

Who, Me, run for office? No thanks.  
The president's job--- that should be Frank's.  
Listen, no, I have a few suggestions to make.  
How about display cases. 'Twill only take  
A couple of evenings for someone to make.

Program Chairman? I don't see how  
I can manage that position now.  
But how about getting good speakers this year,  
Have a demonstration on silver work here,  
You bet I'll attend every one, never fear.

Bulletin Editor? Oh, I can't write  
A decent article. Mine sound so trite.  
But can't we have lots more rock-cutting tips,  
A column for news, and some humorous quips?  
And write something more about rock-hunting trips.

Display table? I like it fine!  
Oh, no. That selenite isn't mine.  
My minerals and gems are all packed away.  
Anyhow, I was much too tired today.  
Do you realize how much rocks weigh?

I'm in good standing. I pay my dues.  
I never fail to give my views.  
Meeting night comes, and there I'll be,  
I'm present, please note, for all people to see.  
Gee, don't you wish there were more members like me?  
(P.S. My intentions are good and last for a while,  
But if you were to put me on trial,  
I'd have to admit that I've been in low gear,  
whenever they asked for a work volunteer.  
Really I promise to do better NEXT YEAR.)

Calumet Gems via REAR TRUNK

-----  
"Hold this paper to your face and blow on it. If it turns green,  
call your physician. If it turns brown, see your dentist.

If it turns purple, see your insurance agent. If it turns red, see  
your banker. If it turns black, call your lawyer and make a will.

If it remains the same color, you are in good health and there is no  
reason on earth why you should not be at the Oct. 23rd meeting."

Adapted from American Naedical News  
-----

O sun and skies and flowers of June, Count all your boasts together,  
Love loveth best of all the year, October's bright blue weather.  
Helen Hunt Jackson

Board Minutes.....

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club Board Meeting was held Sept. 1, at the home of President, Larry Bigley, with 6 board members and Glen Litzenberg, Jim Marburger and Marita Bigley Present.

Minutes of the June board meeting were read and approved as read.

Treasurer report by John Harrison, Jr. and approved as read. Bills were read by Treasurer. \$83.80 paper bill from Latsch included. Motion Howard Taylor to approve bills as read, seconded Flossie Litzenberg. Carried.

After discussion, a motion by John Harrison, Jr. that door prize at Sept. general meeting be one Pony Gem Case, seconded Nelda Oliver. More discussion-Howard Taylor suggested a raffle on the case. Howard Taylor amended above motion for October Meeting, seconded John Harrison, Jr.. Amendment carried, motion carried.

President, Larry Bigley informed board that word specimen was spelled wrong on the Cycad Plaque for the Neihardt Center, and he was also told the type of cycad was wrong.

Motion Howard Taylor that President direct a letter to who ever is questioning the wording on the plaque and have him get an authority to identify, seconded John Harrison, Jr.

Above motion amended by John Harrison, Jr., we put task of authority for approval on authoratative source so the question doesn't come up again. Seconded Howard Taylor, Amendment carried. Motion carried.

A discussion on the Editors breakfast at St. Louis Show on How better to upgrade your bulletin.

Printed covers: 5000 covers would cost \$100.00 a year. Thumbnail biography-members don't seem to be interested. Will continue as in the past.

Marita Bigley read reinstatemnet of Gladys Workman. Motion Evelyn Ulrich to accept reinstatement, seconded Flossie Litzenberg. Carried. She will be a guest until dues time.

We didn't get the 1980 show. Had a chance for 1979 but did not carry authority.

Howard Taylor asked about a Federation Show in 1981 and/or with Nebraska State Association.

Motion John Harrison, Jr., that board go on record to recommend to rank and file hosting a 1981 Midwest Federation Show and possiblity in conjunction with Nebraska State Association. seconded.

Flossie Litzenberg reports programs ready but want it held after the meeting is called to order. Program a trial basis after meeting.

There will be a silent auction in Sept. bring a summer find for 'kitty fund'. In November, another silent auction and club donates a case for 'kitty fund'.

Motion John Harrison, Jr, club donate a case. Seconded Howard Taylor, Carried. November will be door prize rocks we have left from members contributions in Jan/Feb for door prizes.

Delegate to Omaha will be Howard Taylors, Larry Bigleys and Jim Margurger and Frank Rule.

President read letter from Gr. Island show and the flyer. Ft. Kearney Club Open House, Sept. 11-12, for Norman Balliet. Letter from Luthi-Topeka Show Oct. 2 and 3.

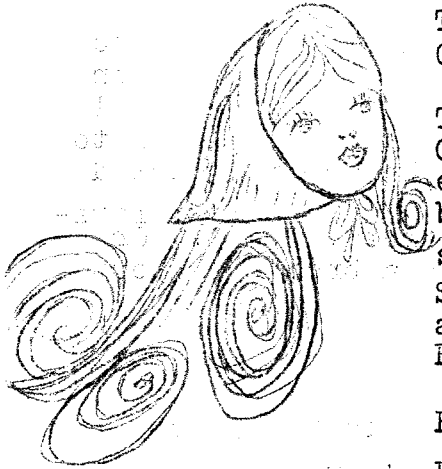
Application forms to be brought to general meeting and President to clarify.

Board Minutes continued.....

Awards were shown and will be presented at general meeting. Larry thanked Evelyn Ulrich for her efforts. The Club also won an All American Award, again.

October board meeting will be at Flossie Litzenbergs home on the 7th. Motion John Harrison, Jr to adjourn.

Nelda Oliver, Secretary.



The following news items were written shortly before Glenna's accident:

The "Opal", bulletin of the West Suburban Lapidary Club of Melrose Park, Ill., winner of the Midwest Federation bulletin contest, beat the "Pick and Shovel" by  $\frac{1}{2}$  point. The average scores on the two bulletins submitted for judging were "The Opal" 97 $\frac{1}{2}$  - "Pick and Shovel" 97. Congratulations to the Publication staff, and especially to the lady who puts it together, Evelyn Ulrich.

Frank "Lefty" Rule is driving a new red and white 4WD Ford pickup, compliments of son, Tom. How Lucky can you get?

On Oct. 9th, Myrtle and J.D. Young spoke at the semi-annual Nebraska Writers' Guild meeting at Bancroft, Nebraska. They and Florence Boring were special guests on September 25 of Mildred Goosman, curator for Western Collections at Joslyn Museum in Omaha, who gave them a personal tour of the facility.

Glen Ulrich and associates have opened a jewelry repair shop known as Midwest Manufacturing Jewelers. Their offices are located on the first floor of the Sharp Building.

