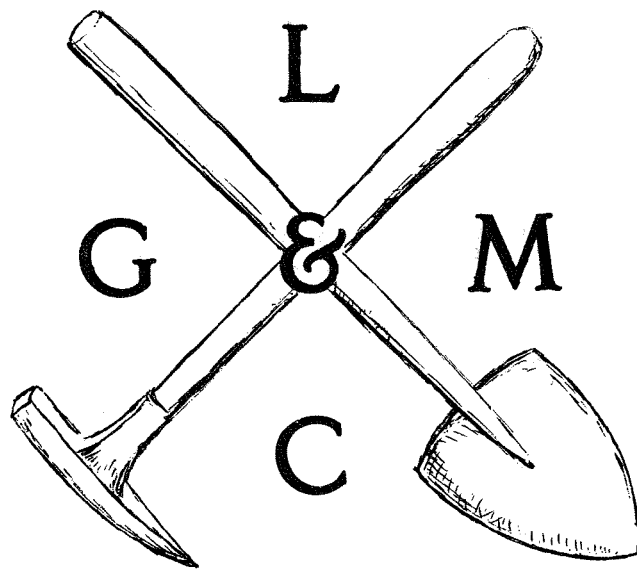


# THE PICK & SHOVEL



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

Volume 18

Issue 3

November 1977

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 thru May, 7:30 P. M..  
1977 - IOOF Hall, 1101 No. 56th St., Lower Level

1977 ELECTED OFFICERS:

President.....	John Harrison, Jr.	330 Locust	Hickman, 68372	792-2337
1st Vice Pres...	Howard Taylor	910 New Hampshire	Lincoln, 68508	432-3707
2nd Vice Pres...	Jim Marburger	1910 S. 26th St. Apt. B	Lincoln, 68502	432-0214
Recording Secy...	Nelda Oliver	5700 Otoe St.	Lincoln, 68506	489-5222
Treasurer.....	Joella Olson	4831 S. Haven Drive	Lincoln, 68516	489-5380
Board Member....	Evelyn Ulrich	3521 S. 48th St.	Lincoln, 68506	488-9051
Board Member....	Norma Miller	931 Cottenwood Drive	Lincoln, 68510	489-8840
Board Member....	Virginia Green	6120 The Knolls	Lincoln, 68512	423-5032
Board Member....	Ray Lambert	1201 N. 79th St.	Lincoln, 68505	464-8552

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

Program	Jim Marburger	Liaison	Phyllis Parks &
Hospitality	Virginia Green		Marita Bigley
Historian	Lois Everett	Refreshments	Bob & Sylvia Daniels
Librarian	Larry & Marita Bigley		Robert & Leona Daul
Membership	Marita Bigley	Education	Howard Taylor
Field Trips & Safety	Larry Bigley	Scholarship	Florence Boring
Calling Committee	Nelda Oliver	House and	Frank Rule &
Vaya Con Dios	Marie J. Carveth	Property	Larry Bigley
NAOESCI Reporter	Evelyn Ulrich	Publications	Art Howlett

LONG RANGE PLANNING AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE:

Roger Pabian	-1 Year Remaining	Frank Rule	-2 Years Remaining
Howard Taylor	-1 Year Remaining	Phyllis Parks	-2 Years Remaining
	Larry Bigley		-3 Years Remaining
	Don Carter		-3 Years Remaining

1977 Show Chairman	Roger K. Pabian, 300 Sycamore, Lincoln, Ne. 68510	489-3081
1978 Show Chairman	Don Carter, 1101 Driftwood Dr., Lincoln, Ne. 68510	489-3442

PICK & SHOVEL STAFF:

Chairman	-Art Howlett
Editor	-Evelyn Ulrich, 3521 S. 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 first of the month to be printed. Please send copy to 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 by 7 inches of copy. 1/2 page is \$5.25, 1/3 page is \$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.

Calendar

General Meeting... Sat..Nov. 19, 1977, 7:30 P.M.  
Trabert Hall, 2202 so. 11th.

Program .....



Business..... Election of Officers

Silent Auction.... AFMS Scholarship Fund.

Refreshments..... Will be served.

LGMC Board of Director's Meeting...Thursday, Dec. 1, 1977.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Where: OUR PLACE - MOBILE HOST  
2601 No. 48th St.  
Upstairs - East entrance

When: Dec. 10, 1977 - 6:45 P.M.

MENU

Turkey or Ham

Dressing

Potatoes - Gravy

Vegetable

Salad

Rolls - Butter \$3.75

Reservations: by Dec. 1st.  
Call Mr. and Mrs. Bob Daniels  
467-4051



LAST MONTH.....We held our meeting at Trabert Hall with 55 members and 5 guests present. Guests were Lupita C. Livingston, Lillian and Cliff Hicks, David Eno and Daniel Wehler. Our new chairs arrived in Lincoln too late to be delivered so many members were contacted to bring chairs and with those available at the hall everyone was able to find a seat.

President John Harrison opened the meeting with the news that his wife had presented him with a new son on Wednesday.

John called for a ruling by the Committee on By-Laws and Long Range Planning, Chairman Larry Bigley presented the facts available and there being no dis-sention it was determined that absentee voting would not be permitted.

Nominating Committee report was given and is presented in detail on Page 5.

The 4th Saturday in November is part of the Thanksgiving holiday and no one will be available to open Trabert Hall for us. After discussion the members present voted to hold the November meeting one week early, on the 19th.

Refreshments Chairmen Mr. & Mrs. Bob Daniels have been researching for our Christmas meeting. Decision was made to hold a dinner on December 10th, at OUR PLACE in University Place. Reservations must be made by December 1st so please let The Daniels know at the November meeting if you will be able to attend.

Don Carter, 1978 Show Chairman, reported that all contracts are signed - 12 dealers, State Fair Grounds for 3 days, 2000 grab bags in the works, some workers still needed.

Florence Boring reported that the NASA program had gone extremely well, that of 165 hours baby sitting the moon rock our LGMC members had accounted for about 31 hours.

Jim Harbruger presented a resume on Safety in the Shop, and encouraged members to ask questions and present their own thoughts on safety. He especially dealt with acids, cleanliness and the use of equipment.

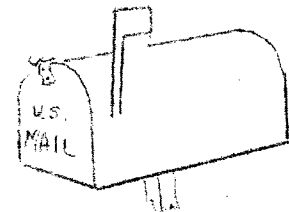
Coffee, juice and cookies were served.

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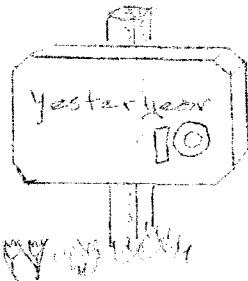
COURTESY

Cards were sent this month to:

- Frank Krejci . . . . . Get Well
- Millie Heller . . . . . Sympathy
- Dr. & Mrs. H.O. Paulson . . . . . Sympathy
- Mr. & Mrs. John Harrison . . . . . Congratulations



.....

