



# PICK & SHOVEL

Inside this issue...Field Collecting  
Colorado Field Trip  
Show Reports  
...and more



Volume 32, Number 2  
October, 1991

Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.  
P. O. Box 5342  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68505

# 1991 ELECTED OFFICERS

President: Fred B. Holbert, 2822 S. 13th St., Lincoln, NE 68502	423-5639
1st Vice President: C. David Heffelbower, 1819 Washington St., Lincoln, NE 68502	475-4713
2nd Vice President: Charles Wooldridge, 836 S. 31st St., Lincoln, NE 68510	475-9034
Secretary: Vera Lyman, 420 N. 56th St., Lincoln, NE 68504	464-6089
Treasurer: Phyllis Parks, 2435 So. 19th St., Lincoln, NE 68502	476-6798
Board Member: Francis Belohlavy, 1919 "K" St., No. 4, Lincoln, NE 68510	477-4337
Board Member: Roger Pabian, 315 "D" St., Lincoln, NE 68502	474-2034
Board Member: Billie Heffelbower, 1819 Washington, Lincoln, NE 68502	475-4713
Board Member: Shirley Rockel, 1134 West Avon Lane, Lincoln, NE 68505	464-3059

## NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

3 Years: Kevin Schwartman, Chair.  
Gerald Moore  
Don Phillips  
2 Years: James Null, Michael Smith  
1 Year: Ed Ridge, Roger Pabian

## LONG RANGE PLANNING AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

3 Years: Kevin Schwartman  
Jim Marburger  
2 Years: Bob Wright  
Linda Parks-Lundgren  
1 Year: Phyllis Parks  
Charles Wooldridge

## STANDING COMMITTEES

Membership: Shirley Rockel  
Education: Roger Pabian  
Field Trips: Francis Belohlavy  
Historian: John & Lillie Lewis  
Hospitality: Eddie "Lightning" Ridge  
Study Group Coordinator:  
Housing/Property: Jim Parks  
Junior Activities: Janet Wright  
Librarian: Jim Parks/Charles Wooldridge  
"Gem Palette" Correspondent: Sandra McNiff  
"Geology Day" Coordinator: Charles Wooldridge

Programs: Charles Wooldridge  
MWF Liaison: Vera Lyman  
Scholarship: Dwight Miller  
Christmas Party: Billie Heffelbower  
1990 Rockhound/Year:  
Charles Wooldridge  
1991 Show: John Harrison  
1992 Show: Phyllis Parks  
1991 Swap: David Heffelbower  
1992 Swap: Roger Pabian

## AUDITING COMMITTEE, 1987-1988

David Heffelbower  
Francis Belohlavy  
Shirley Rockel

## YOUR PICK & SHOVEL STAFF

Publisher: Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Inc., P. O. Box 5342, Lincoln, Nebraska 68505  
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Business Reporter: Vera Lyman  
Financial Reporter: Phyllis Parks  
Circulation : C. David and Wilma Heffelbower

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**OCTOBER MEETING:** Saturday, October 26, 7:30 PM  
 Bethany Park Shelter House, entrance to park is on north side of Vine Street, about half way between Cotner Boulevard and 66th Street. Dessert supper, coffee, tea, and hot cider furnished. Bring goodies to share.

**PROGRAM** Rancho LaBrea Tar Pits, by Carol Anderson. From the Midwest Federation Program Library. Attention, all paleolythropists. This set of slides includes material on dire wolves.

**JUNIOR MEETING:** 7:00 PM. Annual costume party, dress as a rock, mineral, or fossil of your choice. Prizes.

**COMING EVENTS:** SHOW: Grand Island Earth Science Club, October 19, 20, Fonner Park.

SHOW: Fort Kearney Rock Club  
 Nov. 2, 3, Hilltop Mall, Kearney

**REGIONAL SHOWS:**

1992		AFMS			
HAYWARD, CA Aug. 21-23	HARRISBURG, PA SEPT 19-20	CLEVELAND, OH JULY 23-26	WICHITA, KS Apr. 24-26	ALPINE, TX Apr. 17-19	BUTTE, MT (NO DATE)

**FUTURE MEETING DATES, PLACES:** November 23, 7:30 PM.  
 Nebraska Center for Continuing Education  
 33rd & Holdrege Streets.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY, December 8, 1991,  
 Antelope Park Shelter House, 5-9 PM. More details inside.

ANNUAL SWAP, January 25, 1992, Norfolk-Minden Rooms, NCCE, 33rd & Holdrege, Noon-5 PM. Regular meeting begins at 7:30 PM.

REGULAR MEETING, February 22, 1992.  
 Scottsbluff Room, NCCE, 33rd & Holdrege, 7:30 PM.

**DISPLAY MATERIALS** Bring items that relate to October (Opal, Tourmaline) or specimens of items acquired at fall shows. Cases will be furnished.

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

### **OZARK TRIP:**

My wife, Gloria, and I have just returned from a trip to Lake of the Ozarks. We spent a week at Marriott's Tan-Tar-A resort and golf club to celebrate a wedding anniversary and the last of vacation. The seasonal color change was about a week or two away, however. The sumac had turned its deep red and some of the other trees were just starting to blush, bronze or yellow. We did stumble upon some sugar maple in Jefferson City which were absolutely crimson.

The geology of the area was very evident to us from the deck of a large excursion boat run by the resort. The principal stone of the area is limestone. Of course it is the permeability of that stone to running water which provides the Ozarks with its many caves. Dark stains on the limestone gave evidence to the presence of iron, probably hematite. Also present was dolomite and chert (which was convoluted and contained vugs with drusy crystals). A butter-scotch colored jasper must in found in abundance locally also because we saw it used everywhere in gravel mulch and as an aggregate in sidewalks and retaining walls. Gloria decided that she could get a better view from a higher elevation, so she took a parasail ride. She was launched from the back of speeding motorboat with a parachute tethered to a mast on the boat. The scenery from 300 feet up in the air was much more dramatic.

Some the fauna was interesting as well. When we returned to our condo after our anniversary dinner, we had to wait outside for a time in order for a black visitor with a white stripe down its back to vacate the area. It seems that skunks and raccoons are not uncommon there at night as they come down to the lake in an attempt to capture ducks for a late night snack. The gray squirrels were also brazen after being hand fed so often. You had to be careful not leave open your condo door as they would come right on inside for a tidbit.

We highly recommend a visit to Missouri's state capitol building in Jefferson City. It is beautiful building constructed primarily of native stones, including Carthage marble, and is filled with exhibits of its natural, social, economic, and ethnic history. In addition, exhibited are paintings, sculptures, and stained glass works by many famous artists.

### **AMUSING OZARKS SIGNS:**

1. "JEWELRY - MADE FRESH DAILY" (seen on a sign for a tourist trap)
2. "NAUGHT NAUGHT INSURANCE AND BONDS" (it would seem that either trading with them is a no-no or that Naught is the name of the owners)
3. "DAM READY MIXED CONCRETE" (sign seen near Bagnell dam. I told our local concrete supplier that I have heard our workmen call his company by that same name here in Lincoln)

FRED B. HOLBERT

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC. - BOARD OF DIRECTORS - Aug. 27, 1991  
(Sept) at Reunion 7:30 P.M.