Bu and Joella Olson went rock hunting in Minnesota last week. Let's see some of your goodies, folks!

Maxine Pivonka had a half-page spread in the Sun Newspaper, commenting on her third prize win at the Fair in the festive breads division. She won it for challah, a Jewish holiday bread and this award is only one of many won by her these past eighteen years for white bread, rolls and her ethnic bread, the Czech houska. Her recipe was printed for sharing with the readers.

Lynn Wells is having heart valve surgery on Oct. 6 at Bryan Memorial Hospital. We wish him all the best. Marie's daughter, Nancy, is involved in Educational Therapy for emotionally disturbed children at the Psychiatric unit of the Nebraska Hospital in Omaha, Marie reports.

Long-time member, Maurice Tracy, is now a resident of Bethesda Hospital. I am sure he would appreciate cards and letters from his many friends.

Marie Taylor tells me that she and Howard spent many weekends this summer attending shows and swaps in his capacity as president of the Federation, including the National Show at Austin, Texas.

Luella Paul reports that she counted thirtytwo IGMC members at the State Show and twentytwo on the President's Field Trip. Real good! She and Ewald took a short trip to Chicago for a niece's wedding this fall.

Larry Marquardt has been making some fabulous finds of Indian artifacts this summer. Let's ask him to show them at the fall meetings.

The McGinnis' number one daughter and family will be returning to the mainland from a tour in Hawaii. They will spend the Christmas holiday at "home" before going on to their next post in Sacramento, California.

## News From Here and There

The Borglum Memorial Committee was recently formed in South Dakota to raise funds to buy the historic Borglum Ranch and Studio where Gutzon Borglum lived and worked while he was carving Mount Rushmore National Monument. L.T. Lausten, Aberdeen, Chairman of the committee. Gifts to the fund are tax deductible. Clubs or individuals who are interested in helping with this important project are urged to write to L.T. Lausten, North Plains Press, Box 910, Aberdeen, South Dakota, 57401. Or write June Zeitner, Mission, South Dakota, 57555 for a brochure about the fund.

via The Pyriter

The Black Hills Mineral Society, Rapid City, South Dakota has a program 75-T Black Hills Gem-O-Rama. Script, tape, 109 slides. A well put together program showing the minerals, artifacts, fossils, scenery, etc. found in the area.

via The Cycad

Several South Dakota bulletins tell of beautiful Fairburns being found at favorite collecting areas. Some are as large as a tea cup. According to reports quite a few Fairburns were found this summer.

Notes from a BLM News Release...Proposed revisions to regulations governing the use of off-road vehicles (ORV's) on Federal lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) were published in the Federal Register on July 28, 1976, the Department of the Interior announced.

The proposed revisions responded to Executive Order No. 11644 of Feb. 8, 1972, concerning management of off-road vehicles on Federal lands and to a decision and order of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia issued May 2, 1975.

The Court as a result of a suit by the National Wildlife Federation, ruled that BLM's existing regulations, together with the Department's original Environmental Impact Statement, which described alternatives for the regulations, were inadequate. The Court, also, held that the BLM's regulations did not meet the criteria of the Executive Order.

A draft Environmental Impact Statement, prepared by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation in cooperation with other agencies, was issued Thursday July 22, 1976. It covered ORV use on all lands administered by the Department of the Interior.

Under the proposed regulation revisions, All BLM-administered lands, with the exception of existing Primitive and Natural Areas, are undesignated with regard to ORV use until they have been evaluated and designated in accordance with procedures and criteria specified in the Executive Order. This process has been completed for areas of the California Desert and will proceed Bureau-wide when the regulations go into effect. Designations will be made continuously until all BLM-administered areas will be "open", "closed", or "regulated" with regard to ORV use.

Initial efforts receiving top priority will be concentrated in southern California. Problem areas in Alaska, southern Nevada, western Arizona, and central Utah. These areas receive about 60% of the ORV use on BLM lands.

via Chips and Tips

## THE OPAL - BIRTHSTONE FOR OCTOBER

This morning I awakened to an Opal Sky! Ever changing as I watched the beauty of the early morning, the sun's rays reflecting the pink, blue and orchid on every cloud, and the clouds in turn, making way for another beautiful autumn day in "Nebraskaland". The quietness of the time, the hours before the hurry of the day's activities are very special.

So like the sleeping colors and hues of the gem, the Opal, with every move a flash of colour-the legend of the Fairy Dance of the Opal, buried deep in the darkness of the earth. As one Englishman said, "Face upward it lay in my sunburnt hand-one solid broad red flash as big as a butterfly wing."

Warning: Once the opal fever hits you, it's like gold, you will never recover from it.

When you, whoever you are, wear your Opal, do you wonder where it came from? Did you know a great part of the surface of the earth is made of it, that it is one of our favorite building materials? It forms beautiful yellow crystals with smooth and curving surfaces, in some ways like sulphur or diamond-what is it? Silicon! Silicon combined with oxygen becomes silica-a common mineral-in many forms, in all varieties of Opal. Over a hundred, according to statistics, and not to snub the mosquito-this is not a joke-it has silica in its stinger to keep it sharp!

Our precious Opal---a mineral at heart! Silica takes many forms, to name a few-jasper, loved by the Egyptians, flint, used by the cave man in his weapons. The Opal was revered by the Romans as the stone of love and hope.

The Precious Opal, a non-crystalline form of silica, is the most highly prized member of the wide family. Common Opal is found in mining areas all over the world, from England to Russia, Canada to Ethiopia, and Australia. Opal dirt, the clay in which Opal is normally found, is smooth, shows iron stains, and most always damp.

Usually the "Amber" jelly-like, although not too interesting or valuable, will sometimes show some colour, and this deposit might lead to the more rare species giving brilliant flashes of color.

Opal is porous by nature, so much care is to be used when polishing just a "little more", and you may damage the gem, and consequently time and effort is lost. However, hardness may vary in this lovely piece of nature's work. The scale of hardness is usually 5 to 6.

The records show some lapidary first succeeded in polishing Opal, like 2000 years ago! Today, after all the years, the method remains basically very similar. We try for the most brilliant color, the best shape, and size with the piece of rough material we have.

The colours in glass prisms, and in diamonds are as pure and beautiful as can be, but none so brilliant as those of the beautiful Opal.

