


CEDAR VALLEY GEMS
CEDAR VALLEY
ROCKS & MINERALS SOCIETY



FEB 1979

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA



CEDAR VALLEY ROCKS AND MINERALS SOCIETY

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

This corporation is organized for the purpose of studying the earth sciences of mineralogy, geology, and the arts of lapidary and Gemology. We were organized on June 12, 1951, incorporated on June 21, 1956, as a non-profit organization.

OFFICERS

President	Jack Bevauns	2011 Northgate Dr. N.E.	Cedar Rapids, IA	365-9365
Vice Pres.	Roger Dabler	6102 Underwood Ave. S.W.	Cedar Rapids, IA	396-3406
Secretary	Helen Troxel	1138 Prairie Dr. N.E.	Cedar Rapids, IA	365-3451
Treasurer	Marian Peters	1475 - 24th Street	Marion, IA	377-2839
Liaison	Fran Bates	2739 - 2nd Ave. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, IA	366-6012
Editor	Leslie Blin	505 - 5th Avenue	Marion, IA	377-3339

BOARD MEMBERS

Term ends:

Dec. 1979	Don Bates	2739 - 2nd Ave.	Cedar Rapids, IA	366-6012
Dec. 1980	Skinny Lutz	Wiley Blvd & Rogers Rd. N.W.	Cedar Rapids, IA	396-6194
Dec. 1981	Helen Shedenhelm	2111 Chandler St. S.W.	Cedar Rapids, IA	365-3089
Immed. Past Pres.	Larry DeSotel	247 Sussex Dr. N.E.	Cedar Rapids, IA	377-1641

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Membership	Mary Dickens	531 - 30th St. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, IA	363-7693
Hospitality	Rosie Richardson	Route 1	Ely, IA	848-4040
Telephone/Publicity & Sunshine	Jackie Steiner	4406 Walker St. N.E.	Cedar Rapids, IA	393-4152
Display	Don Bates	2739 - 2nd Ave.	Cedar Rapids, IA	366-6012
Supply	Craig Simmons	2501 Falbrook Dr. N.E.	Cedar Rapids, IA	393-0444
Librarian	Edith & Jeff Nekola	800 - 25th St. N.E.	Cedar Rapids, IA	363-9792
Historian	Alice Brown	360 Tonga Dr.	Hiawatha, IA	393-7193
Field Trips	Rick Austin	440 - 10th St.	Marion, IA	377-4741
Property	Skinny Lutz	Wiley Blvd & Rogers Rd. N.W.	Cedar Rapids, IA	396-6194
Resource Materials	Leslie Blin, Gladys Zobac & Jeff Nekola			
Pebble Pups	Sponsored by Club Members			
Bulletin Staff:				
Editor	Leslie Blin	505 - 5th Avenue	Marion, IA	377-3339
Co-Editor	Gladys Zobac	2101 - 0 Ave. N.W.	Cedar Rapids, IA	396-0210
Illustrator	Pat Blin	505 - 5th Avenue	Marion, IA	377-3339
Printing	Robert, Bobby, & Mike Blin		Marion, IA	377-3339
Assembling & Mailing	The Blins, Jeff Nekola, Gladys Zobac and club members			

MEMBERS are requested to contribute articles to be published in the bulletin. Articles should be given to the Editor or Co-Editor by the FIRST of the month to be in that month's bulletin. Articles may be reprinted if credit is given the author and the bulletin.

CLUB MEETINGS: Third Wednesday of each month except June, July & August (we have picnics at parks) and December (2nd Saturday night is our Christmas Potluck and Party).
7:30 PM at Linn County Rural Electric Cooperative Building at 999 - 35th St., Marion, Iowa.

BOARD MEETINGS: Fourth Wednesday of each month except June, July & August.
At place announced by the President. 7:30 PM.

CLUB DUES: Due and payable January 1 of each year. Deadline if March 1.
REGULAR MEMBERSHIP - \$6.00 per adult couple; \$4.00 per single adult;
\$6.00 per family membership

JUNIOR or PEBBLE PUP - \$3.00 (a member under 18 years of age)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP - \$4.00 per family (associate members will receive the club bulletins but may not vote or hold office).

Persons joining during the year will pay dues to the nearest quarter.

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CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

FEBRUARY 1979
VOL. 6 - ISSUE 6
PAGE 1

A FEBRUARY EVENT!!!!

DON'T MISS IT !!!!



SUNDAY, February 18th, 1-4 p.m.

Field Trip Chairman Rick Austin announces an Indoor Field Trip to visit two families homes on Feb.18. Howard(Babe) & Sylvia Barnett and Jeff Nekola & his family have invited club members to come see their collections.

So we won't all crowd into one basement at once he has made this divided schedule:

If your name begins with A to L: visit Nekolas 1:00 til 2:30
visit Barnetts 2:30 til 4:00

If your name begins with L to Z: visit Barnetts 1:00 til 2:30
visit Nekolas 2:30 til 4:00

Rick hopes we will have good attendance at these field trips (we have not had any since 1976). The members who invite us into their homes spend a lot of time and effort getting their collections ready for us so lets all try and participate in this event. A good time to get better aquainted and a chance to visit.

FEBRUARY MEETING

Wednesday, February 21st, 7:30 P.M

REC Building in Marion

PROGRAM - "Limestone, Hidden Treasure of Eastern Iowa"

Display Table - Fossils of eastern Iowa or anything you wish to display.

GOODIES - Betty DeSotel, Leslie Blin, & Rosie Richardson.

PROGRAM - Howard(Babe) Barnett will show the film about limestone. I have saw this film and it is very interesting and informative.

BOARD MEETING - Wednesday, February 28th, 7:30 p.m. At the home of Jack & Connie Bevauns. If you are a member of the Board and cannot attend please contact Pres. Bevauns. ALL CLUB MEMBERS ARE WELCOME. Please take a couple of chairs.