(Meeting moved from NE Hall due to repairs & now UN Parking Permits  
are required to park in that lot.)

Minutes of the May Meeting and Treasurer's report were approved as read.

Memorial for Lynn Wells of \$ 15.00. A Thank You will be printed in  
Pick & Shovel.

BILLS: Were presented for payment & approval. A motion for approval  
by Francis Belohlavy, 2nd by Roger Pabian. Motion carried.

SHOW REPORT: Chairperson, Phyllis Parks

The following volunteered as chairpersons for Show duties.

Assistant - Francis Bleohlavy

Publicity - Roger Pabian

Programs - Dave Heffelbower

Ticket Sales - Vera Lyman

Workshop & Demos - Fred Holbert

Rock Races - Ed Ridge

Gem Dig - Geology Club

Refreshments Fri. & Sat Night

Dinner - Shirley Rockel

OLD BUSINESS:

Postponed discussion of advertising cards, signs etc.

No news from NAOESCI re: liability insurance.

Pick & Shovel - combined Nov/Dec issues.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion re: change of name "juniors". No action taken

Kevin Schwartman needs to set up Nominating Committee Meeting for pre-  
sentation at Sept. Meeting.

Adeline Nolde has retired. She asked that monetary gifts for her be sent  
to LGMC, P.O. Box for a Scholarship in memory of Jim Taylor; for a paleon-  
tology graduate student.

Motion was made by Roger Pabian that the Club donate \$ 50.00 to this  
Scholarship Fund in Jim 's memory. 2nd by Charles Wooldridge. Carried.

Roger announced that he had been nominated to the Lapidary Hall of Fame  
(at May Gen. Mtg) Roger has received a letter from June Zeitner it has been  
approved.

MEETINGS:

Mineral Study Group to resume again soon

Sept Meeting - Norfolk Rm 9-28

Oct. Meeting - Park Shelter House - Bethany ?

Nov. Meeting - Norfolk Rm - 11-23

Dec Christmas Party - Time & place etc at next Board Meeting.

Jan Swap - Meeting - 1-25-92 Scottsbluff/Minden Rm

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Vera Lyman*  
Vera Lyman, Secretary

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC. - GENERAL MEETING - Sept. 28, 1991  
7:30 P.M. NE Center Norfolk Rm

Minutes and Treasurer's report were both approved as printed.

Hospitality: Ed Ridge - reported 24 members and 3 guests in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sympathy - to Marie Wells - (Lynn passed away during the summer)

Congratulations - to Adeline Nolde - on her retirement

Thanks - Dave Heffelbower, Bob Fixter & Charles Wooldridge -  
worked with the "Bright Lights Program" ((part of summer  
public School program)

Liability insurance - purchased by NAOESCI.- have not been billed  
and have not heard

NEW BUSINESS:

Nominating Committee - Kevin Schwartzman, Chairman reported the following  
slate of nominees for office in 1992:

President - Dave Heffelbower

1st Vice - Charles Wooldridge

2nd Vice - Francis Belohlavy

Secretary - Vera Lyman

Treasurer - Phyllis Parks

Board of Directors - (4 needed) - Pam Killian

Craig Tenhulzen

Shirley Rockel

Jim Parks

Motion by Phyllis Parks, 2nd by Kevin Schwartzman for suspension of rules  
requiring 3 calls for additional nominees from the floor. Carried.

Two consecutive calls for nominations for each office by Pres. Holbert.  
Motion by Marie Wells that nominations cease. 2nd by Adeline Nolde  
Carried.

Nominations will be printed in Pick & Shovel. Election in Nov.

CHRISTMAS PARTY Billie Heffelbower & Shirley Rockel

Dec. 1. 1991 4-9 P.M. Antelope Shelter House

Pot Luck - Club pay for the meat (Ham & Turkey)

SHOW COMMITTEE: Phyllis Parks

Met on Tues. 9-24 Budget was set up. Need 4 chairpersons

Next Meeting on 10-22 at Marie Wells home.

Jan. Swap flyers are out. Deadline for Pick & Shovel is Fri. Oct. 4.

BULLETIN CONTEST:

Pick & Shovel placed 6th at MWF Did not place at national level.

Separate articles: 1st at MWF - 4th at National for Russ McNiff

1st at MWF - 10th at National for Roger Pabian.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Announcements: Emma & Helena Baegl are both at Orchard Park. They have  
numerous articles for sale. Tom Simmons was back with us at the meeting.  
Hazel Howlett has articles for sale and Marie Wells has 2 polishers for sale.  
Janet Wright announced that she had been selected to be on Education  
Panel at NE Center, Oct. 25. Felt very honored.

General Meeting 10-26-91, 7:30 P.M. Bethany Park Shelter House Dessert  
Supper and Halloween costumes. Board Meeting at Reunion Oct 7, 7:30

Respectfully submitted,

*Vera Lyman*

Vera Lyman, Secretary

Suggested 1992 Show Budget-34th Annual LGMC Show-  
( Approved by Show Committee 9-24-91)

## Anticipated Income -

Retail Dealer Space	3500.00	
Selling Demonstrators	50.00	
Gate Receipts	<u>3500.00</u>	7050.00

## Probable Expenses -

Rental-space, tables, chairs	1800.00	
Floor		
Table Cover	140.00	
Security	300.00	
Insurance	300.00	
Misc.	<u>50.00</u>	790.00
Publicity	1100.00	
Recognitions	100.00	
Hand-out Programs	200.00	
Sat. Eve. Dinner Guests	350.00	
Speakers/Slide Shows	200.00	
Special Features/Exhibits	350.00	
Dealer Chairman Expenses	50.00	
Demo Chair Expenses	20.00	
Special Activities/ <sup>and</sup> Rock Races	120.00	
Chairman Exxpenses	100.00	
Miscellaneous	100.00	
Nebr. Sales Tax on Gate	<u>227.50</u>	<u>5507.50</u>
Tentative Gain		\$ 1542.50

## LGMC Treasurer's Report for September 1991

NBC Checking Balance 8-25-91 \$1031.36

## Receipts -

Funds for spec.scholarship on A.Nolde Retirement \$115.00

## Payments -

Lincoln Parks/Recreation-Oct.Meeting	25.00	
Lincoln Parks/Rec. Christmas Party	35.00	
Nebraska Center - Sept. Meeting	45.00	
Nebr.Prtg./Dupl. September P & S	99.64	
Lincoln Postmaster-500 Bulk Mail stamps	50.00	
Lincoln Postmaster-Stamps treasurer	5.80	
Postmaster -Metered postage Sept.P & S	19.60	
LGMC Spec.Scholarship Fund/Honor A.Nolde	<u>50.00</u>	330.04

NBC Checking Balance Sept. 30, 1991

\$816.32

PLEASE PRINT

DATE

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN  
LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.  
P. O. BOX 5342 LINCOLN, NE. 68505

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTH DATE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_  
MO. \_\_\_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_\_\_  
MO. \_\_\_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST. \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_ CB RADIO CALL \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: HOME \_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN:	NAME	SEX	BIRTHDAY
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____