Australia, the land down under, Queensland and Mexico are world-known for beautiful Opal finds. Impressive names have been given to larger stones, such as "Big Ben", 4100 carats, which was cut down into smaller

continued

THE OPAL - BIRTHSTONE FOR OCTOBER continued

gems of high quality, and greater dollar value. The "Red Admiral" stone 40-50 carats (also known as "The Butterfly" because of its pattern and shape) is considered by many to be the most beautiful in the world. The "Light of the World"-225 carats-"Andamooka Opal" at 203 carats-The "Pandora" found in 1928-696 carats! "Pride of Australia", 225 carats, partly cut. The "Flame Queen", 1918 weighed in at 253 carats, partly cut. The list is long and consists of truly beautiful and impressive names. The Andamooka Opal was presented to Queen Elizabeth II in Adelaide, in 1954. It was set in a necklace surrounded by diamonds; with earrings to match!

Keep a piece of Opal in the rough somewhere in your home, and when the sunshine hits it, you will see the most beautiful colours in the world.

Legend of the Opal:

Some say since time began, when ever a rainbow appeared over Australia, the fairies snipped a piece from each end. To keep this treasure of wonderous colour from the greed of man, they were hidden among the rocks deep in the other earth. These tiny lamps of colour, by some magic, known only to the Fairies, held safe these colours of flashing hues, and within, with each movement the fire glows, and flames into the heart of each, and thus, The Opal was born!

It was the pleasure of this writer, as program chairman, several years ago to engage a gentleman by the name of Walter Nunn, to present the LGMC with a program on Australia, with some of the most beautiful specimens of Opal the membership had ever seen. The size? Some as large as a chicken egg. I'm sure some of you remember the size of the Opals! Who could forget?

At one time it was rumored to be "bad Luck" to those who wore the Opal, and who did not have a birthday in October? Not so-Go ahead and enjoy wearing your Opals-Queen Victoria of jolly ol' England had the rumor started-to protect her own interests in the beautiful gem.

Like a cheery light  
A journey's end,  
A fireside bright  
And the smile of a friend!  
The Opal---

Submitted by Marie J. Carveth, Sept. 30, 1976.

CDE TO ATUIN

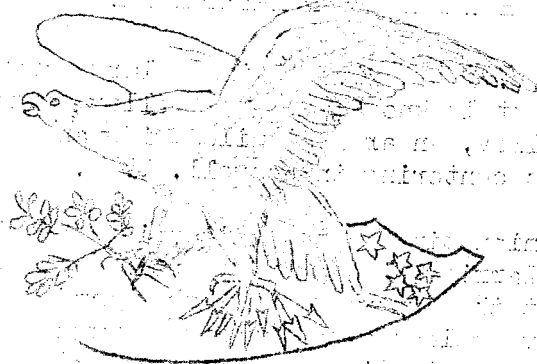
Poets, from the time of old,  
Have lauded leaves of red and gold.

Poets, if I'm not mistaken,  
Never had the job of rakin'

-Nova Trimble Ashley



1776



1976

## THE 200th BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Bicentennial Sense and Non-Sense--- edited by J. D. Young

SCHOOL--- September gone - One down and eight more to go.

To those who have had experience in a one-room rural school these lines may "ring a bell". Others may feel a joyful sense of deprivation. So be it. Here the name "Johnny" represents a typical rural pupil of the pre-jet age.

Our hero trudged some miles to school after doing a number of morning chores. In winter he may have arrived with any of the following: frostbitten ears, cheeks, fingers and feet. The kind teacher would permit a warm-up by the central heating stove, and then postpone the "opening exercises" until exhaled breath left no vapor trails.

The dismal, unheated entrance room beneath the summoning bell tower was lined on both sides with plain shelves and cloak hooks. These stored the clothing and dinner pails, - boys' on one side and girls' on the other. Two different sexes were still the accepted classification pattern.

On cold days the food in the pails was often frozen, and so was the wet clothing. In the main schoolroom the sexes were divided, as was also the custom in rural churches. Johnny's teacher's stipend was about \$30.00 per month for 9 months, and board and room were obtained at a patron's farm home, sometimes moving from one to another.

Pupils had double desks, and were embarrassed if a teacher sat with them to help with the 3 R's. Classes were told to turn, rise, pass, and be seated on long benches up front for recitations. Johnny learned to recite and spell orally - and probably greatest of all he did become able to communicate.

Needing the out-door comfort station a pupil raised an eager hand (never mind the code) for teacher's attention, often unattainable. Then, some other may have already pre-empted the facility. Eventually permission to leave the room was granted.

The day ends - and now the homeward trek, the little before shores snack, the late supper, homework (drat!) - and real sleep, maybe on a straw tick. Johnny has had his school day!

And comes the dawn. Repeat at will, and Jane might share the lines, too.

J.D.Y.

Pecos Diamonds... New Mexico claims a large quantity of quartz, in many forms. The crystals known as Pecos Valley Daimonds are found only in the Pecos River Valley, an area 20 miles wide and a north-south distance of about 100 miles centering in Roswell, N. M.

During the Permian time of the Paleozoic era (300 million years ago), the great Capitan Barrier Reef grew, trapping the Permian Sea. Evaporation of the sea left the gypsum beds of the Permian-Whitehorse foration. Time and erosion have released the quartz crystals embedded in the gypsum where they originally crystallized. These crystals occur as double terminated hexagonal prisms. Generally small, the majority are translucent to opaque. They vary from colorless to white, pink, yellow, orange, red, green, brown and black shades. Though quartz replacing gypsum is not uncommon, development of such doubly-terminated crystals is unusual.

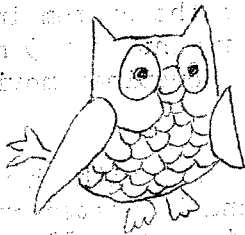
The "diamonds" were first observed and recorded in 1583 by Don Antonio de Espejo, a Spanish explorer. They were used as drills by early cliff dwellers of the southwest region. Later day Indians used them as ceremonial tools and for jewelry.

From several bulletins via S.I.E.S. Club News

P O E M By Ogden Nash

The SLOB is with us near and far,  
He tosses beer cans from his car,  
His passage leaves a slimy trail,  
The roadside is his garbage pail.  
The beaches by the SLOB are strewed  
With papers and remains of food.  
I guess that SLOBS are forced to roam  
Because of all the mess at home.  
Who wants to join that litter mob?  
Respect yourself! Don't be a SLOB!

from MINERAL MATTER  
via SOUTHWEST GEM



Sign on a billboard in Los Angeles:  
All in favor of saving gas, raise your  
right foot!

courtesy Helen Vehrs  
via Tule Smoke Signals

ALOHA, sorry I forgot to sign the article on our trip to Hawaii in the September Pick & Shovel. Flossie Litzenberg

APOLOGIES from the Pick & Shovel Staff for the lateness of this issue. We are still having problems with the club's electric typewriter. We have had it to the shop several times lately and hope we have it licked. The platen finally had to be replaced.

