



CEDAR VALLEY GEMS

CEDAR VALLEY ROCK & MINERAL SOCIETY

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

CEDAR VALLEY GEMS

JUNE 1994

VOL. 21, ISSUE 10, PAGE 1

CEDAR VALLEY ROCKS & MINERALS SOCIETY SUMMER PICNICS

June 15, 1994, we will have a picnic at the Olin, Iowa Fairgrounds. Olin is about an hour's drive from Cedar Rapids. Dick and Millie Smouse drive in to Cedar Rapids once or twice a month for regular and board meetings. It is our turn to drive to their town for our June picnic. Look for a map on another page.

July 20, 1994, we will meet at Shawnee Park, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Shawnee can only be reached by going out F Ave. to 19th St. N.W. The park is at the top of the hill on the right. There is a wading pool for the kids.

August 17, 1994, we will meet at Noelridge Park, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on the N.E. side of town between 42nd St and Collins Road, on Council St. N.E. There are lots of wild ducks to feed - or watch, (just in case you want to bring along some old bread for the kids to feed the ducks) There is a nice hiking trail, too.

We will plan to eat as close to 6:30 as possible when we go to Olin. If you know that you cannot make it by 6:30, please let some one know so we can plan accordingly. We will plan to eat at 6:00 at each of the picnics in Cedar Rapids.

Bring your own table service, a covered dish or two and whatever soft drinks your family likes. Guests are always welcome. If you have vacationing family or friends, bring them along. We have some excellent cooks in our group. You won't want to miss all that good food, good friends and good fellowship.

There will likely be some field trip planning, some Auction planning and 1995 Show planning at some of the summer picnics. Don't miss out on all of these activities.

This is the last bulletin until September. Please mark these dates on your calendar NOW, or, at least, keep track of this bulletin for your information.

SECRETARY'S REPORT MAY 1994

Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society met Wednesday, May 18, 1994, at the AEGON Bldg. Vice-President Sharon Sonleitner called the meeting to order. Twenty-four members were present. Thelma and Peter Thompson were guests.

The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved.

Sharon announced the Auction will be held Saturday, October 29 at the Ely Legion Hall. Set up will be on Friday, the 28th. Auction material will be from Richard and Millie Smouse and perhaps some others if it appears there will be time.

The meeting was interrupted for the program, "Geology of Iceland", which was presented by Thelma and Peter Thompson of Cornell College. They visited Iceland last August for two weeks while on a GSA trip. They took us to Iceland via beautiful slides and maps of the area.

After refreshments the business meeting resumed. President Marv Houg presided. Bill Mitchell reported 24 members attended the May 15 field trip. Marv reported on the GSI field trip. June 5 was the tentative date set for a field trip to Buffalo. The phone committee will phone when the date is confirmed. (Marv was unable to set a date at this time because of the retirement of the person in charge. He preferred that we wait to set a date through his successor - Editor's note.)

Alberta announced the Wednesday, June 15 meeting and potluck will be held in Olin. We will eat around 6:30 P.M.

Marv read a Thank You letter from our Science Fair Second Place award winner, Jolene Kleve, of Elgin, Iowa. Her project was titled "Crystal Soil versus Potting Soil". She received \$10. and a Brazilian agate slab trophy.

Dr. Jeff Nekola told us a little about what he has been doing. He, of course, has been mushroom hunting and searching for rare plants while he is home. He displayed a tiny little fern which he had found that day. It was previously unknown in this area. Starting in August, he told us, he has a position at the University of Wisconsin in Green Bay where he will be teaching Ecology, Conservation Biology, Plant Taxonomy and Plant Ecology. He gave a report on his thesis, "Fens of Iowa", a huge volume. He will be returning to Chapel Hill, N.C. to finish up a project there before moving to Green Bay.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Leslie Blin, Sec'y

I also received a note from the Hardgroves -
Dear Alberta,

We were wondering if you could do a favor for us. Gene was doing a show in Memphis, Tennessee on April 30th & May 1st. While there one of our customers asked about obtaining a small Iowa geode. She is making a display of all the various State Rocks. Is this something you or someone in the club could get for her. I assume she would pay for it. Her name and address is :
Rena N. Everett
69 Jeff St.
Oxford, MS 38655

Sincerely, Sandra Hardgrove

One of the things I really just do not do, is to ship rocks here or there. I called Myrna Shetterly and she said they would be glad to take care of it. Isn't that nice? We have some of the nicest people in our club - always willing to help wherever they can.