I LIKE	YES	NO	OUR FAMILY COLLECTS	YES	NO
Making Cabochons.....	_____	_____	Fossils.....	_____	_____
Tumbling.....	_____	_____	Minerals.....	_____	_____
Sawing Rocks.....	_____	_____	Fluorescents.....	_____	_____
Faceting.....	_____	_____	Cutting Material.....	_____	_____
Metal Work.....	_____	_____	Artifacts.....	_____	_____
Carving.....	_____	_____	Micro's.....	_____	_____
Geology.....	_____	_____	Bottles.....	_____	_____
Field Trips.....	_____	_____	Just Rocks.....	_____	_____
Swapping Rocks.....	_____	_____	Others.....	_____	_____

ADDITIONAL REMARKS (other hobbies, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you held membership in a Gem Club before? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Where: \_\_\_\_\_ How long: \_\_\_\_\_

Offices held: \_\_\_\_\_

ALL APPLICANTS MUST SHOW A SINCERE DESIRE TO FURTHER THE HOBBY

Will you? Hold Office: \_\_\_\_\_ Display: \_\_\_\_\_ Serve on Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own your own equipment? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what: \_\_\_\_\_

Why are you interested in this hobby? \_\_\_\_\_

Signatures: (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_  
(3) \_\_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
(5) \_\_\_\_\_ (6) \_\_\_\_\_

WOULD YOU LIKE BADGES? \_\_\_\_\_ (If yes, please state names) TOTAL NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSORED BY (member in good standing) \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

Date of Board Approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Officer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE DUPLICATE

**RECENT SHOWS****AFMS Show, Tampa Florida, September 19-22, 1991**

The 1991 version of the American Federation Show was held at the Fairgrounds in Tampa, Florida, from September 19 to 22, 1991. I was able to attend this show with Bill and Betty White. The opening ceremonies were lengthy and cut into the show's time by about 15 minutes. The show site was a spacious, air conditioned building that housed the entire show. There were about 40 dealers albeit some of them had rather small operations; most were unknown to either the Whites or myself. Many of the dealers' stocks did not really fulfill the needs of the advanced collectors, and, except for a few small equipment purchases I obtained no new materials. I was disappointed that none of the dealers had any of the materials, save Tampa Bay Coral, from the southeastern part of the United States for sale. This was the same thing I experienced at the National Show in Portland, Oregon, in 1989.

The displays at the show were quite good in both the competitive and non-competitive areas. There was an abundance of material from Florida to be seen and I was impressed by the variety of materials they have as it goes far beyond agatized coral. There were numerous fossils from both Tertiary and Pleistocene marine and continental environments.

Bill White won his National Trophy for cabochons and everyone in our party was quited pleased with his success. Congratulations, Bill!

Because of a nasty case of food poisoning, I missed the second and third days of the shows. There were few lectures during the show so I felt that I had probably missed a little less. The one lecture I did hear on the first day, by Dr. Sam Upchurch, University of South Florida, dealt with Tampa Bay Corals and silica diagenesis at it effected them. It was an outstanding lecture and had I seen only this at the show, the trip would have been well worthwhile.

I was up and about a bit on the last day of the show and was able to attend the editor's breakfast. Our Pick & Shovel did not place in the top ten this year but Russell McNiff's article on his trip to the 1990 MWF show placed first in the Midwest Competition and fourth in the national competition. My own article on plume agates placed first in the MWF competition and 8th in the national. Articles by Roger Ridley of Grand Island and poetry by Dolores Rose of Grand Island also placed in the top ten in the national competition.

The hospitality and cheerful demeanor of the Tampa Group was probably the finest I have ever experienced at a national show and they should be commended for their efforts. RKP

**Nebraska Mineral and Gem Club Show, Omaha, October 5, 6, 1991**

The Omaha Club has found a new home for its show and it is much of an improvement over the former site. The new show site is the Radial Social Hall on the Northwest Radial Highway. It is a fairly spacious building that is well lit and close to the parking. There were 8 very fine dealers as well as many demonstrations and beautiful displays.

(Continued on page 9)

## FIELD COLLECTING — TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES

By Ed Pedersen

To a large number of rockhounds, especially mineral and fossil collectors, collecting their own specimens provides the "spice" of the hobby. For the lapidary the main stimulation may result from the creation of beauty from an ordinary looking rock. Minerals and fossils, on the other hand, depend on their original form and beauty, which only has to be released from the surrounding matrix rock. Rarely, as in the case of many fossils and some minerals, natural weathering processes release the specimens. Then it is only a matter of walking around and looking for the specimens. I will not spend much time on this type of collecting. Sharp eyes and a somewhat limber back are the main requirements.

Personal protective equipment should be among the first items selected. Boots (preferably with steel toes), gloves, glasses or goggles, and appropriate head gear are the first items to consider. Sun screen, insect repellent, and bandaids or other basic first aid gear comes next. When selecting clothing comfort should give way to common sense, if you plan on doing much field collecting, especially in or around mines, mine dumps, quarries, or other rocky areas. For foot gear I prefer steel toed boots with tops extending over my ankles. I nearly always wear long pants (usually blue jeans) or coveralls with lots of pockets. For underground collecting, or in areas with the possibility of falling rocks, I wear a hard hat with a rim (which prevents dirt from falling down the back of my neck. Outdoors I prefer a broad-brimmed western-style hat for protection from the sun. A canteen or water bottle is also on the required equipment list. If you can only remember to take one thing with you, make sure that the one thing is "common sense".

The equipment required for collecting varies with the type of collecting. If the specimen bearing rocks are buried beneath soil, waste rock, or other debris digging tools will be needed (shovels, picks, etc.). Once the rock is exposed or uncovered, tools (hammers, chisels, pry bars, etc.) to break or "work" the rock are needed to free the specimens. At the same time some method of removing the rock debris produced by your excavations will be needed (entrenching tools, buckets, etc.).

The selection of collecting tools varies greatly with individuals and will vary over time, as new tools are tried. Usually the first item selected is a prospectors or geologists pick. Many collectors continue to use these for many years. I find that these picks are too light and prefer to use a three pound hammer instead. I can hit lightly with the heavy hammer, but cannot hit with as much force using a geologists pick. For prying I use a pry bar, which has a gad-point on the end of the long portion, and a short conventional chisel, angled at 90 degrees on one side of the striking end. For starting fractures in rock I use a heavy gad-point chisel (approximately eight inches long). Several conventional chisels and an old screwdriver make up the

remainder of my tools. I carry these tools in an military surplus tool bag which has followed me around for over twenty years. I seldom find that I need more than these tools and a Korean War vintage army entrenching tool. A long handled shovel is useful if there is a lot of digging to be done. Once in a while I will carry a full sized pick, an eight pound sledge hammer, or a longer pry bar, although I often do not use them once I reach the site.

There are two rules that will help insure your collecting success:

1. Always start excavating an area at least four times as large as you think you will need for recovering the specimens. (I have found that you will almost always need the extra room so you might as well start out with it and save time later. Nothing is more frustrating than having to cover up and then bury the minerals that you can almost reach, while you enlarge the hole.)