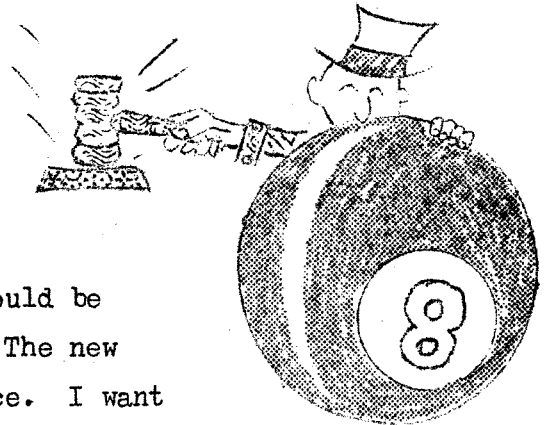


NOVEMBER 1967 . . . Election of officers at the meeting. Members were encouraged to show slides and pictures taken at the Centennial Rockrama and on their summer field trips.

from the notebook of LGMC Historian, Lois Everett

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Fellow Rockhounds:



I hope that you like our new meeting hall. It seemed to be rather dark but the new lights are in place and should be operating by the time of our next meeting. The new chairs have arrived and they will be in place. I want to thank everyone for bringing their chairs for the last meeting. Due to rules of the building there will be NO SMOKING anytime inside. Thank you for your cooperatinn.

November is election month for our new officers for 1978. The nominating committee has come up with a very fine selection. Nominations will be taken from the floor at this meeting. Don't forget you must have the nominee's approval.

There is to be a Silent Auction in November for the AFMS Scholarship Fund. Be sure to bring a rock or rock item that some other rockhound may desire to have their possession so we can get that fund up over the 500% figure this year.

The '78 State Show is in full swing and things are getting closer. Don will have a report for us at the meeting. If you haven't found a committee to help on please let Don know and he will help you find one.

Remember that you may check out our club library books at the Larry Bigley home as they are taking care of the library for us.

Be thinking about our Christmas Dinner and installation of '78 officers on December 10th, 6:45 P. M. at "Our Place" in Uni Place.

Dues will be accepted at the next three meetings. They are due on Janauary 1, and delingquent 31, 1978.

See you November 19th at Trabert Hall,

  
John

From the Editor's desk... October 31st-and it is 69 degrees! I picked a large bouquet of gaillardias and noticed some ripe tomatoes in my garden. This is rather unusual for Nebraska. I remember, when in college, walking down the middle of the street to a Halloween party because the snow was so deep. I guess we can't complain about the weather. Don't miss the November meeting of the LGMC. It is an important one. Our officers will be selected for the coming year. Be sure and bring some good material for the silent auction. It will benefit our AFMS Scholarship fund. We are striving for 500% this year. Our scholarship kitty needs to be fed, also. Our meeting is a week early this month because of the Thanksgiving vacation. See you at the meeting.

Evelyn

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I saw old autumn in the misty morn  
Stand shadowless like Silence, listening  
To silence, for no lonely bird would sing  
Into his hollow ear, from woods forlorn.

Thomas Hood - "Ode to Autumn"

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November

Now Autumn's fire burns slowly along the woods,  
And day by day the dead leaves fall and melt,  
And night by night the monitory blast  
Wails in the key hole, telling how it pass't  
O'er empty fields, or upland solitudes,  
Or grim wide wave; and now the power is felt  
Of melancholy, tenderer in its moods  
Than any joy indulgent summer dealt.

William Allingham

\*\*\*\*\*



Thanksgiving Day, a national holiday celebrated throughout the United States, is a day of religious observance, set apart to give thanks for the blessings of the past year, as well as an occasion for family reunions, bountiful dinners and festivities in the home.

Though the origin of the holiday has been attributed to a thanksgiving festival held by the Plymouth colony in Dec. 1621, such celebrations date from ancient times. In the U.S. it became a particularly popular holiday in New England, and native fruits and vegetables, wild turkeys and pumpkin pies became traditional food for the day.

BOARD MINUTES.....October Board Meeting

The Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club board meeting was held October 6, 1977 at 5700 Otoe Street at 7:30 P.M..

President John Harrison, Jr. called the meeting to order with 7 board members present. Phyllis Parks was also present.

Minutes of the September meeting were read and approved as read.

Treasurers report read by Joella Olson and approved as read.

Bills read by Treasurer and approved. \$9.41 from United Typewriter for staples and \$62.07 for 12 cans of ink included. Moved Virginia Green to pay bills as read, seconded Ray Lambert. carried.

We will not cancel our meeting hall at IOOF. It is paid thru December.

Chairs were discussed. We will order chairs from Ernies Store and caddies from All Makes.

After discussion on meeting halls it was moved by Ray Lambert to have October 22nd meeting at Trabert Hall, seconded Virginia Green. Carried.

It was moved by Ray Lambert and seconded by Virginia Green we purchase chairs from Ernies store and caddies from All-Makes, due to price differential. order 50 gold/50 blud. carried.

Norma Miller reported on a plague and certificate that she aquired that belonged to Clyde Benham. After discussion it will be turned over to the Historian.

The garage is no longer ours. All equipment is moved out.

Virginia Green reported the Pick & Shovel hit the Gems & Minerals magazine with an article from the Jr. page that her son wrote on a field trip to Fullerton.

Phyllis Parks reported she will be printing the NAOESCI bulletin. It was approved she can use the club mimeo and NAOESCI will furnish all thier own supplies.

Moved Howard Taylor we allow use of the mimeo, seconded Virginia Green. carried.

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club will be reimbursed for the ink.'

There will be a rock show at Indian Creek Mall in Beatrice on November 19 and 20th.

After discussion it was moved by Howard Taylor we allow NAOESCI the use of Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club franc for the October mailing of 200 copies, seconded Joella Olson.

Secretary has copies of extra by-laws for officers. They are to be held until the new 1978 officers are installed and to be passed on and kept up to date with changes.

Next board meeting November 3rd at Joella Olson's home.

Meeting adjourned.

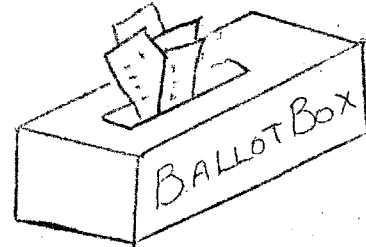
Nelda Oliver, Secretary

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The nominating committee, consisting of Larry Bigley, Chairman, Marie Wells, Irl Everett, Ray Lambert, Phyllis Parks, Marita Bigley and Roger Pabian, reported the following slate of candidates for office for the year 1977, as provided by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club.

- President . . . . . Howard Taylor
- 1st Vice-President . . . . Jim Marburger
- 2nd Vice-President . . . . Florence Boring
- Recording Secretary . . . . Frances Tracy
- Treasurer . . . . . Joella Olson
- Board Members . . . . . Don Carter  
 Robert Daniels  
 Virginia Green  
 Art Howlett  
 Ray Lambert  
 Gladys Workman

(4 to be elected)



Nominations for each office will be open to the floor before balloting. Consent of the candidate is necessary. A candidate for President must have served at least one year on the Board of Directors. Candidates must have at least one year's membership in the club.