ROCKFORD BRICK & TILE QUARRY

Bud and I made a trip up to Rockford Brick and Tile. Met Mary Stark from Riceville there and finally returned her video tape of the dinosaur program to her.

We had not been to Rockford for a number of years. I was amazed at the many improvements since it was purchased by REAP. There are nice rock covered trails, lots and lots of beautiful wildflowers. (Mary knew the names of all of them,) There is a nice pavilion, a pump with very good water and His & Hers two-holers - not a lot of privacy, but certainly better than His & Hers hillsides. There is a nice rock bench where you can sit and survey the area, lots of nice little new trees and there is a large raised bed which is surrounded with tile of various patterns and types which used to be made at the brick and tile company. I presume the bed will be flowers of some kind. Mary told me they have many more improvements in mind. They do them as the money comes in by way of donations or ?? It would be interesting to know what other things they have planned.

I was also amazed at how much higher the hills seemed than they used to. There was a bus load of school children there. The hills did not seem to be much of a challenge for them. They were just bubbling with energy and excitement. They had made some very good finds. Mary and I were pleased with our finds, too. I guess there will always be fossils there.

Mary had looked around Rockford before going out to the quarry and found a nice little coffee shop where we enjoyed a late lunch and a leisurely visit before we left for home.

beautiful sunny, cool day with a nice breeze. Just perfect for hiking and rock collecting.

Alberta Cray

HERE & THERE WITH OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Dorothy Shoemaker, of the Chicago, Ill area, passed away May 15, 1994. All that we have heard is that she had had some breathing problems.

Dorothy, and her husband chuck, were active members of our club several years back. Though they lived near Chicago, they were always on hand to help with the show - exhibiting 2 or 3 cases. They also set up and led club members on several field trips in Illinois. Chuck passed away a few years ago.

We extend our sympathy to Dorothy's family and friends.

From the Sonnleitner family - Billy has graduated from High School. We congratulate him and wish him well as he prepares to go to Iowa State University at Ames this fall.

Ann is home from the University of Iowa for the summer. Ann plays the french horn and will be playing with the Cedar Rapids Municipal Band in the Sunday evening concerts in the parks this

Theresa will be going to England with the Preucil School of Music Orchestra, June 24, for two weeks. They will be playing several concerts and seeing the sites. Sharon will go along as one of the chaperones.

May 23, 1994

Dear Fellow Members,

IT LOOKS LIKE WE DID IT!!!

This just goes to show you what can happen if people respond, and let their wishes be known.

I want to congratulate everyone who participated in the campaign to protect the rights of the people...not only rockhounds, but everyone.