THIS WILL BE THE LAST BULLETIN YOU WILL RECIEVE!!!
(If you don't pay your dues by March 1st, pay or send to the Treasurer.)

Roses are Red
Violets are Blue
We'll sure miss you,
If you don't pay your Dues!

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society met on Wednesday, January 18, 1979 at the Linn County R.E.C. Building at 7:30 P.M. 44 members and 3 visitors were in attendance.

President Jack Bevauns called the meeting to order. Guests John and Thelma Franklin and Marvin Haug were introduced. The minutes of the last board meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter, as moved by Don Bates and seconded by Larry DeSotel. The Treasurer read her report with the balance at the end of 1978 being given.

President Bevauns requested that letters from members who are on vacation be given to the Editor of the newsletter so that they might be published, thereby enabling all of us to remain in touch.

Committee reports followed:

1.) Insurance. Don Bates stated that we now have a renewed policy which will protect members on organized club field trips, at meetings, shows and swaps, the cost being \$35.00 per year. In addition, a policy was obtained to cover the storage building and its contents for \$49.00 per year. Total insurance bill for 1979 - \$84.00.

2.) 1979 Show. Don Bates, Chairman. No name has been submitted prior to tonight's meeting. Leslie Blin suggested that it be designated simply "Gem and Mineral Show" and displayed a mockup of a possible flyer using that name.

Larry DeSotel reported that he'd been busy phoning dealers as a follow-up to the contracts and invitations which were mailed in December. He stated that because of the club's late decision to have a Spring Show, many dealers were already booked for this time slot. He gave the list of the dealers who have been confirmed to date and stated that there are still two openings for demonstrating dealers.

Jeff Nekola asked for help with the Black Light Booth, for which Jack Steiner volunteered. Don and Marie Simmons were also mentioned as possible interested persons.

Don Bates requested that all committee chairmen study the guidelines he had distributed to them for their help, add their suggestions to the present list and be prepared to have them collected after the Show to be held for the following year's chairmen.

Old Business:

After discussion, it was moved by Larry DeSotel and seconded by Jim Dickens that the Club buy two 18-inch short wave bulbs for the Black Light booth. It was indicated that the cost would be \$108-\$169. range. Unanimously passed.

New Business:

Gem & Mineral Show

April 7-8, 1979

15th Annual
Show

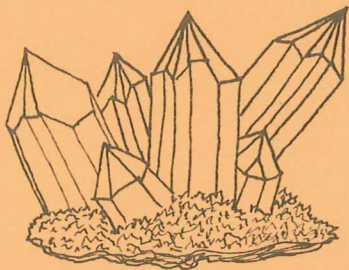


Sat. April 7
10 am. to 9 pm.



Sun. April 8
10 am. to 5 pm.

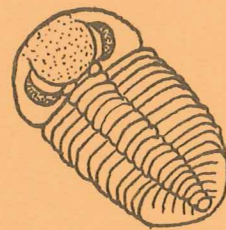
Host - Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society



Adults . . . \$ 1.00
Children50

Youth Groups
FREE

With Leaders



- ★ Educational Exhibits
- ★ Fluorescent Rocks
- ★ Programs
- ★ Demonstrations
- ★ Dealers
- ★ Fossils
- ★ Mineral
- ★ Door Prizes
- ★ Pebble Pit for kids
- ★ Lapidary
- ★ Swap Area
- ★ Jewelry



Hawkeye Downs

6th St. S.W. 33rd Ave. exit off I-380



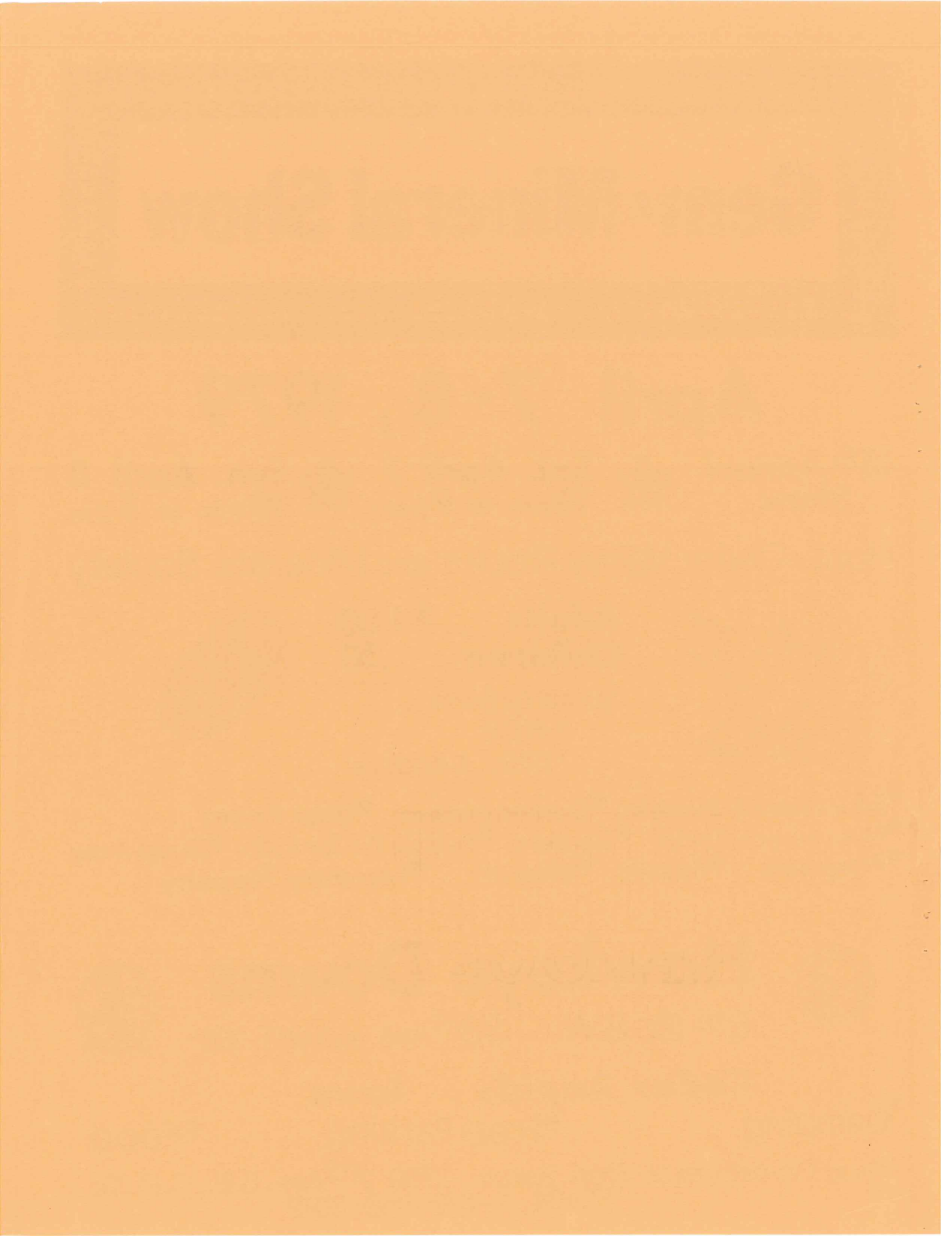
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