Report from Committee on By-Laws and Long Range Planning:

Complete research of our Lincoln Gem and Mineral Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws show no provision for any of our club business to be decided except by the Majority of the Board of Directors or as necessary by a majority of those present at a regular meeting or one called for a specific purpose. In order to conduct any business the regular meeting must include at least 20% of the adult membership of whom at least three are members of the Board of Directors. For a Board Meeting a majority must be present in order to conduct business.

There being no provision for votes to be cast by mail or absentee ballot, we should assume they are not to be counted.

DUES ARE DUE

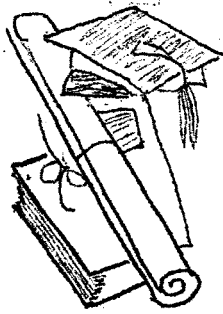
You may start paying your 1978 dues at any meeting now. Dues are due January 1, 1978 and delinquent January 31. Renewal dues are \$4.00 per adult member, \$9.00 for a family with 2 adults and any children under 16. Junior members \$1.00. A registration fee for new members approved by the Board of Directors is \$1.00 and a \$1.00 fee is assessed for any delinquent members, whose reinstatement must also be approved by the Board.

Dues are payable to LGMC Treasurer Joella Olson at the meetings or you may mail a check payable to Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, Inc., addressed to Joella Olson, 4831 South Haven Drive, Lincoln, Nebraska 68516.

Be an early-bird - see Joella at the November or December meeting.



SCOLARSHIP FUND REPORT



With two meetings since summer recess, the scholarship fund is again on its way. The kitty awakened slowly from its summer nap to collect \$5.00 in September, but \$13.00 for October gave it new life. We are proudly a 300 percent club, headed in the 500 percent direction.

The November meeting will put us well on our way with a silent auction to augment the Scholarship fund. Can we top the \$113.85 from last November's silent auction? Bring everything you can spare that anyone might like and let's find out!

Florence Boaing, Scholarship Chairman

From the Nebraska Association of Aerospace Educators and the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce--

Many, many thanks to the members of the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club for your help looking after the Moon Rock and the NASA displays for the Community Involvement Program at the Atrium and the Gateway Mall October 7-23, 1977. The Club supplied a total of 33 man-hours (person Hours?), a number not surpassed by any other organization and equalled only by the University ROTC.

Without such help it would not have been possible to have the displays, especially the Moon Rock. Since the displays did more than anything else for the public in general to arouse interest and carry the message, your service was vital to the success of the program.

To me personally, as chairman of the displays committee, your help meant more than you can ever know.

Florence Boring

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Thank you... I wish to thank the "Pick & Shovel Gang" for the very nice get-well card and their good wishes when I had my recent surgery. I also want to thank Flossie for the unique and lovely winter bouquet. It is nice to know your friends are wishing you well when you are detoured for awhile.

Evelyn.

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The LGMC Library is now located at the Bigley residence, 6126 Harley.

*Dues are due.*



NOTES FROM NORMA

New news and old news... first of all, received too late for last month's P & S...George and Glenn McGinnis had as their guest this summer their 14 year-old grandson, Mark, from Sacramento, California. They took him on a long trip through the northern tier of states, rockhunting and fishing...bet they had fun.

Also, information reached me of the death of Vernon Heller of Arlington. Vernon was a member of LGMC until illness two years ago prevented him from participating. He passed away on September 26th...our condolences to friends and family.

Evelyn Ulrich, faithful editor, has had to undergo foot surgery. There's nothing more painful than when your feet hurt, unless it's an earache or toothache. Sure hope you are back on your feet; Evelyn..

Our busy president also reported good news... a new addition to the family, (and to the Gem club)- a baby boy born October 19... Congratulations, John and family.

Debbie and Glen Ulrich are in the news this month also... Debbie was ill with the flu, son, Kevin, babysat grandma, Evelyn, for a while. Actually it was the reverse but this sounds grownup. Glen is busy with business in his shop and anticipating expansion.

Frank Krejci is in Bryan Memorial Hospital after undergoing surgery there. Our best wishes and prayers for your speedy recovery, Frank...we need you well and on your feet to show us that fancy faceting of which you are so capable. Kind thoughts to you too, Ruth.

I'm told the Howletts have left for an extended trip...first to Los Angeles, then on to Indonesia, then New Zealand, who knows after that...but they will be home for Christmas and plan to have family for the holidays. Surely hope they have a great time and will tell us about it...Art is quite the photographer.. maybe we will see the sights on film?

At the last meeting I heard the bad news that former member, Dick Hedges, was injured in a cycle-car accident...glad to hear though that he is now home and bones are mending. Did you know that he and Lucille are grandparents already? It doesn't seem possible.

At the last meeting also, it was a pleasure to see out-of-town members in attendance...the Olsons from Ceresco...good to see you - hope you can make more meetings, especially when the weather is nice.

Till next time - Norma

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NOTICE...Smoking is not permitted in Trabert Hall. Those who wish to smoke will have to do so outside the building.

HANDY HINTS

SHOP HINT... Instead of throwing away your wornsanding discs, try this:

Mix in a small container  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon of grit: 100, 200 or whatever size you want. Pour on top  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon of waterglass (sodium silicate) mixed with  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon of water.. Mix and apply to used sanding discs and let dry for two hours. You will have discs as good as new.

By Margaret Steinert, Puget Sounder via The Geode

Hint for cleaning desert roses... Immerse in a solution of "Axion" for 12 hours at least. Brush lightly and rinse in clear water.

Frank Svoboda, Sequoia Rockette  
via The T-Town Rockhound

Another silver cleaner... A new gadget to clean and polish silver can be purchased at an office supply store and it's called a fiberglass eraser. It is sort of a brush and it gets down in the smallest crack and does a beautiful job.. This is especially fine for any intricate silver jewelry you've had cast. It is called a "Rush" eraser, and if you use it, please don't touch the bristles of the brush. These are glass, and they are the dickens to get out of your fingers!

Rock Viva via Illowa News Grinder

Quartz Crystals... Brown and red stains can usually be removed by a concentrated solution of oxalic acid. Black stains can many times be removed with diluted hydrochloric acid.

Carbonate minerals: Try Clorox, full strength.