2. Always plan on spending at least half of your time packing the specimens that you collect. Recovering the specimens only to have them broken on the way home is a waste of time, effort, and specimens. The packing is not fun, so many leave it to the last minute. When my wife started to accompany me on underground collecting trips, I assumed that she would pack while I collected. In reality, I packed while she collected.

The last group of equipment to take is the materials that will assure that all the specimens survive the trip home. Included in this group are wrapping materials ("All American Mineral Wrap" or toilet paper, paper towels, and newspaper are all good choices). Cotton tends to stick onto specimens so may not be a good choice for minerals. The plastic bags from the dry cleaners make good wrapping material, which is not damaged by becoming wet. Unless the specimens are very sturdy, some type of boxes or other protective containers are also required. The "standard" is the beer or soda "flat" which is made by upending the box from under four six-packs of cans inside another. Some "flats" are slightly smaller than the others and fit inside the larger ones very easily, while if the "flats" are the same size one will have to be bent slightly to make the fit. These boxes, if tied with cord, are extremely sturdy and are of a convenient size to carry. Very small and fragile specimens are easily carried in egg cartons. A standard external-frame backpack will hold two or more flats, along with some egg cartons, leaving your hands free to carry other flats. Always take more boxes and wrapping materials than you think you will need. Then if you get into a "find" that produces a lot of specimens you will be prepared.

Equipment for underground collecting is specialized. Other than following the rule of always having two or more sources of light, the specifics should be left up to the experienced collector that is instructing you in how to safely collect underground.

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

The nominating committee met on Tuesday, September 17. The following nominations for office were made.

President-----David Heffelbower  
1st Vice President-----Charles Wooldridge  
2nd Vice President-----Francis Belohlavy  
Secretary-----Vera Lyman  
Treasurer-----Phyllis Parks  
Board of Directors-----Shirley Rockel  
  Jim Parks  
  Craig Tenhulzen  
  Pam Killion

Submitted by Chairman, Kevin Schwartman

## **FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS**

November 4, 1991, Reunion meeting room, 16th & W, 7:30 PM.

December 2, 1991, Reunion meeting room, 16th & W, 7:30 PM.

Park on street or in Reunion parking lot. University lots are now enforced 24 hours daily.

## **LGMC JUNIORS**

The LGMC Youth would like to thank everyone for the praise we have received for the Julius Young Memorial Rock Display. It is a hands on activity based display given to the Childrens Museum. If you haven't seen it I encourage you to.

The October meeting will be at the Bethany Park Shelter at seven o'clock. Plan to stay for the entire meeting since we will be having dessert. Please come in costume as your favorite rock or mineral. There will be prizes for the best costumes!!!!!!

**BROKEN GLASS AND AZURE SKIES**

By Charles Wooldridge

Recently my job required that I spend a few days in Colorado. Knowing I would have one whole day free to do as I pleased, I searched through the April issue of Lapidary Journal to find gem and mineral clubs in the Denver area. The first I found was the Colorado Mineral Society, so I called Bob Disney, the editor of their newsletter. Bob was not home but his wife, Mary, was able to answer all of my questions. I explained to her my situation: I would have a rental car and one day to use for rockhounding. Mary was very friendly and helpful in describing several one day trips including Mount Antero, Ruby Mountain, Forissant National Fossil Beds, etc....they all sounded great.

Mrs. Disney said she would put in the mail immediately the society's pamphlet of field trips for that year. The guide arrived the day before I left. It included about a dozen field trips described in detail, including the names and phone numbers of the persons leading each trip.

The first night in Denver I spent pouring over each of the field trips and selected a trip to the Society's topaz claims near Tarryall, Colorado. I called Chuck Landes, the person who led the club's field trip. He also was more than cordial, describing at length how to get to the claims and what to look for when I got there.

On this trip I would be looking for clear topaz at eight to nine thousand feet elevation. The claims are located in the Pikes Peak Batholith area near the small town of Tarryall. I packed my hoe-pick, a good shovel, a two foot by two foot piece of 1/4 inch screen, water, food, etc. in my car and set out very early in the morning towards the claims. I parked my car in the Spruce Grove Campground, loaded my equipment on my back, and started up the mountain on foot. My destination lay about one mile away, up a fairly steep incline. At this elevation and in my shape the journey required many stops for breath. The scenery was absolutely gorgeous with dark spruce trees highlighted by light shades of aspen. The mountain peaks are magnificent, the skies azure, and wild life abundant.

Once I reached the claim area I began to pick and dig on the downhill side of boulders left in the field of decomposing pegmatite material. Through the eons of time the topaz was deposited in a manner similar to how gold is deposited on the downstream sides of boulders in streams and rivers. In this case, rather than flowing water, the forces of gravity and erosion have moved untold millions of tons of rock and gravel down the mountain leaving the heavier topaz behind.

After loosening the material with my hoe-pick I shoveled it onto the screen and briskly shook it, allowing the dirt, sand, and small debris to fall through. Once well screened, it was time to scour through the remainder to look for topaz. Chuck Landes had told me it would look like pieces of broken glass. After an hour I struck my first bonanza, a piece of crystal clear topaz about three quarters of an inch square. During the day I found two more, one smaller and one a little larger. Not much for a day of hard labor, but worth a million in memories.

The trek back to the car was mostly down hill which provided me a relaxing time to recover from the day's exertion and reminisce about my adventure.

I was impressed by the Colorado Mineral Society. They sponsor a dozen or so first rate field trips every year. One person takes responsibility for planning and leading each trip. A short description of the trip including what to look for, what equipment is necessary, precautions, and usually a map are provided to the society and a small booklet is published. My experience has been that the people in charge of the trips are eager to share their knowledge and experience. They encourage people to take advantage of the bountiful gem and mineral resources in their state. If you have plans to travel to Colorado and are inclined to rockhounding, I will be glad to share with you the field trip guides, maps, and phone numbers of helpful people in Colorado to assist you in planning your trip.

Good hunting!

### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Shirley Rockel and Billie Heffelbower are heading up this year's Christmas party. Their plans are well-forged and proceeding ahead at a very fast pace. This year's party will be a covered dish supper. The club will furnish the ham and turkey with dressing. Members are to bring their choice of non-meat, casserole, salad, or dessert dishes. The club will also furnish coffee, tea, and punch.

The party will take place on Sunday, December 8, 1991, in the shelter house at Antelope Park, just east of the Auld Pavilion, near the Viet Nam War Memorial. There is a fire place and the park and recreation department will furnish wood. The time is from 5:00 to 9:00 PM.

There will also be the usual gift exchange with a \$5.00 limit on the value of the gifts. Juniors and adults will have separate exchanges.

A special program of great interest is also planned.

More to follow at regular meeting and in November bulletin.

### NEW MEMBER

We extend a cordial welcome to Roger Simmons, son of Tom, who has re-joined the club after many years absence. Please add his name to your who's who.

Roger Simmons  
2970 South Street.