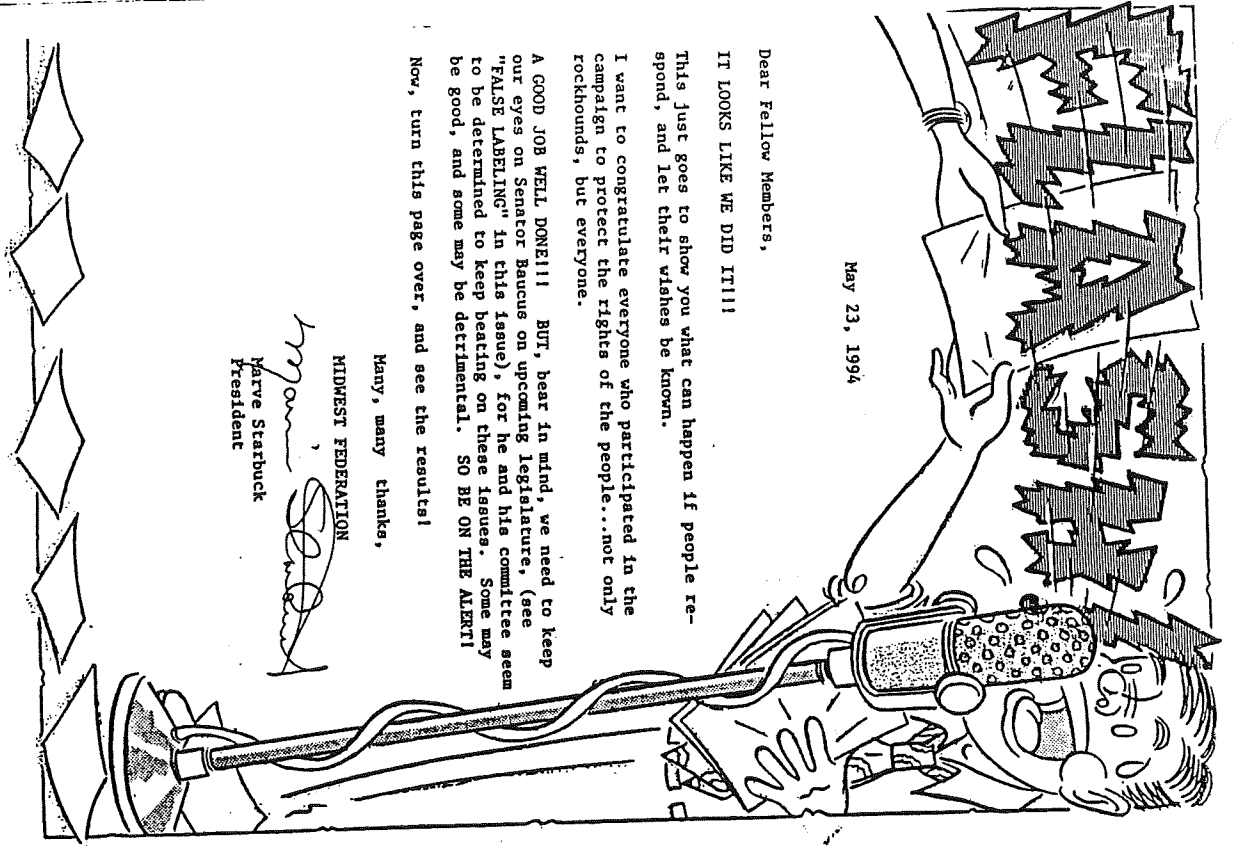
A GOOD JOB WELL DONE!!! BUT, bear in mind, we need to keep our eyes on Senator Baucus on upcoming legislation, (see "FALSE LABELING" in this issue), for he and his committee seem to be determined to keep beating on these issues. Some may be good, and some may be detrimental. SO BE ON THE ALERT!

Now, turn this page over, and see the results!

Many, many thanks,

MIDWEST FEDERATION

Marve Starbuck
Marve Starbuck
President



RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE BLACK HILLS INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGICAL RESEARCH

WHEREAS, the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies has the goal of encouraging the hobbies of rock, mineral and fossil collecting; and

WHEREAS, the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies supports those groups and individuals who benefit society by the discovery of fossils and the donation of specimens; and

WHEREAS, the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies recognizes that the Black Hills Institute of Geological Research in Hill City, South Dakota has discovered many important fossils and advanced the interest of dinosaur paleontology; and

WHEREAS, the Black Hills Institute of Geological Research and individuals associated with it have been criminally charged in the U. S. District Court as a result of a politically motivated investigation; and

WHEREAS, the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies is sympathetic to the plight and persecution of the Black Hills Institute of Geological Research and the people associated with it; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies wishes to express its support for the Black Hills Institute of Geological Research and the individuals associated with it; and

WHEREAS, the Fossil Friends Foundation, P. O. Box 8147, Rapid City, South Dakota 57709 has been established to provide financial support to the Black Hills Institute of Geological Research and those wrongfully charged.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies asks and urges that individual members of clubs of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies support the Black Hills Institute of Geological Research and the people associated with it through contributions to the Fossil Friends Foundation.

Approved: April 9, 1994

COMMUNICATIONS

Following the program which Dr. Glenister presented on Devonian Fossil Gorge, at AEGON, I received a note -

Dear Rock Club Members,

I attended your program last Monday evening on the Devonian Gorge. It was great and I appreciate your open invitation to the public. On Tuesday I visited the Devonian Gorge and the program made the visit most meaningful.

Thanks Jan Aiels

(Jan is on the staff at the Indian Creek Nature Center - her position is "Program Specialist".

Dale Stout received a communication from Dr. Glenister -following the receipt of the checks from the show, and from the program which he presented at AEGON. Also a letter from Richard Baker acknowledging receipt of the scholarship money. Those letters follow:

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



May 11, 1994

Dale Stout
2237 Meadowbrook Drive S.E.
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

Dear Mr. Stout:

We have just deposited the check for \$1,000 from the Cedar Valley Rock and Mineral Society which you recently sent to the Department. We appreciate the continuing support of our students provided by the members of your organization.