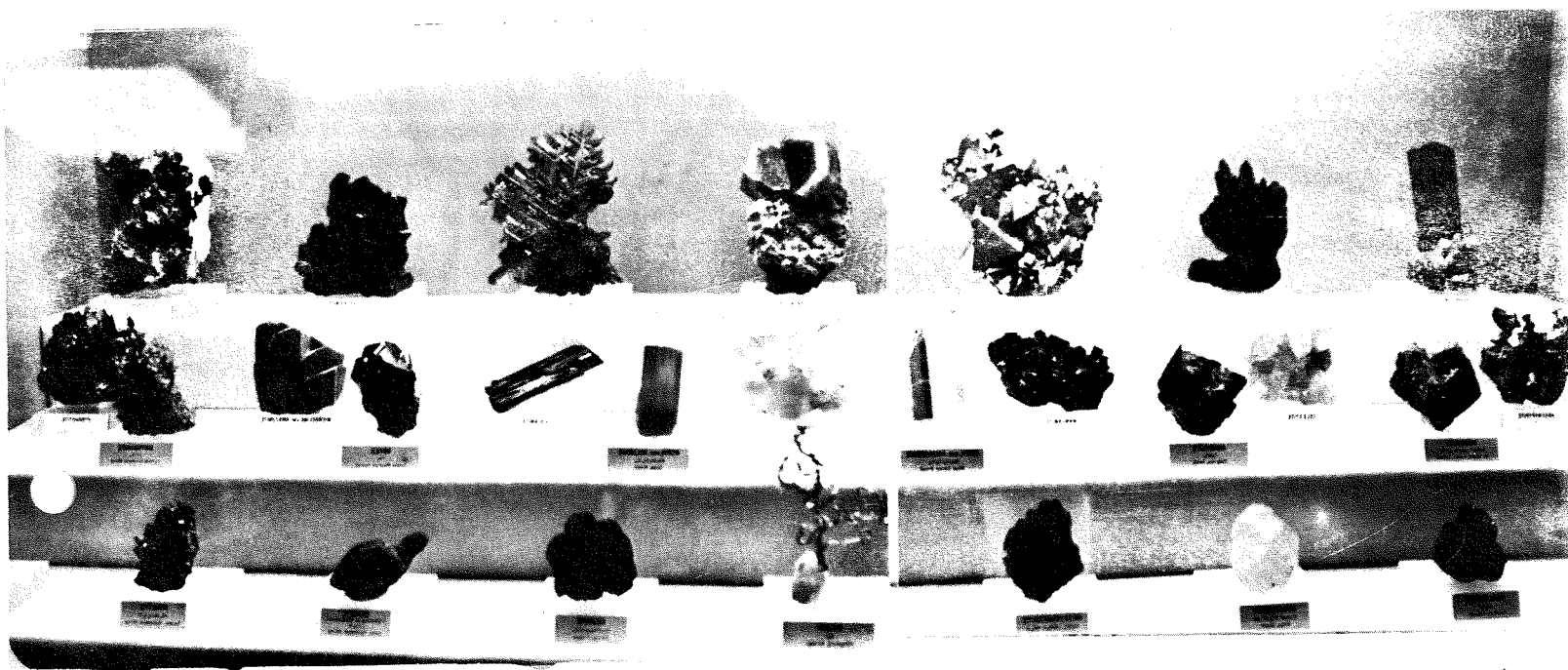
Water soluble minerals: Use alcohol.

Barite: May be cleaned in hydrochloric acid. It will loosen clay and iron.

A few tablespoons of oxalic acid in your last tumbling polish will give your stones extra luster.

When working with a soft stone, alabaster, marble or onyx, soak in water a day or before cutting in oil. The oil won't soak in, and when polished, a better finish will result. To dissolve epoxy, use wash-away (Sherwin-Williams Paint Company.)

R.H.Reporter via Michigan Lapidary Society, Inc.



A MINERAL DISPLAY CASE, TOO MANY ITEMS TO WIN A PRIZE, BUT VERY PRETTY

On Saturday, August 13, we left Lincoln for Odgen, Utah, and the National Gem and Mineral Show. We spent a few days with my brother at his ranch in Banner County, where we hunted Blue Barite. On Wednesday, we headed for Wyoming, in the rain.

It rained all the way across Wyoming, so we did not stop at any rock hunting localities.

We did go to Fossil Butte National Monument to view the many types of fossil fish at the museum, but we could not climb to the place where the fish are found because of the muddy ground.

On Thursday, we arrived at the home of our friends in Odgen, and were ready to visit the show. It was held in the Student Union Building of Weber State College. Just inside the front entrance of the beautiful modern building was the Information Booth, where we received our programs and a number of brochures about the area, as well as a field trip guide to several Utah localities. Upstairs were all the exhibits and dealers in several rooms. It was very difficult to find the way to all the exhibits, and then to return to them for another look. Every nook and cranny held a different sight for our enlightenment. Some of the outstanding programs were: The Story of the Great Salt Lake, Minerals of Utah, The Hope Diamond (by Paul Desaults),

and Kennecott Copper's Bingham Canyon Operation.

Special exhibits were numerous, such as Chrysanthemum Stone from Japan, Jade Alter lanterns and a Spanish necklace of Emeralds from the Smithsonian, and miniature furniture carved from purple desert glass. Competitive exhibits were very excellent, but few in number. Most exhibitors were Masters and a few advanced, but almost none were Novices.

On Sunday, we left Odgen and visited the World's largest Copper Mine at Bingham which operates around the clock, with huge trucks and trains carrying thousands of tons of ore daily. The pit is two miles across, and deeper than the Empire State Building is high. The next day we went to Dugway Geode beds and found a nice lot of geodes, some with quartz crystals and many nice ones which had been broken open and discarded. Not a living thing was visible in this whole area, except a few small desert lizards. It was so quiet, we felt uneasy. Then we remembered that the government has stored "nerve gas" near here, and that a few years ago farmers in the vicinity had filed a complaint that their animals were dying from some unknown cause possibly linked with the gas. We soon decided we had enough geodes and left for greener pastures. Our next stop was at Topaz Mountain, some twenty miles south. There were several campers here, and many people were hunting the colorless Topaz crystals which were abundant in the dry washes. From the mountainside came the constant ringing of hammers as people mined the sherry-colored Topaz crystals which have not been exposed to the sun.