### SHOW COMMITTEE NEWS

The 1992 show committee will meet on Tuesday, October 22, at the home of Marie Wells, 5821 Spruce Street. Please attend. +++

**SHOW NEWS, continued, from Page 3**

Lincoln participants included demonstrations of prairie grass castings by Francis Belohlavy and displays from Belohlavy, Mike Smith, Jim Null, John Harrison, and Roger Pabian. Lincoln visitors to the show included Andy and Barbara Zarins, Julian and Elizabeth; Bill and Shirley Rockel; Kevin Schwartzman and Kathy Pavisch; Eddie Ridge, Fred Holbert, and Charles Wooldridge, RKP

**BOOK REVIEW**

**AGATES**, by Dr. H. G. Macpherson. Published jointly by British Museum (Natural History), London, and National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh. Soft cover, \$14.95.

Of the several books on agates that have been reviewed in these pages recently, **AGATES** is by far a superior product to its predecessors. It deals almost exclusively with agate occurrences in the British Isles and it is very informative about the kinds of agates that have been historically collected and documented and the kinds that are still available to be collected there.

Escapists will be glad to see that Dr. Macpherson calls the conduit that leads to the surface of the agate a "tube of escape," but this probably the major shortcoming in the book. Although I had credited the "escape tube" idea to Benjamin Shaub (ca. 1946), Macpherson shows that the concept was introduced to the literature as early as 1901 by M. Forster Heddle in The Mineralogy of Scotland. Unfortunately, it is not shown why the author of **AGATES** believes in the "escape tube" as opposed to the "filler tube" idea.

The book covers general descriptions of what agates are, where they occur both stratigraphically and geographically, and how it is thought that they acquire banding. Although I do not agree with the details about the origin of banding, it is a pleasure to read ideas that do not call for the rhythmic percolation of silica saturated waters through a gas vesicle.

This is followed by a section dealing with specific agate occurrences in Scotland and Britain. Some specific location data is given and there are many very high quality colored illustrations that bear witness to the beautiful agates of Scotland and Britain. Many of the agates are as fine as Lake Superior, Botswana, Laguna, or other well known agates. Some show excellent plumes and sagenitic inclusions.

There are also a general sections on collecting, lapidary, and other agates of the world, and a short glossary of terms which is helpful for the novice although the author does not introduce or overuse what might be esoteric terminology.

**AGATES** belongs on the bookshelf of everyone who considers himself or herself to be an agate collector. It is a very informative and spritely little volume that serves well as a primer but is not a deep scientific treatise. RKP

## SHOW COMMITTEE REPORT

Let's talk SHOW! 34th Annual Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club Show!!

I'd like to Thank each of these club members who have either volunteered for or let me coerce them to be chair for designated committees:

Assistant Chairman-Floor design and traffic	- Francis Belohlavy
Assistant Chairman-Display, case & related	- Jerry Moore
Dealer Chairman	- Jim Parks
Publicity	- Roger Pabian
Recognitions	- Marie Wells
Rock Races	- Ed Ridge
Special Activities	- Charles Wooldridge, Coordinator
Working Displays	- Fred Holbert
Special Meal	- Shirley and Bill Rockel
Demonstrators	- Kevin Schwartzman
Gate & Security	- Vera Lyman
Lectures & Programs	- Dave Heffelbower
Special Features	- Norm Balliet

Thanks for your prompt response and your input regarding the show budget which was approved by committee and by the Board of Directors and will now go to the general membership for their consideration and comments.

I'm pleased to announce that the Club's Founder and Charter Member, who you might say 'Got us into all this!' Irl Everett is our first Dealer signed to be amongst us this year. As most of you know Irl and Lois have been in the south of Texas until they could be sure the snows were over in spring so they have missed several shows. (Lets all beg Mother Nature to be good to us and keep the weather pleasant again in 1992 as it has been since the Blizzard of 1987.)

Come on now, all of you members who enjoy the show, are able to work, enjoy the fellowship and planning, are able to work, can give of your time on Friday March 20 through 22, 1992, are able to work, and want this to be an A#1, spectacular, super educational, fun-filled Show - let yourselves be heard at the next few meetings - volunteer to fill one of the remaining spots on the committee or just agree to be ready with your help, displays, presence, on the three days you are needed.

Phyll Parks, '92 Show Chairman

## MWF NEWSLETTER

The Midwest Federation Newsletter is printed in its entirety this month because there is a great deal of important club and convention news that should be passed on to our members.

Also included in the newsletter is the latest information on collecting specimens of rocks, minerals, and fossils on public lands. The federation committees work very hard to bring this information to us and it is to your benefit to read it and keep up to date.

## OTHERS WRITE

From Osage Hills Gems, Bartlesville, OK, September, 1991.

### Origins of Natural Sapphire -- by Charles A. Stratton

Sapphire is a gem quality of corundum, a crystalline form of aluminum oxide,  $Al_2O_3$ . It occurs in all spectral colors, including white ("colorless"); however, the rich, deep red color is called *ruby*. The hazy, subjective zone where pink turns into red is the dividing line between pink sapphire and ruby. Pure sapphire is white. All other colors are caused by transition metal impurities, such as iron, titanium, chromium, etc. Several colors of corundum often occur together or in tracts having similar geology and not too far apart. Those locations receiving a good supply of chromium (and not too much iron) give us our rubies.

Sapphires (and rubies) are usually found in *alluvium* (river deposits). They can generally be picked out of the gravel by sight, since they differ in appearance from ordinary pebbles. Often the crystalline form, a hexagonal prism or dipyrmaid, is recognizable. This is possible for two reasons. First, they often occur not far from where they weathered out of their "mother rock". Secondly, their hardness is great enough that even a lot of water transportation would not have rounded them enough to wipe out their crystal shape. Since they have the comparatively high specific gravity of 4.0 (compared to 2.66 for quartz), they tend to settle to the bottom of stream pockets. This pre-concentration of sapphire is a great boon to gem-loving mankind.

The primary origin of sapphires is either igneous or metamorphic. They are not formed hydrothermally. In their igneous formation, they crystallize directly in a basalt or pegmatite. The pegmatite, however, is not the ordinary type, but is "quartz-poor, consisting principally of acid feldspars". Most corundum has been formed either in basalt or by low-pressure regional metamorphism. Since the metamorphism was caused by great upwellings or outpourings of basaltic magma, it requires some deduction to establish whether the corundum crystallized from the basalt or from the rocks adjacent to the basalt. This can be established by finding matrix adhering to the gem. A usual case is that the proximity of hot basalt caused an impure limestone to melt and crystallize to a marble. The aluminum impurities managed to get together and crystallize out as corundum. Iron and titanium are quite plentiful; so, a chance occurrence of these in the right proportions could color the sapphire a rich cornflower blue. Of course, iron by itself could give yellow, green, or brown.

Possibly the greatest area of low-pressure (high temperature) regional metamorphism is the southern flank of the Himalaya Mountains. The Mogok valley in Burma has been a foremost gem source since legendary times (pre-Marco Polo). The rubies of Mogok have a matrix of white marble, while the sapphires are not found *in situ* in the marble, but in feldspathic rock. The area has always been difficult to access. The elevation is about 2500 feet; however, the road transverses mountains about 5000 feet high. The location is about 70 miles up the Irrawaddy River from Mandalay, then about 40 miles east by mountain road. It is a pest-infested jungle area having a long season of heavy rainfall. The British organized mining activity through Burma Mines Ltd. After initial success, they bowed out due to the effects of a great supply of good synthetic ruby, combined with the depression. Native mining under strict Burmese government control goes on now. It has become difficult for foreigners to know what is going on, since they can only get a 24-hour visa, and it takes longer than that to get from Rangoon to Mogok.