As we have done in the past, these funds will be used to assist students with Field Camp expenses. When we are able to identify the recipients of the 1994 CVR&M awards, we will notify you of their backgrounds and future plans. Selection will take place at the end of the summer Geology Field Course.

Again, many thanks for your ongoing assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Baker
Chairman

Dale Stout
2237 Meadowbrook Drive SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

Dear Dale,

A pleasant evening, with good vibrations from the group. At the time, I didn't follow your reference to "checks". Your gesture was unnecessary, but appreciated. I have added a matching personal check, and donated the total to the Geology Endowment Fund in the name of the CVRMS. You should receive acknowledgement from the University of Iowa Foundation.

Best,

Brian F. Glenister

Also a letter from Edwin L. Clopton -

I had written him in regard to his very special exhibit at the bank in West Branch. This was a very educational exhibit starting with obtaining, organizing and protecting your specimens. Then there was a section on sizes with fine specimens showing the difference between cabinet, miniature, thumbnail and micro specimens. On to a section with drawings of the various crystal structures and forms with fine specimens representing each of the many forms ...

I had thought if he had it set up now, perhaps we could photograph some of it for the proposed video tape for the schools.
his letter follows:

1951 Delta Avenue
West Branch, Iowa 52358-8507
5/10/94

Alberta Cray
1125 J Avenue NW
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405

Dear Alberta Cray:

Thank you for your kind comments about my mineral exhibit at West Branch State Bank. I am glad you were able to see it. The bank's limited business hours did limit the number of people who were able to see the exhibit. Because my teaching load was light at that time I was able to meet at the bank with groups of grade school students from West Branch (about 250 in all, almost the entire grade school).

Setting up was indeed a big job. I believe I spent the equivalent of one to two full-time weeks (most of my Christmas break) planning and installing it. The display cases were lent for the exhibit by Herbert Hoover Presidential Library in West Branch. They made a sharp-looking display, but were a major chore to move.

I do not have a permanent display. Permanent displays take up space and require constant cleaning, maintenance, and updating. However, I have frequently visited middle school and high school classes to present programs about minerals and about volcanoes. My volcano program is based on my work on four expeditions (the latest in April, 1994) with the Smithsonian Institution to the highly active Arenal volcano in Costa Rica. I also have a flexible program about bats that has been very popular with groups ranging from kindergartens to a Lions Club. I would be pleased to do more such programs if I can arrange to be free at a suitable time.

I did photograph the bank exhibit thoroughly. I would be willing to lend photographs of it for use in an educational video if they would be useful.

Thank you again for contacting me. Let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Edwin L. Clopton

I looked up my 'very cold notes'. Mr. Clopton was to have an article, "Ice as a Mineral", in the March/April issue of ROCKS & MINERALS, also an article, "Marcasite of Rockford, Ill.", was to be, or will be in an issue of the MINERALOGICAL RECORD.

As I said my notes are very cold. I'm wondering if any of you subscribe to either of these magazines. I think all of the members would be interested in seeing these articles.

And, this one made my day. It had been a very trying day. When I came home, I was depressed. I found this letter. I chuckled as I read it. I called Sharon right away. After all, what good is good news if you can't share it with someone. As I read it to Sharon, she chuckled all the way through.

MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

Member of The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

10455 Hart Avenue
Huntington Woods, MI 48070
May 30, 1994



Alberta Cray, Editor
Cedar Valley Gems
1125 J. Ave. N.W.
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405

Dear Alberta:

If such records were kept, I have no doubt that your May 1994 issue of *Cedar Valley Gems* would have jumped into first place for speed of publication of a rock club bulletin. What called my attention to the matter is your publication of photos of the May 10 solar eclipse.

The eclipse occurred at midday on May 10; your bulletin, bearing a postmark of May 12, arrived at my home on May 14 - an astounding accomplishment, I believe. Congratulations!

With such speed of publication, you could certainly be turning out a weekly edition, or - with a little more effort - even a daily!

Those photos, by the way, were quite stunning. Equal to any of the photos I saw in other publications. Please pass along my admiration to Sharon Sonnleitner. It was a nice-looking bulletin issue all around. Keep up the good work, but I won't hold you to the same timeliness standards.

Those of us who send our bulletins third-class - although it is less expensive - have to sweat out some excruciatingly long delivery periods. One recent issue of our bulletin took 22 days for delivery to many of our members!

