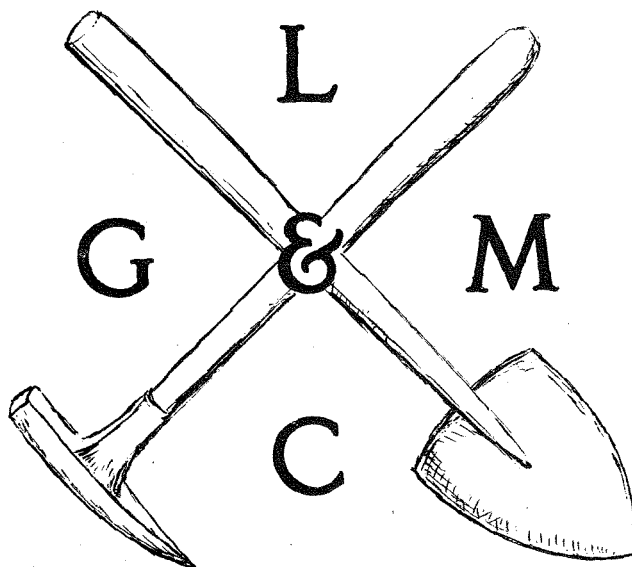


# THE PICK & SHOVEL



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB  
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

VOLUME 18

ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 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:

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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
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Board Member....	Virginia Green	6120 The Knolls	Lincoln, 68512	423-5032
Board Member....	Ray Lambert	1201 N. 79th St.	Lincoln, 68505	464-8552

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Librarian	Larry & Marita Bigley		Robert & Leona Daul
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NAOESCI Reporter	Evelyn Ulrich		

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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

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Publisher -Phyllis Parks  
Reporters -Club Members

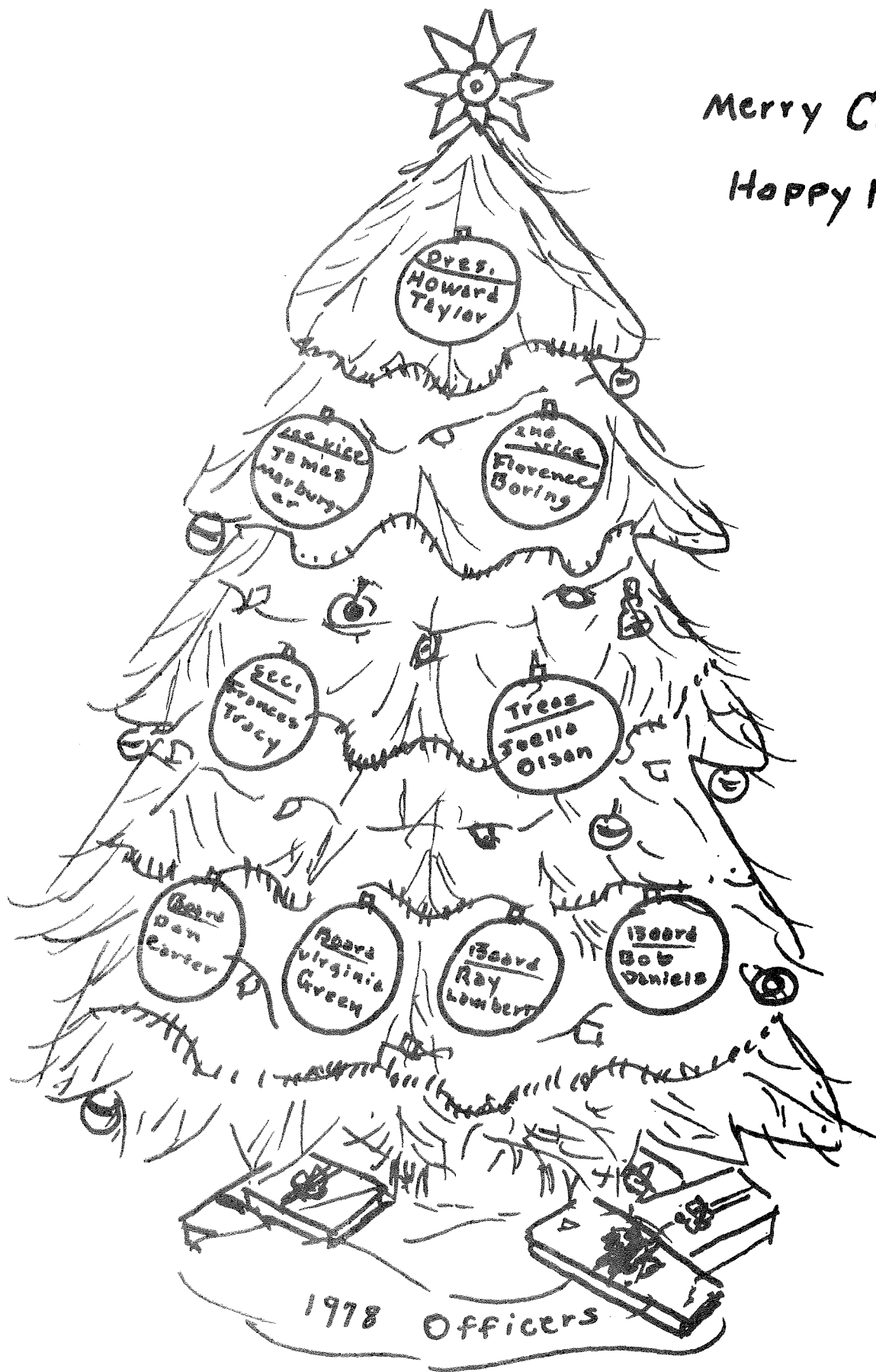
Contributions from members are welcome and needed Deadline for material is the first of the month to be printed. Please send copy to Editor.

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.

Merry Christmas  
Happy New year



Regular meeting...There will be no general meeting on the usual date, as the Christmas Party on December 10th took its place.

Board of Directors Meeting...January 12, 1978 at the home of Howard Taylor, 910 New Hampshire.

Change of address...

Tom Barnes, 1501 Monte Vista Drive, Gadsden, Alabama-35901  
Janzen, Darline & Dr. Hal, 4327 Cambridge Road, Grand Island, Ne.68807



BE WISE

GET YOUR DUES PAID

DUES ARE DELINQUENT JAN.

#### 1978 DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan. 19-22	Denver, Co.	Denver Gem & Min. Guild Show, Villa Italia Shopping Center, 7200 West Alameda.
Feb. 25-26	Waterloo, Ia.	Black Hawk Gem & Min. Soc..Show Recreation Center, 225 Cedar St.
Mar. 10-12	Kansas City, Mo.	Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City Inc., Kansas City Trade Mart, 250 Richards Road.
Mar. 31-Apr. 2	Lincoln, Ne.	Lincoln Gem & Min. Club and MAOESCI Show, New Agricultural Hall, State Fairgrounds.
Apr. 21-23	Wichita, Ks.	Wichita Gem & Min. Soc. Inc. Show Cessna Activity Center, 2744 Geo. Washington Blvd.
Apr. 22-23	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Sioux Empire Gem & Min. Soc. Show Masonic Temple, First Ave. 14th St.