## Wyoming Wood - Glenna McGinnis

In 1972, prior to the heart attack which ended Mac's working days and made it possible for us to spend so much time on our hobby, a friend who was a long-time rockhound, drew us a map to a very special petrified wood area in Wyoming. During a trip to the area, we found the terrain to be too rough and filled with too many gullies for our low-slung station wagon to navigate, so we gave it up.

This past summer, after the acquisition of a pickup truck, we decided to try to find the area. Since I don't drive, common sense dictated we should not venture too far off the traveled roads alone, so we invited another family to accompany us.

Accordingly, we loaded up with all the camping gear and digging tools preparatory to spending a few days in the "boonies" and took off for our rendezvous with our friends at Pole Mountain National Forest in eastern Wyoming. We met there in an early morning snowstorm and proceeded on our way west to find sunny warm weather before we reached our destination. After setting up at a local campground, we hit the sack to be ready for the early morning trip to the hunting area.

Over the years since our friend had been in the area, the landmarks had changed so we found ourselves stopping every mile or so along the way to see if this was the area he'd mapped out. To our surprise, there was wood everywhere. Not always good cutting material or the full rounds we were searching for, so we drove on. Finally we reached an area where there were trees standing in place, both prone and upright logs and stumps. Our friends began digging which is forbidden to Mac and painful for myself, so we scratched in the sandy soil with our rock hammers wherever there were chips. This brought to light good sized pieces of black palmwood. The bark pattern on many was still intact. Many were full rounds, some pressure-flattened but all of good cutting quality. The whole hilltop was a palm forest. What a bonanza! Needless to say, we spent two days there, finding other varieties as well as palm.

A threatening rainstorm scared us out and we headed back to town on the second day. We didn't want to be stranded twenty miles from a road.

After higrading our material and keeping only the best, we started for another spot well known to many rockhounds-Eden Valley. Since there had been a recent shower, the roads were quite muddy and we got stuck first thing. We let our rigs set and went exploring over the hills and by midafternoon, the sun and wind had dried the roads sufficiently for us to go on to one of the most prolific of the spots we've hunted in the area.

Since we have been there several times, we now keep only full rounds of wood. Each time we seem to find something different, many of which are our most prized specimens. Our friends had never hunted such a lucrative area and ended up with more than they cared to haul home so they left quite a pile for the next hunter.

While we were in the vicinity, we decided to check out the fossil fish beds northeast of Farson which we'd heard were closed. However, there were people digging everywhere and we picked up a few good specimens off the shale piles and went on to an area where we had found petrified cone some years ago. No luck on cone, but our fiends found

Wyoming Wood - continued

and dug out an eighteen foot tree, about a foot in diameter. It was broken into pieces from twelve to eighteen inches long and part of it flattened some, but made beautiful specimens, most of which was left for the next rockhound.

Our friends had to leave for home, having prior committments, so we packed up and headed our separate ways. However, we all agreed the four days spent rockhunting in Wyoming had been a highlight of our summer.

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Additional item from Glenna's Gleanings... Last, but not least, ask Ray Lambert how much help his small daughter is to him in his shop. That ought to be the understatement of the year!

-----  
Field Tripping in Australia... Here is a very interesting account of a field trip in Australia:

Day trip to Buladelah. Sunday 23rd May.

Twenty four friends and members assembled at the Buladelah hotel at ??A.M. Not knowing the way up to the quarry I asked around the local population and came across this old prospector who seemed to know his way about. He agreed to take us to the place where Alunite was found. We all jumped into our cars and trucks, drove about four miles out of Buladelah and then turned off up this dirt road headed for the bush. After an hour's drive and pushing cars through mud and water the old prospector admitted he was lost, so we decided to stop and have our lunch.

While we were having our lunch up rode the local Ranger who told us the Alun mine was on the other side of the mountain.

After lunch we loaded up our cars and headed back to Buladelah. We found the right road up to the Quarry and it turned out that the quarry was only about one mile out of Buladelah. Everybody got stuck into digging out the alunite. We got plenty of good specimens large and small.

After assembling our rocks into our cars we assembled at the bottom of the mountain, then it happened; Leanne Ivanhoff found two leaches in her socks. There were shoes and socks being ripped off in all directions. After my round with the first-aid kit we all headed home. Quite an eventful day.

Bill Jackson via Rock-A-Bout

Rock-A-Bout is the bulletin of the Central Coast Lapidary Club of Gosford, Australia. It is one of my favorite bulletins. Their Club is exceptionally progressive, and their members really seem to thoroughly enjoy their membership in the Club. They have their own cutting room, the ladies' auxillary that raises money for the Club, they have lots of outings enjoyed by the entire family, and many well organized field trips, many by chartered bus. If I lived in Australia, I'd certainly want to belong to this fine Club.

Editor

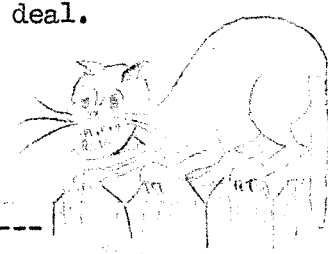


SPOOKY SCAVENGER HUNT

Can you find something we associate with Halloween hidden in two or three consecutive words of each statement below?

1. The clocks in our club rooms tick noisily.
2. When water starts through a pump, kinetic energy takes over.
3. The glib attorney won his case.
4. People whose speech is really drab lack catchy phraseology.
5. The pup ran, knowing his dinner was waiting for him.
6. A diplomat needs intelligence, wit, charm and compassion.
7. The average teen-ager must have a hollow leg.
8. A smart investor isn't about to go blindly into any deal.
9. The smiling hostess greeted her guests.
10. Industrial management shouldn't scorn stockholders.

Example: The miler's first IAP PLEAsed his coach.



Did you read about the 6 week old pup that swallowed 53 pebbles? He was treated by a veterinarian and survived the ordeal. However he gained the name of Rocky. Quite a pebble pup I'd say.

PRAYERS IN ACTION: A little girl's brother set a trap to catch birds. She thought it was wrong and cruel. She cried at first, but then her mother noticed she became happy again and asked why.

"I prayed for my brother to be a better boy."

"What else?" asked her mother.