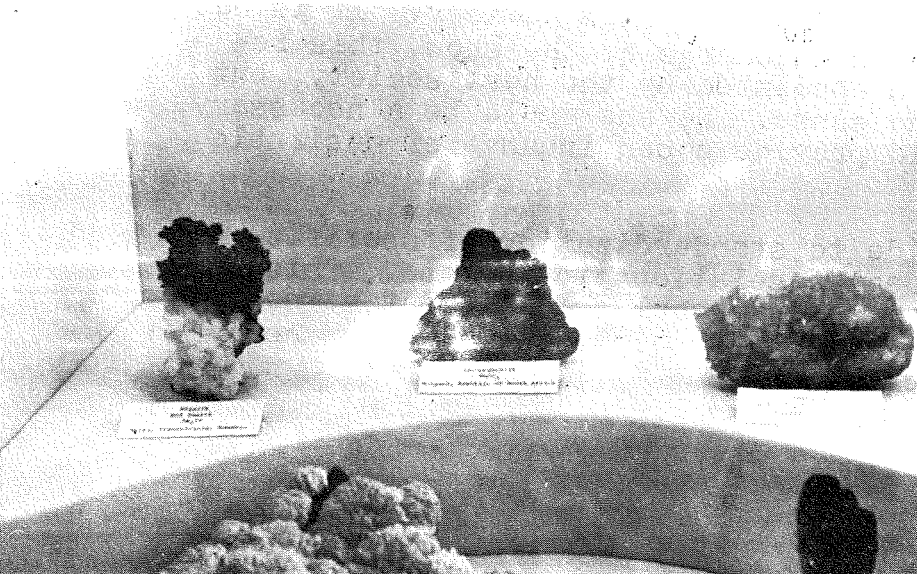
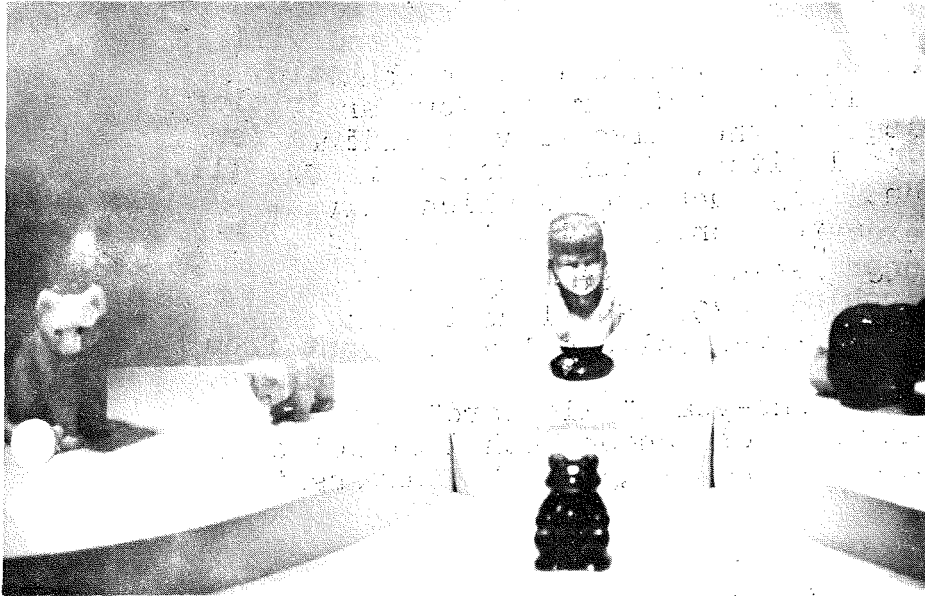
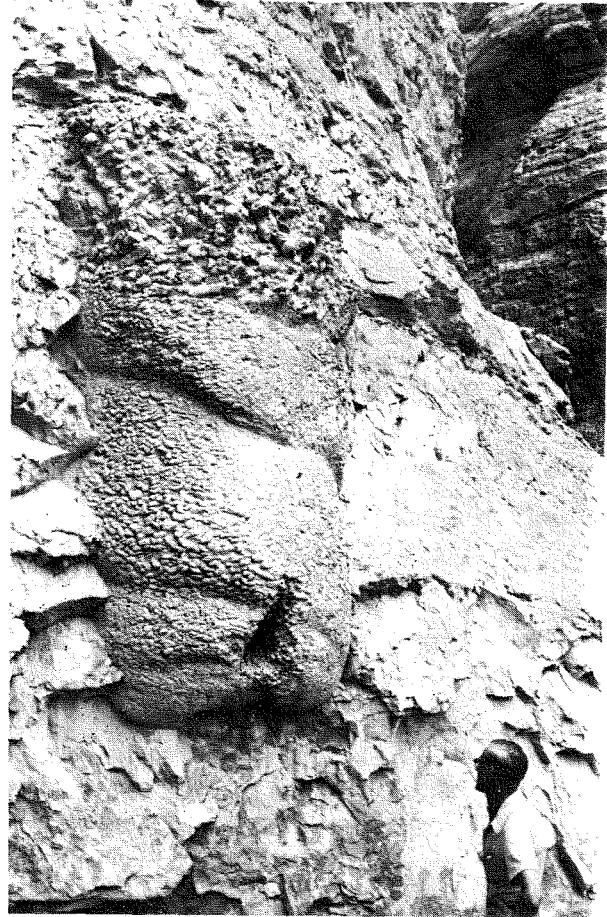
We were very lucky to find a spot which was not too hard to climb to, where we were able to split off layers of rhyolite to expose groups of the crystals.

Both Topaz Mountain and Dugway Geode Beds are open to the public, the only restriction being that only hand tools may be used.

A few miles farther along the Topaz mountain road, we gathered obsidianites from an area which covered several acres. The one-to-two inch obsidianites were scattered thickly over the surface of the ground and resemble Apache Tears except they are opaque, and some of them have mahogany markings.

We had a memorable trip and brought back lots of material for our collection, for trading, and for the rock pile at the '78 show.

Bud and Joella Olson



Top to Bottom then right  
Top Left: Rockhound Dinner

2nd: National Trophy winner  
in Carving

3rd: Mineral Display

Right: Rock formation  
Singleton Ranch  
Banner Ciunty

Pictures furnished by  
Bud and Joella Olson  
on their way and at the  
Salt Lake City Show.

Excerpts From AFMS Newsletter

New AFMS President... Donald B. Langston assumes his duties this month (Nov.) as the 1977-78 President of the AFMS. Don lives in Fort Worth, Texas and is a Senior Design Engineer at General Dynamics, owner of Texas Mineral Supply and Prospector Lapidary Shop.

He attended the Spartan School of Aeronautics and received his B.S. degree in 1951 from North Texas State University, and an M.Ed. degree in 1962 from Wesleyan College.

Don is a past president of the Rolling Rock Club, the Ft. Worth Gem and Mineral Club, Stonesteppers of General Dynamics, General Dynamics Recreation Association and South Central Federation..

He and his wife, Joann have two sons, Bob, 20 and John, 16.

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Midwest Federation Scholarship Award Recipient... Ed Hajic received his B.S. at Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa and will be pursuing his M.S. in Geology at the University of Illinois. His specific field archeological sites, a work states Dr. Fritiof Fryxell, that needs to be done very much and to which only a few geologists have given serious attention. Living in Oak Park, Ill. where he has taken part in excavations directed by Dr. Stuart Streuver, Honorary Award winner in 1973. He plans to make a career of teaching and research at the college level.

Melvyn Peter Machin received the one-year "Wild Card" grant from the Midwest Federation. A graduate of London Technical College, he will be pursuing his Ph..D. in Mineralogy at the University of Chicago.

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Excerpts from "Planning Committee Makes Recommendations".

"We propose that the AFMS take a much stronger hand in the arrangements of a National Show through a Show Advisor. It is not the intent to have this person in charge of the show, this remains with the show chairman appointed by the host society, but to be an advisor in the true sense. He/she would be a necessary link with the AFMS and would provide a continuance of desirable features and activities.

A manual would become a guide to standardization of specific recurring activities, our dealer relationship for one. This is one of the most neglected areas and should be of greatest concern to all of us. It starts with dealer solicitation, dealer contracts and dealer arrangements."

QUARTZITE-CATLINITE-SATELLITE-dolls - by J.D. Young

Before I relate some highlights of our October 3 to 20 trip please go back with us to late August, 1923.