The western flank of the Himalayas is the source of the Kashmir sapphire, the classic *corn flower blue* gem. Another product of regional low-pressure metamorphism, it occurs in a pegmatite vein, along with tourmaline, garnet, kyanite, and euclase. The location is at an elevation of 14,950 feet, and snow covers the gem fields most of the year. Added to natural obstacles, the Kashmir location is one of great political uncertainty, at present.

To complete the list of type localities, we have the Yogo Gulch location in Montana. There, sapphires are found *in situ* in a basaltic dyke. Some have weathered out and found their way to the Missouri River gravel. Montana sapphires are found in many colors, even cornflower blue! (I think these are scarce.) Many are pale, and many more a gun-metal blue. The latter are not unsightly, but I believe that they are an acquired taste. Best of all, they are accessible. You can go mine them yourself, or you can have the concentrate sent to your door. If you want cornflower, keep looking.

(Note: This does not begin to exhaust the list of good commercial sources. There are very many, each with a fascinating story.)

## STATE FOSSILS

Source: U. S. Geological Survey

### OFFICIAL STATE FOSSILS as of May 1991

Alabama	<u>Basilosaurus cetoides</u> , Eocene whale
Alaska	<u>Mammuthus primigenius</u> , Pleistocene mammoth
Arizona	<u>Araucarioxylon arizonicum</u> , Triassic petrified wood
California	<u>Smilodon californicus</u> , Pleistocene saber-tooth cat
Colorado	<u>Stegosaurus</u> , Upper Jurassic dinosaur
Florida	<u>Eupatagus antillarum</u> (unofficial), Eocene heart urchin
Georgia	Shark tooth (no genus or species specified)
Indiana	Crinoid proposed; in legislative review
Kentucky	Brachiopod (no genus or species specified)
Louisiana	Petrified palm wood
Maine	<u>Pertica quadrifaria</u> , Devonian plant
Maryland	<u>Ecphora gardnerae</u> , Miocene marine snail
Massachusetts	Dinosaur tracks
Mississippi	<u>Zygorhiza kochii</u> , Eocene whale
Missouri	Crinoid
Montana	<u>Maiasaura</u> , Upper Jurassic dinosaur
Nebraska	<u>Mammuthus</u> ( <u>Archidiskodon</u> ), Pleistocene mammoth
Nevada	No state fossil*
New Mexico	<u>Coelophysis</u> , Upper Triassic dinosaur
New York	<u>Eurypteris remipes</u> , Late Silurian sea scorpion
North Dakota	Teredo (bored) petrified wood, Paleocene
Ohio	<u>Isotelus</u> , Ordovician trilobite
Pennsylvania	<u>Phacops rana</u> , Devonian trilobite
South Dakota	<u>Triceratops prorsus</u> , Upper Cretaceous dinosaur
Utah	<u>Allosaurus fragilis</u> , Upper Jurassic dinosaur
Wisconsin	<u>Calymene celebra</u> , trilobite
Wyoming	<u>Knightsia</u> , Eocene fish

\* The 1989 State Geologists Journal listed as Nevada's state fossil the marine reptile, Ichthyosaurus.

Fossils have been chosen for the official state stone, rock or gem by several states:

- Florida - agatized coral of Miocene age (state stone)
- Michigan - Hexagonaria percarinata, Devonian coral, commonly known as Petoskey Stone (state stone)
- Mississippi - petrified wood (state stone)
- Texas - fossilized palm wood (state stone)
- Washington - petrified wood (state gem)
- West Virginia - Lithostrotionella, Mississippian coral (state gem)

# MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

Member of The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

## NEWSLETTER



Published monthly  
except  
June, July, August

SEPTEMBER 1991 - ISSUE 304

Kitty Starbuck, Ed.  
7636 V Avenue East  
Vicksburg, MI 49097

Dear Midwest Federation Members:

Now that the 1991 Federation Convention is over, and I sincerely hope a success, I would like to say to everyone that took part, a BIG THANK YOU. It takes a lot of planning, and as you know a lot of workers, to put a show on and have it be a success without too many problems.

The displays were beautiful, and the programs were really the best. We were glad to see so many competitive displays, as we have had so few the last few years. Next year in Ohio, lets have a record for displays.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my year as MWF President, and thank everyone that agreed to serve as committee head and their assistants. The reason the Federation is such a success is the hard workers. So a SPECIAL THANKS TO YOU ALL.

A report on the success of the convention will be coming after I return from the AFMS Convention in Tampa later this month. Also make plans to attend the Fall Executive Meeting to be held in Rock Island, Ill on Saturday October 12th. There will be more on this meeting in the Newsletter, so make your reservations, and plan on attending. We only have three MWF meetings a year, and it is important that you attend and give your officers your ideas and input. If something is not to your liking, let the officers know, that way they will have an idea to work on to keep the federation working smoothly.

As Anne Cook told you at the meetings, the AFMS Rules Committee will be working very hard to finish the work on revising the rules in Tampa. Then hopefully they will be finished and published by 1992. If they are finished, and published, you will use the new book for your entry in Ohio. Not all of the sections have been revised but many have. A plan to issue it in sections, in loose leaf form, has been proposed, thus allowing only the section changed to be replaced in your future books.

*Margaret*

### OFFICERS 1990 - 1991

<b>PRESIDENT</b> Mrs. Margaret Melick 7091 E. East Park Ln. New Carlisle, IN 46552 219-654-3673	<b>1st VICE PRESIDENT</b> Harold McClure 3233 Zephyr Drive Dayton, OH 45414 513-274-6884	<b>2nd VICE PRESIDENT</b> Mrs. Kathy Miller 1108 Clayton Drive South Bend, IN 46614 219-291-0332	<b>SECRETARY</b> Miss Joan Reynolds 307 Tuttle Avenue Clarendon Hills, IL 60514 708-323-1682	<b>TREASURER</b> Mrs. Kitty Starbuck 7636 V Avenue East Vicksburg, MI 49-97 616-649-1991
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MWF NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1991 - ISSUE 304

2

## CO-OPERATION



### A "THANK YOU" FROM AFMS PRESIDENT

Some of the busiest AFMS committees are those chaired by MWF people:

JOHN BOLAND continues to keep everyone informed, especially of public lands issues, as AFMS Conservation and Legislation chairman;

I've kept CAL GEORGE busy reviewing the Bylaws and developing OPs for those committees that had no official guidelines;

FLOSSIE ANDERSON has been working to clarify the rules and scoring system for the All-American Club competition;

MARGARET PEARSON conducted the Programs Competition again this year - one result is the "Gemstones of America" video now available to AFMS clubs and club members at a special discounted price. Margaret is retiring from this job and has just taken on the job of spearheading the fund drive for the Smithsonian's new Hall of Geology, Gems and Minerals, so you will be hearing more from her on this.