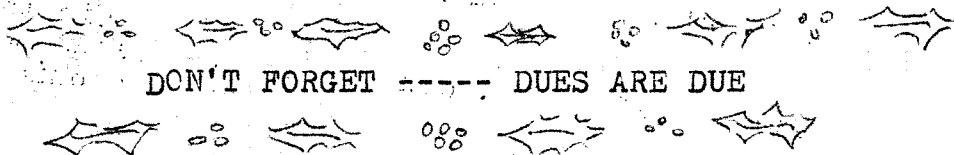
Last Month...Forty-three members and five guests were present at the November 19th meeting of the LGMC. The guest list included the following: Mary Wareham-North Platte, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Plant-Aurora, and Paul and Bev Rueter-Murdock. There was a silent auction for the benefit of the AFMS Scholarship Fund which netted \$47.35. A proposed budget for the 1978 Show was submitted by Show Chirman, Don Carter. It was approved by the members present. 1978 officers were elected. Their names will appear elsewhere in the bulletin. Marita Bigley and Lynn Wells were elcted to serve a three-year term on the Nominating Committee. Nelda Oliver and John Harrison were appointed to serve on the 1978 By-Laws Committee. LGMC will not renew its membership in the Nebraska Recreation League next year. This was decided by membership vote. Roger Pabian announced that the University will offer classes in advanced gem identification and creative lapidary. These classes will begin in February. More definite information will be given later. A very interesting slide program was given by our LGMC scholarship recipient, David Doherty. He showed pictures of the area and gave explicit information concerning the geology of the places where he was making maps during the summer. After the program cake, coffee and fruit juices were served.

Silent Auction Nets \$47.35.

Although it was far from reaching the record-breaking amount of last year, this year's silent auction at the November meeting added \$47.35 to the scholarship fund, with November kitty increasing it by \$3.82. Attendance at the meeting was lower than usual-- perhaps some members failed to notice the change in meeting date from the usual fourth Saturday evening.

Star attraction of the auction was a beautiful huge slice of Brazilian agate polished and donated by our agate specialist, Roger Pabian. Many thanks to you, Roger, and to all others who donated and bid on the many fine and interesting specimens. This is a fun way to add to our collections while helping our club in a very worthwhile cause. The interesting slide presentation of his summer's geology work by Dave Doherty, a scholarship recipient, was an immediate indication of the values of a scholarship fund.

Florence Boring,  
Scholarship Chairman



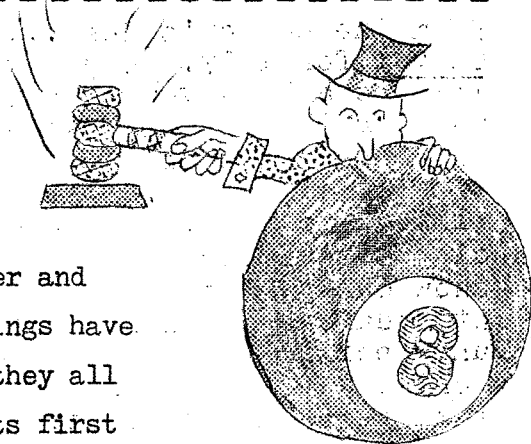
DON'T FORGET DUES ARE DUE

Yesterday  
10

December 1967...There was a covered dish supper and installation of officers held at the Naval Reserve Training Center. There was also a gift exchange.

From the notebook of Historian,  
Lois Everett

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Dear Fellow Clubmembers -

Here it is, another year almost over and it seems as though it just started. Many things have happened over the past year and I hope that they all have been happy events. Our club provided its first scholarships in the past year and we shall be looking forward to the new recipients for 1978. Our Annual Show was a large success and more people than ever before saw our hobby in its finest.

Lincoln as you know is hosting the 1978 State Gem Show and work is in its final stages. Many people are still needed to help in the various duties that it takes to put on a show of this magnitude. Make sure and contact the various committee chairpersons and volunteer your help.

I would like to thank the Officers, Board of Directors and the entire club for making '77 one of the nicest years I can remember, and for the help of the chairpersons who really make the club operate. Without them it would be almost a hopeless disaster. My Best Wishes to Howard Taylor and the new officers and board for '78 and hope they will guide the club to bigger and better things.

I would like to also give a personal and a grateful thanks from myself and the past presidents for the last 5 years to a lady who has been our right arm, memory bank, and reminding machine, called Melda Oliver, who is retiring from her secretarial duties after '77. Many, many, thanks for the help.

Last but not least I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Best of luck to you all in the future.

For the last time,

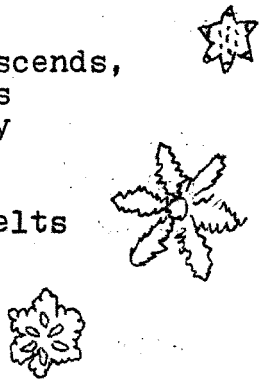
"Thanks"

*John*

From the editor's desk...This is your last issue of The Pick & Shovel for 1977. A new year will be dawning in a few weeks. 1978 will be a busy year for LGMC. Already preparations are well under way for the combined annual and state show which we will be hosting March 31-April 2. We all need to get on the bandwagon and make it a success. Do let your committee chairmen know if you are willing to help. We have a good group of officers to direct our club activities during 1978. Let's give them our support, and show our appreciation of their efforts by helping whenever asked. Attendance at general meetings is important. Many times important decisions need to be made which should be made by a large percentage of club members. Too bad when only a few are present to take the responsibility. If you disagree with the action taken, and were absent from the meeting, remember your vote might have made the difference.

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Through the hushed air the whitening shower descends,  
At first thin-wavering, till at last the flakes  
Fall broad, and wide, and fast, dimming the day  
With a continual flow. The cherished fields  
Put on their winter robe of purest white:  
'Tis brightness all, save where the new snow melts  
Along the mazy current. Low the woods  
Bow their hoar head; and ere the languid sun  
Faint from the west, emits his evening ray;  
Earth's universal face, deep hid, and chill,  
Is one wide dazzling waste, that buries wide  
The works of man.....



From WINTER by James Thomson.

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December...The last month of the year. In the earliest Roman calendar the year was divided into months, the last of which was called December, or the 10th month, and this name was retained for the last, or 12th month of the year as now divided. Julius Caesar gave the month its present length. The Saturnalia occurred in December, which explains the phrase of Horace "Libertate Decembri utere." Martial applies to the month the epithet canus (hoary), and ovid styled it gelidus (frosty) and fumosus (smoky). The Saxons called it winter-monath, and heligh-monath, (holy month), from the fact that Christmas fell within it. Thus the modern Germans call it Christ-monat. In December is the date of the winter solstice, when the sun reaches the tropic of Capricorn.

Encyclopedia Britannica

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Merry Christmas, Happy New Year from the Pick & Shovel Staff.