Best wishes,

Walt Vogtmann, Chairman
Bulletin Editor Aids Committee

According to Walt's, BULLETIN EDITORS' CORNER in the MWF NEWSLETTER, they will be giving out lots of free handouts and helps to editors at the MWF Show in South Bend, Indiana. I surely wish I could be there, however, we have something else we always do on Labor Day weekend and I can't be in two places at once. If any of you are going, I surely would appreciate it if you would plan to attend either the Editor's Seminar, or the Editor's Breakfast, or both.

PETRIFIED WOOD GALLERY

At Ogallala, Nebraska, Harvey and Howard Kenfield have a Museum of Ancient Woods, a collection of 40 years of finding petrified wood.

The Gallery features many rare peices of beautifully polished rounds of petrified wood. These rounds are from many of the Western States and a few from foreign countries. The rounds contain many colors, patterns and growth rings. The cell structures under magnification can reveal the species of the tree. Those who study Paleontology would say that these were formed during Miocene times, approximately 20 to 100 million years ago. Petrified wood can also reveal the climate of the region eons ago, such as: Sequoia being found in North Dakota, Bamboo and Palm found in Wyoming, Cycads in South Dakota and Nebraska.

PETRIFICATION: The process by which a living organism turns to stone. Petrification is one of the most remarkable processes by which once living organisms, such as trees, are preserved in the fossil record. In petrification the original shape and detail of living tissues is retained.

Petrification occurs when minerals dissolved in ground-water replace the individual cell walls of the deceased, buried trees before natural decomposition occurs. The most perfect preservations of original structure are found in siliceous (quartz) petrification. Various metallic oxides contribute to the bright colors of the petrified wood: pink - Silicon Oxide (Manganese); red - Iron oxide; black - Pyrolusite (Oxidized Manganese); yellow - Aluminum oxide; green - Chrome Oxide; purple - Berylium oxide; amethyst - Manganese; and brown - Iron.

The Gallery has many fine specimens of petrified wood from the Eden Valley region of Western Wyoming. Perhaps the most sought after is the wood from Blue Forest, especially beautiful limbs with chalcedony (agate). Big Sandy Reservoir is another collecting site where palm, bamboo, and other species of trees have been collected. The sand dunes area is a favorite site. Many limbs are small but are complete limbs.

Limb casts occur when trunks and limbs of trees are buried and then the interior parts are removed by decay or have been burned out by volcanic ash. This produces a void or mold which is then filled with silica and minerals. Only the shape of the original tree parts is preserved, not the cell structure as in petrification. The Kenfield collection has many limb replacement specimens from Oregon, Wyoming and Nevada

A Gallery highlight since its opening in 1977 is the prize winning collection of Petrified Wood Pictures. These pictures depict scenes of ghost towns, houses and barns from the 1930 depression years. All pictures are made entirely of small pieces of petrified wood. Most of the wood comes from the State of Washington. One log's ring growth, having been separated, creates thin slivers of petrified wood. The thinner slivers are used as shingles on the buildings, while the thicker ones are used as the board sidings. Some of the pictures require a frame work of petrified wood first before the siding and roof are put on. Black petrified wood, from Northwest Nebraska cut into thin slabs, is used behind every door and window. There are over 100 pictures on display in the Gallery.

Also popular with Gallery vsitors are pictures and wall hangings of birds. These birds are made with natural colored pieces of petrified wood.. Also related pieces in the form of tree branches, pine cones, flowers and insects, are crafted from petrified wood, jasper and agates.

Always in search of something new to display in the Gallery, music boxes were created. These feature superbly crafted buildings or scenes made entirely of petrified wood and mounted on highly polished exotic wood bases. Each has a different matching musical theme.

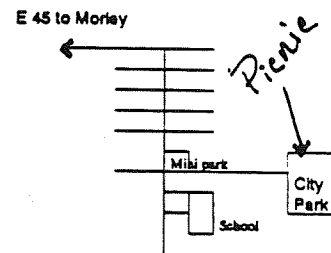
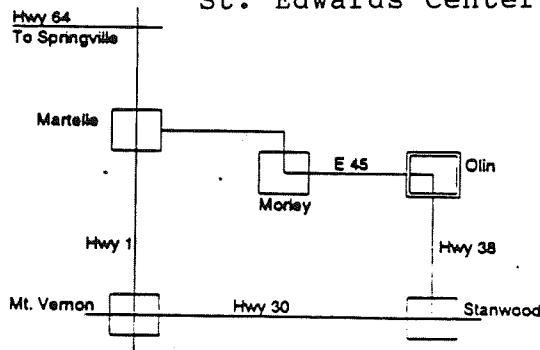
They are continually working on new displays such as gemstone butterflys, eggs, spehres, paintings, toadstools and a map. They also have agates and Indian artifacts, and broken ones in pictures.