★ Camping

★ Free Parking

★ Food

Show Co-ordinator - Don Bates 2739 2nd Ave. S.E., C.R., Ia.
52404, 1-319-366-6012



Secretary's report continued from previous page.

Leslie Blin stated that the cost for each Newsletter was 29¢. She presented an Editor's budget for \$411.10 for 1979. It was moved by Don Bates, seconded by Babe Barnett and unanimously passed that \$450.00 be allowed for this item for 1979.

Roger Dabler agreed to speak to a pre-school as per Larry DeSotel's request.

It was moved by Larry DeSotel and seconded by Helen Shedenhelm and unanimously passed that a Fall Swap be held in 1979. Some of the discussion was whether Labor Day would be a good time; whether we should offer it free for all rockhounds as a gesture of appreciation for their support on the Midwest Show; whether \$450.00 would stage such a swap; whether the Assistant Show Chairman might logically be the Swap Chairman each year; and the directive to Don Bates that he ascertain whether the Fair Grounds would be available at this date.

Helen Shedenhelm read an article in the "FMC Newsletter, Plain Talk," October 1978 written by Larry DeSotel.

Jack Bevauns announced that Alice Brown is the Club's new Historian.

A lengthy discussion was held about how to best show our appreciation to the groups who assisted us on the Midwest Show. Larry DeSotel moved that \$1,000.00 be distributed among the clubs that assisted. Seconded by Betty DeSotel and carried unanimously.

Jim Dickens moved that the Midwest Scholarship Fund be raised this year to 1000% participation. Seconded by Betty DeSotel and carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous New Business:

Other issues mentioned for discussion: Ray Shedenhelm--that we purchase lapidary equipment for Ambrose Community Center in order to facilitate possible classes there; Howard Meek--sweet corn dinner still on for August; Jack Bevauns--that the Treasurer's Report be reproduced monthly and included in the newsletters of members only; Jack Bevauns--invited written suggestions as to the desired activities members wanted for the club; Jeff Nekola--that Rick Austin be called about arranging indoor field trips for the rest of the winter; Jack Bevauns--folding chairs will be needed at the next board meeting at their home; Don Bates--will take extra time to audit the books at the February board meeting; Patty Blin--that free Midwest Directories for 1978 are available for the asking.

The business meeting was adjourned by 8:45 when Roger Dabler introduced the speaker for the evening, Gene Burry from Vinton. Fabulous Lake Superior agates were in his display, as well as some brought by various members, and all enjoyed his slides and talk on "Lake Superior Agates." Refreshments were served by the Hospitality Committee.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by
Helen Troxel, Secretary

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

The Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society Board meeting was held at the home of Jack Bevauns on January 24, 1979. Board members Don Bates, Skinny Lutz, Helen Shedenhelm and Larry DeSotel were present, as were Officers Jack Bevauns, Roger Dabler, Helen Troxel, Marian Peters and Leslie Blin and Fran Bates. Seven visitors were also present.

Considerable discussion involved the presentation of the Treasurer's Report and the method of including such in the written minutes for publication without revealing Club business to uninterested persons. Associated with this discussion were some involving the general method of keeping books which would be of the greatest advantage to the Treasurer and also which would enable the easiest auditing of the books. The books were audited for 1978 during the meeting by Don Bates and Cliff Steiner. Larry reminded the group that we are still retaining \$600.00 for final Show expenses, particularly insurance which is still outstanding; \$500.00 retained in joint escrow with the Midwest Federation (50:50) for final settlement of bills which might yet arrive through that association; and \$200.00 voted by the membership in 1978 for the Red Cross for their gratis service at the Show.

A letter was read from LaVonne Grove saying that she would complete the 1977 and 1978 histories and scrapbooks after she returns to Cedar Rapids.

A letter was distributed from the K. C. Club, inviting competitive exhibits for their show in March.

It was clarified to Leslie Blin who is preparing new Newsletter covers that Jackie Steiner will incorporate Sunshine and Publicity tasks along with that of being Telephone Chairman.

Helen Troxel moved that funds that were originally donated by an independent group of friends for flowers for Truman Ramsall's funeral be returned to the Club to offset the flower bill incurred. This is in order to avoid setting a precedence other than that now in existence, of donating a book in memory of every deceased member to a library. Seconded by Helen Shedenhelm. Withdrawn after further discussion.

Fran Bates moved that there be no Flower Fund, and all such donations should occur on a personal basis. Book donations to libraries will continue. Seconded by Larry DeSotel and unanimously passed for recommendation to the Club.