JEAN REYNOLDS compiles and edits the AFMS Newsletter, arranged for printing and addressing, and delivers it to the Post Office;

When Club Publications chairman Jim Fowler resigned due to health problems, I needed someone to take over in the middle of the contests, create the awards, AND conduct the Editors Breakfast in Tampa. NELLIE CLAXTON accepted this tremendous responsibility.

The AFMS Parliamentarian is ANNE COOK, whose big job is yet to come -- Anne has to make sure I don't mess up in Tampa!

I want to say "Thank you!" to these folks who accepted these challenges, who DARE to be Dedicated, Active, Responsive and Enthusiastic. And I also want to say "Thank you" to the Midwest Federation, and to their CLUBS, for loaning them to us. When they take on an AFMS job, it means they have less time for their club. THANK YOU, EVERYONE!

Diane Dare, AFMS President 1990-91

Sister Georgia Castin of Holy Cross Church gave the following invocation at the Delegates Luncheon at the MWF Convention. Nelson and Marion Short have asked that it be printed for everyone to enjoy.



God, whose people have often called you their Rock, we thank you for the beauty of gems and stones, for having given us eyes to see them, and minds to appreciate them. We thank you for having placed in the hands of some the talent to make the stones even more beautiful. We thank you for what you have placed on our table today, and ask your blessings especially on those who have so much less than we.

Amen

# Hats off

TO OUR NEW OFFICERS FOR 1991-1992

PRESIDENT: GLEN HANNING

Glen has served this past year as Past President of the MWF. He served as President in 1989. He also served as Chairman of the Archaeology Committee, and a member of the Nominating Committee. Both the Siloam Springd Earth Science Club and the Geodeland Earth Science Clubs, have benefited from his active participation.

1st VICE PRESIDENT: KATHY MILLER

Kathy has served this past year as Second Vice President. She has been an active member of the Michiana group at South Bend, and has experienced many phases of the activities of the group from show, lapidary, collecting and editing. Her activities include Bulletin Aids Chairman, and a member of the Nominating Committee. Her enthusiasm and dedication and commitment are unquestioned.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT: MARVE STARBUCK

Marve has been a member of the Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society since 1963. He has served as Treasurer, President (2 times), and Show Chairman for several years. He is presently Liaison Officer. He has been MWF Show and Convention Chairman since 1986, and assistant to the Treasurer for 7½ years. In March, 1985, the Starbucks (and others) established the Midwest Federation Endowment Fund, which they cared for and promoted for a number of years.

SECRETARY: JEAN REYNOLDS

Jean has served as Secretary of the MWF for many years. She is an Honorary Member of the MWF. A member and Past President of the Earth Science Club of Northern Illinois, she is also editor of the club bulletin and editor of the AFMS Newsletter.

TREASURER: NORM HANSCHU

Presently Norm has served as a member of the Holotype and Education Committees. He has been a member of the Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society of Dearborn for 28 years. He held many offices and committee chairmanships - Vice President (2 yrs) President (2 years), Show Chairman (2 years), and Co-Chairman of the 1987 MWF Show, and presently serving on three committees. Norm retired after 37 years as a professional photographer at Ford Motor Company.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Robert Beauvais and Charles Collins were elected for 3 year terms. Carol Anderson was elected to finish Kathy Millers term.

Let's give them all a big hand, and our UTMOST SUPPORT...and if they ask you to HELP, please say YES!!!

## 1991 AFMS WINNING PROGRAMS ADDED TO LIBRARY

### #176. The Illinois Fluorite Story, Part II by D. Stone & C. Jagielo

Continuing where Part I left off, this program preserves the rich history of mining in southern Illinois and Ohio. A variety of specimens are included as well.

113 slides approx. 30 minutes

### #177. The Mastadon Factory by Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Soc.

A good basic paleontology program along with the behind-the-scenes story of how a specimen is reconstructed for display.

80 slides approx. 35 minutes

### #178. Creepy Critters, Part II - Shells by Carol Anderson

How to make everything from simple birds and flowers to more complicated creatures.

46 slides approx. 15 minutes

### V.10 Gemstones of America\*\* VHS video\* produced by Smithsonian & Others

Shows crystals as they are mined at premier locations across the country then being transformed into sparkling gems. Efram Zimbalist, Jr. narrates this dramatic tour and converses with John White, Curator of the Smithsonian Mineral Collection, John Sinkankas, noted author and others.

60 minutes

### V.11 Cabochon Making VHS video\* by James Berends

Shows step-by-step, how to turn a slab into a finished cabochon.

29 minutes

\* Separate \$15.00 Deposit Check required for Videos.

COMPLETE INFORMATION HOW TO BORROW PROGRAMS from the MWF Library is available in 1991 MWF Directory, page W-10 and the Program Planners Manual or contact:  
MWF Program Library, [(313) 722-6043]  
3490 S. Hannan Rd., Canton, MI 48182

\*\* see related story elsewhere

## "GEMSTONES OF AMERICA"



"GEMSTONES OF AMERICA"  
RECEIVES SPECIAL AWARD FROM A.F.M.S.  
AND IS AVAILABLE AT A DISCOUNT

The 60 minute video, "Gemstones of America", produced in cooperation with the Smithsonian Institute is the first recipient of the AFMS Recognition for Educational Achievement Award.

An article "On the Rainbow Trail" in the January 1991 issue of Lapidary Journal details the production of this exceptional program which should interest a wide audience because it explores locations we cannot hope to see for ourselves. Utah's red beryl, Arizona turquoise, California and Maine tourmalines, and Oregon's sunstone are the featured gemstones. Efram Zimbalist, Jr. converses with men who mine these exquisite gems and noted authorities about the unique aspects of each mine and mineral.

A.F.M.S. feels this is such a noteworthy production that it has given a copy to each Regional Program Library\* so Clubs across the country may borrow it for use at meetings, Shows and community groups. Also arrangements have been made so Clubs or individuals, may purchase copies at a special discounted price of only \$21.95 plus shipping from:  
AFMS CENTRAL OFFICE, 920 S.W. 70th STREET,  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73139.

\*info for MWF Program Library in related article elsewhere in this issue.



FROM: *Marge*

# Annual

## ALL AMERICAN AWARD REPORT

The Midwest All American Award entries were honored at the Midwest Federation Meeting in South Bend, Indiana. (The awards from the entries in the American Federation could not be revealed, because the AFMS meeting will not be held until September 19-22.)

Ten (10) clubs from the Midwest Federation were among this years Award entries. The three (3) highest scores were:

1st Place Wisconsin Geological Society  
 2nd Place Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society  
 3rd Place Grand Island Earth Society

The names of the other participants, in alphabetical order were:

Calumet Gem & Mineral Club  
 Earth Science Club of Northern Illinois  
 Edwards River Earth Science Club  
 Evansville Lapidary Society, Inc.  
 Gem City Rock Club  
 Michiana Gem & Mineral Society  
 Neville Public Museum Geology Club

★ These clubs did a fantastic job getting their field trips, thank you notes, donation of time and energy to the rock hobby, and compiling it in an informative book. Thank you each and every club.

★ Our three (3) judges were:

Hazel Kuntz  
 Judy Washburn  
 Bernice McCloskey

Thanks a lot.