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Publisher's Deadline - FLASH - Lois Everett just gave me the word that Evy is starting to mend but still very uncomfortable at Bryan. Sorry that he had to have such a rocky ( or dare I say Stoney - pun intanded) time on his recent vacation but we can all be thankful that they are out now. Hurry and Get Well Evy. pnp

NOVEMBER 1977 BOARD MINUTES

Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club Board meeting was held Nov. 3, 1977 at the home of Joella Olson with 8 board members and Larry Bigley present.

President John Harrison, Jr. called the meeting to order. Minutes of the October meeting were approved as read.

Treasurers report approved as read. Bills were read by Treasurer. Moved by Norma Miller to pay bills as read, 2nd Nelda Oliver, carried. Paint for stenciling chairs included.

Chairs are in, stenciled and numbered. 10 members showed up to clean the storage room and help with the chairs.

There will be a silent auction for Nov. meeting (no door prizes).

The Cycad Plaque is at Midwest Jewelers ready to be processed.

We need a budget for 1978 Show from Show Chairman.

Christmas dinner at Our Place, \$3.75 plus tax per person.

President, John Harrison, Jr. asked Evelyn to choose a copy of the 1977 bulletin for the All American Federation Award contest.

Kearney bought all our cases that were complete.

Article III, Section 1, Club Property - refer to By-Laws Committee and come up with normal use and transportation to shows. Need answer by Dec. Board Meeting on the possible additional change.

There will be No Smoking at all in Trabert Hall. All members must smoke outdoors.

Discussion on closing the meeting hall doors after a certain time.

Cases were discussed. Motion Ray Lambert board recommends we purchase 15 cases 2 x 2 x 4, Standard Federation case. 2nd Evelyn Ulrich & Joella Olson. (This goes back to case committee for some answers.) 4 for, 2 against-carried. (Don Carter is checking Denver).

Motion Howard Taylor, the available existing cases be remodeled so they are usable, 2nd Evelyn Ulrich, carried.

Any board member to check with anyone they know by the 19th for General meeting.

Application for membership read by Larry Bigley-

Lupita C. Livingston (Judy Walt)

Daniel C. Wehler (Geo. McGinnis & Howard Taylor)

Moved Virginia Green they be accepted as members, 2nd Ray Lambert, carried.

Dues are Due -

It was stated we should put some teeth in the By-Laws on controlling club property.

Discussion on raising the dues to go to Long Range Planning.

June Zeitner asked Howard Taylor to pick some people from LGM to judge the All American Merit Awards.

The Library is at Larry Bigley's home.

Next board meeting Dec. 1st at 5700 Otoe St.

Meeting adjourned,

Nelda Oliver, Secretary

NOTES FROM NORMA

To start with - the best news for yours truly last month is the following true story:

Girl visited South Africa some time ago  
Girl received gold ring band from that country  
Girl very happy  
Girl loses ring in back yard  
Girl sad - ring lost two years  
Inspiration strikes - use metal detector  
Good friend come right over with one  
Find ring in five minutes  
Happy girl! (moral - never give up)

other news ... Tom and Betty have written that they are now settled in, and extend everyone a hearty welcome to come and visit them at 1501 Monte Vista Drive, Gadsden, Al. 35901, or write them there We wish them well, and especially now that they are expecting an addition to the family.

Glen Ulrich is in the news again...it is reported he is assisting the art instructor at Union College in setting up a jewelry making class and Glen will assist at lab periods. Good going Glen.

Along that line, Roger Fabian announced that an advanced lapidary class is organized on the University campus - get in touch with him for details.

George and Glenna hope to do lots of hunting and swapping during the winter months. Some travel will be involved and Christmas may find them in Sacramento visiting family there.

It was my privilege this month to host for the Mayor's Committee for International Friendship, a gentleman from Tanzania (East Africa). He is the mayor of the city of Arusha, and among other things was interested in learning about low-cost housing, youth achievement and activities, and agriculture in the United States, in hopes of taking ideas back to his people and applying them there in furthering their progress. In the course of his stay Mr. Frank Marsh presented the mayor with a small piece of our state gem stone, blue agate and an honorary citizenship in the State of Nebraska. He was a kind gentleman and I hope he learned much in this country to help him in his work. Their sister city in America is Abilene, Texas and one of his visits was also to that fair city.

Flossie tells me that this hunting season she was able to walk again with the rest of them and she and Glen brought home some game. Do you want to hear another good story? Ask her how she happened to get her limit of deer one year!!!

Did you notice Hovland's ad in December 4 Sunday newspaper? Quote: "Original Designs in Sterling and 14 Karat with genuine stones by MMJ".

That's all for now...I hope you have a Merry Christmas, and that yours is a happy one and May God bless you.

Norma

MORE ABOUT COLLECTING AREAS

The following is a reply to Leslie Darling from Darrell Lewis, Acting Deputy Assistant Director, United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management:

This is a reply to your inquiry of July 30, 1977, concerning revision of collecting regulations. We are certain that there is some misunderstanding involved in this matter. Regulations must be approved by the Secretary of the Interior or of an authorized member of his staff. Further, regulations are published in the FEDERAL REGISTER with a period for public comment, except in emergency situations.

The Bureau of Land Management is reviewing and revising many of its regulations because of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). Generally, the revisions are aimed at incorporating the enforcement provisions of FLPMA. These were issued as emergency regulations on April 21, 1977. Hobby collectors who have collected legally in the past should experience no difficulty now or in the future.

In addition to this, possible regulations revisions are being considered which would limit the amount of semiprecious gemstone and other minerals collected by hobby collectors during any one outing and for the full year. This is being considered in order to curtail the activities of the so called "rockhogs". Should it be decided to implement this action, the proposed regulations would be published in the Federal Register with a request for public comments. Your comments at that time would be appreciated.

Enforcement does require cooperation, and we would hope that if any user of the public lands observes an illegal act, he or she would report it to the nearest authority. The authorities, regardless of the agency represented, can then initiate an investigation to determine what did occur. Through citizen cooperation, enforcement personnel can frequently take actions that prevent small incidents from becoming major problems.

via AFMS Newsletter, December 1977

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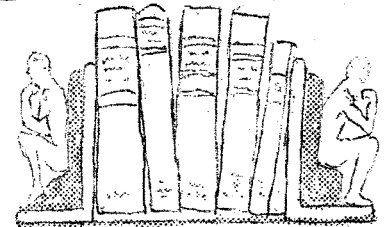
A UP Story last summer tells of a plant which may become the "gas pump" of the future. The remarkable plant, commonly called "milk bush" or "gopher plant", flourishes in Brazil, Africa, and California. The milky sap has the qualities of petroleum and can be refined for gasoline. Many other plants have latex-like sap which can be used in much the same ways crude oil is used. Dr. Melvin Calvin, University of California, Berkeley is testing such plants in California. The plants do not need irrigation, and could produce oil more cheaply than oil wells. Sounds like the answer to our energy shortage could be near.

by June Zeitner, THE CONCRETIONARY, column, AMS Newsletter

DUES ARE DUE

## BOOK REVIEW

by Roger K. Pabian



THE CREATIVE LAPIDARY, Materials, Tools, Techniques, Design.  
Frank W. Long, Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, \$13.50

This book will be welcomed by the many lapidaries who have long since tired of seeing numerous cases of 30 x 40 mm cabochons lining the tables of so many shows. Modern merchandising has led the average lapidary to believe that the 30 x 40 mm cabochon is the ultimate achievement of the art. Author Long stops short of calling this art since little, if any, creativity is involved. Long is quick to point out that the art of lapidary is in a curious state--- more is written, and published on the topic than ever before; it is one of the fastest growing pastimes in the nation and practically every city of any size at all has at least one lapidary club; more lapidary equipment is bought and sold annually than ever before; and more gems are produced than any time in the past, but in spite of all of this activity, the craft is "artistically dead" (quotes mine). Much of the blame for this state of affairs is placed on skilled craftsmen who show no interest in the lapidary as a creative medium.