"Young Lady, you cannot visit the South Dakota Penitentiary in knickers, even if they are popular." (The expression "in" was not yet in.) "Women visitors must be properly dressed. We must not excite the prisoners!" Thus spake the tour official to my teen-age bride. Myrtle obediently returned to our camping-gear-laden Model T outside the gate, and soon re-entered the lobby wearing a long raincoat. The security guard was satisfied, and we again joined the visitor group. This was our first and only such tour.

South Dakota had experienced a sensational prison-break just a year previous, and memories were still vivid. The Warden had been kidnapped, and later released unharmed before the convicts dropped from sight. After several days of rumors and false leads covering several states the escapees suddenly appeared at Murdo, early one morning. Then they fled toward the Badlands, the usual haven in that land of fossils, gumbo-and stay-at-home-if-it-rains.

Three prominent Murdo men, including the Jones County Sheriff and State's Attorney, gave chase and apprehended "the bad guys" near Stamford, several miles short of the "pass"; but then they were beaten to the draw, were shot point-blank, covered with roughage in a ravine and finally left for dead. All three "good guys" survived, and "Believe it or Not", Ripley took note. (As if he wouldn't.)

The alarm spread, and a home-grown posse soon won a shoot-out near the Pedro Crossing of Cheyenne River where all convicts were captured or killed. Myrtle was living in Murdo at that time, and I began my first year of teaching there in September, so we both remember this real-life western which caused many jitters. Murdo and Sioux Falls eventually settled back to "normalcy", but maybe a young girl in knickers might have triggered another illegal exodus from the pokey - Who knows?

Enough of Nostalgia; now about the recent trip to Sioux Falls where we attended the Western Literature Association Conference at the Downtown Holiday Inn. This was our first visit since the knicker-snicker of 1923 to the charming little city with its acres of quartzite over which splash a series of falls and cascades. The beautiful pink metamorphic rocks have resisted erosion and are practically unchanged since glaciers ceased scouring them toting fragments to the "drift" around Lincoln and elsewhere. Abundant recent rains made the Falls unusually attractive, so we shot up much film; still and movie.

One wonders what the region was like ages ago when that rock powder was altered to its present form by pressure, heat and "time". The stuff is too commonplace to be appreciated, and if folks want to classify it for hardness they should not mess around with the steatite end of the scale.

QUARTZITE-CATLINITE-SATELLITE-dolls - continued

One of the participants featured in the Literature Conference was Dr. Lucile Aly, Professor of English, University of Oregon, Eugene. As Dr. John Neihardt's official Biographer, she has written a scholarly book recently published in Holland. It is the most complete story of the life of our late Honorary Member, the Poet Laureate. Three of the sessions dealt with his works, and the capable little lady from Oregon made a fine presentation. I taped parts of three Neihardt-related sessions to furnish copies to the Neihardt Cultural Center at Bancroft, Nebraska, and for others.

With Mrs. Aly we visited some interesting points in and around Sioux Falls. One of these was the Pipestone National Monument at Pipestone, Minnesota, not far from Sioux Falls. It holds interest of a variety of hobbyists and the general public. The Federal Government recognized the importance of this area for its long established use by many Indian tribes as a great source of Catlinite, or pipestone. Here with primitive tools they removed the soft, colorful mineral found between hard quartzite ledges, and with patient skill they shaped sacred ceremonial objects--mostly pipes of diverse patterns. Catlinite, named for the early explorer-photographer, George Catlin, is easy to work when freshly quarried, but hardens after exposure, maintaining a beautiful red color.

Only Indians are permitted to obtain this material. In centuries past they have honored and revered this area, refraining from any tribal hostilities while there. The modern visitor center houses interesting historic artifacts, and souvenirs are sold. A projection room provides audio-visual programs explaining the techniques and the history, while Indian artisans demonstrate their skills in other parts of the building.

A well-marked nature trail proceeds through about a mile of easy walking, and an illustrated guidebook describes frequent points of interest. Still plainly visible on some quartzite outcrops are inscriptions by the earliest white explorers, such as Nicollet and Catlin. They had found the perfect non-eroding surface for their pioneer "graffiti", and there was nothing obscene about it.

Among the many interesting museums in Sioux Falls is the Old Senator Pettigrew residence. Imbedded in one of the outside walls are many large slabs of petrified wood. That whole section of the city abounds with historic mansions. Everywhere quartzite structures reveal the use of this local bonanza. The Big Sioux River seems to entwine its urban namesake.

About 16 miles N.E. from Sioux Falls is the great EROS Data Center on a 318 acre tract, and where about 350 people are employed. It is "a central computer complex which controls a data base of over 6 million images and photographs of the Earth's surface..." We had heard about it, but had no idea of its magnitude. What a fantastic progress in technology we have seen!

Our memories went back to the summer of 1935 when we witnessed the

QUARTZITE -CATLINITE-SATELITE-dolls - continued

first attempt to inflate the huge helium balloon, Explorer II in the natural Strato-bowl near Rapid City. The bag blew out the helium just as the 2-man gondola was about to be attached. I had taken pictures of the event, and one shows the bulge just before the "explosion". That attempt at ascension was temporarily "scrubbed"; the fabric was returned to Goodyear at Akron, Ohio for repairs and later on Armistice Day November 11, 1935 a very successful flight was made, and its 14 plus mile altitude record stood unchallenged for nearly a generation. That was before satellites became the "in" thing. The "sky's the limit" - but where does it end?

Near Wahkon, Minnesota on the south shore of Mille Lacs, one of the state's largest individual lakes, we visited Hazelglade Resort, operated by some old friends. The National Geographic Magazine featured this place some years ago for its famous ice-fishing activities. This lake is unique because it has few known inlets, but has a very obvious outlet - a hydrostatic puzzle.

At Fish Lake, near Mora, we visited Myrtle's rockhound brother and his wife. Their serpentine-curved walk with 152 concrete stepping stones leads down to the lake shore. Imbedded in each one are specimens and cut slabs they have collected over many years, nationwide. The wife, recently retired from Mora School, has boxes of "Lake Superiors". Grateful (or artful) kids in that area bring agates to teacher instead of conventional apples! At Mora is the great Red Horse, so large it would make Paul Bunyan's Ox look like a mere calf.

One of America's greatest forest tragedies destroyed several towns and killed over 400 people in the Hinkley area in September 1894, and hundreds of unidentified were buried in one common grave. A memorial museum at Hinkley tells the awful story. We had first visited the area in the mid-1920's and were told by one old survivor, "All Hell came roaring up out of the swamp!"

One of the most amazingly beautiful sights we saw on our way home was the Grotto of the Redemption at West Bend, Iowa. Words and pictures cannot describe it; so all gem, mineral, and rock hobbyists, as well as the devout, should see it, - no other like it in the whole world.

Now for the dolls, we must return to Sioux Falls. There, in new and gorgeous display is the "Enchanted World Doll Museum". Like the Grotto, words fail to describe it, with its 4000 dolls and over 200 scenes. Myrtle and Lucile were delighted, and even I (old male chauvinist!) had to agree it was superb, the best of several doll museums we have seen.