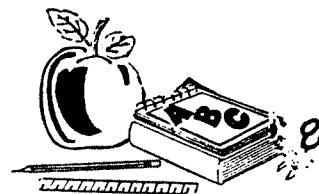
Next year the rules and regulations will be reorganized. Also, there will be a new award entry. This will be a JUNIOR ALL AMERICAN AWARD book. Junior groups from Gem & Mineral Clubs can enter the awards separately from the adult awards. More on this later.

We need to have more entries in the awards. Our clubs do terrific work in all areas of the hobby. I challenge every club to evaluate their past year, put it in book form, and enter it in the 1991 ALL AMERICAN AWARDS.

Florence Anderson  
 All American Award Chairman  
 Midwest Federation

.+..+..+..+..+..+..+.

COMING NEXT MONTH...The winners in the "Bulletin Contest", and the winners in the competitive displays. These are on 'hold' until after the AFMS meeting in Tampa, Florida September 19-22.



## DID YOU KNOW ?

The seventh largest gold nugget found in Montana, "The Highland Centennial Nugget" was discovered fifteen miles south of Butte in September 1989. It is thought to be the largest Montana nugget still in its natural state. It was purchased by Crown Butte Mines Inc. in 1991 and donated to the Montana Tech Foundation where it is on permanent display. The nugget weighs 27.475 troy ounces and is thought to have a purity of .970 fine.

.+..+..+..+..+..+..+.

### Scientists Study Kuwaiti Oil Fires

The National Science Foundation, along with the Defense Nuclear Agency, Department of Energy, National Geographic Society and Chevron Corp., is coordinating a study of the more than 500 oil well fires in Kuwait, the result of the Persian Gulf War.

Experiments will try to answer questions such as how much oil is being burned, how much more oil is being pumped into the Gulf and how much smoke is being released into the air. The U.S. scientists will be cooperating with the U.N. World Meteorological Organization to study the immediate and long-term effect of the smoke on the atmosphere in terms of precipitation, radiation and global climate. They will also be watching the effect of the oil on the Gulf water and beaches and on marine life. These studies must begin in the next few months if anything of significance is to be learned from this disaster.

That the earth's climate can be changed by an event of this type was demonstrated in 1815 by the eruption of Tambora, a volcano in Indonesia. This eruption sent 150 cubic kilometers of dust into the atmosphere, where it circled in the stratosphere for several years. As a result of weak sunshine, 1816 was a year of worldwide frost in summer, famine and bizarre weather.

from Geotimes, July 1991  
 Submitted by Joyce Hanschu, MWF Education Committee



## BOOK REVIEW

Late Paleozoic Cyclic Sedimentation in Southeastern Nebraska: A Field Guide: Educational Circular No. 9, by Roger K. Pabian and R. F. Diffendal, Jr. Lincoln: University of Nebraska, April, 1991.

This sixty-eight page booklet with its eye-catching color photo cover is much less exclusive than its scientifically formal title suggests, as it holds a considerable amount of paleontological information for both the serious student and the casual amateur fossil collector.

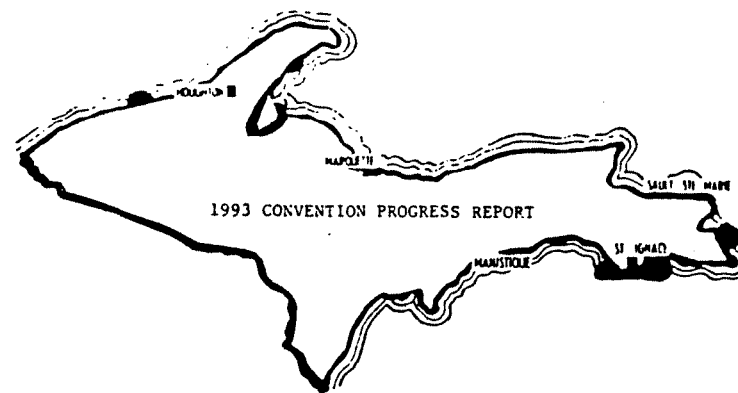
It is a definitive field guide for those who have or intend to study/collect the Pennsylvanian and Permian exposures of Pawnee and Richardson counties of Nebraska. The precise road log and thorough description of the fourteen stops is enhanced by locality photos which will aid in identification in spite of the authors' admonitions about "slump and weathering", while the large fold-out map gives a perspective of the entire deposit sequence. Matching the stratigraphic names with their type localities (Appendix I) in Nebraska, Missouri and Oklahoma helps those readers using other publications for specific descriptions of fossil forms shown in the fine photo plates.

The text's main thrust, however, is the explanation and consolidation of the concept of cyclothems--sedimentary deposits laid down in a cycle, or repetition, of layers, influenced by such events as the rise and fall of sea levels during the Late Paleozoic, as well as by local geologic conditions. This adds significant information on the general question of why certain fossil forms with long Paleozoic life spans are found in certain sedimentary layers and not in others very similar in age.

The amateur fossil collector who may never visit Nebraska will also find interesting information in the circular. Such a reader may find it beneficial to read the "Introduction," "Precautions" (which include the AFMS Code of Ethics--Professor Pabian is the 1984 AFMS Scholarship Award Honoree) and the "Cyclic Sedimentation" explanation, then skip the "Trip Stops" and read from "Paleontology and Paleocology" onward. The "Fossil Occurances" section describes the habitats of various fossil classes, and the reader can then refer back to the field stops for each group, to get a better understanding of where each is found. The glossary of Appendix III provides a short definition of a large number of general fossil terms as well as of geologic terms specifically oriented to the theme of the text.

The circular is available For \$5.50 plus \$1.00 postage from: Institute of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Conservation and Survey Division, University of Nebraska, 113 Nebraska Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0517

Cecilia Duluk,  
Paleo Chairperson of Midwest Mineralogical  
& Lapidary Society of Dearborn, Michigan



Plans are moving right along for the 1993 FIELD TRIP CONVENTION TO THE UPPER PENINSULA OF MICHIGAN.

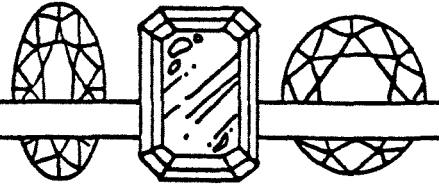
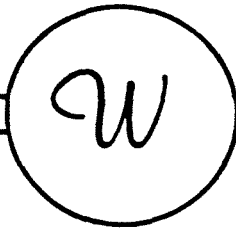
A tentative date of the SECOND WEEK IN AUGUST has been scheduled.

WATCH THE NEWSLETTER FOR MORE INFORMATION at a later date.

MIDWEST FEDERATION NEWSLETTER  
Kitty Starbuck, Editor  
7636 V Avenue East  
Vicksburg, Michigan 49097



THE GOBLINS WILL "GETCHA" IF YOU  
MISS THE OCTOBER 15th DEADLINE FOR  
THE NEWSLETTER!!!



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Family membership fee \$22.00 (husband, wife, and all children under 16---permanent residents of household).

New memberships must be approved by the Board, after applicant attends at least one (1) regular meeting of the club, and pays the above dues plus \$5.00 registration fee.



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