Alberta Cray reported in absentia that it will cost an additional \$311.19 to bring our donation to the Midwest Scholarship Fund to 100% including the credit of \$104.81 gained from the Midwest Show Auction. The Treasurer was instructed to write the check as per the previous vote of the club membership.

Jack Bevauns suggested a goal of 20 new members in 1979.

In view of the decreasing amount of time available, along with increas-

Secretary's report of Board Meeting continued.

ing responsibilities in the Club, John and Helen Troxel have asked for other persons to sponsor the Pebble Pups. After discussion, President Bevauns agreed to try to find someone.

A ballot for members' ideas about a national gem, fossil and mineral will be printed in February Newsletter. Some of the discussion: Larry, "My wife is my gem." Jack, "You sentimental devil." Larry, "She's a local gem, not national."

Serious business continued by reminding Fran Bates to send in the proper information for the "Buyers' Guide."

A general discussion occurred about the desire to have someone at Shows demonstrating cab-making, etc. It was decided to investigate the possibility of buying some used equipment to be so used, as well as for traveling demonstrations by members, and to be stored in the storage shed between usages. The demonstrator would retain for himself 10% of whatever he sold. It was moved by Leslie Blin that information about such equipment be procured. Larry DeSotel seconded and this was passed unanimously for recommendation to the club membership.

The four keys to the storage bin are to be held by the President, Vice-President and by the Lutz's (who will also retain a record of persons taking things out of it). The fourth key will be placed in the safety deposit box. It was suggested that the contents of the shed be published in the Newsletter.

Larry suggested that we send the names of all clubs who helped us with the Midwest Show to Norman Brown. Norman was appointed chairman of this "appreciation committee" and Helen Shedenhelm will serve as vice-chairman.

Jackie Steiner stated that Gareth Clift, Cedar Rapids Chief of Police had volunteered to present a working demonstration, along with use of turquoise, at one of our shows.

Leslie Blin reported that copies of the October and March Newsletters had been submitted for the Midwest and AFMS contests, along with an article in the September issue by Jeff Nekola for a Junior original article.

Informal discussion occurred about contacting Rodney Douglass to update his activities and to return the Club showcase to storage for the next show.

Larry DeSotel placed the name of the Iowa Assistant Director on the mailing list for the "Cedar Valley Gems," Burnie Hermanson of Sumner.

Larry moved that the meeting adjourn at 9:30. Seconded by Marian Peters.

Submitted by
Helen Troxel, Secretary

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to thank all of you for the warmth and co-operation you have shown me since I've become President. I'm brushing up on parliamentary procedures at this time hoping each meeting will be more organized than the last.

Throughout this year lets try to recruit new members and show continuing co-operation with the officers and committee chairpersons. Our club is the best in Iowa, we know it is, so lets prove it.

I would like to welcome All new ideas and improve on ALL old ones. Please feel free to call me at any time regarding any phase of the Rock club.

Your support is needed and appreciated.

Jack Bevauns, President

CLUB NOTES

WE NEED several couples to sponsor the Pebbles Pups. If you'd like to help please call Jack-365-9365.

FOR SALE: Display cases, floor models, all glass and lighted. Six and eight foot sizes. Call Connie -365-9365

A list of club property will be printed and available at the meeting.

The Club directories will be printed March 1st and available at the March meeting. If you have moved or changed phone numbers, etc. call Mary Dickens now if you wish it correct in the new directories.

Anytime you hear or know of any of our members who aren't well or are in the hospital please call Jackie Steiner, Sunshine Chairman.

Did you read the article in the Jan. issue about a National Gemstone? At the Feb. meeting we will have a ballot box and vote on our choice. Please be thinking about it and be ready to vote for YOUR choice. for:

1. A National Gemstone _____
2. A National Rock _____
3. A National Mineral _____
4. A National Fossil _____

The deadline for the AFMS Slide program contest is April 30, 1979. Any member of a club or club may enter. Awards: \$100. for each winner in three classes: 1. Education 2. Collecting sites 3. Craftwork
If you want to know more about this call me -377-3339

WELCOME TO THE CLUB!! John L. and Thelma Franklin
3915 Georgia Ave. N.E.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

1979 GEM AND MINERAL SHOW...APRIL 7 & 8, 1979COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

Dealer Chairman - Larry DeSotel
 Special Exhibits Co-chairmen - Betty DeSotel
 Alice Brown
 Ticket Sales - Marian Peters
 Local Publicity - Mary Dickens
 Hostess Chairman - Ida Brunk
 Black Light - Nekola's
 Pebble Pit - Robert Blin
 Guards Chairman - Roger Dabler
 Swap Chairman - Cliff Steiner
 Ribbons Chairman - Alice Brown
 Electrical Chairman - Bud Cray
 School & Youth Group Publicity - Gladys Zobac
 Signs Chairman - Pat Blin
 Programs - Rick Austin
 Camping - Norman Brown
 Midwest Clubs Chairman - Fran Bates
 Club Demonstrations - Leslie Blin
 P.A. Chairman - Jim Dickens
 Photography - Mike & Bob Blin
 Assistant Coordinator - Elwin Woof
 Radio & TV Publicity Chairman - Geraldine Brown
 Clean-Up Committee - ALL club members
 Don Bates, Show CoCoordinator

WANTED: EXHIBITS

As most of you know, Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society will host its 15th show on April 7 & 8 at Hawkeye Downs.

Many of you, our friends and club members, have not been with us as an exhibitor in two years. 'Tis time to drag out the case, check out the paint and the lighting system, freshen up the liner & dust off the rocks and see that all is ready.

We WILL NEED your case and we would enjoy seeing you and your braggin' rocks.

PLEASE say you will come and help.

Betty DeSotel
 Alice Brown

P.S. Set-up time - Friday afternoon or evening - or no
later than 9:00 A.M. April 7.