J.D.Y.

P.S. Again, about naughty knickers in 1923 - Most of the scholarly gals at the Literature "Bash" at Sioux Falls recently wore ---- you know what! Who doubts we have "come a long way"?

JUNIOR PAGE

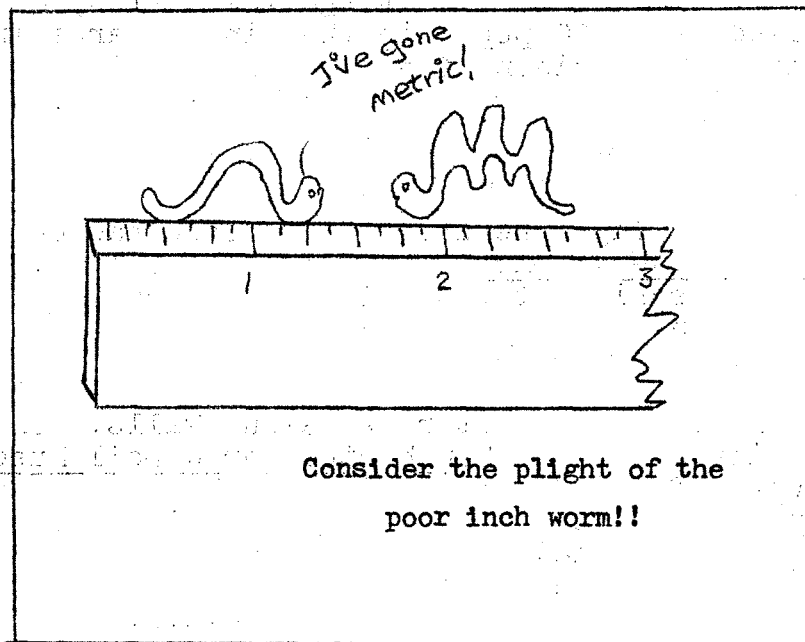
Unscramble the names of these gems and minerals to find a hidden message:

- emahetit
- stymathe
- otiperd
- epirty
- agy
- utesiquro
- nohr denbl
- tierazu
- licken
- nailok
- lervis
- ragten
- roin
- revimluctie
- raps andlice
- tileortan
- nalega

\*\*\*\*\*

Welcome New Junior Member: Eric Christopher Harrison

\*\*\*\*\*



via Chips and Facets

SAFETY PAGE



ENJOYABLE HOBBY GOOD FOR HEALTH... "A good hobby can be a help to better emotional health, according to the Nebraska Medical Association.

Hobbies are becoming more and more popular as Americans acquire more leisure time, however it is important to remember, developing an interesting and rewarding hobby is often easier said than done..

What is a good hobby? According to Nebraska Medical Association, it must be something one likes, not something that somebody else suggests one ought to like. What may be an excellent hobby for one person, may be exactly wrong for somebody else.

It must be worth doing. Mere wasting time by going through the motions of some useless activity does not constitute a good hobby. This does not include doing things for fun, because fun is important to good emotional health. It does rule out making things which cannot be sold or given away, unless the procedure gives the individual real pleasure and deep-down satisfaction.

A good hobby should help the individual relax and put the problems and perplexities of the day into the background for the time being. It should increase one's knowledge and skills.. It should cost no more than one can afford.

A hobby is not a cure-all for emotional problems.. A hobby is not enough in itself to satisfy an active-minded person in retirement."

Courtesy of the SUN Newspapers.

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BEWARE! PET ROCKS ARE DANGEROUS... I want to warn all those innocent naive people who have received a harmless little Pet Rock that they should beware, for they are harboring a 'serpent on their bosom'. Pet Rocks are treacherous because they have a silent and insidious way of propagating, multiplying and spreading by making you feel they are lonely and need more companions.

Those who believe this, are lured into their evil power and changed into ROCKHOUNDS (!!!), afflicted with an incurable malady known as Rock-Fox or Rock-A-Mania. These victims are doomed for the rest of their lives to travel down the rocky road of no return.

These slaves of the rock spend all their spare time and money traveling to far off places where they climb mountains, wade through swamps, risk snake bite and poison ivy and dig great holes in the ground in quest of more rocks. They haul these rocks back and soon they are crowded out of the garage and home!

By Frank Mayo via COBE-L-STONES  
and T-Town Rockhound

# Midwest Federations 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 Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50311

November 1977 - Issue No. 179

*Here are your 1978 Midwest Federation Officers*

## ***Your new Midwest President is Paul Good***

The advancement program that the Midwest Federation promotes will enable the Midwest to again in 1978 to be lead by an experienced set of office

The advancement program that the Midwest Federation promotes will enable the Midwest to again in 1978 to be lead by an experienced set of officers. This program moves the second vice president into the first vice president position and then to president.

The 1978 president is Paul Good, Griffith, Indiana. Paul is well qualified for the position of Midwest president. He has served on the Bulletin Editors committee and showed outstanding leadership in this field. He served as president of his local club and as show chairman for local shows. Paul is an expeditor for a large manufacturing plant.

First vice president of the Midwest for 1978 is Mrs. Betty Crawford, Mansfield, Ohio. Betty has had experience in Midwest procedures and is very well qualified for the position of first vice president. She was Uniform Rules Committee chairman during 1976.

Second vice president is Mrs. Bernice McCloskey, Elm Grove, Wisconsin. Bernice was Treasurer of the Midwest for four years and has served as State Director for Wisconsin. She is a member and past President of the Kettle Moraine Geological Society.

Miss Jean Reynolds continues as secretary of the Midwest for 1978. She has served the Midwest in this capacity for eleven years. Jean lives with her mother in Clarendon Hills, Illinois and has been with the Federal Reserve Bank in Chicago for 32 years. She is a senior cost accountant, and is a graduate of Northwestern University.

A new treasurer for the Midwest for 1978 is Otto Ensminger, Lombard, Illinois. Otto is a member of ESCONI and is the current president of the club. He has served his club at all levels and is always a willing worker. He is presently treasurer of the Chicagoland Gem and Mineral group. Otto is a retired junior high school teacher and a retired naval officer.



*Paul Good*

### **CB CHANNEL 7 FOR ROCKHOUNDS**

Rockhounds in the west have been using CB Channel 7 for quite some time to keep in touch with each other. At the National show in Ogden, Utah last August Mrs. Henry Bonar, Odessa, Florida, past president of the Eastern Federation suggested that rockhounds in other parts of the country use Channel 7 much as the truckers now use Channel 19.

The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) does not make official exclusive designation to groups for use of any of the 40 channels, but any group is free to use a chan-

nel in this manner if desired. Only exception is the emergency Channel 9.

### **FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION SEEKS CHANGE**

The Federal Trade Commission is seeking to change the customary standards and nomenclature of gold and silver jewelry. One amendment would allow manufacturers to use the term "gold" in describing any gold alloy which has at least 1k or 4% gold. The other proposal would allow anything with silver in it to be called "silver" if the percentage is stamped on each item.