Long points out that there exists a lack of awareness of the many possible applications and innovations that the lapidary medium offers as a creative outlet. Such a lack of awareness is difficult to understand since lapidary in the past has had such rich traditions as shown by the Egyptians, Chinese, pre-Columbian Americans, and other cultures. Lapidaries, however, have often served as specialists who produce their work for the use of other craftsmen such as jewelers, an industry which developed in Europe, thus, giving rise to the plethora of gemstones calibrated in the metric system, to fit settings manufactured in the same scale. In other words, most cutting is done by skilled technicians who follow standardized patterns. It is important to note here that Long strongly differentiates between technical perfection and artistic creativity. Faceters will wince in pain when Long points out that this skill requires only following Cook-book directions, unless, of course, someone develops a new cut.

There is a brief description of materials but this is not overdone. The author does not intend on producing a list of pros and cons of various stones, and the chapter is but a brief introduction to the types of materials that may be used. A good bibliography covers this subject, however, and this prevents a lengthy diatribe on a well-hackneyed subject.

This is followed by a chapter on equipment. The approach is new, however. No great length is given to explaining the mechanics, physics, advantages, and disadvantages of various types of saws, sanders, and so on. Instead, the emphasis is placed on how the equipment may best be utilized in a creative sense. Some historic material is included in this section and this proved helpful in developing a lapidary philosophy, a subject omitted by practically all preceding publications. Adapting pre-existing to the creative process is really the meat of the text.

The section on techniques is also geared to a wholly creative approach. Overplayed topics such as undercutting, shop tips, etc. are not given great emphasis since the goal of the book is to foster creative thought rather than cover technical subjects. What does technique lend to the creative process? One might be surprised to learn that Long considers tumbling an acceptable technique if it lends itself to fulfilling a creative goal, whereas faceting or highly advanced cabochon forms may be less than suitable if no creativity is intended. More precisely, the line is drawn between "technical exercise and creative process."

The design section is quite good. The American Federation Uniform Rules may be viewed as the ultimate villain that stymies lapidary creativity because judgement is based on traditional rules and ideas with no foundation of creativity. It is good to

continued

BOOK REVIEW - continued

see an author with good background openly attack the uniform rules. ( I have maintained that the rules teach brands of mineralogy and paleontology that were passe' by 1940.) It is enlightening to see a breach on the Lapidary Front.

One can not read Long's book without doing some thinking about the state of one's own lapidary growth. By the time the final page is read, the ties that bind the lapidary to traditional motifs and designs begin to dissolve. We are not bound to the 40 x 30 as our ultimate lapidary achievement. Endless variations in jewelry, collages, sculptures, wall pieces, transparencies, screens, and windows are but a few of the ideas that will take root in the readers mind. The supplemental color plates as well as the numerous black and white pictures will give the reader good insight as to what he may achieve, and possibly surpass, as lapidary goals.

I highly recommend this book to any serious lapidary and also recommend that it be added to the club's library. It should be required reading for the AFMS Lapidary rules committee as well as for any prospective lapidary judge. "The Creative Lapidary" is probably the most important work of its' kind since "The Art of the Lapidary" was produced by Francis Sperisen in 1950. Long's book will help break many of the taboos and psychological barriers that have left lapidary in a state of suspended animation for some years. It will indeed be interesting to see the impact this book has on show displays in the next ten or so years.

Roger K. Pabian

Our Editor, Evelyn, and her Pick & Shovel Staff wish to express "Thanks" to Nelda Oliver for her efforts on the entire November bulletin, especially for the picture reproductions of Joella's and Bud's visit to the National Show. Pictures are a medium which we have not been able to experience before and it really dressed up our publication.

Nelda's ability and her contributions of time this past year have really made the publisher's work much easier and more effective. In addition to the front and back covers for 1977, Nelda is doing the color greeting (officer) page for this December issue. Special thanks from Phyllis!!

We wish to express our sincere sympathy to Darline and Dr. Hal Janzen on the recent loss of Mr. Bill Sprick, father of Darline.

DUES ARE DUE

Renewal for adults is \$4.00 each, for juniors \$1.00 each.

Family membership renewal is \$9.00 and includes juniors under 16.

Mail your check to Joella Olson, 4831 South Haven Drive, Lincoln, 68516

## AMTRAK - DENVER OR BUST by J.D.Young

For real transportation economy our old Rambler wagon could not compete with Amtrak's recent special coach fare to the famous mile-high (1.6 kilometers) city. Moreover, we were aware of seasonal weather uncertainties and all-season traffic certainities in Denver. We decided to take no chances--we would "leave the driving to a Diesel-happy 'Casey Jones'." So, watch the drivers roll, but sans the dear old whistle.

As the weather behaved, the decision proved wise, to say nothing about the traffic impasse. Near-record-high temperatures alternated between snow and cold. Our many kindly relatives provided housing and local transportation, with resident know-how much appreciated.

This was no rock-scrounging, agate-licking vacation, and we attended no conventions. We went to visit my 88 year old brother, George, now in a nursing home. Our most recent call was during the 1975 National Gem Show. He was always generous in lending me his Model T before I owned one, so he might be called loansome George.

Like many elderly people he still enjoys company, and he remembers everything from the sinking of the Maine to last summer's drought. The sparkle in his eyes above the old familiar smile belies his physical infirmities. In his prime he could outdo any 5 larger brothers!

The "population explosion" in Denver and its environs, like many other cities, is phenomenal. This increases problems of transportation, security, water supply, flood control, sewage, and now-smog. The latter is due to industries, heavy traffic and occasional unique atmospheric conditions. When we arrived a temperature inversion caused vertical columns of smoke and fumes. News photographers had a hey-day before the smog formed.

Visibility was 100% at times, both day and night, yielding spectacular views from many different ground levels. Denver now permits skyscrapers, and they add to the night-time enchantment. The wattage consumed everywhere is staggering. How dark will cities be when principal energy sources fade out? Pine knots and grass flares may then be in short supply!

People ask about Amtrak travel and service. We cannot judge from just one special-rate trip. The San Francisco Zephyr left Lincoln almost on schedule, 2:20 a.m. and arrived in Denver soon after 9:30 a.m. Mountain Time. Our return started promptly at 8:30 P.M. but lost about two hours due to track difficulties. Services were satisfactory, and the personnel seemed affable. The westbound ride was rougher than my last rail trip in 1952, and this coach had heating trouble, causing some discomfort.