CLUB DEMONSTRATIONS CHAIRMAN REPORT

Would you like to demonstrate something you do pertaining to your rockhound hobby at the Show? You may sell on a small scale with the club getting 10% of your sales. Do you have an unusual way to make crafts with rocks or gems? Would you like to do cabbing, silver-smithing, jewelry making, etc.? We will set up a schedule so you can plan your hours to demonstrate. The more members we have demonstrating, the shorter the hours for each. I need to know how much table space you will need. Please call me if you are interested.

Leslie Blin -377-3339

Show reports continued.

DEALERS CHAIRMAN REPORT:

These retail dealers have signed contracts for the show:

1. DeSotel Rock Shop, Cedar Rapids
2. Lutz Rock Shop, Cedar Rapids
3. Everett Lapidary Shop, Lincoln, Nebraska
4. Lentz Lapidary, Inc., Mulvane, Kansas
5. Uncle Tom's Rock Shop, Owatonna, Minnesota
6. Den's Petrified Critters, Monroe, Iowa
7. (Tentative) Simmons, Nebraska

Demonstrating Dealers:

1. Ombergs Glass Menagerie, Peconia, Illinois
2. Bev Carroll Originals, Fort Dodge, Iowa
3. McNamar Originals, Des Moines, Iowa
4. Dan Finch - Sand bottles, Des Moines, Iowa

Larry DeSotel

Last minutes notes from Don:

Tables and chairs have been ordered.

Rick Austin has sent out letters for programs but no answers yet.

Betty DeSotel has sent out 75 letters for Special Exhibits and has recieved three replies: Augustana College, Frank Rule and Bernie & Marilyn Bekker.

The flyers are being printed, hopefully in time for this newsletter to have one included.

NATIONAL FOSSIL EXPOSITION

MARCH 31, 1979.....9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

APRIL 1, 1979.....9:00a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tanner Hall...Western Illinois University, Macomb, Il.

HOSTS: Mid America Paleontology Society (Maps)

EARTH Science Club of N. IL. (Esconi)

Eastern Missouri Society of Paleo.

For information and reservations contact chairman:

Don Good

SHOW

410 N.W. Third St.

SWAP

Aledo, Illinois 61231

SELL

(309) 582-5232

An old Chinese proverb says, "Those who want to leave an impression for one year should plant corn; those who want to leave an impression for 10 years should plant a tree; but those who want to leave an impression for 100 years should educate a human being."

Source unknown from Fulton County Rock-hounders via The Glacial Drifter

PEBBLE PUP POST

Don't miss the INDOOR FIELD TRIPS on Sunday, February 18. Check page 1 for places and times.

Would you like to borrow a club display case to put a display in to take to the Show? Would you like a club member to help you get it ready to take to the Show? If you said "yes" to one or both of those questions call President Jack Bevauns 365-9365 or Jeff Nekola 363-9792

FEBRUARY GEM OF THE MONTH - AMETHYST

In Biblical lore, your February birthstone, the Amethyst, means perfection; and where beauty is concerned, the Amethyst is truly perfection.

Not so hard as the Diamond and in recent times far less expensive, the Amethyst still offers the qualities of tran-

sparency, lovely coloring and soft brilliance which brought it into popularity centuries before the Christian era.

Chemically, the Amethyst is a precious variety of crystalline quartz and comes in shades varying from faintest violet to deepest purple, the latter sometimes tinged with red.

The deeper shades are the most valuable. Much of the deep purple Amethyst originally came from Russia. Quantities of fine deep-colored gems are found in the Rio Grande du Sul district of Brazil and in Northern Uruguay, while lesser amounts come from India, Ceylon and Madagascar. Amethyst occurs in the cavities of ancient volcanic rocks, especially basalt.

Many Amethysts are among the Russian Crown Jewels. Queen Charlotte of England also prized a beautiful Amethyst necklace. For hundreds of years, bishops and prelates have worn Amethysts in ecclesiastical rings. The Amethyst frequently enters the fashion picture on a grand scale because it is becoming to women of every coloring - Blond, brunette, redhead and grey-haired alike. In the early nineteen hundreds, Amethyst in "sets" were the pride of many women who loved the matching brooches, earrings and necklaces.

Currently, the Amethyst is a particularly happy choice as the February birthstone because every few years the spring season brings a nationwide vogue for purple in spring suits and coats. Another frequent choice is grey. Who is better prepared for these color revivals than she who owns some handsome Amethyst jewelry?

And thinking still further ahead - what could be more stunning with summer's white?

From the February AFMS Newsletter 1979

STROLLING FAMILY'S TRACKS ARE 4,300 YEARS OLD

From "The Rockpile" (Nov. '78)

The oldest human footprints ever found in North America record what seems to have been a family stroll through the cottonwoods that lined the Mojave River some 4,300 years ago, scientists say.

The discovery of 54 footprints was announced recently by excited archaeologists from the University of California-Riverside.

Two sets of adult prints, one larger than the other, were found preserved in the once-soggy ground. These barefoot adults walked purposefully southward, taking longer steps now and then to avoid puddles. One lost his or her footing and skidded in the mud.

Two smaller sets of footprints point in many directions, suggesting two children who scurried here and there, as though playing and exploring.

"Finding the children's prints, that was really great," said Jim McManus, second in command at the excavation. "They show that people really haven't changed that much -- at least kids haven't."

The trail of footprints "gives the impression of mom and dad and two kids walking along," James Swenson, UCR's senior archaeologist said during a press tour of the site.

"But," he added, "that's mostly supposition. All we can really say for sure is that somebody was walking by here."

Swenson said specialists will be considering for years to questions of who the people were, what they looked like, where they were going and why.

He speculated that the footprints survived because a fire swept the area, hardening the mud and its trail of footprints not long after the four prehistoric people walked through.

Powdered charcoal found with the tracks allowed archaeologists to use radioactive dating techniques that showed the fire occurred between 4,200 and 4,400 years ago.