to us via ACHATES

by Barb Soper

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING

- JUNE 17 - 19, 1994 LAWRENCE COUNTY ROCK CLUB - SHOW/SWAP, Monroe County Fairgrounds, Bloomington, Ind (This is a huge BUY - SELL or SWAP. Something there for everyone. Bud and I went 2 or 3 years ago. I don't think we ever saw it all.
- JULY 16 - 17, 1994 CARLTON COUNTY GEM & MINERAL CLUB - 25th Annual AGATE DAYS, Moose Lake, Minn (I've always heard this one is a lot of fun.)
- July 22 - 24, 1994 ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION, Rushmore Plaza Civic Center, Rapid City, S.D.
- August 20 - 21, 1994 - PEORIA GEM & MINERAL - SHOW, Lakeview Museum, 1125 W. Lake Ave., Peoria, IL.
- September 2 - 4. 1994 - MIDWEST FEDERATION 1994 CONVENTION - SHOW. Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St., South Bend, IN Look for a flyer on another page. Had hoped to receive a packet giving all the details - have not. Perhaps there will be one at the picnic.
- September 25 - 25. 1994 - AUSTIN GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY - SHOW St. Edwards Center, Austin, Minn



FOR SALE: Fluorescent Display, complete with Hand Held Raytech Long/Short wave and a 3' mounted long wave tube. Shelves, brackets and enclosure curtains available. Fluorescent specimens number over 100 - several over 2 pounds. Calcite & amethyst from Canada; Willimite, Espanite & calcite from New Jersey; Calcites from Texas, Colo., Ohio, Nebr. and Mexico; Coconino nodules from Okla., Dugways from Utah, Colemanite from Calif. and many more. We would prefer to sell it in one lot. Otherwise may consider an auction later. Also a 10 lb barrel tumbler - mounted, and a vibrating tumbler with extra bowls. Lots of grit and polishing agent.

Norman & Alice Brown Phone 319-393-7193

MIDWEST FEDERATION

1994 CONVENTION

GEM & JEWELRY SHOW & SALE

Century Center
120 S. St. Joseph St.
South Bend, IN



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Saturday Sept. 3 - 10am to 6pm
Sunday Sept. 4 - 10am to 5pm

Adults \$3 daily: 3 day pass \$7
Age 6 to 16 \$1.50 daily: 3 day pass \$3.50
Under 6 Free

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Hosted by Michiana Gem & Mineral Society

Information:
Margaret Heinck
7091 E. East Park Lane
New Carlisle, IN 46352
Phone 219-654-3673



Dealer Chairman:
Charles Collins
3017 Niles-Buchanan Rd
Buchanan, MI 49107
Phone 616-695-4535

29th Annual

GEM

MINERAL - FOSSIL SHOW & SWAP

AND JUNE MEETING OF MID AMERICA PALEONTOLOGY SOCIETY (M.A.P.S.), INDIANA CHAPTER
ALSO JUNE MEETING OF FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY, INDIANA CHAPTER

SPONSORED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY ROCK CLUB, INC.

AT MONROE COUNTY 4-H FAIRGROUNDS, BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA
SOUTHWEST OF JUNCTION OF IND 37 & IND 45, 1 1/2 MILES ON IND 45, THEN
RIGHT 7/10 MILE ON AIRPORT ROAD, WEST OF BLOOMINGTON

BUYING ★ SELLING ★ TRADING

GEMS - JEWELRY - GIFTS - LAPIDARY MATERIALS
MINERALS - FOSSILS - ARTIFACTS - ROCKS - SUPPLIES

FREE ADMISSION
JUNE 17, 18, 19, 1994
FREE ADMISSION

INSIDE AND OUTSIDE SET-UP SPACE
RESERVATIONS TAKEN - When number of feet requested and money accompanies reservations. * SPACE RESERVED
ACCORDING TO POSTMARK ON ENVELOPE. NO TELEPHONE RESERVATION. Space remaining, when doors open, will
be sold on a first come - first served basis. BRING YOUR OWN TABLES. \$2.00 PER FRONT FOOT SPACE CHARGE.
GATE OPENS AT 2:00 P.M. JUNE 18