Eastbound ,we enjoyed a more comfortable ride in a very pleasant Vista Dome coach. After lights dimmed, and most passengers were snoozing on free pillows, I climbed a short stairway and had the Dome mostly to myself the remainder of the night. Some non-believers in "The surgeon General's Warning" came up for a few

AMTRAK - DENVER OR BUST continued

puffs, permitted there. Maybe they believed, but cared not.

Viewed through the glassed roof, the moonless sky was ideal for star-gazing, unobstructed. At least 8 of 14 first magnitude stars visible at certain times in our latitude were brilliant, full view. These constellations have kept their well-known patterns with little change since earliest human history. Sophisticated moderns still recognize the fancied shapes of familiar objects, and apply names given ages ago.

Planets Jupiter, Saturn and Mars were in view; Venus dominated the early eastern horizon; then came Lincoln's skyline with the "Sower" and we were home!

J. D. Y.

P.S. I almost forgot to suggest that the winter-bound rockhound might learn to scrounge the "Friendly Skies" instead of the pick-ed-over "Grasslands".

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A NOSE FOR ...MOSCOW,..Dogs have proved themselves over a 10-year trial period to be better prospectors for metal than man and his gadgets, the Soviet news agency Tass reports. Tass said the dogs found deposits of copper, zinc, tungsten, nickle and pyrite not detected by any instruments. They found in all climates and geographical conditions--"in Tundra, in mountains and anywhere." On ordinary soil the dogs sense out deposits at a depth of 13 meters and in marshy ground at a still greater depth. The dogs barked in such places a party of geologists would pass by. Exploratory drilling was carried out in those places and a chemical analysis of samples confirmed presence of the mineral for which the dog was trained. Tass said breed seemed to make no difference. Sheepdogs, huskies, boxers, dobermans and fox terriers all proved efficient after training. One copper-trained huskie prospected in a month over an area in the north Urals which it took geologists six months to survey, Tass said.

via The Los Angeles Mineralogical Society, Bulletin

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Meet your Regional Federation 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.

via AFMS Newsletter

Our Trip Back East - by Flossie Litzenberg

October 20 we left for Rochester, New York to visit our neice, Sandra Becker and her family. At Buffalo, New York we crossed over into Canada and saw the Niagara Falls. After we returned to the United States we turned north and then east on Highway 104. New York countrysides were beautiful. In between vineyards and orchards, there were fields of goldenrod with purple asters among them, the sumac was scarlet, the maple trees were every shade of red, the beech trees were golden and there were some evergreen among them. The colors were gorgeous. There were many roadside stands selling fruits and vegetables. They had a lot of Bosc pears which have a rusty look. There was a small pear, rusty looking like the Bosc pear which they said were used for pickling. Their delicious apples were huge and more rose colored than ours. There were many cobblestone houses along Highway 104. When the Erie Canal was built, many masons were imported from Europe. When the Canal was finished they stayed on and built homes of the many cobblestones that were available. Children were given the task of sorting the stones as to size after the school day. Every house was a different design according to the way they arranged the different sizes of stones. Some were in a her-ringbone design similar to a woven design in cloth.

Sandy took us for a drive to Letchworth State Park.. It was a long narrow park along the Genesee River. New York calls it their Grand Canyon. The drive was along the rim of the Canyon and the trees in their fall colors were beautiful. Near the south end of the Park we saw the upper and middle falls. It was a cloudy, dark day. We drove out of the Park and ate lunch at Portageville in an old hotel. While at the table I reached for my purse and it wasn't there. By that time it had begun to rain. We looked in the car, but my purse wasn't there. We drove back into the Park and looked in the restroom and there was my purse. How lucky can you be?

On Sunday the Beckers drove us quite aways west of Rochester to Apple Grove Inn to a Smorgasbord. It cost \$41.00 for all six of us (the Beckers have two children), but it was worth it. The food was fabulous.. We got there around 2:00 P.M. and stayed over an hour just eating and eating. We didn't eat supper that night.

On our way home from the Inn, we took a drive through the country. I never pictured New York having so much country. I thought it was just about all an asphalt jungle. When we got home we took a walk through the woods behind their property. There was a little brook down the middle and many wild flowers. It was too late in the year for them to be in bloom. The chrys-anthemums in their landscaping around their house were a mass of blooms.

One lunch Sandy served us "Hots". They are a sausage fatter than a hotdog. The red "hots" are made of beef and the white "Hots" are made of pork. They are popular just in that vicinity..

Sandy took us on a tour of the Kodak Industrial Park. We saw many steps in the making of film equipment. On the way home from that tour she drove us along the shore of Lake Ontario, which isn't far from their home.

We left Beckers on September 27 and headed south to Canandaigua where we visited Mrs.F.F.Thompson's "Summer Cottage", a forty room mansion constructed in 1887 at Sonnenberg Gardens, ten gardens on the fifty acres. We visited the Conservatory first,

## Back East - continued

where there were banana plants with green fruit hanging on. We took a sidewalk up to the mansion and viewed the Colonial Garden which is layed out similar to the gardens in Williamsburg. There were many annuals planted there as well as perennials. I think they used some of the flowers for cutting because there were some fresh flower arrangements in the mansion. We walked by the Rose garden with 5,000 rose bushes using only red, pink and white roses, because other colors were too modern. The beds were layed out in interesecting circles of unique design. We walked up to the mansion to the blue and white garden. It was a small, square garden next to the porch. It was a very distinctive bed of blue and white flowers. We toured the mansion. The rooms were furnished with heavy pieces of dark, carved wood. The (volunteer) host played the Harpischord for us and showed us its interior. The hammers were little bees that hit the cymbals or chimes that were shaped like little beehives. It had a very pleasing sound. We went upstairs and looked down upon the Italian garden. The four sunken parterres are planted with 30,000 annuals each year in a modified fleur-de-lis design, an original to Sonnenberg, but in the manner of the gardens at Versailles in France. The design is different each year. A classic columned Belvedere separates the Rose garden from the Italian garden. I call it a Pargola and it was roofed with vines. (The first 4,000 rose bushes were salvaged from the former world famous Jackson and Perkins Rose Gardens in Newark). On our walk back to the entrance we passed by the Japanese garden. We saw the tea house but didn't go in. We didn't visit all the gardens because there was more walking than I cared to do.

We went Pleasant Valley just north of Hammondsport and toured the Taylor Wine Company, a subsidiary of the Coco-Cola Company of Atlanta, Georgia as of January 1977. The Winery is located at the southern tip of Keuka Lake (a Finger Lake). The geography and climate of Keuka Lake and its environs are ideal grape country; the steeply sloped land bordering the lake is dotted with vineyards. Normally 35,000 tons or more grapes are handled at the Winery each year. They make almost five million cases of still wines, champagnes and vermouths annually which are shipped to all states and more than 70 foreign countries. The Taylor Wine Company is the largest in the east. They showed us slides of the vineyards and then took us on a tour of the Winery. We saw the huge barrels of wine working and aging. Then they took us to a Hospitality Room for a sample taste and hors d'oeuvres. We tasted Lake Country Gold, which was one of their new wines and very good. We saw them bottling and packing wine too.