The footprints are by no means the oldest relics of civilization in North America. Skeletons, tools and other evidences have been found dating back at least 10,000 years.

But the oldest footprints found previously in North America are a mere 400 years old. Those prints also are in Southern California, near the Salton Sea.

Swenson said the Mojave River tracks had been covered by dust, then by layers of silt from the river. The river later changed its course, moving a few hundred yards eastward.

Then, perhaps 1,600 years ago, another prehistoric group walked along the river. This group, probably ancestors of the Serrano Indians who still live in Southern California, built huts of twigs and brush. The village was in turn abandoned and buried beneath centuries of sand and silt.

It was while excavating that village in July that the trail of footprints was discovered almost three feet beneath the surface, said Carol Rector, who directed about 40 students working on the project.

The village itself was a valuable find, she said, since "we have little information on the desert Serrano."

But the footprints--now the only direct evidence that men and women lived in the desert so long ago--were "the frosting on the cake. It was totally unexpected," Swenson said.

CLUB EVENTS

FEBRUARY 18....Don't Forget....Indoor Field Trip....1-4 pm..
Feb. 21 - Regular meeting...7:30 pm

OTHER EVENTS

MARCH 9-11...Kansas City, Mo. (Show) I have discount coupons, exhibit
" 17-18...Monroe, Wisc. (Show) forms.
" 23-25...St. Louis, Mo. (Show)
" 24-25...Lincoln, Nebr. (Show)
" 31-April 1...Macomb, Ill. (National Fossil Exposition) See page 8
APRIL 7-8...Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Show)
" 21-22...Mason City, Iowa (Show)
JUNE 8-10...Rapid City, S.D. (Rocky Mt. Fed. Show)
Aug. 2-5...Columbus, Ohio (Midwest Fed. Show)
July 12-15...Tampa, Florida (National Show)

The next Audubon film is "Return to the Tetons" on Thurs. Feb. 22nd at 7:30 pm at Coe Sinclair Aud.

There is a good article about the Loess Hills of western Iowa in the January issue of Iowa Conservationist.

FROM EXCHANGE BULLETINS

PALM ROOT...from Nishna Valley Grindstone, via Pebble Patter, Geode, and Jade Journal

There are three ways to cut palm root and each one will give a different effect. All palm root seems to have a ring of agate around the eye and a colored center. First you can cut it right down the center. This gives the palm root a wood-grain effect that is striking but does not show the eye. Second, you can cut it diagonally and get an elliptical eye effect. All will give patterns that make showy cabs.

USE GLASS CUTTER TO TRIM AGATE OR JASPER SLAB

Saves your diamond trim saw blade. Use glass cutter with carbide wheel, not tungsten, and put a good handle on it so you can bear down hard. Use pliers to break the slab along the scored lines.
From Nishna Valley Grindstone, via Golden Nugget via Crystal Cluster

If you have a cab that you can't see the mark on, take a piece of masking tape and place the template size over the tape on the slick surface. Then with a sharp pencil or ball point pen, press hard and you have a decal to apply to your cab, marking your size exactly.

From Nishna Valley Grindstone via Dick Medinger via The Loup Scoop

AND FOR YOU FOSSIL FANS!!! FOSSIL KNOCK, from The Lithoplie via The Conglomerate

"Knock, knock, knock."

"Who's there?"

"Elastoid."

"Blastoid who?"

"When I set off the dynamite, it was the

BLASTOID round the world."

MONEY WELL SPENT

You pay your dues and what do you get?
 A year filled with fun and friends - you bet!
 You learn about rocks and minerals, too.
 There's oodles and oodles of things to do.

There's field trips and shows and programs galore.
 Now what do you mean? Can't we offer you more!
 Sure - there's scads of books for you to read
 To keep your old noggin from going to seed.

There's auctions and door prizes and raffles, to boot!
 If you're lucky enough you can win lots of loot.
 You don't have to remember - you're reminded to meet
 By cards and by bulletins which we hope are a treat.

There are displays at each meeting for you to see -
 And hot coffee and cake for cake-eaters, like me.
 You can visit with friends to your heart's content -
 So do pay your dues - 'tis money well spent.

Did I hear you say work? Yeah, there's always that, too.
 But it can be fun if you work WITH the crew.
 Just do your share - don't leave it to others.
 We'd all shirk the work if we had our "druthers".

So plunk down your money and smile when you do.
 'Cause there's lots of pleasure in store for you.
 Can't think of a way you get more for your dough
 Than by joining a Rock Club with "git-up-and-go".

From Golden Spike News, via The Tumbler via Hy Grader

EDITOR'S REPORT and late news (all received AFTER I typed the last page)

Please return any exchange bulletins when you have finished reading them so others may read them. Even if they are old they are good reading.

I NEED ORIGINAL articles from our club members. Tell us about your vacation trip, where you went this winter, review a book, how-to-do-something. Doesn't have to be typed, if necessary I'll take it over the phone.

GET WELL - I finally found an ailing member! I called the Sunshine Ch., Jackie Steiner, and a FROG answered. She has larengitis pretty bad. She agreed to try my remedy, hopes it helps and you're well fast!

Just heard from Don Shaw. He says Neva had surgery on one eye for cataracts last Friday and is getting along fine. She will have the surgery on the other eye tomorrow (Tuesday). She is in Room 453 at St. Lukes Hospital. Get Well Soon, Neva.

QUESTION - What do you say when a rock falls on your foot?

ANSWER - Garnet!!