DISPLAYS WELCOME ★ FOOD SERVICE ON GROUNDS ★ DONATIONS WELCOME FOR AUCTIONS

FRIDAY	8 a.m. - 10 a.m. doors open	2 p.m. M.A.P.S. meeting	8 a.m. doors open	8 a.m. doors open
	10 a.m. close for day	4 p.m. F.M.I.C. meeting	4 p.m. show closes until 1995	
	7 p.m. close for day	7 p.m. close for day		

CAMPING \$6.00 per night

Hotels and Hotels Available

SHOW CHAIRMAN Margaret Kahrs 9145 U.S. Hwy. 50 East Seymour, IN 47274-9401 Phone (812) 522-6093	SHOW CO-CHAIRMAN Josephine (Jo) Alberting P.O. Box 605, Seymour, IN 47274 Phone (812) 522-1450	Daily Silent Auctions
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HELP SAVE THE GREENE GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM: A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

Following the recommendation of the National Park Service, Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt designated the Thomas A. Greene Memorial Museum and Geologic Collection as a National Historic Landmark on November 4, 1993. This landmark honors the important role that amateur collectors have played, and continue to play, in the scientific investigation of our nation. It also recognizes the pioneering efforts in women's science education by Milwaukee-Downer College.

The museum and collection document the geologic activities of Thomas A. Greene, an amateur collector from Milwaukee, who built this outstanding and irreplaceable collection of 13,000 minerals and 75,000 midwestern fossils during the late 1800s. Because his heirs had the foresight to donate it to Milwaukee-Downer College and erect a museum to house it in 1913, Greene's collection, still accompanied by his handwritten labels and stored in his original cabinets, is the only intact late nineteenth-century amateur geological collection in the U.S. With the closing of Milwaukee-Downer, the collection and museum were purchased by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, largely through the efforts of the late Prof. Katherine Nelson, her husband Frank Nelson and the Wisconsin Geological Society. Katherine Nelson, curator of the museum for nearly 40 years, was an active supporter of amateur geologists, receiving many awards from the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies, the National Association of Geology Teachers and other organizations in recognition of her contributions to both amateur geology clubs and public science education.

Despite its historical importance and the recognition it gives to amateur collectors everywhere, this landmark is in imminent danger of destruction. The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee has actively and persistently opposed the Park Service's designation efforts. Ignoring that landmark status was granted to both the museum and collection as a single entity and despite opposition from the Greene family, the university insists on hastily moving the collection into inadequate facilities without proper preparation. It claims the move is for the good of the collection, raising false issues about the security and accessibility of the collection and structural instability of the museum building. However, both the Park Service and independent museum collections experts have informed the university that moving the collection out of the museum building for any reason will destroy its historical importance and seriously jeopardize its safety and usefulness. Therefore, the university is fully aware that moving the collection will destroy the landmark designation and a unique part of our national heritage, but insists on moving it anyway.

Your help is urgently needed to save the Greene museum and collection. Don't let the poor decisions of a few unqualified and intractable university officials cheat Wisconsin, the nation, and especially amateur collectors out of this important honor. If you are a Wisconsin resident, please contact all of your state officials; non-Wisconsin residents contact only the governor (The Honorable Tommy Thompson, Office of the Governor, State Capitol, P. O. Box 7863, Madison, WI 53707). Tell them how important and unique this landmark is, and remind them that the Greene collection and museum belong to the citizens of Wisconsin and are not the private property of a handful of irresponsible university officials to do with as they please. Specifically urge them to:

- 1) immediately stop the university from moving the Greene collection out of the Greene museum building, which will destroy this landmark, and insist that any items already moved be returned; 2) establish an oversight board, consisting of experts in museum collections management and curation, in the history of science, and in the Greene collection itself, to develop long-term plans for operation, preservation and use of both the Greene museum and collection as a national historic landmark; and 3) allow an outside support group to raise funds for the museum, assist in its operation and participate in long-term planning. Act NOW before the university can carry out its goal to destroy this unique national landmark--every letter counts!

January 1994

Friends of the Greene Museum
451 Beverly Place
Lake Forest, IL 60045
(708) 295-3844

OFFICERS

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