On our way back to Hammondsport and a motel, we saw a sign at the side of the road, "Grape Pie". Glen backed up and I went to the farm house and bought one, @\$4.50, but it was delicious. I had never eaten one before. I had pie nearly all the way home.

Next day we took a small road east to Watkin's Glen, which was located at the southern end of Seneca Lake, another Finger Lake. The Glen is a deep canyon with cliffs from one to three hundred feet high, cut through the rock strata by a stream of pure water having its source in springs scattered through the highlands. The Glen rises to 530 feet. It is broken from section to section into cascades and pools. As the stream is of post-glacial origin, the stream is still busily cutting it deeper. We entered the Glen--

continued

Back East -- continued

through a tunnel of solid rock that had been blasted out and winds upward about sixty feet. There we crossed Sentry Bridge and walked far enough to see the Minnehaha Falls. We walked back to our car and drove to the south entrance. There we walked out on a suspension bridge and viewed the Glen from both directions. Everywhere you looked, the view was spectacular. We drove on up to the top, but most of the best views were lower down. We could have walked 700 steps to the bottom of the Glen, but I didn't feel like walking that far.

We drove south and toured the Corning Glass works. We saw a movie of the different ways they finished glass and of glass pieces from all over the world. In the upper lobby was the original casting for the Mt. Palomar Observatory's 200 inch mirror. It is one of the largest pieces of cast glass in the world. We went through their Museum of Glass where objects were arranged in chronologically with the earliest made some 3500 years ago. The collections are the most comprehensive in the world. Next was the Hall of Science and Industry. Hundreds of objects illustrate the versatile role glass plays in our lives today. We went on to the Steuben Shop and saw such beautiful, clear glass objects. I would like to have had an animal or bird, but didn't feel I could afford the price of \$300.00 or more a piece. Then we were supposed to see craftsmen shaping the molten glass, but they were having machine trouble and weren't working. I thought they were goofing off until it was explained to me. We did get to see them engraving glassware with copper wheel engravers. We visited the sales rooms but I didn't buy anything.

We spent the night in Selingsgrove, Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania is a beautiful state too. The leaves were colored and they had many apple orchards loaded with fruit. We saw many row houses in Harrisburg. And we thought our house was close to our neighbor. We followed along the Susquehanna River and arrived at Hershey. The street lights of Hershey are shaped like the Hershey chocolate kisses. We toured Hershey's Chocolate World. They accommodate 16,000 visitors daily. They offer an exciting view of the entire chocolate-making process. We rode in automated cars with a recorder at the back that explained what we were seeing. We rode past scenes from Cacao-tree plantations to the finished product. We watched intricate equipment turning Cacao beans, milk and sugar into chocolate bars. The Cacao tree thrives only in the tropics. The beans are gathered, dried and shipped to Hershey. Then sorted, cleaned and roasted. They are then shattered and their meat separated from the husks by forced air. The cocoa butter is then conched, (I'd say stirred) refined and molded. We saw the wrapping and packaging too. To avoid human contact, wrapping and packaging is done by machine. The entrance and shopping area (where you can buy souvineers, candy and desserts) was a big conservatory where tropical trees and plants were growing. There were some Cacao trees there.

We traveled south to Mount Joy to visit A. Dube's Brewery and Catacombs. The Brewery has been closed since prohibition. We saw the big wooden casks used for fermenting the beer. The Catacombs where they stored the beer was 43 feet below the street surface. They were carved out of solid rock and the temperature remains

Back East - continued

around 50 degrees the year round. Some of the Catacombs were fixed up for serving gourmet meals on weekends by reservation. The food was catered from the hotel above ground. The prices were very high; Appetizers-Escargot Bourgignone (snails) at \$4.25, Entrees-Lobster tail at \$12.95, Desserts-Peach Melba at \$1.75. It was Thursday, so we didn't dine there.

We drove southeast to Lancaster which was quite a tourist town. We had to ask at three places before we got a motel, and it was the most expensive place we stayed on our entire trip. We were in the midst of the Amish country.. We ate supper at a Dutch Smorgasbord @ \$6.00 each, but we thought Apple Grove Inn in New York was better.. We took a four hour bus trip the next morning which included a short trip through the city of Lancaster and then into the countryside. We went through a typical farmhouse and yard. The Amish do not wish you to take pictures of them. They feel pictures are graven images, but they do use mirrors, but when you leave a mirror your image is gone. The pictures that you see are of actors. They do not use electricity. They pump water by a water wheel or windmill. Horses pull their wagons and buggies of which we saw many. When horses give up racing in Kentucky, they negotiate to buy them for their use. They were handsome animals. The parents build a house and when a son marries, they add a separate house onto the side and later, when it is needed, another house on the other side. These are called generation houses. The farm house we toured was such a house. One third of it served the Amish family that was doing the farming and was without electricity. The part we toured had electricity because places that were visited by tourists had to be well lighted. We saw some barefooted children leaving their private schools. There were men cutting cornstalks by hand and stacking them on their flatbedded, horse-drawn wagons. The women wore black hoods when outdoors and white net caps when inside. We visited an Amish Farmer's Market.. I bought a small Shoo Fly pie which I didn't care for. It was so dry with so many crumbs on top, I don't think a fly would have bothered it. The Amish send their children to their private schools until the eighth grade or they are 16 years old, whichever comes first. The Mennonite's send their children to their private high schools and even to college. The Amish men wear beards after they get married, but keep their upper lips clean so they won't contaminate the Communion cup during Communion services which they hold quite frequently. The Amish do not pay or collect Social Security. They take care of their own. Their church services are held in different members homes. They haul the benches from home to home for the services. Whoever has the services in their living room, serve a carry-over meal of sandwiches, etc. Everything is prepared on Saturday. Sunday chores are done (because livestock has to have care every day) then they go to services, eat and spend the afternoon visiting. They eat supper at home and then do the evening chores.

After we got into Iowa we toured the AMANA Colonies. We visited their winery and saw a big vat of fresh grapes fermenting and listened to a wooden barrel of wine bubbling inside. It was really more interesting than the big Taylor Winery. We went through the wool mill and saw the process of making wool into yardage. That was a noisy place with all the looms clattering away.

Back East - continued

Then we drove up to West Bend, Iowa for the night and toured the Grotto of the Redemption the next day. It was a very impressive display of the different periods in the Life of Christ. I never expect to see another collection of so many gem stones. The Carrara marble statues were beautiful. The big polished slabs set in the cement on the outside of the sales room were outstanding..

We got home around 7:00 P.M. of October 4, It was a beautiful time of year to go east to see the fall color of the trees. We had to backtrack most everyday because we would miss the right turns, but it just became a laughing matter, because we were in no hurry.

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### HOW SCIENTISTS TRACE INDIAN ARTIFACTS

A research team consisting of three archeologists, a physicist, a chemist and a geologist are using atom smashers to "fingerprint" Indian arrowheads and other relics to trace ancient Indian trade routes in the Western Hemisphere.