From golden Spike News

From Rockhound magazine, via Pike County Rockhound News:

HALF A QUARTZ IS A PINTZ

Midwest Federations NEWSLETTER

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

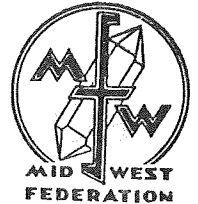
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February 1979 - Issue No. 192

FORMER SOUTH DAKOTA DIRECTOR HONORED AT PARTY

Maybelle Wilcox, South Dakota State Director for the past four years, was honored recently at a "THIS IS YOUR HOBBY" party in her honor, hosted by her home club, the Rosebud Geological Society of Winner. Maybelle, who relinquished her duties this fall, served 14 Midwest clubs in her area. She attended most of the shows and field trips in South and North Dakota, and most of the Federation shows during her term. She was also active as bulletin Editor and in other capacities in her own club. Her club and Federation activities date from the Field Convention in 1969. Letters and telegrams from her many friends in the hobby helped make the evening an unforgettable one for Maybelle. Maybelle announced that the new South Dakota Director is Dellis Milbrandt of the Lakota Glacier Club in Aberdeen.

OFFICIAL ADDRESS OF AFMS CHANGED

William deNeui, whose address in Minneapolis, Minn. has been the official address of the AFMS Incorporation, notified the Federation Directors of his impending change of address beginning January 1979.

The Directors on July 26, 1978 adopted a resolution to make the official address, 1397 Chelmsford St., St. Paul, Minn. This address change is now official.

The new address is that of Armin Steinhauser who was agreeable to be the official address. He is a long-time member of the Minnesota Mineral Club, very active in all phases of the hobby, including responsible and active participation in the affairs of the Midwest Federation.

Scholarship report

The AFMS Scholarship Fund continues to grow, thanks to all the excellent support from the many clubs and individuals of the Regional Federations, and provide scholarships for students in the earth science fields.

As a testimonial to the accomplishments of the Foundation since it was organized only a short fourteen years ago, the following statistics should be of interest.

A total of 86 students — 73 young men and 13 young women — have received scholarships grants from the Foundation to assist them in their endeavor to gain increased knowledge in earth science fields. Collectively these grants total \$98,650 and cover a span of 126 years of college learning.

And perhaps of greatest importance, only the earnings generated by the principal fund has been expended. The entire amount of your contributions, which as of this report stands at \$273,276.86, is still on hand busily earning money for a furtherance of this work. And with contributions continuing to be received in ever-growing proportions to increase this principal fund — and thus its earnings, the work of the Foundation and the number and amount of the scholarships it grants can also be expanded.

The number of scholarship grants in 1979-1980 will be expanded to ten. Each grant will continue to cover a two-year period with the amount of the grant remaining at \$1,000 per year. They will be distributed to the Regional Federations as follows: California, 2; Eastern, 1; Midwest, 3; Northwest, 2; Rocky Mountain, 1; South Central, 1. This is based on the earnings generated by the contributions received from the respective Federations.

Students Selected for 78-79 Scholarships

The Scholarship Foundation will be assisting another impressive group of students in their graduate study in Earth Science during the 1978-1979 school year. Each student will receive a grant of \$1000.00 to assist with their schooling, and, if they continue in school for the following year, will receive a similar amount for that year. In addition to the six regular grants to each of the Regional Federations, two special grants have been provided, with Honorary Awards being made to two men who were instrumental in the formation and growth of the Foundation.

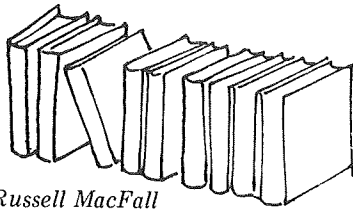
These two are Richard W. Burnham of Upper Montclair, New Jersey and William deNeui of Minneapolis, Minnesota. The idea of a Scholarship Foundation for the AFMS had begun in the late 1950's, but progress was quite slow. In 1962 at the Des Moines Meeting AFMS President Russell Trapnell appointed Mr. Burnham to develop plans for achieving the objective of providing grants to graduate students in Earth Science. A preliminary report was presented by Mr. Burnham to the AFMS Meeting in Oklahoma City in 1963 and at the 1964 Meeting in San Antonio the AFMS Scholarship Foundation became a reality. Mr. Burnham then served as first president of the Foundation and saw the first grant given at the 1965 Meeting in Yakima.

Mr. deNeui served as first Treasurer of the Foundation, a position he held for four years, and was Foundation President in 1969-71. He has been on the Investment Committee since the Foundation was incorporated and collected and turned over to General Mills nearly 4 million Betty Crocker Coupons. *Scholarship — Continued on back page.*



Nancy Newberry
Midwest Scholarship Recipient

BOOKS



By Russell MacFall

One of the most encouraging developments in the world of the rock and gem collector is the appearance of several state guides of professional caliber. Mention was made in a previous review of **The Mineralogy of Arizona**, by John Anthony, Sidney Williams and Richard Bideaux. Virginia is well represented by R.V. Dietrich's **Minerals of Virginia**. In recent months several other guides worthy to stand beside these have appeared.

One of the most helpful for the amateur is **Mineral Collecting Sites in North Carolina**, by W.F. Wilson and B.J. McKenzie, which may be ordered from the Department of National Resources and Community Development, P.O. Box 27687, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. A twinned emerald crystal in full color ornaments the cover, and inside sites are pin pointed by counties both in the text and in detailed keyed maps. North Carolina, here we come.

Mineralogy of Pennsylvania 1966-1975 by Robert C. Smith supplements such classics as Samuel G. Gordon's **The Mineralogy of Pennsylvania** by reporting primarily on mineral species discovered in the state since 1975 and the locations where they can be found. Descriptions of the species are well illustrated in color and black and white, along with systematic tables. Publication of the book has been sponsored by a chapter of Friends of Mineralogy.