"I prayed that the trap would not catch birds."

"And what else?"

"Well, then I went out and kicked the trap to pieces."

via Baptist Courier

LETTER TO ALL LGMC JUNIOR MEMBERS:

Our Editor, Mrs. Ulrich has asked me to help prepare the JUNIOR PAGE for our monthly Pick & Shovel. I'll need help from all of you juniors. Please tell me about your activities this past summer and maybe send in suggestions for our activities in the club. Some of you must have had good trips this summer and found materials that everyone would like to hear about, or maybe you have read something that would be nice to share with us. My address is 2435 So.19th, 68502 and my phone number is 432-6798 or you will find me after school at the shop, phone 466-5440. Thank you! Linda M. Parks

Answers to Spooky Scavenger hunt: 1-broomstick, 2-pumpkin, 3-bat, 4-black cat, 5-prank, 6-witch, 7-owl, 8-go blind, 9-ghost, 10-cornstock If you have any problems call me.

HANDY HINTS

If you use 1/3 lacquer and 2/3 thinner, you can dip polished silver in it and the polish will last indefinitely. It also keeps the silver from staining peoples' skin.

via Magie Valley Gem News

Use plastic tops from spray cans for displaying spheres. The tops come in various sizes and will fit most but the largest spheres. The tops can be wrapped with the same liner material used in the case, or sprayed with paint. If a stationary stand is desired, drill a hole in the top, then use a push pin, thumb tack, or nail to hold top down. The use of a nail would be for a more permanent display.

Ruth and Rod Frases, Campbell Gem & Mineral Guild

Empty wax milk cartons will serve as emergency flares should your vehicle break down on the road. Each will burn brightly for about ten minutes. Put a rock inside to hold it down. The cartons will help start a campfire too.

American Legion Magazine via Tule Smoke Signals

When using a vibrating lap for thin slabs, Stan Evans of Kansas City, Kansas uses double-faced carpet tape to hold the lead weights in place. A small piece holds the lead, and can be stripped off and replaced when slabs are washed between steps.

West Seattle Petroglyphs via Tule Smoke Signals

If you have a belt that slips on a machine hold a piece of glue that melts in a glue gun, against the belt. The heat of the friction will melt the glue and form almost positive traction. Be careful that the glue does not get on your fingers.

Geode Newsletter via The Beachcomber

Cleaning Specimens...Almost everyone has heard of the new sonic cleaning devices. These are small tubs with an extremely high-speed vibrating mechanism attached. The idea is to vibrate unwanted dirt and debris from the article being cleaned. They do an excellent job but are priced high.

But do you own a lap machine (jigger, vibrator or vibrating tumbler)? These units can do almost as good a job as the high-priced devices mentioned above. As to the size of the specimen, that is limited only by the size of the machine. This writer purchased a 12" x 6" high plastic tub which fits perfectly on my 12" lap machine. Fill the tub about one-third with water, add a few squirts of liquid soap and a small amount of ammonia. Turn on the rig and clean to your heart's content. You will have slightly less than super-sonic operation but with very satisfactory results. No damage will result if only one specimen (or piece of jewelry) is cleaned at a time.

The Magatizer, Gem Times via The Glacial Drifter

A hobby is a lot of hard work you wouldn't do for a living.

Chips and Tips

As we go to press there has been no report from our MWF Delegate for 1976 so we are reprinting portions of the West Central Ohio Rock Club, Delegate Martha Coutts, as printed in the October 1976 FLINT CHIPS and also copying a page of definitions and terms that appeared in the bulletin.

MIDWEST FEDERATION CONVENTION AND SHOW - by Delegate, Martha Coutts, Lima, Ohio

The Midwest Federation is the largest in the United States as of June 30, 1976. There are 264 clubs with 16,848 adult members and 1,717 junior members from 14 states and one club in Canada. There are 31 active clubs in Ohio.

The Council Meeting was held on Saturday, July 24, 1976 at 9 AM with Howard Taylor of Lincoln, Nebraska, presiding. The main business was the selection of future show sites:

- 1978 - Cedar Rapids, Iowa, July 26 - 29
- 1979 - Columbus, Ohio
- 1980 - American Federation Show & MWF Convention & Show Combined  
Evansville, Indiana

Donald Stinnett, Chairman of Program Requests Committee would like more Pen Pal requests and exchange films and slide programs.

The Midwest Show at Detroit in 1975 netted \$6,272.

Decatur, Illinois show April 29, 30, May 1, 1977 - a good show to go to. Decatur has been holding shows longer than any other club in the MWF.

The credentials committee asked that clubs please be more prompt with the delegate response forms. Also, be sure your delegate knows what is expected of him when he goes. Some delegates didn't know to pick up pre-registration forms at the Show Center ahead of time.

Fred Labahn, Pres. of Esconi, was chosen to replace Elmer Priggie as Historian and Archives Chairman.

\* \* \* \* \*

Also from FLINT CHIPS - LEGISLATION - T. T. Cadeau

The following report is on Bill #H.R.8435 which was introduced to the House of Representatives in July. We have been sent letters assuring us that "rockhounds" would not be affected. This may be so, but there doesn't seem to be anything in the law which says so.

This Act declares as policy - among other things:

1. To FOSTER, PROMOTE and ENCOURAGE EXPLORATION for, and production of minerals, in leasable Federal lands.
2. To promote CONSERVATION and to encourage MAXIMUM ULTIMATE RECOVERY.
3. To insure the public A FAIR RETURN on the disposition of its mineral resources.
4. To insure that the system for disposition of the mineral resources on the leasable Federal lands operates in a practical workable manner so that WELL CONDUCTED MINERAL ACTIVITIES may go forward in AN EFFICIENT MANNER.

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From AFMS Newsletter - PRIMITIVE PENDANT

The August issue of the Smithsonian magazine tells the unusual story of a pendant which may be 10,000 years old or even much older. Featuring an etched design of a woolly mammoth, the shell pendant was found in 1864 near the Holly Oak railroad station in northern Delaware. At the time there was some doubt as to the authenticity of the artifact. Recently scientists at the Smithsonian have determined that the etched lines of design are the same age as the shell itself, so farther examination of sediments in the area is indicated.

Legislation (cont.)

Some definitions of terms used in the Act which are worthy of note are:

"Leasable Federal Lands" means all lands owned by the United States including mineral deposits in lands the surface of which in other ownership-except (among others) --

1. Lands in the National Park and Monument Systems and the National Wildlife Refuge System except those which on the date of enactment of this Act are open to mineral leasing.
2. Lands in the National Preservation System except as otherwise provided in the Wilderness Act.