1978 MWF SHOW AND CONVENTION - CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA - AUGUST 10-13, 1978

# Your 1978 Regional Show Schedule

Here are the dates and locations of the six Regional Shows in 1978. Note that the National Show and Convention will be held in Pleasanton, California in conjunction with the California Federation.

CALIFORNIA <i>National Show</i>	EASTERN	MIDWEST	NORTHWEST	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	SOUTH CENTRAL
Pleasanton, Ca. July 27-30	Newcastle, Pa. July 7-9	Cedar Rapids, Iowa August 10-13	Monroe, Wa July 14-16	Colorado Springs, Colorado June 9-11	New Orleans, La. March 31, April 1-2

## COMPLETE LIST OF ALL AMERICAN AWARD WINNERS FOR 1977

Here is a complete list of the Midwest clubs participating in the AFMS All American Awards for 1977. The Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society, Lansing, Mich. was the First Place winner in the Midwest.

**MICHIGAN:** Cass River Gem & Mineral Society, Caro; Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club, Holland; Roamin Club, Detroit; Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society, Dearborn; Michigan Gem & Mineral Society, Jackson; Waterford Gem & Mineral Society, Pontiac; Copper Country Rock & Mineral Club, Calumet; Clare Rock & Mineral Club, Mt. Pleasant; Blue Water Lapidary Society, Pt. Huron; Muskegon County Rock & Mineral Association, Muskegon; C.A.I. Family Lapidary Club, Drayton Plains; Flint Rock & Gem Club, Flint; Livingston Gem & Mineral Society, Howell; Kalamazoo Geological & Mineral Society, Kalamazoo; Rock Exchange Club, Garden City; Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society, Lansing; Blossomland Gem & Mineral Society, St. Joseph; Grand Rapids Mineral Society, Grand Rapids.

**OHIO:** Euclid Lapidary & Mineral Society, Euclid; Boehm Geology Club, Berea; Stonelick Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Loveland; Parma Lapidary Club, Parma; Brunswick High School Geology Club, Brunswick; Cincinnati Mineral Society, Cincinnati; Lake Erie Gem & Geological Society, Oberlin; Fairview Park Lapidary Society, Fairview Park; Ft. Hamilton Gem and Mineral Society, Hamilton; Heights Gem & Mineral Society, Shaker Heights; West Central Ohio Rock Club, Lima.

**IOWA:** Cedar Valley Rock & Mineral Society, Cedar Rapids; Madison County Rockhounds, Winterset; Blackhawk Gem & Mineral Society, Waterloo; North Iowa Rock & Gem Club, Mason City; Storm Lake Area Rockhounds, Storm Lake; Des Moines Lapidary Society, Des Moines; Mid Iowa Rock Club, Marshalltown; Nishna Valley Rock Club, Atlantic; Dallas County Rock Club, Adel; Old Capitol Geological Society, Iowa City.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Sioux Falls Gem & Mineral Society, Sioux Falls; Badlands Sandhills Earth Science Society, Mission; Corn Palace Rock Club, Mitchell; Missouri Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Platte; Lakota Glacier Rock Club, Aberdeen; Rosebud Geological Society, Winner; Chamberlain Gem & Mineral Society, Chamberlain; Coteau Des Plaines Gem & Mineral Society, Watertown; Randall Rockhounds, Pickstown; Coyote Rock & Lapidary Society, Vermillion.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Lake Agassiz Rock Club, Fargo.

**MISSOURI:** Pike County Mineral & Gem Society, Bowling Green; Earth Science Club of Missouri, Independence; Blue Ridge Gem & Mineral Society, Raytown; McDonnell Douglas Gem & Mineral Society, St. Louis; Clark Mountain Gem & Mineral Society, Springfield; Central Missouri Rock & Lapidary Club, Columbia; Independence Gem & Mineral Club, Independence.

**ARKANSAS:** Spring River Gem & Mineral Club, Cherokee Village; Ft. Smith Gem & Mineral Society, Ft. Smith; Ozark Earth Science Club, Mountain Home.

**MINNESOTA:** Carlton County Gem & Mineral Club, Moose Lake; Austin Gem & Mineral Society, Austin; Chicago County Gem & Mineral Club, Lindstrom; Lake Superior Gem & Mineral Club, Duluth;

Minnesota Mineral Club, Minneapolis.

**ILLINOIS:** Park Forest Earth Science Club, Park Forest; Lake County Gem & Mineral Society, Lake Forest; Chicago Lapidary Club, Evergreen Park; Gem City Rock Club, Quincy; Siloam Springs Earth Science Club, Mt. Sterling; Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society, Chicago; Earth Science Club of Northern Illinois, Downers Grove; Des Plaines Valley Geological Society, Des Plaines; Northern Earth Searchers, Carthage; West Suburban Lapidary Club, Glen Ellyn.

**WISCONSIN:** Kettle Moraine Geological Society, Hartland; Kenosha Gem & Mineral Society, Kenosha; Heart of Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society, Wisconsin Rapids; Oshkosh Earth Science Club, Oshkosh; Wisconsin Geological Society, Milwaukee; Neville Public Museum Geology Club, Green Bay.

**INDIANA:** East Indiana Gem & Geology Society, Richmond; Michiana Rock & Gem Club, South Bend; White River Gem Society, Anderson; Muncie Rock & Gem Club, Muncie; Evansville Lapidary Society, Evansville; Indiana Geology & Gem Society, Indianapolis; Vigo Rock & Gem Club, Terre Haute; Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society, Ft. Wayne; Lawrence County Rock Club, Bedford; Dune-land Rock Club, Gary; Peru Rock & Minerals Club, Peru.

**NEBRASKA:** Grand Island Earth Science Society, Grand Island; Loup Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Monroe; Lincoln Gem & Mineral Society, Lincoln; Central Nebraska Rock & Mineral Society, Lincoln.

## Welcome new clubs

**JACK PINE ROCK & GEM CLUB**  
Victor W. Frandsen — President  
R. #3 — Box 3140  
Hale, Michigan 48739

**THE CHIPPEWAGEM & MINERAL SOCIETY**  
Terry Copeland — President  
749 College St.  
Wadsworth, Ohio 44281

**MINNOWA ROCK & GEM CLUB**  
Robert Siems — President  
Box 654  
Fairmont, Minnesota 56031

**ITASCA ROCK & MINERAL CLUB**  
Ben Toven — President  
Box 18  
Hill City, Minnesota 55748

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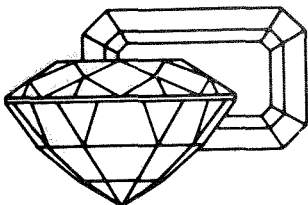
Phone (402) 466-0211

6126 Hartley Street

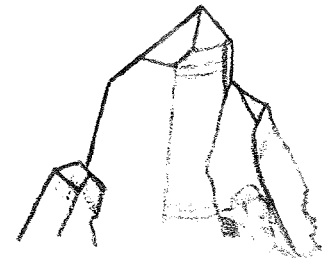
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