Obsidian artifacts are bombarded with X-rays and protons in a nuclear accelerator so they can be analyzed for trace elements. Since no two obsidian sources contain exactly the same trace elements, by analyzing an arrowhead they can trace it back to its volcanic source.

The volcanic glass contains trace elements such as barium, titanium, manganese, rubidium, strontium, and zirconium in quantities measured in parts per million.

"Obsidian studies are becoming an important means of determining trade relationships and contracts between early cultures."

"Trace element analysis can be run on pottery, Jade and soapstone artifacts, but obsidian is the best because its sources are limited and are therefore easier to trace."

Artifacts from digs in Campeche and Chiapas, Mexico have been traced to sources near Mexico City and Guatemala City, meaning obsidian was transported 400 to 600 miles by classic and pre-classic Mesoamerican cultures.

The Brigham Young University team has found arrowheads from western Utah and the Provo area of north-central Utah came from mountains up to 150 miles away.

S.F.Chronical via the Prospector



HANDY HINTS

TREATING MATRIX OPAL

There is only one kind of opal that can be treated to resemble black opal and that is matrix opal. This is a porous type material that shows some color, the amount depending on the quality. The treating process brings out these colors in all their beauty.

The treating method is simply soaking the material in a sugar solution such as dextrose, honey or plain sugar and then "burning" the sugar in a concentrated sulphuric acid solution. This turns the sugar into carbon, which being black, accentuates all the vivid colors of the opal. The treatment does not go very deep so certain steps must be followed.

Completely finish your stone through the cabbing steps up to the polishing operation. Do not polish.

Completely dry the stone to make it more absorbent by warming for awhile or setting in a moisture absorbing material.

Make a sugar solution of two parts sugar to three parts of distilled water. Soak the stone in this for two or three days at approximately 150 degrees. The temperature is not critical but stay below the boiling point. Use a heat resistant container and keep covered to keep down evaporation. After it cools down slowly, remove from sugar solution and rinse lightly.

Using a pyrex or heat resistant container (do not use metal of any kind), cover the stone with the concentrated sulphuric acid and again heat at about 150 degrees for approximately 20 hours. The time is not critical. Do not boil. When you feel it has been in the acid long enough, let cool and rinse thoroughly in running water for a couple of days to remove the acid.

Repeat the process if the stone did not come out dark enough. Some material will not turn really black no matter what you do so you must take that into consideration if you retreat. Now the stone can be finish polished.

Sulphuric Acid is an extremely corrosive chemical, so handle with extreme care. Use rubber gloves and glasses and keep some sodium bicarbonate handy to neutralize any burns if you should spill any acid on yourself.

via THE TEMPLATE

In San Francisco there is a jewelry store called "The Karat Patch".

There's a rock shop in California called the "Rock-Feller"...and still another called "Rock Monanoff".

via Chips and Facets

JUNIOR PAGE

There are 18 Christmas words in this puzzle. Can you find them?

E V I G M E S Z Q H  
K S T N E M A N R O  
R T X R R W N E A L  
E N T S R Q T E T L  
E E I X Y D A R S Y  
D S N T H W E G U S  
N E S N O W R L A E  
I R E F H Y E A S N  
E P L S C V D S P A  
R P O T S R E E H C



Here are some terms every Pebble Pup should know:

IGNOMINEOUS - a rock that was originally melted.

INHIBITOR - wife.

INTRUSIVE ROCK - loud music from next door.

MICROMOUNT - a very small horse.

ROCK CHISEL - a rock swap.

METAMORTIFIED - Rock that's embarrassed by its change.

via Chips and Facets

The human brain is a wondrous organ that starts working the moment you are born and never stops until you stand up to speak in public.

via Golden Spike news

Remember the turtle...he never sticks his neck out.

What this country needs most are family trees that produce lumber and fewer nuts!

Jade Journal via Osage Hills Gems

Dear Juniors,

Now that you have been properly educated (?), may I ask a favor of you? I'm beginning to run out of puzzles, wise cracks, etc. for this page. Why don't you start looking for suitable material and share it? I'd like some articles written by Juniors about rock-hunting trips you've taken, your particular hobby - is it cutting, collecting, faceting? Let's try for a better page next year.

Merry Christmas - Mrs. Ulrich

Tables of Measure

10 millimeters (mm) - 1 centimeter (cm)  
 10 centimeters (cm) - 1 decimeter (dm)  
 10 decimeter (dm) - 1 meter (m)  
 10 meters - 1 decameter (dkm)  
 10 decameters --1 hectometer (hkm)  
 10 hectometers - 1 kilometer (km)

1,000 mm - 100 cm  
 100 cm - 10 dm  
 10 dm - 1 m

10 milliliters(ml) - 1 centiliter (cl)  
 10 cl - 1 deciliter (dl)  
 10 dl - 1 liter (l)

10 milligrams (mg) - 1 centigram (cg)  
 10 cg - 1 decigram (dg)  
 10 dg - 1 gram

1 carat - 200 milligrams  
 1 carat - one-fifth gram  
 1 carat - 3.086 grains  
 1 carat - 0.007 ounce  
 1 carat - 100 points  
 5 carats - 1 gram

via Chips & Facets

## *Attention clubs... note directory deadline date*

The 1978 Directory forms should be in your hands by this time. Please note that the absolute deadline for returning these forms completed with check for dues will be January 10, 1978. There will be no grace period. If you want your latest club information in the Directory it must be in Jean Reynold's hands by January 10, 1978. This was the decision of the Council at their meeting in Dayton this year.

# 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

December 1977 - Issue No. 180

## A message from President Paul Good

It is a great pleasure to accept the Jade gavel. I am thankful for the vote of confidence which has been given to me by the members of the MWF to serve as your president for the coming year.

I realize that the year ahead will be hard work and will take a lot of time to carry out the work that is to be done. There has been a lot accomplished in the years past, but I am sure there is still plenty to be done. With the help of the elected officers, State directors, committee members and each member of the Federation, we can complete a lot of work in 1978.

Remember, "This is your Federation." I hope the member clubs will feel free to use what the Federation has to offer and make suggestions on how we can help improve our services. In order for any club or Federation to grow, it takes cooperation of everyone, both the member clubs, and the executive committee, officers and assistants working together.

Let us all make this a GOOD year for the Federation. If I can be of help to you, please feel free to call upon me or any one of the officers or committee chairmen.

### ALL AMERICAN DEADLINE IS MARCH 15, 1978

Midwest Federation clubs will find the All American-Merit Award entry blank in the November AFMS Newsletter. Please notice there is a new deadline. The forms must be mailed to the Regional Chairman, June Zeitner, by **March 15** this year. The date had to be changed because the Regional Shows begin in April this year. Midwest has traditionally supported the AFMS All American program with enthusiasm. Check to see if your club has its entry blank, which should be slightly easier for your club to fill out this year. For more information about the All American and Midwest Club Merit Awards write to June Zeitner, Mission, South Dakota 57555.