"Mined Areas" means areas upon which underground, surface or open pit mining operations are being or have been conducted. Such areas shall also include any adjacent land the use of which is incidental to any such operations and for haulage and excavations, workings, impoundments, dams, ventilation shafts, entryways, refuse banks, dumps, stockpiles, overburden piles, spoil banks, tailings, repair areas, storage areas, processing areas, shipping areas, and other areas upon which are sited structures, facilities, or other property or materials on the surface resulting from or incident to such operation.

"Mineral Activities" means prospecting for, exploring, developing, and producing deposits of commercially viable minerals in an efficient and workmanlike manner utilizing sound mineral engineering practices.

"Multiple Use" means the management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people, making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; the use of some land for less than all of its resources; a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources; including recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish; and natural scenic, scientific and historical value, and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without impairment of the production of the land, with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or the greatest unit output; provided that nothing in this section shall be construed as affecting the responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior for the disposition of the mineral resources of the National Forest System.

TITLE I

Section 101 (a) Prospecting for minerals on the leasable Federal lands maybe conducted with a prospecting permit subject to provisions of Section 103 of the Act. The Secretary (of the Interior) shall issue a prospecting permit to any person under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe. A separate permit shall be required for prospecting in each state.

Sec. 101 (c) Any person who engages in mineral prospecting on the leasable Federal lands without a prospecting permit shall be subject to penalties as provided in section 118 of this Act (\$1000.00 per each day of violation).

Sec. 102 (a) Exclusive rights to explore for, develop, and produce specified minerals on the leasable Federal lands may be obtained under leases as provided by subsequent Titles to this Act. (for Hardrock Minerals).

This Act and others (S. 282; H.R. 5224; S. 507 to name a few) seem to offer the people of the United States a chance to share in the mineral resources of leasable Federal lands. They do this by giving control of the lands in question to those interests which are apparently in the business of making money from the mining of minerals and other resources. (Sec. 502 (d) provides for return to Federal control of that leased acreage no longer necessary for present or future mineral activities.)

One of these Acts would seem to allow leaseholders to have control of the land for 50 years without a production: -10 years prospecting --30 years to get production but if none, then show that some could be made and get another 10 years before the lease would be revoked for non-production.

These acts would seem to eliminate the week-end prospector from using those parts of the lands that have been leased.

Other effects of these Acts could be the severely curtailed travelling by adherents to the earth sciences since those who now travel to prospect on leasable Federal lands would not do so since there would be no point to it. Think of what that would mean to the tourist business in this country if between 4,000,000 and 8,000,000 hobbyists decided to stay home. Think of what the cost of mineral and other specimens could be if moneyed interests end up controlling the mineral resources of, and access to, and control of, the leasable Federal lands.

Think what it would mean to retired people who now could be prevented from prospecting on these lands. They would have to be satisfied with other lands which might not be so attractive. The time it would take--right now to write to your government representatives --Senators and members of the House of Representatives--Federal and State authorities--might be the most valuable time you have ever spent in the service of the earth science hobbyists of this country

DO NOT write as a club. Have everyone in your club write as a private citizen. Get your friends to write in as well. Don't forget to ask these representatives "---to protect the interests of hundreds of thousands--yes--millions of the citizens of this country....." DON'T FORGET --this is Election Year!!! WRITE NOW!!!!!!

Write, don't type, your own individual letter - not as a club. One State Senator told one of the delegates that typed letters go into file 13 - automatically.

REPORT: COMMITTEE TO OPEN AND REOPEN COLLECTING SITES  
Midwest Federation Delegate Cou St. Louis Convention, July 24, 1976  
Letter to Property Owners ( to be on MWF letterhead stationery)

(Property owner's address)

Dear \_\_\_\_\_;

The MWF is composed of 18,000 serious Rockhounds who are concerned their image being blackened by the few groups and individuals exhibiting atrocious behavior. The very few are spoiling it for all. We are working towards the opening and re-opening of collecting sites through cooperation with property owners.

The committee to Open and Reopen Collecting Sites has been organized to help property owners identify both responsible and irresponsible people who wish to visit and collect on their land. We are establishing a file concerning member activity while on field trips.

Groups that you allow on your land should leave addressed, stamped postcards and/or envelopes and stationery with you. If you will fill in the card as to behavior problems, listing specifics, we will file. We would also appreciate your time in filling in positive comments. Whenever an owner receives a request for a visit you may write the committee and we will give you a summary of their behavior on previous trips, both good and bad. This should help you decide as to whether they may collect on your site. You would be the sole judge as to admittance. Our role is an advisory one.

We wish to keep the procedure as simple as possible and will appreciate any suggestions you may have. We will notify you of any actions we take. If any group or individual refuses to correct their actions we can, by our constitution, drop them from membership and will so advise you.

In closing I want to say that our message is simple. We enjoy the privilege of visiting your property and want to cooperate in any way we can.

Sincerely:  
(Chairperson)  
Collecting Site Committee

In a letter to each MWF club from Leonard Nicholls, Chairman of Committee to Open and Reopen Collecting Sites, 32141 Meadowbrook Lane, Livonia, Michigan 48154, Phone 313-427-0034, are the following excerpts:

- ' A copy of the letter on the previous page is being sent by the Committee to Open and Reopen Collecting Sites to property owners wherever we have or, hopefully, will be collecting. If you have any questions, or prospective site addresses, please write to the Chairman. '
- ' We realize this is the first of many steps we can take and we want to hear from you; we want to implement your thinking. Our most urgent need, if this is approved, will be addresses of property owners we should be contacting for visiting privileges. Specimen types, quality and quantity would be helpful - we could share the information with others. '

(Sample Postcard )

Club Address (include contact person)	Property Owner's Address	Stamp
<input type="checkbox"/> All went well, group was cooperative <input type="checkbox"/> Problems occurred <input type="checkbox"/> Comments		
<hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> (Signature and title)		

SAFETY PAGE

A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH...Mr. Al Nutile, a member of the Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club of Holland, Michigan, relates the following story:

He, Mr. Nutile, felt lucky when he built his 18" diamond saw and obtained all the lubricating oil he needed without cost. All he had to do was haul it away..The power company used this oil in their giant transformers, and if it is discolored it is replaced. What Al did not know at the time was that while sawing, the oil would create a mist. He made a hood for the saw hoping to contain the mist, but whenever he would open the hood, the oily mist would engulf him.