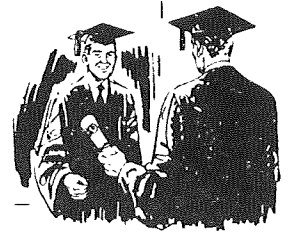
Not to be forgotten are several other excellent state guides that appeared in 1971 and 1972. **Rocks and Minerals of Michigan** by O.F. Poindexter, H.M. Martin and S.G. Bergquist, published for the state department of Natural Resources by Hillsdale Educational Publishers, Hillsdale, Mich., is a well illustrated, large size pamphlet of 45 pages that replaces an older edition. Clarence E. Miller's **Minerals of Rhode Island**, published by the University of Rhode Island, Kingston, is an exhaustive listing of minerals with a number of maps. Roger K. Pabian's **Minerals and Gemstones of Nebraska** is Educational Circular 2 of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and is notable for its color, its educational value for the beginner, and its sly touches of humor. We have heard of two more new state guides. More later.

ANNUAL CLUB FIELD TRIPS ARE HIGHLIGHT FOR OHIO GROUP

One of the clubs which makes annual field trips together to distant areas in the Fort Hamilton Gem and Mineral Society of Hamilton, Ohio. The group has taken well arranged vacation field trips to Wyoming, Arkansas, Missouri and South Dakota, among other places. The carefully planned trips include fee and free areas, cave tours, and group fellowship events. The yield is lots of good cutting materials, minerals and fossils, and greatly increased club interest.

Scholarship — Continued from Page 1.

Mr. Mark Eugene Cavaleri was selected by Mr. deNeui for one of the special grants as he pursues his Master's degree at the University of Minnesota. Mr. Burnham has chosen the University of Colorado for his special grant and the student is being chosen.

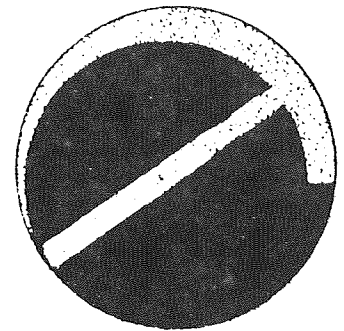


Midwest Federation

Nancy Newberry received a grant to pursue her M.S. in Mineralogy at the University of Michigan. Nancy is a native of Coldwater, Michigan and completed her undergraduate work at Michigan. Her special interest has been study of barium minerals, and she will be doing assistant teaching in Mineralogy.

Ed Hajic, the 1977 Awardee, is continuing graduate work at work at the University of Iowa, where he will be a research assistant. Mr. Hajic spent his first semester at the University of Illinois, and then transferred to Iowa where his interests include geomorphology, geoarcheology and Holocene Paleoclimatology. During the past summer he did his thesis field research on paleopedology of the Koster Archeological Site in Illinois.

UNIVERSAL
ROCKHOUND
SYMBOL
RECEIVING
ENCOURAGEMENT



A move to promote a universal rockhound symbol has been receiving some encouragement from various parts of the Federation.

The new symbol, proposed by the Far North Coast Regional Council of Lapidary Clubs in Australia, was designed by Mrs. Jo Robinson of the Lismore Gem and Minerals Society, New South Wales, Australia, has already received some widespread acceptance. As a school teacher, Mrs. Robinson knew the value of a simple uncluttered symbol for instant recognition in any part of the world.

Betty Clauser, Eastern Federation Newsletter Editor, is proposing that the Eastern adopt the new symbol and help promote its use as a sign of friendship and fellowship to our rockhound friends.

The symbol is not intended to replace club or district badges, it complements them by saying "I am a rockhound". No words or mottos are necessary. In a short while, everyone, rockhound or not, will recognize it, thus widening your circle of friends and helping you learn of new locations and ideas.

Many ways of incorporating this design are visualized. Fix it to the outside of your house or fence, display it on your vehicle or make a badge in gemstones or enameled copper.

It is a stylized design of a rock hammer in gold on a background of lapis lazuli blue. "The gold of the earth that so few of us can find and the blue of the sky that everyone can see.

WITH OUR MEMBERS

I haven't recieved any reports of any members sick or in the hospital, lets hope everyone is feeling fine.

Louis Cozart was in the hospital a while back but is feeling a lots better now.

Altho not a club member many of you know Amel Priest, his is a familiar face around Shows and Swaps in this area. He contributed the article "Shelling Along the Gulf" in the Sept. newsletter. He is an authority on fossils. I read in the Pike County Rockhound News that he is now recovering from a heart attack and gave his address so we can send him a card. Get Well Wishes from all of us!

Amel & Lucile Priest, Keller Court, P.O. Box A.C., Port Isabel, Texas 78578

Club member Gary Svec has an article plus his picture in the latest issue of Rock Hobby Times-Jan.Feb. 1979. I have a copy for the files.

A note from Helen Troxel

The Troxels regret that they are living in separate locations now. Both John and Helen need much contact with, and understanding from, their friends during this very difficult time. They realize this is an awkward situation for some of you, but assure you that it is all right to discuss it with them. They both need your support.

John's address & phone are: 1844 A Ave. N.E. C.R. 364-0638

Helen also said that she had recieved word that her sister & husband now living in Tehran, Iran, have been evicted from their apartment. They are supposed to be living in Hyett Hotel across the street from the military Base. This location is considered safer than their previous residence since it's almost 12 miles north of the area where the demonstrations have been accuring. (Tehran is very large city of 3½ m. population.) They were ask to leave the apt. building by the Iranians who live there because they were afraid the building would be bombed if Americans were in it. They love Iran and have been resolved to stay there until they are ordered to leave by either Iran or USA Gov't but Helen thinks they may come home anytime now. Her sister Jean works at the US Embassy and her husband works for an Iranian agricultural engineering firm.

THE SHOW FLYERS ARE PRINTED!

Pat Blin made the flyer and Alberta Cray got them printed up in all those pretty colors!

DID YOU NOTICE THE NEW COVERS???

Connie Bevauns typed the inside and got them printed up and we think they look real nice. Thanks Connie!

DID YOU NOTICE THE NEAT TYPING????

A BIG Thanks to Gladys Zobac!! As our new Co-Editor she typed 7 pages which is really appreciated. And, she types NEAT and FAST!!!!

Leslie, Gladys, Pat, Bobby, Robert, Jeff, Mike