## *Program notes*

Program chairman, Donald Stinnett, announces the return to the program library three programs that had been withdrawn from service sometime ago due to the worn condition of the slides. The programs are, "Our Igneous Rocks," "Our Sedimentary Rocks" and "Our Metamorphic Rocks." These are all fine educational programs and can now be booked again by clubs.

A group of Wisconsin clubs have made available to our library a program entitled "Ice Age National Scientific Reserve." This program is available now for club booking.

Our program chairman, the Stinnetts, Don and Louise, are continually at work in efforts to encourage clubs to make new programs. If your club is interested in making a program for the library contact the Stinnetts for help and guidance.

Through combined efforts of a group of Wisconsin clubs and individuals they have made available to us a program entitled "Ice Age National Scientific Reserve." The dream of this area as a park was that of Ray Zillmers and it was finally enacted through the cooperation of the State and Federal governments.

The clubs and individuals whose efforts helped make this program possible included Dr. M. E. Ostrom, Director and Geologist of the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey; Harry Pease of the Milwaukee Journal, Kettle Moraine Geological Society, U. S. Geological Survey EROS Data Center and Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D-Wisconsin). Betty Rasmussen was the organizing factor. The program is available now for club bookings.

Order your programs well in advance of the date you wish to use them. Always give second choice of programs and dates so that you will be sure to have a program for your meeting date. And be sure to indicate exactly to whom the program is to be shipped with complete address. Include your clubs check in amount of \$2.00 for each program ordered.

Address your request for information, or for booking slide programs, to Donald Stinnett, 29462 Aspen Drive, Flat Rock, Michigan 48134.

**LITTER IS AN UNSIGHTLY THING!**

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

# Write it *right*

by J. C. "Cal" Keator

The importance of correctly recording events and writing records cannot be overemphasized. Serious problems can develop or important information can be lost in foggy writing. If there is any possible way, the general reader will get the wrong impression, and the sharpie can deliberately obscure entirely the original event or intent.

In the first place, your power of observation should be developed to the fullest. Do you see and comprehend what you are looking at? Or do you go around with your head in a sack-seeing only what you want to see?

Let's get down to cases! We read many bulletins. A VERY FEW present a true picture of our conventions. Many times we have had to agree with the quote: "You wouldn't believe that these different people had been to the same meeting."

The same can be said about our own board meetings.

"The committee reports were read and accepted."

"The membership chairman submitted three applications for membership. MSC"

"The board approved the dealers for the upcoming show."

"Next year's show date has been set."

"The First Vice President gets her wishes."

What earthly good is this "tule fog?" Those present at the meeting knew what was going on but next year, or even next month, who could tell what happened.

What committee reported, who was the chairman and what did he/she report?

Who were the new members accepted? What are their addresses and phone numbers?

Who were the dealers the board approved? Someone will say, "We didn't approve dealer A," another will say "We didn't approve dealer B," and someone else will say, "We approved dealer Z" (whose application was received only last week, AFTER the meeting.)

And . . . what is the date? ? ? of the next show? ? ?

"The First Vice President gets her wishes" is what I recorded as secretary for a church youth group fifty years ago - in 1926, to be exact. I have never forgotten what the minister's wife said. "Maybe those of us here know about what you have written, but next month we won't remember what the 1st Vice President is to do." Write it correctly and you will save a lot of trouble, headaches, and confusion. You are writing HISTORY.

There is a lot of discussion as to just who the charter members of a club are. The secretary didn't think it was necessary to write the names down. "Everybody knows who they are." Write it correctly, to avoid possible legal problems later. If the club is organized as a non-profit educational group, say so in writing. You might have to prove it.

There is no excuse for sloppy inaccurate lazy reporting.

I heard one club secretary say, "I didn't agree with the motion so I just didn't write it down." Another said, "I never take notes. I write out the minutes just before the board meeting."

How can I be sure I am right? Here is a partial listing of our reference library:

First I have a 95¢ Vest Pocket Dictionary in the rack by the phone where I do most of my writing.

The American Heritage Dictionary is our best reference dictionary.

If we can't find the right word, "Rodale's Word Finder" comes to our rescue.

Some of our mineral authorities are: first, the Golden Book "Minerals of the World - A Guide to Field Identification" for a very quick answer. We have several Dana's but the most often referred to is "Dana's Textbook of Mineralogy - Fourth Edition." We have all Sinkankas' books, Sanford's "Oddities", Fentons Rock and Fossil Books, and, for "pick and shovel" definitions, we have the Bureau of Mines Dictionary of Mining, Mineral and Related Terms.

We supplant the above with a number of books on geology, archeology and paleontology, and for anything regarding exhibiting we refer to the Federation manuals or Fleischer's list of mineral species.

We have one book, "Techniques of Clear Writing" by Robert Gunning, which describes the fog index. Every written paragraph article or book can be given an ease of reading index. **Reader's Digest and National Geographic** have an F.I. of about 10 (meaning they could be easily read by a high school sophomore). Technical papers and legal documents can go up to 20 on the Fog Index scale. Only a Ph.D. or a lawyer can begin to wade through that.

We remind you of Col. Johnson's "K.I.S.S." - "Keep It Simple, Stupid."

The over use of 15 letter words will turn off your reader unless he is determined.

Personally, I like the classification of "Reprint Index." If your articles are worthwhile, short (not always), interesting, and factual, other editors will reprint your copy.

Punctuation is necessary but don't sprinkle punctuation marks indiscriminately, like confetti, throughout your copy. Use punctuation to bring out the correct meaning. If you are not sure, look it up in a CURRENT handbook of writing. If you purchase one, make sure it is a recent one or a revised edition. Times and tittles change. (A tittle is a small diacritical mark, such as an accent, or the mark over a vowel.)

Conversely, when you are reading, read it right! Shades of meaning sometimes escape you because you are not paying attention to what you are reading.

WRITE -- AND READ -- CORRECTLY!

## NEW AFMS PRESIDENT

Donald B. Langston assumes his duties this month as the 1977-78 President of the AFMS. Don lives in Ft. 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 Texas 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 the South Central Federation.

## NEW CANADIAN EDITOR

Ed Montgomery has been named bulletin editor for the Central Canadian Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Clubs wishing to exchange with the Federation should address Mr. Montgomery at 56 Col. Danforth Trail, West Hill, Ont. MIC 1R1.

## TWO MISSOURI WILDERNESS AREAS

Missouri has two Wilderness areas, with four others under study. The two are Hercules Glades of Taney County and Mingo National Wildlife Refuge in Wayne County.

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Greetings*



JEWELRY AND CUSTOM CUTTING

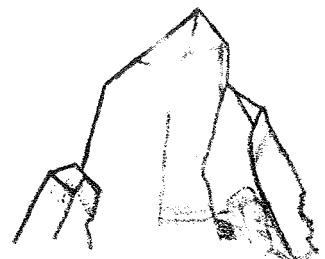
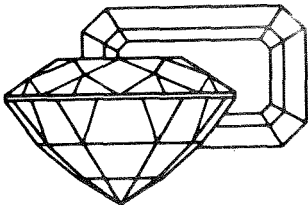
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