He began to feel light headed and had a general sensation of numbness. Fear set in that he might become paralyzed. There were several times when he collapsed with no control over his nervous system. Food was distasteful and cooking smells made him nauseous. He lost 40 pounds in 5 months time. The family doctor, as well as several specialists, could not diagnose the problem..It was recommended that he go to the Mayo Clinic. Extensive tests were run and finally blood tests revealed a large accumulation of PCB in the blood and body fats. The cutting oil was the culprit in this case.

He has not regained much of his lost weight and you can believe he is not cutting slabs with transformer oil any more.

So, if you are using transformer oil to cut slabs and your saw is giving off a mist you could possibly be absorbing or inhaling particles of poisonous toxin into your blood. PCB, or Askarel, is polychlorinated biphenyl or just plain transformer oil.

Diablo Diggin's via THE GLACIAL DRIFTER

At a recent hearing in Sacramento, the Department of Health released information concerning the danger involved in the use of PCB'S (polychlorinated biphenyls) in pesticides, and their use is being banned except for closed systems where there can be no contact with the environment.

As well as being used in pesticides, PCB'S are used extensively in transformer oils as a fire retardant. MANY ROCK HOUNDS ARE USING TRANSFORMER OIL AS A LUBRICANT IN THEIR ROCK SAWS.

During the past few months, PCB'S have been found to be the cause of "cable rash", a virulent type of acne for which there is no medical help. It is also known to cause temporary paralysis.

PCB's can be absorbed into the body by direct contact with the skin, or the fumes may be drawn into the lungs. The poison builds up in the fatty tissues, and the only method of eliminating it from the system is by weight loss.

Department of Food and Agriculture  
Pesticide Advisory Committee Hearing  
March 23, 1976 Sacramento, California

"Tule Smoke Signals" via "The Glacial Drifter"

# Midwest Federation's NEWSLETTER



Published monthly except July and August as a service to members clubs.  
All news, articles, subscription orders and requests for information concerning publication  
should be sent to the Editor, Haydon Peterson, Parrot Printing, 2125 Forest, Des Moines, Ia. 50311

Issue No. 168 - October 1976

## 4 new programs

Don Sinnett, our MWF Program Chairman, announces four new slide programs have been added to the slide library. "Pewter Puttering" from ESCONI, Earth Science Club of Northern Illinois; "Fluorescence", from the Rock Exchange Club, Garden City, Mich.; "The Field Museum" from Russell MacFall, Evanston, Ill. a Past President of the Midwest; and "Lapidary Arts" from Fairview Lapidary Society of Ohio. All four programs are very well done and are ready for immediate booking by our clubs.

Many of the programs in the library have become unusable and have been taken out of service. Thus the need for new programs is very urgent. Any club which can develop a program is encouraged to do so.

Now effective is a new shipping policy. All programs will be shipped prepaid to you by United Parcel Service. UPS guarantees delivery within two and not more than three days, insures the shipment and obtains a signature when the parcel is delivered. You will be asked to return the program to us by UPS. In rare cases when this is not possible you may return it by the U.S. Postal Service. The UPS service is preferred and should be used.

When you order your program be sure to allow as much time as possible - 60 days is best. This gives us time to book the programs to the best advantage. Please give us a second and third choice so that you will not be disappointed if your first choice is not available for the date you request. With your program request include \$2.00 for each program you order.

Send your request for programs and any information regarding them to Donald Sinnett, 29462 Aspen Drive, Flat Rock, Mich. 48134.

### THE DATE IS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

It would be pretty hard for the fall Executive meeting to be held on Saturday, October 31, as announced in our September Newsletter. The meeting will be held on Saturday, October 30 in Bloomington, Illinois, as noted in the September issue at the Ramada Inn, two miles west of Bloomington on Illinois 9. This is at the junction of I-55 and I-74.

Executive Council members while in the Bloomington area are invited by Lafayette Funk to visit the Funk Mineral Museum.

### MIDWEST MERIT AWARDS - 1975

by June Zeitner, Merit Award Chairman

There were 95 entries in the Midwest Merit Award program this year, an all time record, with 13 of the clubs winning and all clubs receiving participation certificates. An additional certificate of Honor was awarded to South Dakota clubs for the participation of 10 out of 12 clubs. Judges for the Midwest and All American Awards were Leo Yanasak, Clyde Hanson, and Doloris Poffenberger, all of the Des Moines area. Midwest participation was more than half of the total 6 Federation participation in the All American. Winning clubs were all represented at the banquet at St. Louis. Participation certificates of clubs not represented at the Council meeting will be presented by State Directors. Clubs are urged to start now on their entry for next year covering this year's activities. Thanks to all who are helping make this program work.

### ALL AMERICAN AND MIDWEST TROPHY WINNERS

*Michigan Mineralogical Society, Detroit.* The club hosted an extremely successful Convention in 1975, working with the Central Canadian Federation in a unique "Hands-Across-The-Border" production. The club provides much help for Cranbrook Institute, is an 800% Scholarship Club, and is educationally oriented.

*Lawrence County Rock Club, Bedford, Indiana.* Their Bicentennial project was an Indiana limestone (State Rock) carving of George Washington for their city. They conduct cave tours, contribute to Scouting, working with Boys Club, 4H, put on programs for wheelchair patients, and work with their local museums.

*Missouri Valley Gem and Mineral Society, Platte, South Dakota.* Has bank displays, hobby shows, helps visitors plan field trips, conducts historical and geology tours, contributes educational and hobby publications to libraries, works with other clubs on statewide activities.

*Ozark Earth Science Club, Mountain Home, Arkansas.* Pro-

Continued on back page, column 1 . . .

vides a Chamber of Commerce display, donates minerals to schools, gives books to library, sponsors a monthly display in library. Gives specimens to children at County Fair, conducts classes and field trips, furnishes lectures and programs.

*Roehm Geology Club.* This is a Junior High Club in Berea, Ohio, winning their second AFMS trophy in two years. The young members talk to other schools. They have bought their own lapidary equipment and set up their own shop. They conducted a fossil seminar for 4th, 5th, and 6th grades. They have their own show and 11 field trips.

#### MIDWEST MERIT AWARDS AND AFMS HONORABLE MENTION

*Tulip City Gem and Mineral Club, Holland, Michigan.* This club works with the local recreation commission. They put on programs for adult and junior groups, present jewelry making classes, donate to the library, and help Scouts and Senior Citizens.

*Austin Gem and Mineral Society, Minnesota.* With working exhibits at area fairs and the historical museum, this club has become well known in its region. They maintain a large rock and mineral library on continuous loan to schools. They have a lapidary course for Senior Citizens.

*Wisconsin Geological Society, Milwaukee.* Working with school children and with the University of Wisconsin, this club helps with earth science over a wide area. Their visiting exhibit for schools requires that a member accompany it to lecture and answer questions. They provide instructors for adult education also.

*Southern Illinois Earth Science Club.* Since members come from a fifty mile radius of the meeting center, the special interest groups meet an hour before the regular meetings. They have unusual participation by Juniors, and unusual club participation in the bulletin.

*Old Capitol Geological Society, Iowa City, Iowa.* They have worked to help set up earth science displays in the new science building of the University of Iowa. The club made a stone replica of Herbert Hoover's birthplace for a permanent exhibit in Hoover Park. They have their own local Scholarship program.

*West Central Ohio Rock Club, Lima, Ohio.* They have a catalogued club library, separate study groups, member-written bulletin features, public library displays, and they also provide instructors for Adult Education and youngsters.

*Earth Science Club of Missouri, Webster Grove.* This club has an annual camping "Pow Wow", a monthly field trip, and have member participation in all programs. They work with three nearby Universities, have a library display, and maintain a club library.

*Fort Hamilton Gem and Mineral Club, Hamilton, Ohio.* The County Children's Home received jewelry gifts for each child from this club. The Science Building of the University has a decorative glacial rock as a landscape feature, from this group. The club has displays for many local institutions and events.

#### PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATES (1975 MIDWEST MERIT AWARDS/AFMS ALL AMERICAN) WERE AWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

**OHIO:** West Central Ohio; Heights Gem and Mineral; Euclid Lapidary and Mineral; Parma Lapidary; Miami Valley Mineral and Gem; Roehm Geology; Fort Hamilton Gem and Mineral; Lake Shore Mineral and Lapidary; Cincinnati Mineral; Richland Lithic; Toledo Gem and Rockhound; Stark County Gem and

#### PACKET INCLUDED A PHONOGRAPH RECORD

The packet of information sent out by the Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society to promote their gem and mineral show on September 11-12 at Mandan, North Dakota in conjunction with the North Dakota Tourism Department included phonograph record telling about the virtues of North Dakota. Packet also included a road map of North Dakota plus city maps.

Mineral; Good Earth Mineral.

**MICHIGAN:** Grand Valley Rock and Mineral; Huron High School Geology; Muskegon County Rock and Mineral; Beacon Rock and Fossil; Clare Rock and Mineral; Huron Hills Lapidary and Mineral; Michigan Lapidary and Mineral; Grand Traverse Area Rock and Mineral; Grand Rapids Mineral; Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary; Tulip City Gem and Mineral; State Line Gem and Mineral; Ishpeming Rock and Mineral.

**INDIANA:** Three Rivers Gem and Mineral; Muncie Rock and Gem; Vigo Rock and Gem; Peru YMCA Rocks and Mineral; Bloomington Gem and Mineral; Indiana Geology and Gem; Duneland Rock; Lawrence County Rock; White River Gem; Michiana Rock and Gem; Elkhart Mineral; Wabash Valley.

**ILLINOIS:** Northwest Illinois Rock; Shell Gem, Rock and Mineral; Southern Illinois Earth Science; Des Plaines Valley Geological; Chicago Lapidary; Lake County Gem and Mineral; Fox Valley Rocks and Mineral; Earth Science of Northern Illinois; Gem City Rock; Worthen Earth Searchers.

**WISCONSIN:** Rock River Rockhounds; Lakeland Gem; Racine Geological; Kenosha Gem and Mineral; Kettle Moraine Geological; Northwest Wisconsin Gem and Mineral; Wisconsin Geological.

**MINNESOTA:** Central Minnesota Mineral; Steel County Gem and Mineral; Minnesota Mineral; Bloomington Mineral; Austin Gem and Mineral.

**IOWA:** North Iowa Rock; Cedar Valley Rocks and Mineral; Chicauqua Rockhound; Blackhawk Gem and Mineral; Old Capitol Geological; Des Moines Lapidary; Central Iowa Mineral; Dallas County Rock.

**MISSOURI:** Kaw Valley Rock; Spring River Gem and Mineral; Pike County Mineral and Gem; Earth Science of Missouri; St. Louis Mineral and Gem; Independence Gem and Mineral; Blue Ridge Gem and Mineral; McDonnell Douglas Gem and Mineral; Ozark Earth Science (ARKANSAS).

**NEBRASKA:** Grand Island Earth Science; Lincoln Gem and Mineral; Northeast Nebraska Rock and Mineral; Loup Valley Gem and Mineral.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Rosebud Geological; Missouri Valley Gem and Mineral; Sioux Empire Gem and Mineral; Corn Palace Rock; Badlands Sandhills Earth Science; Lakota Glacier Rock; Coteau Des Plaines Gem and Mineral; Brookings Area Gem and Mineral; Coyote Rock and Lapidary; Randall Rockhounds.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Red River Gem and Mineral; Lake Agassiz Rock.

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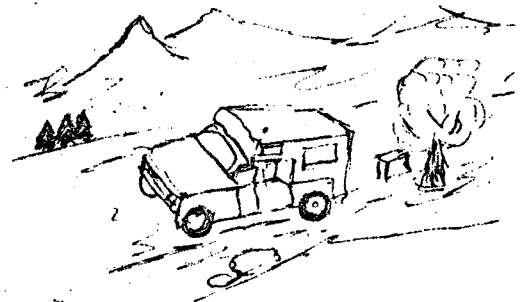


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## FRIENDSHIP ON THE ROCKS

Thoughtful rockhounds who have been in the hobby for sometime begin to realize that the most precious gems they have found are the friends they have made along the way. Some are still in the rough; some are highly polished; some seem dull and colorless unless they are viewed in the right light; but they all have one thing in common. Like everything in this mundane sphere they are imperfect and have flaws.

If we are to enjoy them we must accept them as they are and realize that their beauty and warmth make up for their imperfections. If we concentrate our attention on their better aspects, the flaws become insignificant and only marks of their individuality.

via....The Sooper Snooper

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"If you want to get somewhere, you can get behind and push, or you can get ahead and pull, but you can't sit in the middle and do nothing."

via.....Rock Express

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club  
Box 5342  
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Exchange Editor: Evelyn Ulrich  
3521 S. 48th St.  
Lincoln, NE 68506

Historian's File-LGMC  
2941 N. 65th St.  
Lincoln, Ne. 68507

